



WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

Master of Public Administration

FALL 2022 NEWSLETTER

Included in this issue...

Message from the MPA Director.....1	News from Current MPA Students Students.....12
Congratulations to Our Recent Graduates.....2	Alumni News & Milestones.....15
MPA Pi Alpha Alpha Inductees.....3	Program Faculty Updates.....22
2022 Lent Upson Lecture Event.....4	Graduate Certificate in Nonprofit Management.....24
Celebration of Service.....5	Join the ICMA Student Chapter.....25
Ford Community Challenge Grant6	Practitioner Advisory Council Update.....26
2022 Mandela Washington Fellowship.....7	Support the Elling Fund.....27
Welcome to Our Newest MPA Students.....9	Noteworthy News.....27
Public Management Internships.....11	

A Message from the MPA Director



Greetings! All of us at the Graduate Program in Public Administration hope you and your family are thriving and staying healthy. It has been refreshing and thrilling to see students, staff, and faculty returning to the Wayne State campus in Midtown Detroit. Despite the unprecedented challenges of the pandemic, the Master of Public Administration (MPA) program at Wayne State University is committed to working together to serve the public and taking part in building a prosperous Metro Detroit.

The MPA program has also enjoyed dedicated support from our graduates and friends. With your support, we continue to pursue our mission to provide an academically rigorous curriculum in public and nonprofit management and policy to current and future leaders in public service.

In May 2022, the MPA program hosted the 21st Annual Lent Upson Lecture event. The topic of the Lent Upson Lecture was “Race and Social Equity: A Nervous Area of Government,” and the keynote speaker was Dean Susan Gooden from the L. Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs at Virginia Commonwealth University. As the first in-person event since 2020 with online participation, the lecture drew significant interest from our community and beyond. We also honored our graduates of the Class of 2022, celebrated our 2022 Distinguished Alumnus, Mr. Barret Parel (MPA, '83), and recognized current students for their leadership and exceptional contributions to public service.

In this newsletter, we proudly share some of the significant work within our MPA community from this past academic year. I want to thank MPA student assistant Iris Brauer for providing extensive assistance in developing this newsletter.

With the continued support and commitment of our diverse and outstanding faculty, students, and alumni, the MPA program will continue to flourish in the post-pandemic era. In the new academic year, we return to campus with in-person classes and also offer online courses. Our MPA and Graduate Certificate in Nonprofit Management programs are accepting applications for this academic year, and we welcome new students committed to public service. If you have any questions about the program, you can always get in touch with me at mpa@wayne.edu.

Kyu-Nahm Jun
MPA Director and Associate Professor

Congratulations to Our Recent MPA Graduates!

Spring-Summer 2021

Andrea Bukowski
Amanda Jaczkowski
Zeinab Moussa
Katrina Sweet
Steven Wood

Fall 2022

Zahraa Ayache
Amanda Berry
Austin Colson
Nedra Hall
Steven Hoy
Jashira Jackson
Mark Navarro

Winter 2022

Gregory Fenech
Jennifer Goldman
David Mueller
Cyndia Robinson
Melanie Speelman
Christina Zarate



Steven Wood



Amanda Berry



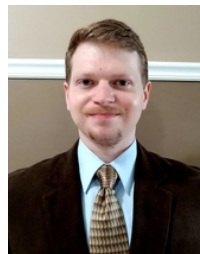
Nedra Hall



Mark Navarro



Jennifer Goldman



David Mueller



Gregory Fenech

Congratulations to 2022 Pi Alpha Alpha Inductees



Alicia Arkwright



Shana Kot



Zachary Szymanski



Stone Whalen



Advait Rode



Dylan Clark



Gregory Fenech



Iris Brauer



Zachary Szymanski, Hunter Manikas, Iris Brauer, Stone Whalen with Professor Sarbaugh-Thompson at the 21st Lent Upson Lecture Event

2022 Inductees

- Hillary Aerts
- Alicia Arkwright
- Iris Brauer
- Dylan Clark
- Gregory Fenech
- Chelsea Haskin
- Shana Kot
- Hunter Manikas
- Susan Reed
- Advait Rode
- Zachary Szymanski
- Stone Whalen
- Maxwell Voigt

Pi Alpha Alpha is the National Honor Society for Public Affairs and Administration and recognizes outstanding undergraduates and graduate students in public administration, public policy, and public affairs. We would like to thank Professor Sarbaugh-Thompson and Academic Services Officer Detonya Clark for coordinating the selection of new Pi Alpha Alpha inductees.

21st Lent Upson Lecture Event Held Hybrid for the First Time

This year's Lent Upson event was held on May 16th, 2022. The topic was "Race and Social Equity: A Nervous Area of Government" and the event featured a lecture by Professor Susan Gooden, Dean at the L. Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs, Virginia Commonwealth University. She is the president of the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration. She is also an elected fellow of the congressionally chartered National Academy of Public Administration and is the past president of the American Society for Public Administration. Dean Gooden's areas of expertise include social equity, program evaluation, and research methods. She is an internationally recognized expert on social equity.



