



CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST

E-Bulletin

December/January 2005-2006 Issue

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CPPA News

New Online Budgeting Course Scheduled for Spring 2006

CPPA will offer its first online graduate course this spring entitled, *Budgeting for Policymakers*, taught by Michael Hannahan. The course will provide students with insight into the process of creating a budget for a large, complex public institution. The course begins with an overview of federal, state and local budgets and how their different budget cycles fit together. The remainder of the course will be spent working on how a real budget is created. Students will have an opportunity to learn from practitioners, case studies and each other. For registration information, please visit UMass Continuing Education www.umasslearn.net. Questions, contact Jackie Brousseau-Pereira at 413-577-0239.

Alumni Invited to Join CPPA Job Postings Listserv

Looking for a job? Have a job announcement to share with CPPA alumni? CPPA maintains a Job Postings listserv for alumni that includes local and national public service employment opportunities. If you would like to join the listserv or if you have a job opening to share with CPPA, please send an email to Jackie Brousseau-Pereira today!

CPPA Holiday Party a Success!

Thanks to all those who were able to join us for this annual event! A good time was had by all, and we look forward to seeing even more of the CPPA community at next year's party!



Students at the CPPA Holiday Party

Faculty News

Two New Faculty Positions at CPPA

CPPA is currently interviewing candidates for two new faculty positions: (1) Law & Society and Public Policy, this is a joint hire between CPPA and the Dept. of Legal Studies; and (2) Information & Communication Technologies and Public Policy, this is a joint hire between CPPA and the Dept. of Communication. Both new faculty members will begin in Sept. of 2006.

Professor Chakravartty Attends the World Summit on the Information Society

Paula Chakravartty, Assistant Professor of Communication and CPPA faculty, has recently returned from the **World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)** in Tunis. She participated as a representative of the International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR). Her research focuses on the normative dimensions of global information policy and the limitations of the multi-stakeholder process of policy-making, specifically in terms of the role of civil society organizations and their interventions. Some of the findings of this research will be published in Professor Chakravartty's forthcoming book (*Global Media Policy*, co-written with Katharine Sarikakis) University of Edinburgh Press (2006).

The vision of WSIS includes "a commitment to build a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented Information Society, where everyone can create, access, utilize and share information and knowledge, enabling individuals, communities and peoples to achieve their full potential in promoting their sustainable development and improving their quality of life, premised on the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and respecting fully and upholding the Universal Declaration of Human Rights." (from the First Phase of the WSIS (10-12 December 2003, Geneva), **Geneva Declaration of Principles**;) . WSIS was held in two phases, with participation of 175 countries. Dr. Chakravartty discussed her participation at WSIS in her December 5th CPPA Colloquium presentation: *Governance Without Politics: The Curious Case of the World Summit on the Information Society*.

Professor Heim Awarded Fellowship from the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

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. Her project is entitled "Municipal Fiscal Structures and Land-Based Growth in the Phoenix Metropolitan Area." After documenting heavy reliance on sales taxes relative to property taxes, she will examine implications of the quest for sales tax revenues, including municipal incentives offered to attract retail facilities and the possibility of excessive zoning for commercial uses or overbuilding of retail. She will investigate fiscal issues relating to infrastructure finance during rapid growth and consequences of build-out, including higher prices for land acquisition for public purposes.

Professor Fountain was Keynote Speaker at the 2005 International Conference on the "Knowledge Management in Asia Pacific"

Professor Jane E. Fountain, Political Science and Public Policy, was a keynote speaker at the 2005 International Conference on "**Knowledge Management in Asia Pacific**", held in Wellington, New Zealand on November 28th. The conference was hosted by the School of Information Management and the School of Government, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand. The conference's theme, Building a Knowledge Society: Linking Government, Business, Academia and the Community, attracted leaders, scholars and practitioners from around the Asia-Pacific region.

Professor Fountain's presentation was featured in a newspaper article in New Zealand's The Dominion Post entitled "New Zealand should learn from the mistakes and successes of e-government in the US, says a visiting American academic."

