

## Reaching Around the World: CPPA Advances Global Policy Perspectives

Research and teaching by CPPA faculty increasingly reflects global processes and informs international deliberation. Their work offers insight into the shifting nature of sovereignty and governance, evolution of social welfare policies and practices, and trajectories of community activism and civic participation in a world where nations, societies, economies, and policies are interconnected and interdependent.

Several CPPA faculty are working abroad as Fulbright scholars, offering them invaluable access to observe people, events, and institutions in their cultural and political context.



Image courtesy of UMass Magazine.

David Medicoff, a Legal Studies and CPPA faculty member, is spending the 2006-07 academic year at the University of Qatar. There, he is teaching nineteen women in a new International Affairs Programme and witnessing first-hand major transformations underway. Field work in Egypt, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia is advancing his research comparing diverse conceptions of the “rule of law” and their connections to the process of democratization.

Dimensions of environmental justice inspire teaching and research in Hungary by Michael Ash, associate professor of Economics and Public Policy, and Krista Harper, assistant professor of Anthropology and Public Policy. At Corvinus University, tradable emission permits are a popular topic in Ash’s “Political Economy of the Environment and Environmental Policy” course. During a mini-conference at Central European University, Ash and Harper exchanged views with faculty and students on the relationship between the environment, racism, poverty, and development. Harper’s participatory action research with a grassroots community organization on drinking water, waste, and flooding issues takes place in a predominantly Roma settlement; the Roma are Hungary’s largest ethnic minority.

CPPA faculty also collaborate with colleagues around the world to more fully understand and describe public policy processes that transcend political boundaries. Over the next three years, Jane Fountain, professor of Political Science and Public Policy, will work with an international

*Continued on page 3*

### An Update from Ecuador: Carlo Ruiz-Giraldo, MPA '04



After graduating from CPPA, I returned to Ecuador and was hired with the Ecuadorian Municipalities Association as an environmental specialist. This public organization provides technical assistance to Ecuador’s 219 municipalities. My job consists of helping local governments to structure and improve their environmental management. These goals require developing policies, analyzing management structures and implementing regional sustainable development strategies. Visiting small towns all over the country has allowed me to understand and appreciate the importance of Ecuador’s natural capital. In addition to that, I coordinate the legal and technical

environmental decentralization process. Thanks to such experience, the Global Environment Fund’s (GEF) Small Grant Programme (SGP) appointed me as a member of its National Board. The SGP funds community-based initiatives for the improvement of living and environmental conditions.

I also worked as a consultant for the World Bank’s 2007 Country Environmental Report. Ecuador’s socio-political process led to the call for a National Assembly, which was responsible for approving a new Constitution. I was appointed as an adviser on state structure, territorial management, and environmental issues by the Special Commission in charge of providing a draft to the Assembly. This is, to date, one of the most interesting and important projects I have been involved in since graduation. I feel confident that I will be able to cope with all the present and future challenges in my career, thanks to the skills learned and perspectives gathered from professors and classmates at CPPA.

First year student Natia Verulashvli is a MUSKIE fellow from Georgia. She came to CPPA after gaining valuable work experience in a variety of organizations, such as the Office of the State Minister of Georgia on reforms coordination, the Tbilisi branch office of the Urban Institute, and local NGOs. Natia is specializing in education policy with the goal of one day serving as the Minister of Education in Georgia.



The transition to studying in the United States led Natia to realize how much she is capable of. “Working under time pressure was the most difficult in my transition. Now I can somehow manage the huge amount of work in a very short period of time. Sometimes I am still surprised at how it all gets done!”

Natia has also noticed a big difference between the education systems in the two countries. “The most important thing that I like about US education is that professors do not teach you what to think, they teach you how to think. I started to question everything I am trying to analyze, and it helps me to see facts from various perspectives. One of my favorite classes is Policy Analysis. It just perfectly matches my character and I feel very comfortable working on it. I am absolutely confident this is the type of job I would love to do when I go back to my country.”