Dean Susan Gooden



Robin Carter-Cooper



Katherine Ralston



Matías Valenzuela



Terrel White

The event included a panel discussion from Oakland County's Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer, Robin Carter-Cooper, Director of Housing Services at Jefferson East, Inc., Katherine Ralston (MPA, '16), Seattle and King County's Director of Community and Equity Partnership-Public Health, Dr. Matías Valenzuela, and Director of Advancement at the Center for Nonprofit Excellence, Terrel White.

Dr. Gooden discussed the crucial topic of equity in government, focusing on the Seattle Racial Justice Initiative, a citywide effort to end institutional racism and race-based disparities in local government. During the panel discussion, the panelists agreed that Seattle had taken extraordinary steps to improve equity in the city. For the first time, the program hosted the event in a hybrid format, with some attending the event in person and others attending virtually. The event was well-received and addressed the critical and timely issue of equity. We thank the Detroit Metropolitan Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration, the Citizens Research Council of Michigan, and the Levin Center at Wayne Law for co-sponsoring this event.

The event also included an awards ceremony where we recognized our recent graduates and Pi Alpha Alpha inductees. In addition:

- The Distinguished Graduate Award was given to Barrett Parel (MPA, '83).
- Stone Whalen and Benjamin Roof were awarded Alfred M. Pelham scholarships.
- Charmaine Valbuena was awarded the Dr. Daryl J. and Constance R. Delabbio Public Service Endowed Scholarship.
- The Masters of Public Administration Annual Scholarship was awarded to Hilary Aerts.
- The Masters of Public Administration Annual Recruitment Scholarship was awarded to Michele Hines.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the Lent Upson Lecture next year!

Celebration of Service

Barrett Parel, MPA 1983

2022 Distinguished Graduate Award Recipient

This year's distinguished graduate award recipient is Barrett Parel. Barrett received his Master of Public Administration degree from Wayne State University in 1986. His undergraduate degree is in sociology and anthropology from Wayne State.

He began his career as Presidential Management Intern (PMI), which is now the Presidential Management Fellows. This federal internship program allows recent graduates—mostly MPAs—to enter civil service and have the opportunity to move up through careers in the federal government. A benefit of the PMI program was that it allowed Barrett to work many civil service jobs and move around within the federal government. He began working with the Navy on budgeting, working in the program office, and handling contracts. He also worked in the Navy's assistant engineering office.



Beginning in 2002, he worked for the Navy Comptroller in the Pentagon. This position allowed him to work on several different accounts, including weapons, ship construction, and military construction. According to Barrett, “The beauty of public service is that you can do different things.”

In 2006, Barret started working for a 3-star general in charge of the Marine Corps. He was involved in financing the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) patrol vehicles for soldiers resistant to attacks. He had the opportunity to work on resourcing and development of these vehicles. He enjoyed working on this project, creating vehicles to protect the military members who protect our country. He then went to work for the Department of Defense Comptroller, responsible for purchases the department made, including aircrafts, spacecrafts, and intelligence gathering equipment.

Since 2016, he has been the Director, Resource Management Division and Comptroller, Bureau of Naval Personnel. He is responsible for the programming, budgeting, execution, accounting, and audit of over \$41 billion of Navy resources annually. Overall, he has over 38 years of experience in the federal government, primarily with the Navy.

He considers himself a product of the Kennedy generation, and President Kennedy's words “ask what you can do for your country” always spoke to him and drew him toward public service. His advice to current MPA students is to explore career and internship opportunities with the federal government because they provide many opportunities to grow. He credits Wayne State and his instructors for the unique learning opportunities he received as a student and the analytical skills he developed through the MPA program.

MPA Students Awarded a Ford College Community Challenge Grant

In September 2021, Abigail Newland, an Accelerated Graduate Enrollment (AGRADE) student in public administration and Juno Mcmillon, a Master of Public Administration (MPA) student were awarded a Ford College Community Challenge grant in the amount of \$25,000 for a project to advance sustainability and community wellness in the East Canfield neighborhood in Detroit. Ford College Community Challenge grants invite students to develop ideas for innovative projects that address community needs.

This grant funded the Canfield Connect project aimed to create a safe pedestrian greenway utilizing vacant lots and alleys connecting the East Canfield neighborhood from nearby Brewer Playfield to Pingree Park. Ford College Community Challenge grant helped Abigail and Juno to develop detailed design options for the Canfield Connect project that would increase access to recreation space and improve walkability for people in the area, including the senior walking club. In partnership with a community-based nonprofit, Canfield Consortium, Abigail and Juno have worked on a pilot vacant land to initiate a green community trail of low-cost lots featuring low-maintenance and flood-preventing native plants. With Canfield Consortium, they organized and managed volunteers in the clean-up process and developed a design guidebook that outlines strategies to be replicated by other Detroit neighborhoods. Abigail and Juno worked with Ujiji Davis Williams at JIMA Studio in developing a design guidebook and brochure as a source for communities to create similar greenspaces.



Abigail Newland and Juno Mcmillon



MPA Program Partners with the Office of International Programs for the 2022 Mandela Washington Fellowship Program

For the second year in a row, Wayne State University was selected as an Institute Partner for the Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders, a program of the U.S. Department of State with funding provided by the U.S. Government and administered by International Research & Exchanges Board. This U.S. Department of State program brings young leaders from Sub-Saharan Africa to the U.S. for academic and leadership training.



