

Career transition takes alumna abroad: Kathy Lizotte, MPA 1996

It seems a lifetime ago that I was living in Amherst and studying for an MPA. I still carry the textbooks from my courses with me, as well as some great memories.

My final semester in the program was spent as an exchange student at Trinity College, Oxford University, via the Oxford Summer Seminar program sponsored by UMass Amherst (<http://www.umass.edu/oxford/>).

Upon returning to the US, I packed up my Toyota and drove to Washington, D.C. to work for a nonprofit management firm for a short while. From there I went on to do pharmaceutical transfer pricing for a large economic consulting firm. Corporate restructuring and a layoff gave me the opportunity to re-evaluate my career goals, and I decided to return to the public sector. My civic activism and interest in public transport led me to take a job with Amtrak.

I worked for the company for two years and absolutely loved it. Amtrak is a semi-public company so I gained experience working at the intersection of competing public and private goals in the provision of a public service. I learned a lot about railroads, transportation economics, and most importantly, how real decisions are made by Congress and why. Attending meetings on the Hill with congressional staffers was an eye-opening experience; I found most of the staffers to be highly intelligent, committed, and completely informed of the nuances of public decision making when it came to Amtrak. The company faced a deficit of \$7 billion when I joined and was not allowed to cut money-losing routes nor make any meaningful changes to union contracts; as a result, the company started massive layoffs and pay cuts. It was at that time that I decided it would be advantageous to seek more stable employment.

During my time in DC, I enrolled part-time in Johns Hopkins University's economics masters program. I completed my degree in December 2003 and became an economist at the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in the strategic analysis division. Akin to

my Amtrak days, the FAA job, which I held for four years, required being able to bridge the demands of the FAA and Congress. My responsibilities included benefit-cost analyses of infrastructure investments and tax studies because the FAA is supported via a trust fund. Twice a year I forecast the amount of tax revenue the FAA would receive for 10 years so that the Administration could prepare its annual budget submission to Congress. I was also involved in "what-if" analyses of radical changes to the aviation tax structure and its impact on the FAA's operations. It was a good thing I kept all of my UMass textbooks on the federal budget because I referred to them frequently. In a place like DC, it is important to have both qualitative and quantitative skills since one is frequently called upon to explain technical analyses to laypeople.

After four years with the FAA, I decided, somewhat on a whim that I wanted to be exposed to alternative transport systems and ways of doing things. I had fallen in love with England when I was at Oxford and had vowed to return one day and this seemed to be just the right time. Finding a job was easy since my background was in high demand; closing up nine years of my life in DC was not. A harried autumn followed as I prepared for my new life in the UK.

I have been working for Arup (www.arup.com) as a senior transport economist since mid-November and love it so far. Arup is best known for building the Sydney Opera House, the Swiss-Re tower in London, the Channel Tunnel, terminals at JFK and Heathrow, and the Second Avenue subway line in NYC. In addition, Arup is currently building many of the facilities for the upcoming Olympics in Beijing. I am constantly being challenged and exposed to all facets of transport and urban planning, including the aviation, rail and maritime sectors. I have had the opportunity to write proposals for the Dublin Airport Authority and the Port of Liverpool, conduct appraisals of transport projects for the British Department for Transport and I am currently in the process of writing a



Kathy Lizotte, MPA 1996

magazine article for the work Arup is doing in Dongtan - an environmentally sustainable city being built from the ground up in China. Right now my interest lies in working on projects literally around the world, including China, Dubai, and the UK. I am glad that I decided to take the plunge and move here since going to work each day is rather like attending school: I learn something new every day.

My best advice to MPPA graduates is to be adventuresome and try an assortment of jobs. Rather than staying in a safe, comfortable job, continue learning and you will always be able to find employment. Seriously consider moving overseas for a while to expand your horizons and read, read, read! Staying on top of current events and issues within your respective field is critically important for moving up the ladder.