Natia will use the skills she develops at CPPA to improve her home country, and looks forward to playing a key role in Georgia’s education policy. “Georgia is undertaking various reforms where my generation has to play a crucial role. I hope to be among those individuals who will bring a better future for my country.”

### Contents

From the Desk of the Director	2
Public Service Awards	2
2007 Achievement Summit	2
Student Spotlight	3
CPPA Bookshelf	4
Alumni Profiles	4
Alumni News	5

## From the Desk of the Director



Dear friends,

These are exciting times at the Center for Public Policy and Administration! As interim director, I have been impressed by our achievements and strong forward momentum. In September the largest class in our program's history arrived. The new MPPA/MBA dual degree program is off to a strong start as is the new food science policy specialization, and the undergraduate policy concentration is thriving.

In October, we honored Professor George Sulzner with a vibrant evening at the Mullins Center. Former students and colleagues presented a tour of his remarkable journey and influence. Through your generosity, the George T. Sulzner Scholarship Fund continues to support student internships. In 2006, Nancy Haque, Lisa Hilt, and Jennifer Neira worked on participatory democracy, women's rights and economic development on three continents.

Make no mistake: CPPA is global. Faculty have been invited this year to Qatar, China, Japan, India, Colombia, Mexico, France, the Netherlands, and Hungary. Our international students hail from Afghanistan, Kenya, Palestine, the former Soviet Republic of Georgia, and Germany. Our U.S. students increasingly work abroad for professional



First year students Arezo Kohistani and Nadima Sahar

development, yet our commitment to local communities and the Commonwealth remains central to our mission.

Here are just a few other highlights: Katie McDermott published an article on educational accountability policies in the current issue of the American Educational Research Journal. Ray La Raja won two large grants from the JEHT Foundation to examine the potential impact of Connecticut's Clean Elections law. Brenda Bushouse, a fellow at the Center for Research on Families, was awarded a fellowship with ZERO TO THREE to study the effects of universal preschool on the childcare industry. Mari Castañeda was a featured panelist at the Latin American Studies Association's XXVI International Congress in Puerto Rico. This year, we welcomed new faculty affiliates Paula Stamps (Public Health), Bill Gibson (Economics) and David Scherer (Psychology).

The Science, Technology and Society Initiative will convene some of the world's top experts to further public debate on an emerging policy challenge at an international workshop, "Nanotechnology and Society: The Organization and Policy of Innovation," scheduled for May 17, 2007.

As always, we thrive on the continued involvement of our alumni — through participation in the professional development series and special events, as well as assistance with internships and job placement.

There is much more to learn about our collective achievements and contributions at [www.masspolicy.org](http://www.masspolicy.org).

With every good wish,

Jane Fountain

## CPPA Public Service Awards



CPPA Public Service Award recipients, Michele DesAutels and Zach Mallavia

We are pleased to announce that first year students, Michele DesAutels and Zach Mallavia 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. 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!



Philip Hertz Scholarship Awardee, Maura Geary

Second year student Maura Geary 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.

## Students Invited to Achievement Summit

CPPA first year students Nadima Sahar and Arezo Kohistani have been invited to join 300 of the world's top graduate students at the 2007 Achievement Summit this June in Washington DC. During the four-day International Achievement Summit, Arezo and Nadima will join hundreds of distinguished guests including heads of state, leaders of industry, foreign ministers, ministers of defense, military commanders and diplomats in an extraordinary series of symposia and roundtable discussions. Students at past summits have had the opportunity to meet with such leaders as President Bill Clinton, Crown Prince Salman of Bahrain, General Wesley Clark, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Supreme Court Justice Anthony M. Kennedy, Housing and Urban Development Secretary Alphonso Jackson and Steven Spielberg.

## Student Spotlight

*Continued from page 1*

team to develop a transnational digital government research agenda for North America. Eric Einhorn, professor of Political Science and CPPA faculty member, and Professor Noralv Veggeland of Lillehammer University College in Norway are planning interactive web-based seminars for policy and administration students.