**MANDELA
WASHINGTON
FELLOWSHIP**
FOR YOUNG AFRICAN LEADERS

In 2021, the program was conducted virtually due to the pandemic; however, this year, the program was in-person, and Wayne State hosted 25 emerging leaders from 18 nations in Africa. The fellows arrived in June for a six-week Public Management Leadership Institute managed by the Office of International Programs. The MPA program served as the program partner in offering academic content in public management.

The institute curriculum provides executive-style training combined with site visits, community service, and networking opportunities to enhance fellows' public management and leadership skills and allow fellows to develop connections with organizations and professionals in Detroit and southeast Michigan.

Dr. Kyu-Nahm Jun served as the academic director, and Dr. Alisa Moldavanova served as the faculty coordinator. Other MPA and Political Science faculty who participated in the program were Professors Ron Brown, Sharon Lean, Brady Baybeck, Kristin Taylor, Robert Heuton, and Dauda Abubakar (University of Michigan-Flint). Several MPA alumni also served as coaches for the fellows. The coaches worked one-on-one with a fellow to complete a focus project during their fellowship program. The coaches were:

- Jennifer Mahn (MPA, '15)
- Timothy Michling (MPA, '15)
- Scott Stewart (MPA, '19)
- Christopher Matus (MUP, '13)
- Sean Davidson (MPA, '20)
- Dominique Albrecht (MPA, '17)
- William Cochran (MPA, '20)
- Courtney Flynn (MPA, '16)
- Amanda Jaczkowski (MPA, '21)
- Elizabeth King (MPA, '17)
- Melissa Fairbairn (MPA, '20)
- Richard Pineau (MPA, '16)

The fellowship was an excellent and meaningful experience for fellows and coaches alike. Melissa Fairbairn (MPA, '20), assistant to the city manager with the city of Birmingham, described her role as a coach as follows: "Acting as a coach with the Mandela Washington Fellowship program has been a very interesting and rewarding experience. I was paired with Mcolisi Stan Maphosa from Eswatini. Mcolisi is an economist specializing in educational services for his nation's government. As a coach, my role was to be a sounding board for his ideas for his final project and offer insight into ways to improve the project proposal. We met three times to discuss Mcolisi's project which is designed to improve the lives of Eswatini's civil service employees. I am looking forward to hearing about how his proposal is received by Eswatini's government upon his return and hope that he will be able to implement it."

"I feel incredibly lucky to be a part of Wayne State University's Young African Leaders Initiative. Working directly with the fellows as a coach has been an enriching experience. It is wonderful to simply meet new people and learn about unfamiliar countries and cultures, but the chance to dig into topics and build friendships with these incredible leaders is inspiring. The experience has helped me in my own career and encouraged me to consider issues shaping my local community from a global perspective." Said Chris Matus, director of government relations with Wayne County.

Richard Pineau (MPA, '16), Associate Professor of Teaching and Chair at the Wayne State Academy of Teachers, shared: "The Mandela Washington Fellowship certainly does more than just bring some inspiring people to the U.S. and more specifically to Wayne State University, but it brings together caring, dedicated, and ambitious professionals who are trying to make the world a better place."

The Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders was indeed a great opportunity and experience for our MPA program and alumni. The MPA program looks forward to participating again next year!



2022 Mandela Washington Fellows at the Graduation Ceremony

Welcome to our Newest MPA Students



Regina Dominick recently graduated from Walsh College this past June with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management. Her dream has always been to help people. Regina believes she can significantly impact people while working in the public sector rather than in the private industry. This belief is why she chose the MPA program at Wayne State. She is honored to be at Wayne this year and can't wait to see what the future holds, both in terms of the school year and her career path.



Sara Harb works at the Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services (ACCESS) as a case manager, where she helps those who are victims of various traumatic events. In the MPA program, she wants to acquire knowledge and improve her skills to serve the people at ACCESS.



Michele Hines is the Assistant Director of Annual Giving at the University of Michigan-Michigan Medicine. She holds an undergraduate degree from Grand Valley State University in Communications and Nonprofit Administration.

Kanae Kato currently works as a sales representative in the automotive industry. Through the MPA program, she hopes to shift her career to working for a nonprofit organization serving people in the Detroit area.





Toria King is the Program Operations Manager at re:power, a nonprofit dedicated to capacity building and training for BIPOC leaders and community organizations across the progressive ecosystem. With her MPA, she wants to continue to work in the nonprofit world with a focus on operations, data, and public policy.

Matthew Kribs is from Mason, Michigan, and graduated from Wayne State in 2021 with a Bachelor of Public Affairs. He is excited to continue his education in the MPA program. Matthew is interested in studying the intersection of nonprofits, political advocacy, and government institutions.



Julia Stouter volunteers at Reroot Pontiac, a nonprofit focused on environmental education and sustainability, working on operations, investor presentations, and grant management. During her volunteering experience, she has learned about green infrastructure, workforce development, community gardening, and nonprofit management. She also does freelance design and trend forecasting. She is very excited to be part of the MPA program and looks forward to learning about public service in Detroit. She hopes to gain knowledge, new skill sets, and hands-on experience to help her navigate a career change from the private to nonprofit or public sectors.