Contents

George Sulzner Retires	2
Public Service Awards	2
Student Spotlight	3
Faculty News	4
Alumni Profiles	4
Staff Farewells	4
Alumni News	5

CPPA Professor Sulzner to Retire



Professor George Sulzner and former MA Governor and U.S. Ambassador to Canada, Paul Cellucci.

Professor George T. Sulzner, who has given many years of dedicated leadership and service to UMass Amherst and the Center for Public Policy and Administration (CPPA), will be retiring in May 2006. George played an important role in the founding of the master's program in public administration (MPA) in 1973 and continues to perform a central role as educator and mentor to students and alumni. He has been an active and enthusiastic participant in CPPA, and his contributions to its intellectual vitality have been extremely valuable.

"George encouraged us to believe that we had something important to offer the world of public service. His enthusiasm for the MPA program and his apparent joy at seeing 'his' students take advantage of the many good things the program offered was infectious."

- Marjorie Hutter, MPA 1988

In 1959, George Sulzner earned his B.A. in History from Muskingum College in New Concord, Ohio. Professor Sulzner then went on to earn his M.A. in American History in 1961 and his PhD in American Political Thought in 1967, both from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. He began at UMass Amherst as an Associate Professor with the Department of Political Science in 1967, and also worked as a Research Associate with the UMass Labor Relations and Research Center, a position that he has retained since 1968.

His primary courses at UMass have included: Public Sector Labor Relations,

Public Personnel Administration, Canadian Government and Politics, The American Presidency and American National Government. He has published numerous articles on labor, Canadian politics and labor relations and management. George was instrumental in supporting the MPA program at UMass, serving as director from 1982 to 1987 and again from 1993 to 1996.

"George Sulzner is one of the very best parts of UMass. While it's possible that I've forgotten a thing or two that I learned in his classes, what I won't forget is George's keen interest in the academic and personal success of his students. He leaves very big shoes to fill."

- Aaron Harsh, MPA 1999

Professor Sulzner's enthusiasm for teaching and helping students led CPPA to create a fund in his honor. The George T. Sulzner Fund has provided grant awards to students in unpaid internships since 2002. With the support of CPPA alumni and the Board of Advisors, the Sulzner Fund was endowed in 2005, forming the preliminary structure for sustaining student support into the future.

"My award from the Sulzner fund enabled me to pursue an internship as a research assistant at the US Agency for International Development in the Bureau for Europe & Eurasia – Office of Democracy, Governance and Social Transition."

- Jessica Cichalski, MPPA, 2005

When asked about his plans for retirement, George says he plans to stay involved in Canadian studies and may even write another

book. He will continue to do an occasional arbitration as well. And, while he may be seen in his on-campus office from time to time, he does plan to spend time visiting his children and relaxing in Vermont.

CPPA Public Service Awards

We are pleased to announce that first year students Maura Geary and Fida Touma are this year's recipients of the CPPA Alumni Association Public Service Award. This award is given to Masters students who have demonstrated a past commitment to and future potential for excellence and leadership in public service. And, in keeping with the spirit of the alumni award, recipients have also pledged to remain involved with the Center for Public Policy and Administration following their graduation. Congratulations to both!



CPPA Public Service Award recipients, Maura Geary and Fida Touma

Second year student Michelle Sagan was awarded the Philip Hertz Scholarship Award. The award, given annually by MPA alumnus and advisory board member, George Hertz in memory of his father, Philip Hertz – a life-long public servant, recognizes a graduating student pursuing a public service career.



Michelle Sagan, Philip Hertz Scholarship Award recipient

Student Spotlight

Welcome visiting faculty and research fellows:

Noralv Veggeland, the American-Scandinavian Foundation (ASF) Visiting Lecturer from Norway, taught a CPPA graduate course this spring on Politics and Policy in the European Union.

His appointment was secured by Eric Einhorn, professor of Political Science and CPPA faculty member. ASF provides annual funding to colleges and universities in the United States to host a visiting lecturer from Norway or Sweden.