Student News

Here is what current students are saying about the MPPA program :

"The flexibility of the MPPA program has been wonderful. I've been able to incorporate my interest [in] education into many of my classes and supplement my class work with hands-on experience through a summer internship and on-going research projects. I still have more than a semester left in the program, but I already feel like I'm a competitive applicant for many jobs in the field." - **Michelle Sagan, '06**

"Last year I was a research assistant for Jim Murphy and administered resource economic experiments. I enrolled in the GIS course in the spring and was glad to use the skills I learned in my summer internship at the Town of Hempstead, NY Department of Planning and Economic Development." - **Elizabeth Gonzalez, '06**

Alumni Updates

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 – Since joining Standard & Poor's as a Financial Analyst five years ago, Geoffrey has recently been appointed as the new Boston office head. In his new role, he will be 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.

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 – The Women's Times, a Northampton-based publication, will feature Kirsten in its January 2006 issue. She will be profiled for her work as doula – providing advocacy, support and care for pregnant and birthing women. Since graduating in 2000, Kirsten trained first as a doula with the Association of Labor Assistants and Childbirth Educators (ALACE) and then did her midwifery training with Heaven and Earth Wellness Center in Rhode Island . She is the current president of the Massachusetts Friends of Midwives and serves on the board of the Massachusetts Coalition for Midwifery.

Melanie Cahill, '01 – Melanie recently accepted the position of Director of Management for the Worcester Housing Authority.

Timothy M. Jones, '01 – Tim currently serves as the Assistant Attorney General for the Western Mass. Division of the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office. In the spring, he will be an adjunct faculty member teaching a Public Policy and Administration class at the Western New England College School of Law.

Stacey Dakai, '05 – Stacey is currently a research fellow in the UMass Amherst Department of Public Health. She is working on program evaluations for public health programs in the Worcester Public Schools and at UMass Health Services.

CPPA wants to hear from you! Please send alumni updates to Jackie Brousseau-Pereira at jackie@pubpol.umass.edu.

Grant Opportunities

Research Announcement from the IBM Centers

The IBM Centers for The Business of Government, Global Issues and Innovation have released their [2005-2006 Research Announcement](#). Individuals working in universities, nonprofit organizations and journalism are invited to submit an application that provides a description of their proposed research project designed to assist public sector executives at all levels of government in effectively responding to the mission and management challenges. Research stipends are \$20,000 for each research report. There will be two funding cycles, with deadlines of December 15, 2005, and March 1, 2006. To view the complete Research Announcement and apply online, go to <http://www.businessofgovernment.org/main/apply/>.

The Center for Research on Families Offers Data Workshop

The Center for Research on Families at the University of Massachusetts Amherst will be offering a workshop entitled: *What to do about Missing Data: Tools for Practitioners* on Monday, January 23rd in Room 917 of the Campus Center from 9:00-4:30 p.m. The instructor is Recai Yucel, assistant professor of biostatistics at the School of Public Health. The workshop will focus on modern approaches to missing data and present models for missing continuous, categorical, mixture of continuous and categorical and panel data. The workshop will be both theoretical and include hands-on lessons on the software that can be used for implementing the modern methods. Handouts and software will be provided. For registration information contact Janet Barstow at 545-3905 or email at jbarstow@psych.umass.edu; or go to the website www.umass.edu/family.

CPPA Events

Colloquium Speaker Series Event

Speaker: [Michelle Budig](#)

Assistant Professor of Sociology and Associate Director, SADRI

Place: 620 Thompson Hall

Date: Monday, February 6th 2006

Time: 12:00 PM

Resume Writing and Interview Skills

CPPA Professional Development Event

Speakers: Satu Zoller and Maura Devlin

Place : 620 Thompson Hall

Date: Thursday, February 9th 2006

Time: 11:45 AM

Questions or comments about the CPPA E-Bulletin?

Please contact Wendy Varner at 413-577-0478 or wvarner@pubpol.umass.edu.