Jessica Rodgers currently works as a Qualified Mental Health Professional Case Manager and a Certified Mental Health First Aid Instructor with the National Council for Mental Wellbeing. During her time in the MPA program, she hopes to gain knowledge about systems and services provided for vulnerable children and adults.



Katrina Wojtan is a graduate of Wayne State with a Bachelor's in Public Affairs and a minor in Fine Arts. She currently works for a nonprofit organization, MomsRising, which educates and advocates for policies promoting political, economic, and cultural changes that American mothers and families need. She is particularly interested in nonprofit and urban/metropolitan policy and is looking forward to furthering her knowledge and research through the MPA curriculum.

Public Management Internships



Dylan Clark began working as the Community and Economic Development Aide for the City of Warren, using his first few months as his internship. He has been creating a spreadsheet and GIS maps of city properties, working with Redevelopment Ready Communities to bring Warren towards certification, and working on the Van Dyke Corridor and Historic District steering committees. Dylan also assisted with planning the Warren Wheels Paul Wayne Clark Jr. Memorial car show, Brownfield Redevelopment Authority reporting, the MI Warren Buy Warren Community gift card program, and Downtown Development Authority/Tax Increment Finance Authority meetings. He gained significant experience in local government operations with his internship.



Advait Rode interned with the City of Troy as part of his 2021 Michigan Municipal Executives' Fellowship Program. He worked on multiple projects ranging from researching electric vehicle infrastructure grants to a comparative analysis of public safety expenditures. These projects illustrate how complex the world of local government is. The internship was an eye-opening experience, and he urges MPA students to explore local government as a career choice.



Shana Kot completed an internship with the City Manager at the City of St. Clair Shores. Her responsibilities were responding to questions and concerns brought to the City Manager's office, producing documents for city council meetings, and developing new job descriptions and organization charts. She researched wage and contract information from comparable cities and participated in several union negotiation meetings. The internship taught her how each department provides municipal services, and she successfully broadened her professional network.



Max Voigt interned with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services in the Adult Protective Services (APS) Division, working on a data analysis project to improve the effectiveness of APS with its clients. He has had the opportunity to design surveys and work with a diverse group of people in Michigan. He has learned project management skills and re-affirmed his passion for serving people through public programs.



Jennifer Goldman completed a program evaluation internship at JFM Consulting Group in Detroit. JFM works in partnership with philanthropy, non-profit organizations, and public sector agencies to identify solutions to economic and social challenges, especially in urban and historically underserved communities. She gained extensive experience with survey design and Microsoft Office.

News from Current MPA Students



Alicia Arkwright started a new position as a Great Lakes Program Coordinator at The Nature Conservancy. Her main responsibility is coordinating a regional-scale project. The Great Lakes Program develops a Midwest division strategy, integrating the capacity of The Nature Conservancy from its seven state programs in the Great Lakes Basin. The objective of the Conservancy is to help ensure that the Great Lakes system is among the most effectively managed ecosystems. Alicia also served as a 2021 graduate ambassador for the Wayne State Graduate School and was selected as one of the recipients of the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) – Greater Detroit Chapter’s 2021 Marjorie S. Fisher Fellowship Mentorship Program.

Jay Biernat was promoted to Project Manager and Analytics Specialist for the Public Works Complete Streets Team at the City of Detroit. He was previously their assistant superintendent.



Toria King participated in the Michigan League of Public Policy’s Advocacy Bootcamp. Participants were able to gain knowledge and skills to further their advocacy abilities, network with other change-makers, and strategize on ways one can continue to make Michigan a more equitable place for all. She found it an exceptional opportunity to learn about the Michigan budget and extremely helpful for people working in organizations that depend on the state.

Iris Brauer started a new position working as the Development Coordinator at the Downtown Detroit Partnership. She works on all aspects of fundraising-grant writing, prospect research, and database management. She was also selected as one of the Association of Fundraising Professionals Greater Detroit’s Fisher Fellows.





Chelsea Haskin was promoted to Detective at the Wyandotte Police Department. She is also helping to develop a new School Resource Officer position for the 2022-2023 school year at the Wyandotte School District.



Alexandra Lazarow started a new position with Blue Care Network as a Senior Analyst in Business Support and Administration. She works on board relations and corporate governance. She was previously a public policy intern at Blue Care Network.



Amina Mashhour started a new position as a legal assistant with Project Clean Slate. This City of Detroit initiative helps residents expunge criminal convictions and improve access to better employment, housing, and educational opportunities.

Robert Reaves was awarded the Dave Bing Future Leader Award, an award presented by the Detroit Free Press and the Metropolitan Affairs Coalition that recognizes regional leadership. He is the director of accreditation for Wayne State’s Medical School. Robert also serves as the president of Wayne State’s Alumni Association, the board chair of strategic planning for Ronald McDonald House Charities Detroit, and an ambassador for the Michigan Opera Theatre.