A three-year partnership between James Murphy, associate professor of Resource Economics and Public Policy, John Stranlund, professor of Resource Economics and a CPPA faculty member, and colleagues at Pontificia Universidad Javeriana has strengthened mutual understanding about local natural resource use and governance in rural Colombia and the economics of natural resource policies.

By shaping global forums for deliberation on emerging policy issues and pursuing inquiries into global political, economic and social equity, CPPA faculty enrich our understanding of the phenomenon of “globalization.”

John Brigham, professor of Political Science, CPPA faculty member, and co-founder of the International Roundtables on the Semiotics of Law, provided opening and closing commentary on the Catalanian struggle for independence from Spain at its 5th meeting which focused on Law, Tolerance, and Diversity.

At the first U.S.-China International Workshop on Digital Government Research and Practice, Charles Schweik, associate professor of Natural Resources Conservation and Public Policy, shared his perspectives on environmental monitoring, risk assessment, and computing infrastructure and their implications to public sector decision-making.

Growing out of her work with IT for Change, a research and activist organization, Paula Chakravarty, assistant professor of Communication and CPPA faculty member, helped coordinate an international workshop that brought together policy makers, activists, and scholars from India, Brazil, South Africa and other emerging “information societies” to discuss alternatives to neo-liberal development policies. Her current research focus is on the Global South; she addresses the politics of Digital Inclusion programs in Brazil and India specifically.

Recent research by Joya Misra, associate professor of Sociology and Public Policy, and her colleagues shows that while welfare state retrenchment has drawn immigrant careworkers to Europe to meet care needs, immigration policies limit these workers’ ability to work legally and for decent wages.



Chris Sullivan joined CPPA last fall as a Community Development Fellow through a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Chris found his passion in community development while working with AmeriCorps – once with a small housing repair organization aimed at assisting low-income rural homeowners and a second term working in a Boston homeless shelter. These experiences took him to London to serve as a live-in volunteer in a homeless shelter. Chris plans to put his past volunteer experiences and his MPPA degree to use in a career in community development in the Boston area.

“CPPA has challenged me to consider the complex interactions of government, the not for profit world, the private sector and the communities that they operate in. It has also allowed a great deal of project-based work outside of the classroom which has been invaluable in building a portfolio of client projects. I plan to be involved in community development work for the long term in Boston - primarily in the production of affordable housing and with projects that promote income growth opportunities for the low earning segment of the workforce.”



After several years working in corporate finance, second year MPPA student Jennifer Neira came to CPPA to identify and pursue a career in an area that she felt passionate about. “I was looking for a program that would enable me to incorporate my interests in International Studies, Economic Development, and issues affecting Latin America. CPPA provided the flexibility to design a specialization in international development policy that meshed perfectly with those interests.”

She found her passion through her coursework, in an independent study, and international internship experience. Upon graduation, Jennifer intends to pursue work in the microfinance industry. A recipient of Sulzner Internship funding, Jennifer was able to travel to Ecuador for her internship with Innpuslar, a business incubator in Cuenca. “Working with Innpuslar was a wonderful experience. I learned about how the business incubation process enables entrepreneurs to develop and expand their businesses and promote local economic development. I also learned about the complexity of running a non-profit organization in the developing world.”

“Overall, I am very pleased with my CPPA experience. I think it is a great mix of talented faculty, administration and students. I am grateful for the support I have received from my fellow students and have learned immensely from the wide range of perspectives that they have brought to the program.”



Catherine Sands joined the program as a full-time student in Spring 2006. She is the director of Fertile Ground, a grassroots initiative that creates teaching gardens in schools and links diverse communities through sustainable agriculture. Catherine is using her time at CPPA to develop practical skills and an understanding of the policies that drive her work in agriculture, education, and social justice.

