



Department of

PUBLIC

Administration

at The University of Texas at San Antonio



Chair's Welcome

I would like to welcome you to the spring 2008 edition of the MPA newsletter. There are a lot of exciting changes to the MPA program. Important among them is that we were able to hire two new assistant professors to start this fall. **Dr. Branco Ponomariov** comes from the University of Illinois at Chicago. Dr. Ponomariov completed his Ph.D. in Public Policy at Georgia Institute of Technology. Also coming is **Dr. Tansu Demir**, from the University of Illinois at Springfield. Dr. Demir did his Ph.D. at Florida Atlantic University in the School of Public Administration. We will provide a profile of our new faculty in the fall 2008 newsletter.

With respect to the MPA program, there are now 131 students enrolled. This is the most students we have had in the program since becoming our own Department of Public Administration in 2000. To meet the growing demand for the MPA program we will be hiring additional new faculty. One will be an associate professor specializing in urban planning to meet the needs of students with interest in this area. The second will be an assistant professor in public administration specializing in financial management to cover this important area of our MPA curriculum.

In this edition of the MPA newsletter we have a faculty profile of Dr. Heywood Sanders, a student profile by Mr. Aaron Stein and student Tracy Holmes' article on the recent ASPA conference in Dallas. You'll also find the upcoming summer and fall 2008 course schedules.

If you have any suggestions for stories or would like to write a story for a future edition of the MPA newsletter please contact us. In addition, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about the program or want to provide suggestions for ways we can better meet current and future students' needs.

Sincerely yours,

Christopher G. Reddick
Associate Professor and Chair

A Note from Dr. Francine S. Romero Graduate Advisor of Record

We are all excited about the continued growth of our program, in terms of both students and faculty. As we move toward the completion of this semester, there are some important dates and deadlines of which you should be aware. Early registration for both Summer 2008 and Fall 2008 courses begins on April 7 at 7 a.m. Summer registration closes on May 27 at 5 pm, and Fall registration closes on August 19 at 5 pm.

If you have friends, family, or colleagues who are interested in our program, please let them know about, or personally escort them to, our **MPA Open House**, to be held on Tuesday, May 13, 2008 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the Durango Building's Southwest Room. This is a great opportunity for prospective students to meet faculty, as well as current and past students, and to have their questions answered.

This summer we will be initiating our **Exit Paper Information Session**. Many students have questions about the expectations for this paper, which is written just prior to graduation, through the Applied Research (PAD 6923) course. Faculty will provide insight on the process, helping students to understand the components of a successful paper. Recent graduates will be on hand to discuss their experience and we will have exit papers samples available as well. (These papers are always available for your review in the Department Office). While we haven't finalized a date, please plan on attending this in late June as I strongly urge you to attend.

There is also one important policy change of which you should be aware. *If you are required to complete an internship, we now have deadlines by which you must have begun the necessary paperwork: April 1 for the summer semester; July 1 for the fall semester, and November 1 for the spring semester.* Also, keep in mind that those seeking to waive the internship requirement must submit a petition for the waiver one semester prior to your intended graduation semester. This and all policies can be found in the MPA Student Handbook, accessible from our Department webpage or as a hard copy in our Department office.

Faculty Spotlight



Image by Steven Vote

Dr. Heywood Sanders
Ph.D., Harvard University

During 2007, Dr. Sanders' research work focused on publicly-funding convention centers and the politics of urban development.

His Brookings Institution white paper, "Space Available: The Realities of Convention Centers as Economic Development Strategy", published in January 2005 [www.brookings.edu/reports/2005/01cities_sanders.aspx] continues to cause debate among hotel and tourist industries and government entities.

Dr. Sanders testified before the U.S. House of Representatives' Domestic Policy Subcommittee about convention centers and economic development last April. He also presented a paper on consultant studies and development politics at the annual meeting of the Urban Affairs Association in April. Dr. Sanders writes a regular column for the *San Antonio Current*, focusing on San Antonio issues.

Fall 2008 course offerings with Dr. Sanders include the Applied Research course and Quantitative Methods in Public Administration.