Charlaine Stevenson started a new position as a Voter Protection Associate for the Michigan Democratic Party. She recruits and trains volunteers as election observers who witness the election process so that poll workers follow all rules and voter rights are not violated. She will recruit volunteers through grassroots tactics, such as phone banking and building relationships in local communities.





Zachary Szymanski started a new position as a legal secretary at Collins & Blaha P.C., where he is gaining experience in education policy.



Charmaine Valbuena works as a Social Investment Research & Data Analyst / Special Projects Development Officer at the City of Windsor. Her Social Policy & Planning division works with the Pathway to Potential program, a \$1.2 million social investment strategy for the Windsor-Essex region. She works with municipal and community partners to implement social investments in the low-income population within the Windsor region. These social investments include programs in education and training, childcare, employment, recreation, and neighborhood revitalization. She also presented her research paper on public art vandalism at the Graduate Research Symposium. Her research looks at three policy options to deal with the problem: develop a graffiti management policy, revise the public art policy, and maintain the status quo. Her research evaluates these options using policy criteria such as feasibility, efficiency, effectiveness, and equity, and recommends revising the public art policy.

Eboni Williams is finishing an AmeriCorps service where she works at Community and Home Supports as an Outreach Specialist/Housing Navigator. She works directly with unhoused clients in the metro-Detroit area. Her tasks range from conducting initial intakes, completing documentation, working with local partners to obtain referrals, and working with clients to secure documentation, such as identification cards if they do not have it. She states that the experience has made her more interested in future work at nonprofits or public agencies focused on housing.



Kevin Zelecki has started working as a surety administrator in the bonds department at VTC Insurance Group. In this position, he is currently working on a project regarding performance and payment bonds.

Alumni News and Milestones



Amanda Berry (MPA, '21) works at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan as a Senior Health Care Analyst on the Patient Experience team. She is responsible for Southeast Michigan, working with provider offices on improving culture and processes through Journey Mapping and building awareness within the office by holding all staff education sessions.

Erin Casey (MPA, '16) joined the Detroit Public Schools Community District's inaugural Project Management Office as the Senior Director of Planning and Engagement in September 2022. In this role, she leads strategic COVID-19 fund initiatives focusing on program sustainability, outcomes, and improvement.



Paul Corbett (MPA, '19) joined MICHauto, an economic prosperity initiative of the Detroit Regional Chamber and the State's only automotive and mobility cluster association, in November 2021. In his role as Director of Government and Community Affairs, Paul routinely interacts with the State's political leadership in Lansing to advocate for the automobility industry and the over one million jobs it represents in Michigan. Paul works on policy priorities, such as distracted driving legislation, expanded funding for workforce training programs, and new investments to better position Michigan in the competition for high-tech talent.



Sarah Craft (MPA, '13) started a new position as the Director of Community at Michigan Founders Fund (MFF). The MFF is a statewide nonprofit that provides startup programming and company-building support to high-growth entrepreneurs. The Fund strives to make startup ecosystem in Michigan accessible, successful, and community-driven. As Director of Community, Sarah spends most of her time recruiting and supporting tech founders, designing and implementing programming for founders, building community impact initiatives, and grant-making.



Sean Davidson (MPA, '20) started a new position as a State and Local Government Consultant at Guidehouse. He helps state, municipal governments, and public agencies to accomplish goals optimally with maximum efficiency and effectiveness.



Becky Dennis-Hulway (MPA, '15) started a new position as the Associate Director of Philanthropy at Wayne State University's Mike Ilitch School of Business. She was previously Senior Major Gifts Officer at The Henry Ford.



Courtney Flynn (MPA, '16) started a new position as the Director of Communications for the City of Oak Park. She was previously the Public Relations Manager for the Macomb County Board of Commissioners.



Joe Fresard (MPA, '19) was hired by Simasko Law, a premier estate planning and trust administration law firm in Michigan. His MPA degree made him more competitive in the hiring process, and he used the skills learned in the program in many different facets of the job. Previously, Joe was the Assistant Corporation Counsel at the City of Detroit.



James Gallagher (MPA, '19) completed his Graduate Certificate in Economic Development from Wayne State in the Winter 2022 semester. He started a new position with the City of Detroit in the Office of Development and Grants, where he works with several other WSU MPA alums.

Brent Glass (MPA, '17) was promoted to Vice President of Chapter Relations at Blessing in a Backpack in Chicago. He was previously their Director of Individual Giving. The nonprofit mobilizes communities, individuals, and resources to provide food during the weekends for school-aged children across America who might otherwise go hungry.



Nedra Hall (MPA, '21) started a new position with the Detroit Land Bank Authority as a Planning Research Analyst. Her job duties consist of relying on a thorough knowledge of urban planning and housing policy to inform critical, topical, spatial, and numerical data analytics and data management functions. She analyzes data to examine operational impacts and needed actions; evaluates programs, policies, and proposals; elevates issues, trends, areas for improvement, and opportunities to the leadership team. She also assists the department leadership with developing plans to promote equitable and sustainable use of vacant land and structures to decrease blight in the City of Detroit. She was the recipient of the 2021 Robert R. Robinson Memorial Scholarship from the Michigan Township Association.