Scott Cooper joined CPPA this fall to teach a course on "Globalization and Its Discontents." Cooper has led policy formulation on global electronic commerce issues for Hewlett-Packard for the past eight years. The course looked at the compelling cross-border issues that may require greater consensus-building for resolution, such as global environmental issues, consumer empowerment in the global marketplace, patent rights and world health issues, as well as business regulation, taxes, investment and foreign aid.

Albert Meijer is an associate professor at the Utrecht School of Governance at the University of Utrecht in the Netherlands. Professor Meijer is a Visiting Faculty Fellow with the National Center for Digital Government at CPPA this spring. His research focuses on public accountability, informatization in public administration, and the use of e-mail by government organizations.

Miree Byun is professor and associate research fellow at the Center for Urban Information Systems, Seoul Development Institute, in Korea. Professor Byun is a Visiting Faculty Fellow with the National Center for Digital Government at CPPA for one year. Her current research includes an international comparative study of e-government policies in the world's major cities.



"The Right Mix of Theory and Skills"

Stefanie Santaniello joined CPPA in Fall 2005 and is the first student to enroll as a MPPA/MBA dual degree student. She is a graduate of Boston College with a degree in business management and communications. She came to CPPA to expand her understanding of the public management process and learn how she could adapt her business education to the public sector.

Stefanie developed her interest in local affairs and public policy while an undergraduate student interning for then-State Representative Stephen Buoniconti (D-West Springfield) and WGGB news in Springfield, MA. After receiving her degree, she worked as a marketing intern for the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts in Hatfield, MA, as a volunteer with the John Kerry campaign in Keene, NH; and as an administrative assistant at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

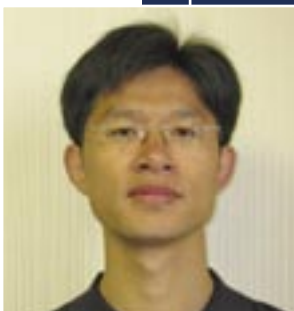
"CPPA's curriculum provides the right mix of public sector theory and applied skills to help me bridge the gap between my business education and the knowledge and skills that I need to be an effective public manager," said Stefanie. After receiving her MPPA, Stefanie hopes to work in her home state of Massachusetts in either state or local government.



"Seeing the Bigger Picture"

As a candidate about to finish her MPPA studies in May, Melissa Nazzaro knows all too well how perseverance and a sense of humor will help make any experience in higher education a positive one. Melissa has been a part-time student in the CPPA program since the fall of 2002, while working full-time for the City of Northampton as a Public Safety and 911 Dispatcher. While finishing her undergraduate degree in Economics at Mount Holyoke College, she became interested in local emergency management and planning. When she graduated in 2001, she was a full-time city employee and the Development Coordinator for Northampton's Emergency Management Team. Her passion for municipal government and public safety sparked a search for masters' study in public policy and administration. "CPPA offered flexibility, passionate and experienced instructors, and course selections aimed at broadening my understanding of public policy as it applied to my career. I couldn't have been more pleased with my experience."

She learned early on to laugh at herself when school seemed overwhelming. "You figure out quickly as a part-time student that the lessons both inside and outside the classroom are critical to the experience. It means gaining perspective on how you view your role in the world, and what you have to let go of to see the bigger picture."



"An Exciting Program"

A second year student from China, Xingan Ge received his Bachelor of Law degree from Nanjing University in 1997. After graduation, he entered into the Highway Administration Bureau, a government agency policing highways in the Jiangsu Province. He worked as a law enforcement officer for two years, and then became a legal consultant for the Bureau. At the end of 2002, he came to the US to be with his wife and was admitted to CPPA in the fall of 2004.

CPPA offered the right opportunity for Xingan to fill out the gaps in his theoretical understanding of public policymaking. "Its interdisciplinary curriculum, knowledgeable instructors, and vivid and dynamic class discussions broadened and deepened my knowledge horizon in public policy." He also believes that CPPA served as a bridge linking his academic experience in China to the US academic culture. It opened his eyes to academic instruction, research, and practice, and made him experience the differences in training and educating students between China and the US.

Xingan will graduate in May 2006 and is eventually planning to work in the public sector or with a nonprofit organization in China.