Public Administration Contact Information

FACULTY			
NAME	OFFICE	PHONE	EMAIL
Dr. Renee Nank Assistant Professor	DB 4.244	210.458.2621	renee.nank@utsa.edu
Dr. Dianne Rahm Professor	DB 4.230	210.458.2502	dianne.rahm@utsa.edu
Dr. Chris Reddick Associate Professor and Department Chair	DB 4.114D	210.458.2501	chris.reddick@utsa.edu
Dr. Francine S. Romero Associate Professor and Graduate Advisor of Record	DB 4.242	210.458.2630	francine.romero@utsa.edu
Dr. Heywood Sanders Professor	DB 4.232	210.458.2538	heywood.sanders@utsa.edu
STAFF			
Teresa Pena Administrative Associate II Internship Coordinator	DB 4.114B	210.458.2534	teresa.pena@utsa.edu
Jo Reyes-Boitel Senior Administrative Associate	DB 4.114	210.458.2533	jo.reyes@utsa.edu

For More Information
Visit our Department website

www.utsa.edu/copp/PA/publicAdmin.html

Pi Alpha Alpha Induction

Induction into the Pi Alpha Alpha Honor Society recognizes those MPA students and alumni who excel in challenging coursework with a GPA of 3.7 or higher. We are overjoyed to induct thirteen students for 2008. Our inductees are:

Elizabeth A. Brown

Omar Garcia

Tracy L. Holmes

Morgana Lamson

Mary R. Peters

Sarah Jane Phipps

Annette G. Rábago

Rhonda P. Roach

Holly Smith

Aaron M. Stein

Alexandra E.K. Voigt

Kathryn Word

Mary Sandra Yturri

Mr. Allen Barrett, Chairman of the San Antonio Area Chapter of the American Red Cross, will open, speaking about the future of the American Red Cross.

The PAA Induction Ceremony will be held at the UTSA Downtown Campus on Wednesday, April 16, 2008, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., in the Southwest Room on the first floor of the Durango Street Building.

Congratulations to our newest PAA members!

MPA Student Appreciation Day

* Grab a Slice of Pizza * Say Hello *
* Register to Win a Study Basket *

April 24, 2008

4:30 pm – 5:30 pm
DB 4.114

Please RSVP by April 18 to 458-2533.

From Our Students



Tracy L. Holmes

Spring 2008 Graduate

Thank you to the 2008 Scholarship Committee Members. I was able to attend the *American Society for Public Administration* (ASPA) 69th Annual Conference 2008 held in Dallas, Texas on March 8-11 thanks to the generous travel scholarship provided by Dean Jesse Zapata and the College of Public Policy and administered by the Department of Public Administration. The scholarship afforded me the opportunity to become acquainted with professionals across the public service sector and gain valuable insight into the current issues facing the next generation of public administration professionals.

The highlight of the conference for me as a student and new professional was the *Student and Professional Summit*. The summit was a great start to the conference for me because I was able to meet students and emerging professionals who are facing some of the same challenges and fears that I am experiencing as graduation nears. The summit came with the added benefit of having my resume reviewed by career services and human resources specialists from across the country. I was able to make an appointment and have my resume reviewed with suggestions for improvements. The reviewers also helped me to see that many of the skills that I use in my current position as a Clinical Laboratory Scientist and as a volunteer with several nonprofit organizations translate to marketable skills that are useful in the public sector. The Summit was a great primer for what was to be a great conference experience.

The workshop topics were relevant too, where future opportunities in public administration could be found, especially workshop sessions on community-based

collaboration, civil service professionals, contract acquisition professionals, and management ethics.

I enjoyed the networking activities in which I became acquainted with peers, public administration academics and practitioners from across the country and the world. The primary benefit for me was the added confidence that I can and will be a competent public administrator through the skills that I have gained through the UTSA Master of Public Administration program. As I begin to search for employment opportunities I feel that I am prepared for a meaningful public service career.