Otniel Kish (MPA, '14) started a new position as a Budget Analyst in the Budget Office for the City of Grand Rapids. His responsibilities generally involve budget preparation and the provision of fiscal analysis and evaluation services to City Management. His team reports to the Chief Financial Officer and prepares the City's preliminary and final fiscal plan documents as well as special budget packages, while also providing accounting and budgeting assistance to City departments.





Kimberly Kleinhans (MPA, '12, PhD (EER), '18, GCNPM, '21) began her new role as the Development Director at American Indian Health & Family Services of Southeastern Michigan (AIHFS) in March 2022. She is responsible for leading and developing fundraising goals and performance for AIHFS. Her responsibility includes setting strategic direction, implementing a capital campaign, and general development duties. Her current focus is planning the agency's first fundraising gala, which features a fireside chat with Edgar Villanueva, author of *Decolonizing Philanthropy*. Villanueva is an activist and expert on issues of race, wealth, and philanthropy who will discuss how to make philanthropy equitable for all. The 2022 Charity Gala will help raise much-needed funds to support AIHFS' ability to expand current services to the American Indian/Alaska Native population and other underserved individuals in Southeastern Michigan. Kimberly successfully transitioned to healthcare administration after many years in arts administration due to the knowledge and skills she gained through earning her Graduate Certificate in Nonprofit Management from Wayne State University in the Fall 2021 semester. She also completed her Certified Fundraising Executive credential with the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) and participated in the 2021 AFP Detroit mentorship program.

Danielle McRae (MPA, '15) was promoted to Integrated Team Lead with Ontario's Ministry of Community and Social Services. She is working on leading a team through the implementation and change management of social assistance programs and offices.



Mark Navarro (MPA, '21, GCNPM, '22) started a new position as Senior Communications Manager at Strategic Community Partners. He leads Strategic Community Partners' communications team and strategy, helping the organization and its partners tell the stories of the communities and people they serve. For more information, check out [SCP's website](#). He also chaired The Skillman Foundation's 20 Black Detroiters Making History campaign. The goal of the campaign was to showcase Black Detroit youth making a difference in their communities. Mark also completed his Graduate Certificate in Nonprofit Management from Wayne State in the Winter 2022 semester.



Jennifer Oprisiu (MPA, '17) started a new position as the Director of Development with the American Diabetes Association. She works on new business development, grant writing, fundraising, and event planning.

Richard Pineau (MPA, '16) continues to be active at Wayne State in several capacities beyond his faculty appointment. He has finished his term as Chair of the WSU Academy of Teachers and completed a 5-year term as his department's Marketing Committee Chair. Richard served as a panelist for the General Education Symposium, created a module on Academic Integrity that will be disseminated to the university community, and served as a coach with the 2022 Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders. He continues his Ph.D. in Educational Studies with qualifying exams in the fall 2022.



Sanquise Powell (MPA, '18) started a new position as Grant Administrator at COTS, a Detroit nonprofit dedicated to helping families reach their housing, economic, health, education, and career goals as they overcome homelessness and break the cycle of poverty for the next generation and beyond.

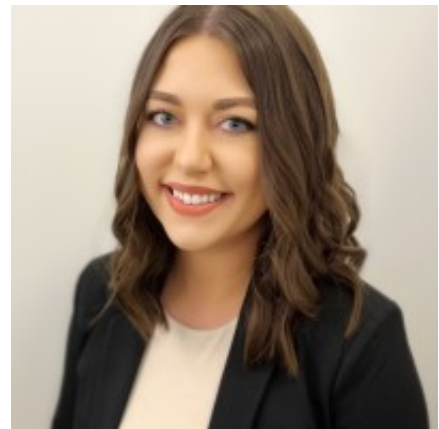
Katherine Ralston (MPA, '16) started a new position as Housing Services Director at Jefferson East, Inc (JEI). She is responsible for strategic visioning and planning in JEI's housing focus areas, such as housing counseling, home repair services, foreclosure prevention, renter assistance, and supervision of JEI's new Neighborhood Resource HUB in Jefferson Chalmers.





Amanda Reed (MPA, '16) started a new position as Senior Consultant in State and Local Government at Guidehouse. She previously worked for the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan as Project Manager of the Michigan Opioid Partnership.

Amanda Rhea (MPA, '20) started a new position as an Individual Giving Officer at Wayne State University. She was previously the Development Officer and Internship Coordinator at Methodist Children's Home Society.



Scott Stewart (MPA, '19) was elected to the Charter Commission of the City of Pontiac. The Charter Commission was established in 2021 to revise the city charter, last approved in 1982, over a three-year term. The Commission will oversee a comprehensive assessment of the current charter, identifying opportunities to revise and develop a revised charter for the residents of Pontiac to vote on. As the governing document of the City, the revised charter will have far-reaching impacts on the effectiveness of the Pontiac city government. Scott currently serves as a Vice President of Programs at the Pontiac Community Foundations.



Stephen Todd (MPA, '20) started a new position as a Human Resources Specialist with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. He provides HR services enterprise-wide to Veterans Benefits Administrations offices in all matters under the Delegated Examining Unit program office, which includes Delegated Examining, Pathways, and Direct Hire Authority recruitments.