Faculty Awards

Michael Ash, associate professor of Economics and Public Policy has been awarded a Fulbright fellowship for the spring of 2007. Professor Ash will travel to Budapest to research environmental justice in Hungary. He will teach economics and policy methods at Corvinus University, formerly Karl Marx College of Economics, and will also be affiliated with the Center for Environmental Policy and Law at US-accredited Central European University.

Carol E. Heim, professor of Economics and CPPA faculty member, has been awarded a David C. Lincoln Fellowship in Land Value Taxation by the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy in Cambridge, Mass. During 2006, the fellowship will support some of her ongoing research on urban growth and property development.

Joya Misra, associate professor of Sociology and Public Policy, was awarded \$98,000 from the National Science Foundation for a one-year study of "The Cross-National Effects of Work-Family Policies on the Wage Penalty for Motherhood." Michelle Budig, assistant professor of Sociology and associate director of Social and Demographic Research Institute, is the co-principal investigator on the study.

James Murphy, assistant professor of Resource Economics and Public Policy and **John Stranlund**, associate professor of Resource Economics and a CPPA faculty member have been awarded the 2006-2007 CPPA Faculty Development Grant. The award will support their research on the efficacy of voluntary agreements between environmental regulators and polluters as a means to achieving targeted levels of environmental quality.

The Faculty Development Grant supports faculty in securing funding for their research while furthering CPPA's mission to conduct interdisciplinary scholarly research related to public policy and is made possible through generous contributions from the CPPA Advisory Board.

Alumni Profile



Jonathan Weiser, Assistant Project Director, Center for HIV Educational Studies and Training, MPPA 2005

Upon last May's graduation I moved to New York City for a summer fellowship at the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force researching LGBT parenting. When my fellowship ended I took a job as the Assistant Project Director of the PARTY (Prevention Assessment of Risk Taking Youth) Project at the Center for HIV Educational Studies and Training (CHEST), a public health research institute associated with Hunter College. Although I

am primarily researching sexual risk behaviors associated with club-drug use, I have been able to continue to research LGBT policy issues and am in the process of writing papers about LGBT community attitudes towards same-sex marriage and parenting. My experience at CPPA gave me the analytic skills necessary to conduct quantitative and qualitative research at the professional level, augmented my writing skills - teaching me to write in a clear and succinct manner, and gave me management skills that would not have been gained at an ordinary public policy program. Thanks CPPA!



Clem Clay, Connecticut River Program Director, Trust for Public Land, MPA 2004

I seized every opportunity to incorporate agricultural policy into my coursework and internship, as I looked to CPPA to help me place my interest in sustainable agriculture in a broader policy context that could increase my impact. I expected to use this knowledge in a nonprofit management position, so I welcomed the opportunity to explore public management at CPPA while concurrently pursuing a PMBA from the School of Management. Since

graduating, I have managed the Trust for Public Land's Connecticut River Program, using land conservation tools to celebrate and protect New England's largest watershed. Land conservation at TPL is a pragmatic and creative exercise in using public and private investments to correct for market failures that undervalue the public benefits of undeveloped land. As a national organization with over 400 employees, TPL has taught me a great deal about effective nonprofit management, while demanding that I draw daily on knowledge of farm policy, politics, economics, policy analysis, and management that I lacked prior to my time at CPPA. As every UMass alum knows, the farms and forests of this region are critical to its identity - I feel fortunate to work alongside many others who seek to keep these working and natural landscapes intact.

CPPA Bids Farewell...

Craig Thomas, Associate Professor of Political Science, will be leaving the UMass Amherst this summer to take a senior position at the Evans School of Public Affairs at the University of Washington. Professor Thomas taught Public Management and was active on many committees in the MPPA program, which he helped to build in his 9 years at CPPA. Although he looks forward to returning to his home town of Seattle, he is sad to be leaving the CPPA community. Professor Thomas will be greatly missed.