Aaron M. Stein

Graduate Research Assistant, 2007-2008

My experience as a Graduate Research Assistant (GRA) in the Department of Public Administration has been educational and satisfying. I am fortunate to work in a field that I enjoy under the supervision of someone I respect and admire, Dr. Dianne Rahm.

My assignments as a GRA help me learn more about subjects that interest me and give me the chance to refine my research skills. My responsibilities vary greatly from one topic to the next but include literature reviews, telephone interviews with policy makers and editing manuscripts. Perhaps the most exciting idea for me is that the work I am doing will eventually be part of a book about climate change policy.

I have learned so much about many different subjects and ideas that will assist me as I enter a career in the public sector. I recommend this position for any students who want to enhance their knowledge and experience as researchers.

Note: GRA positions, if available, are announced at the beginning of each semester.

The mission of the MPA program is to prepare students for careers and leadership roles in public and nonprofit organizations and to nurture their commitment to ethical public service in a diverse society.

Summer 2008 Course Schedule

First Five-Week Session (F) (June 2, 2008-July 8, 2008)

CRN	Disc	Crse	Sec	Course Title	CrHr	Days	Times	Room	Instructor
32738	PAD	5343	90F	HR Management in the Public Sector	3.0	MW	5:30-9:15 PM	DB 3.214	Nank, Renee
32739	PAD	5923	90F	Nonprofit Leadership & Management	3.0	TR	5:30-9:15 PM	FS 3.536	Nank, Renee

Second Five-Week Session (S) (July 9, 2008-August 14, 2008)

CRN	Disc	Crse	Sec	Course Title	CrHr	Days	Times	Room	Instructor
32740	PAD	5953	90S	Grant Development and Proposal Writing	3.0	MW	5:30-9:15 PM	DB 3.218	Woods, Marianne
32741	PAD	5363	90S	Public Sector Financial Management	3.0	TR	5:30-9:15 PM	FS 3.530	Gearhart, Ken

Fall 2008 Course Schedule

CRN	PAD	Sec	Course Title	CrHr	Days	Times	Room	Instructor
10621	5003	901	Introduction to Public Administration	3.0	M	5:30-8:15 PM	DB 3.214	Nank, Renee
14107	5003	902	Introduction to Public Administration	3.0	R	5:30-8:15 PM	FS 3.530	Demir, Tansu
11390	5023	901	Quantitative Methods-Public Administration	3.0	T	5:30-8:15 PM	DB 2.228	Sanders, Heywood
11479	5033	901	Theories of Public Organizations	3.0	T	5:30-8:15 PM	BV 3.306	Ponomariov, Branco
12660	5233	901	Scope and Methods of Inquiry	3.0	M	5:30-8:15 PM	BV 1.318	Ponomariov, Branco
13094	5323	901	Public Policy Formulation & Implementation	3.0	R	5:30-8:15 PM	DB 3.214	Romero, Francine
16118	5343	901	Human Resource Mgt. in the Public Sector	3.0	W	5:30-8:15 PM	DB 3.218	Demir, Tansu
11249	5363	901	Public Sector Financial Management	3.0	W	5:30-8:15 PM	FS 3.520	STAFF
14110	6923	901	Applied Research	3.0	R	5:30-8:15 PM	BV 2.306	Sanders, Heywood
16119	5243	901	MIS for PA	3.0	M	5:30-8:15 PM	DB 3.216	Reddick, Chris
16121	5313	901	Policy Analysis	3.0	T	5:30-8:15 PM	FS 2.506	Romero, Francine

Please note: In addition to the courses listed above, each semester offers Internships (PAD 6963 , 6), Independent Studies (PAD 6953) and Comprehensive Exam (PAD 6961) opportunities. Please visit ASAP [<https://asap.utsa.edu/>] for specific course information or to register for classes.

Department of Public Administration
College of Public Policy
The University of Texas at San Antonio
 501 W. Durango Blvd.
 San Antonio, TX 78207

p: (210) 458-2533 f: (210) 458-2536
 e: MPA@utsa.edu

www.utsa.edu/copp/PA/publicAdmin.html