Steven Wood (MPA, '21) recently accepted a new role with a nonprofit hospital system and is excited about this opportunity. He previously worked as an Associate Recruiter at JMJ Phillip Group.



Amy Zarichny (MPA, '19) was promoted to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Strategist at Rock Ventures LLC. She was previously their Project Coordinator for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

Program Faculty Activities



Associate Professor Brady Baybeck continues his research in all things local, having recently presented a paper at the Midwest Political Science Association 2022 annual meeting titled “Local Democracy or Perfunctory Legitimation? Explaining County Row Officer Elections.” He coauthored the paper with Kevin Lorentz, a Wayne State PhD now at Saginaw Valley State University, and they examine the factors that explain how and why people get elected to relatively obscure but important offices like county sheriff and treasurer. Brady continues to lead a Wayne State Executive and Professional Development certification program for the National Association of County Collectors, Treasurers, and Finance Officers (NACCTFO), which helps the MPA program keep its national profile.



Associate Professor and MPA Director, Kyu-Nahm Jun published her co-authored paper, “Competing Public Values Amidst Fiscal Crisis: The Case of State Takeover System in Michigan” in *Administration & Society*. She also presented her study, “Equitable Resilience: Exploring the Reproduction of Inequity and the Role of Mistrust” at the 2022 Annual Conference of the American Society for Public Administration in Jacksonville, Florida. She also served as the co-chair of International Cooperation Committee at the Korean Association for Public Administration (KAPA). In this role, she served as the program co-chair of 2022 KAPA International Conference and successfully organized the virtual conference with participants from 36 countries.



Professor Marjorie Sarbaugh-Thompson contributed to one side of a Debate on Congressional Term Limits article at the request of the editors of *Divided We Fall*. She argues against term limits on the grounds that they increase election costs, reduce institutional knowledge, increase legislative gridlock, and increase conflicts of interests. The article draws on her 12-year research project comparing the operating of Michigan’s state legislature before and after term limits were enacted.



Associate Professor John Strate's paper "Cutback Management in Canadian Cities" has received hundreds of downloads, demonstrating an increased interest in the topic, which tends to grow if there are prospects for a recession. He also continues teaching PS 3450, Environmental Policy and Politics. Previously, the course attracted small number of students, but now it fills up quickly, reflecting concern about climate change and environmental issues from undergraduate students. This summer he is working on a paper in the subfield of biopolitics that looks at the careers and family lives of all 45 American presidents.



Associate Professor Kristin Taylor is the recipient of a Career Development Chair, an award given to recently tenured faculty as part of the university's program to support the teaching and research endeavors of faculty members in the developmental stages of their scholarly careers. This award was part of the Academic Recognition Week event held across campus to celebrate faculty contributions to the university, academic community, and professional development.



Professor Lyke Thompson is the Director of Wayne State University's Center for Urban Studies, dedicated to improving understanding of and providing innovative responses to urban challenges and opportunities. In April 2022, he-along with researchers from other Michigan universities- met with local Detroit officials to discuss ways to address the storm-related home flooding experienced across southeast Michigan.

Updates from the Graduate Certificate in Nonprofit Management Program



The Graduate Certificate in Nonprofit Management program launched in Fall 2020 is approaching its second anniversary. Since its establishment, the program has welcomed more than 45 graduate certificate students from diverse educational and social backgrounds, including those with many years of experience in the field and those with completed graduate degrees in other academic disciplines. Currently, the program has 17 graduates putting their nonprofit competencies to use in Metropolitan Detroit.

The program accepts applications three times a year and can be completed independently or in conjunction with MPA program or another graduate degree. Professor Brady Baybeck is currently serving as the interim program coordinator. He can be reached by email at npm@wayne.edu with questions about the program or for additional information.

Several professional highlights from recent graduates:

Theresa Tupacz has been re-appointed to the Washtenaw County Environmental Council. She is excited to continue work on the county's first climate action plan, Resilient Washtenaw. This plan is a collaborative vision with the county residents to promote carbon neutrality. For those who live or work in Washtenaw County, please visit Resilient Washtenaw and include your suggestions and concerns as your voice guides our community. Theresa has recently earned a credential as a Certified Project Management Associate, IPMA® Level D, which will support her goal of pursuing a career in program development and management for environmental mission-driven organizations.

Robin West Smith has been appointed as an administrator for The Women Officials Network, a nonprofit organization founded in 1997, which seeks to empower women leaders of today and mentor women leaders of tomorrow.

Letter from the Wayne State University ICMA Student Chapter President

Hello! My name is Zack Szymanski, and now in my second year of the MPA Program, I have the distinct honor of serving as the inaugural President of Wayne State University's International City/County Management Association, or WSUICMA. I am delighted and humbled to be lending myself to this foundational endeavor and to the continued footprint of our MPA Program in the City of Detroit, as well as across the country. To kick off our tenure as a student organization, WSUICMA's 2022-2023 meetings will include presentations and discussions with local leaders in public administration and municipal management, giving Chapter members the opportunity to network and learn more about the profession.