Catherine will continue to work to empower people to make smart food choices, to support and explore local farms, and to strengthen local food systems. “I am particularly interested in connecting urban and rural communities, and in continuing to develop awareness about social justice and food justice issues. Research studies create the funding footprint for advocacy work, and I’m learning practical design tools that will enable me to further the impact of my work.”

Catherine is also learning the art of balance with life and work. As a working parent of young children, she has become an expert in time management. “It’s not easy to go back to school after 25 years. Giving up time with children is very difficult. Fortunately, the people that CPPA attracts to the program understand; there’s good support for the few older parents in the group.”

## CPPA Bookshelf

**Lee Badgett**, associate professor of Economics and CPPA faculty member, co-edited *Sexual Orientation Discrimination: An International Perspective* with Jefferson Frank of the



University of London. Through the experiences of gay and lesbian people in seven countries, this volume describes ongoing discrimination in jobs, education, and cultural and religious life – and how public policies can play a role in reducing discrimination based on sexual orientation. Published by Routledge, 2007.

In *Globalization, Communication and Media Policy: A Critical Perspective*, **Paula Chakravarty**, assistant professor of Communication and CPPA faculty member, and co-author Katharine Sarikakis of the University of Leeds examine the changing role of the state, technology and the market and the role of civil society. They demonstrate the centrality of historical and political context in debates that may appear solely technical or economic. Published by Edinburgh University Press, 2006.



**Nancy Folbre**, professor of Economics and CPPA faculty member, has co-authored a revised and updated edition of the *New Field Guide to the U.S. Economy: A Compact and Irreverent Guide to Economic Life in America* with James Heintz of the Political Economy Research Institute and Jonathan Teller-Elsberg. Featuring new material on the war in Iraq, lotteries, the prison industrial complex, foreign aid, the environment and pharmaceutical companies, this guide makes key economic issues accessible through engaging text, graphs, figures, and even cartoons. Published by The New Press, 2006.

*Wild Capitalism: Environmental Activists and Post-Socialist Ecology in Hungary* by **Krista Harper**, assistant professor of Anthropology and Public Policy, examines how the meanings of “civil society” and “environment” have changed as environmentalists encounter the political and ecological realities of life after state socialism. Published by Eastern European Monographs, 2006.



*The Humane Metropolis: People and Nature in the 21st Century City*, edited by **Rutherford Platt**, professor of Geosciences and CPPA faculty member, explores the prospects for a more humane metropolis - more habitable, more healthy and safe, more ecological, and more equitable - as cities become the dominant living environment for humans. Published by the University of Massachusetts Press, 2006.

CPPA faculty members **Paula Chakravarty**, **Eric Einhorn**, **Nancy Folbre**, **Jane Fountain**, **Raymond LaRaja**, **David Medicoff** and **Charles Schweik** also contributed chapters to books published in 2006. Please see [masspolicy.org](http://masspolicy.org) for more details.

## Alumni Profiles



**Rob O'Donnell**, MPA '98, Research Director, School Finance Office, Massachusetts Department of Education

It's hard to believe that it's been almost ten years since I graduated from the MPA program. What I appreciated most about the program was the opportunity it gave me to improve my analytical skills, both quantitative and qualitative, and to pursue an area of interest through elective courses, in my case education policy. This has served me well in the two positions that I've held since leaving UMass, first at the Annenberg Institute for School Reform and presently at the Massachusetts Department of Education. In fact, I owe my position at the DOE in part to a seminar paper that I wrote on school finance reform in Massachusetts. My work at the DOE involves working with districts on financial reporting and compliance issues, preparing analyses of district spending for concerned stakeholders, and working on the education funding formula, otherwise known as Chapter 70, for the state budget. This requires an understanding of education policy, state and local fiscal affairs, and frequent interaction with state and local officials. There are many fiscal changes facing school districts in the Commonwealth today, but I feel that my experience in the MPA program prepared me to help find solutions to these problems.