Wendy Varner was recently appointed Assistant Director of the Center for Research on Families at UMass Amherst. She served as Grants and Contracts Manager at the Center for Public Policy and Administration since 2000 and was instrumental to much of the work done at the Center, particularly laying the groundwork for the Science, Technology and Society Initiative. Wendy will be greatly missed by students, staff and faculty.

Alumni News

Pam Howland, '87 – Pam is a Land Use/Sustainable Development Planner for the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission. She develops programs that focus on affordable housing and smart growth.

Marjorie Hutter, '88 – An article written by Marjorie, entitled “How to protect the mother-daughter bond,” appeared in the December 6th issue of the Daily Hampshire Gazette. Margie has been doing a variety of professional work, including consulting for MotherWoman, a nonprofit organization in Amherst, and freelance writing.

Geoffrey Buswick, '93 – Geoff was appointed head of the new Boston office of Standard and Poor's. He is responsible for managing S&P's activities in the New England region market with the goal of continuing to grow and expand their practice and relationships with issuers, investors and intermediaries.

Kristin Mory, MPA '94 – After working in public sector economic development for 12 years, Kristin recently started Smart Development, a small construction company that builds residential additions.

Barry Federman, '99 – Barry is a nurse practitioner at Amherst Psychiatric Associates. Prior to entering into a private practice, he taught nursing at UMass Amherst.

Aaron Harsh, '99 – Aaron is a lawyer working on tax issues at Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP in Boston.

Kirsten Kowlaski Lane, '00 – Kirsten is the current president of the Massachusetts Friends of Midwives and serves on the board of the Massachusetts Coalition for Midwifery.

Lori Gordon, '00 – Lori is working in the Homeland Security and Intelligence Analysis department for the MITRE corporation in McLean, Virginia.

Melanie Cahill, '01 – Melanie is working as Director of Management for the Worcester Housing Authority.

Timothy M. Jones, '01 – Tim is Assistant Attorney General for the Western Massachusetts Division of the MA Attorney General's Office. This spring, he is teaching a public policy and administration class at the Western New England College School of Law.

Vivian Saravelas, MPA '01 – Vivian was appointed Director of Budget and Finance for the Boston Centers for Youth and Families, the city's largest human services organization, with 46 community centers throughout Boston.

John Beardmore, '02 – John was promoted to Assistant Budget Officer in the Office of Legislative Budget Assistant Budget Division for the State of New Hampshire.

Michael Qualter, '02 – Michael was selected as a member of the Workforce Innovation for Regional Economic Development (WIRED) project for the Department of Labor in Washington, DC. He will be on site in the coastal Maine region.

Victoria Groves, '02 – Victoria is working as a health policy writer and editor for the Veterans' Administration at its Jamaica Plain Campus.

Emily Hopta, '02 – The West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence presented Emily with a 2005 Purple Ribbon Award to honor her work to end violence against women in West Virginia. Emily works as the Executive Assistant to the Secretary for the WV Department of Health and Human Resources.

Oryx Cohen, '02 – The July 2005 issue of the Journal of Humanistic Psychology features an article by Oryx entitled, “How Do We Recover?: An Analysis of Psychiatric Survivor Oral Histories.”

Matthew Shilvoek, '02 – Matthew is working as the General Director's Associate at the San Francisco Opera.

Helen Hendrickson, '03 – Helen started her own business focusing on exercise and nutrition. Fit for Fun provides personal training, coaching and health counseling.

Christine Barber, '03 – Christine is a researcher for the new Joint Committee on Health Care Financing at the Massachusetts State House.

Celina Hurley, '03 – Celina is the Director of Annual Fund and Special Events at the New Hampshire Political Library.

Dina Khassenova, '04 – is a Civic Education/Budget Specialist with USAID. Last year, she attended a 10-day training with Open Society Institute on ethnic diversity and conflict management in Budapest and then studied for one month in Sweden at the Raoul Wallenberg Institute for the Regional Program on the Equal Status and Human Rights of Women.

John Urschel, '04 – A new book, Foundations for Social Change, includes a chapter written by John entitled, “Coming Out of the Green Closet: Wealth Discourse and the Construction of Social Change Philanthropists.”