Detroit and its surrounding region provide a complex, enriching context for WSUICMA's discussions and the professional development of its members. This Chapter, because of this, is uniquely poised to equip and connect the next generation of public administrators to serve Detroit, its surroundings, the State of Michigan, and beyond. We hope that you will join us in this venture!

Are you interested in joining WSUICMA? Student membership in our Chapter comes with a free student membership to the national ICMA organization, as well as networking opportunities and access to various resources to bolster your administrative aspirations. Our meetings span the entirety of the Academic Year. Live far from campus? Work during the day? Meetings will be hybrid events that take place tentatively on Thursday evenings, so you can attend on campus or while on the go! Reach out to icma@wayne.edu to express your interest in membership, to be added to our mailing list, and to receive more information. This chapter is open to both undergraduate and graduate students both in and outside of the MPA Program. Moreover, if you are interested in filling the role of Secretary or Treasurer on the Executive Board, please reach out with your interest and why you feel like you'd be a good fit for the role by Wednesday, **September 7th** to icma@wayne.edu for consideration. Position decisions will be made and announced by Saturday, September 10th.

On behalf of myself, WSUICMA, and the MPA Program, I want to wish you all a successful start to the 2022-2023 Academic Year. I am looking forward to your membership in WSUICMA!

Warrior Strong,

Zachary M. Szymanski

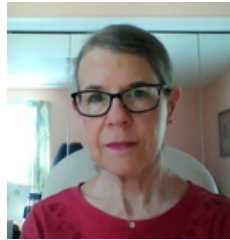
ICMA

student chapter
Wayne State University

Practitioner Advisory Council Update



Eric Adelman



Susan Bristol



Robert Heuton



Charito Hulleza



Kevin Kelley



Nicholas Lomako



Tracy Utech



Mari Vaydik



Howard Whitney



Mark Wollenweber

Students pursuing their MPA degree at Wayne State have long benefited from the involvement of practicing professionals in their education. The MPA Practitioner Advisory Council meets annually to discuss a wide range of issues related to the mission of the Wayne State Graduate Program in Public Administration. The council members are pursuing or have pursued careers in the public or not-for-profit sectors. Below is the list of current PAC members:

- Eric Adelman, MPA '08: Executive VP & Chief Advancement Officer, JVS Human Services + Kadima
- Susan Bristol, MPA '81: Board Director, Wayne County Conservation District
- Robert Heuton, MPA '98, PhD '05: Adjunct Faculty, Wayne State University
- Charito Hulleza, MPA '92: Managing Director, Wayne State University Center for Urban Studies
- Kevin Kelley, Retired, Wayne County
- Nicholas Lomako, MPA '83: Retired, Senior Vice President, Wade Trim Associates, Inc.
- Tracy Utech: Associate Vice President for Principal Giving and Campaigns, Wayne State University
- Mari Vaydik: Senior Director of Philanthropy and Alumni Relations, Wayne State University
- Howard Whitney, MPA '11: Retired, Michigan Department of Treasury
- Mark Wollenweber: Retired, City manager of Grosse Pointe Shores, Michigan

The PAC met this year on May 5th, 2022. The council received an update about the MPA program from Program Director Dr. Kyu-Nahm Jun, who said that the program continues to have strong enrollment and graduation numbers. Dr. Alisa Moldavanova also shared an update about the Graduate Certificate in Nonprofit Management, which is doing well in its second year. Finally, Dr. Brady Baybeck shared information about the new course PS 6700 Financial Management for Nonprofit Organizations and the differences between this course and PS 7330 Public Budgeting and Finance.

The Graduate Program in Public Administration greatly appreciates the commitment these practitioners have made to help strengthen the program and enhance the educational experience of our students.

Support the Elling Fund for Public Administration Educational Enhancement

In In 2015, Dr. Richard Elling retired from a 35-year career as a core faculty member for the Graduate Program in Public Administration and a Professor of Political Science. Following his retirement, Professor Elling generously established the Richard C. Elling Endowed Fund for Public Administration Education. After his passing in 2017, Dr. Elling's family has continued to honor his memory by supporting the Elling Fund with a generous match. Professor Elling had a passion for public administration and the success of the MPA Program. Taking great pleasure in watching his students succeed, he created the Elling Fund to sustain and strengthen graduate education in the MPA Program. Monies contributed to the Elling Fund provide scholarships for promising MPA students, support MPA students who are serving in valuable but unpaid internships, and enable the Program to produce the newsletter.

We hope that you will join us in honoring Professor Elling's legacy by contributing to a cause that was so dear to his heart and makes a difference to so many.

Gifts to the Richard C. Elling Fund can be made by mailing a check to:
Wayne State University Gift Processing
PO Box 674602
Detroit, MI 48267-4602
Attn: Richard C. Elling Endowed Fund for Public Administration

Education Contributions can also be made via the MPA giving page at: giving.wayne.edu/donate/mpa.

Contributions are tax deductible on your federal income tax return.

Thank you on behalf of the MPA Program and the Elling Family!

Noteworthy News



Current MPA Student Toria Boldware married Emmanuel King on September 25, 2021, in Charlotte, North Carolina and celebrated their honeymoon in Dubai.

Current MPA Student Bryana Martin welcomed a baby girl named Zuri G. Davis on May 6, 2022.