**Susan Wanjau**, MPPA '06  
Financial Analyst, Save the Children

Before joining CPPA I worked in Kenya in both for-profit and not-for-profit organizations with my last four-year stint being with KPMG's Financial Advisory Services line of business. Coming to UMass was a chance for me to take a rest from almost eleven years of building a career in accounting and finance, and a time to reflect on what I really wanted for the rest of my career. Within the two years at CPPA I realized that I wanted to be involved in not-for-profit organizations.

My first experience with Save the Children was in 2000 when I worked with Red Barnet (Save the Children Denmark) through a three-month NGO Management workshop. I was reintroduced to the organization through Megan Steinke (MPA '01) when she came to give a talk during one of the CPPA professional development sessions. The strongest attraction for me to Save the Children was its mission - creating lasting change in the lives of children.

I was offered a position as a financial analyst in the Save the Children US headquarters at Westport, Connecticut which I accepted and began work in early July 2006. As a financial analyst I am in charge of four country offices - Haiti, Mozambique, West Bank and Gaza, and Himalaya (Bhutan and Nepal) – for their budgets and accounting aspects of their day-to-day, monthly, and annual processes.

I learned that it is important to find something that fills you with a sense of contentment and pursue it with passion. CPPA gave me the skills necessary to be successful in a not-for-profit organization, and also the ability to pursue a career I believe in.

## Alumni News

**Vivian Jarcho** (1980) is Chief of Advisory Services in the Office of Human Resources at the Commodity Futures Trading Commission in Washington, D.C.

**Roberta DeDonato** (1981) accepted a position as a technical sales manager for IBM in Boston.

**Mary Lyman** (1985) works as a fundraiser for Family Service, Inc, a nonprofit social service agency in Lawrence, Massachusetts.

**S. Lawrence Kocot** (1986) now works as a senior advisor to the Administrator within the United States Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

**Elizabeth Dale** (1986) accepted a position as senior vice president for Institutional Advancement at Drexel University in October.

**Vicki (Ruffner) Connor** (1986) was appointed director of Sentenced and Minimum Security Women at the new Hampden County Regional Women's Correctional Center in Chicopee, Massachusetts.

**Michael Duffy** (1987) works as the deputy CIO for the United States Department of Justice.

**Debbie Opperman** (1988) is executive director of Southwick Family Support Coalition in Southwick, Massachusetts.

**Diane Parsons** (1988) recently retired from her position as Assistant Director of Learning Services at the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts in Lenox, MA.

**Martha Prybylo** (1989) is the senior vice president of Grand Circle Foundation.

**Sheila Casey** (1991) who worked as an attorney for Neighborhood Legal Services in Lynn, Massachusetts is putting her M.P.A. to work again as she leads Neighborhood as its executive director.

**Dean Shankle** (1992) is presently serving as a Fulbright Scholar in the Republic of Moldova. He is lecturing at the Academy of Public

Administration of the President of Moldova. In 2005, after 20 years of public service, Dean co-founded Aretao, a training and consulting firm, of which he currently serves as CEO.

**James Hardy** (1992) is commissioner of purchases and supplies for the City of Cleveland.

**Colleen Corcoran** (1994) was promoted to director of grants and contracts at the Research Foundation for Mental Hygiene in Albany, New York.

**Joyce Sacco** (1994) is associate director of Employment Initiatives for Project HOME, a nonprofit organization that provides housing and support services to chronically homeless men and women in Philadelphia.

**Daniel Laroche** (1996) is the town planner in the Town of Montague, Massachusetts.

**Gilbert Duvernay** (1996) is Chief of Police for the New Braintree Police Department in New Braintree, Massachusetts.

**Katherine Lizotte** (1996) works as a transport economist for Arup, a management consulting and planning service agency in London, England that provides services to national and international government, as well as private developers and local authorities.

**Michael Doherty** (1997) now works as a research manager for Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation in Providence.