Colleen O'Shaughnessy, '05 – Colleen has been traveling in Australia since June 2005, and she has been working for the Port Pirie Health Service in South Australia doing research for a men's health project.

Stacey Dakai, '05 – Stacey is an Environmental Analyst for the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection.

Kristin Behnke, '05 – Kristin is a Fiscal Policy Analyst with the Executive Office for Administration and Finance for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Jason Chang, '05 – Jason is pursuing a PhD in Cultural Studies at University of California Berkeley.

Gillian Crippen, '05 – Gillian is the Membership Director for the Hampshire Regional YMCA in Northampton.

Holly Gerhart, '05 – Holly is an analyst in the Professional Development Program with the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) in Washington, DC.

David Roth, '05 – David was accepted to the Public Management Intern program, and is now working in New York State government.

Update your alumni profile information online!

A new online, Alumni Update Form provides CPPA alumni with a fast, easy way to stay in touch! Visit our website at www.masspolicy.org/alumni. The form is under Quick Links on the right.

CPPA would like to thank the following individuals and alumni for participating in the MPPA Professional Development Series:

Brendan Culley, MPA '01

Megan Steinke, MPA '01

Pam Howland, MPA '87

Nancy de Prosse, current MPPA student

David Sharken, former Executive Director, Food Bank of Western Massachusetts

Brian Fontes, former UMass Faculty in Communication

Robert Corn-Revere, MA in Communication '80

Lonna Thompson, MA in Communication '79

David Donovan, BA in Political Science '76 and MA in Communication '79

Aron Goldman, principal, Policy Development

Paul Reville, President of the Rennie Center

Maura Devlin, current MPPA student

Mark D'Angelo, MPA '80

Oryx Cohen, MPA 2002

Debra Hertz, Grants Manager, Verité

Erica Johnson, Housing Discrimination Project/Mass Fair Housing

Dwight Merriam, BA Sociology '68

CPPA Presents its Public Service Award



Nobel Peace Prize Winner, Jody Williams, speaks to an audience at UMass (left). Ms. Williams speaks with Dean Janet Rifkin from the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences and CPPA Director, John Hird (below).



CPPA Working with Community Partners

During the fall semester, MPPA student, Barbara Steel Lowney, conducted an outcomes evaluation for a program of the Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities (MFH). The MFH Clemente Course is a program that offers college-level courses in the traditional humanities disciplines to economically and educationally disadvantaged individuals aged 17 and older. Using a survey instrument designed by students in the CPPA Nonprofit Management course, Barbara surveyed alumni of the Clemente Course, compiled the data, and performed statistical analyses on the results.

Alumni: Get Involved!

Would you like to:

- Be a part of our professional development series?
- Mentor a Master's student?
- Interview potential candidates for the Master's program?
- Be featured in an upcoming e-bulletin or newsletter?

If so, please contact Jackie Brousseau-Pereira, jackie@pubpol.umass.edu.

Join the MPA/MPPA

alumni e-mail list by contacting info@pubpol.umass.edu.

Are you listed?

Check out the MPA/MPPA alumni directory at www.masspolicy.org/alumni to make sure we have your correct information.



CPPA hosted a talk by Kevin Knobloch '78, President of the Union of Concerned Scientists

Mr. Knobloch's talk, "As the World Warms: Restoring Scientific Integrity to Climate Public Policy Making" took place in the UMass Student Union Cape Cod Lounge on April 24, 2006.

CPPA Hosts New England Public Policy Center Western/Central Massachusetts Summit

On April 6, 2006, the Center for Public Policy and Administration (CPPA) hosted a regional summit of the New England Public Policy Center, a new venture of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston. Economists, policy analysts, and research assistants with backgrounds in labor and urban economics, economic development, state and local public finance, and healthcare met with policymakers and elected officials from Western and Central Massachusetts to learn about regional policy issues and initiatives. The purpose of the conference was to introduce policymakers to the New England Public Policy Center and facilitate a partnership between the public policy community and regional policy and economic analysts.