**Vivian Saravelas** (2001) is employed as director of finance for Child and Family Services in Honolulu, Hawaii.

**Cheri Harrington** (2002) was promoted to senior analyst at the U.S. Government Accountability Office in Washington, D.C.

**Carol Lee-Davis** (2002) is now a policy analyst for the Children's Agenda in Rochester, New York.

**Nelson Petrosyan** (2002) works as an audit manager for Grant Thornton in Armenia, a division of Grant Thornton International, a worldwide accounting and consultancy firm.

**Victoria Groves** (2002) now works as a writer/editor for Wellesley Information Services (WIS) in Dedham, Massachusetts.

**Helen Hendrickson** (2003) is the founder and director of Fit for Fun, an innovative fitness training and nutrition coaching studio in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

**Kurt Rakouskas** (2004) is working as a senior project manager for the Environmental Council of the States in Washington, D.C.

**Dina Khassenova** (2004) accepted a position as a project manager/budget specialist for the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), a U.S. federal agency that provides economic and humanitarian assistance around the world. Dina works out of Almaty, Kazakhstan.

**Jonathan Weiser** (2005) is now a project coordinator for the Center for HIV Educational Studies and Training (CHEST) in New York, NY.

**Ramil Maharrmov** (2006) is now employed as an fiscal and sector specialist/economist at the Public Investment Policy Project, Development Alternatives, Inc in Baku, Azerbaijan.

**Robyn Barros** (2006) recently accepted a position as an associate for Gerson Lehrman Group, a global independent primary research firm. Robyn works out of Gerson's Boston branch.

**Matt Butler** (2006) accepted a position as a budget analyst for the State of Michigan.

**Michelle Sagan** (2006) joined the National Center for Digital Government, a research initiative housed in CPPA, as program manager.

**Barbara Steel-Lowney** (2006) accepted a position as a policy analyst for the U.S. Government Accountability Office in San Francisco, California.

**Amy Westwood** (2006) is the budget manager for the Office of Information Technologies at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

**Joe Wyman** (2006) works as a research analyst for the Donahue Institute in Amherst, Massachusetts, a public service, outreach, and economic development unit of the University of Massachusetts President's Office.

Update your alumni profile online!

Go to [www.masspolicy.org/alumniupdate](http://www.masspolicy.org/alumniupdate) for a fast and easy way stay in touch with CPPA!

## Save the Date

The 2007 CPPA Graduation Celebration will be held Thursday May 24 from 4-6pm in the Garden Room at the Lord Jeffrey Inn. Light refreshments will be available.

Alumni are encouraged to join us for this celebration. Please reserve with Kathy Colón at 413.545.3956.



## Alumni: Get Involved!

Would you like to:

- Be a part of our professional development series?
- Mentor a Master's student?
- Help with CPPA recruitment efforts?
- Be featured in an upcoming e-bulletin or newsletter?

If so, please contact Colleen O'Shaughnessy, [colleen@pubpol.umass.edu](mailto:colleen@pubpol.umass.edu).

## Hire a CPPA Intern!

CPPA graduate interns have the skills and experience to take on complex projects and produce high-quality products. They have worked as policy analysts, budget and program assistants, and program evaluators for such organizations as the Office of Budget and Management in Chicago, the United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs, the Massachusetts Senate Ways and Means Committee, the U.S. Department of Defense, and the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts. If you are interested in hosting an intern this summer, please contact Satu Zoller at (413) 545-2714 or [szoller@pubpol.umass.edu](mailto:szoller@pubpol.umass.edu).

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CPPA would like to thank Maura Devlin ('06), Geoff Buswick ('96), John Musante ('89) and Marjorie Hutter ('88) for participating in MPPA Professional Development sessions.

## Join the MPA/MPPA

alumni e-mail list by contacting [info@pubpol.umass.edu](mailto:info@pubpol.umass.edu).

## Are you listed?

Check out the MPA/MPPA alumni directory at [www.masspolicy.org/alumni](http://www.masspolicy.org/alumni) to make sure we have your correct information.