Welcome From the Chair

Hello! First, I want to welcome all new and returning students. The year is off to a great start, and we are glad that all of you are here. We started the fall newsletter last year, and the response was very positive. Students were surprised to know how much was going on, and this year is even better.

Major developments in the department this year include the creation of a new training, outreach and technical assistance unit—the Public Performance and Management Group (PPM), a new track in Public and Nonprofit Human Resource Policy in our BS UPS degree, and a new BS degree in Public Policy.

The PPM is off to an incredible start working with governments and nonprofit organizations throughout the southeast. For example, we are working with the state on a new customer satisfaction initiative, conducting a financial analysis in DeKalb County, and we are offering an executive training program in Gwinnett County. These projects represent just a small portion of the projects undertaken by the faculty and staff in the PAUS department. Of course, we also work with the other great research centers in the Andrew Young School.

We are also very proud of our new degrees, and we are excited about increasing our prominence at the undergraduate level. If you are new here, you should know that our department is highly ranked. You are taking classes at one of the very best policy schools in the country. A recent analysis of public administration research rates us 5th in the nation in research productivity. US News rates 252 public affairs programs by reputation, and they place us in the top 10 percent in the areas of public finance and budgeting, public administration and management, city management and urban policy, and policy analysis.

Think about spending a bit more time with us. One purpose of this newsletter is to let students know about all of our events. We start off the year with our open house, from 5:30 to 7 on September 5th. Other highlights include career week this fall and our leadership speaker series in the spring. Students can also take advantage of the events offered by the college, the PPM, and our research centers.

Start taking advantage of all that we have to offer. Think about using the AYSPS labs and student meeting areas, for example. Of course, downtown Atlanta is also experiencing resurgence. Our Five Points neighborhood is packed with restaurants and new attractions like the Georgia Aquarium.

Enjoy the year! You are in the right place if you have an interest in public administration, urban life, public policy, or nonprofit management.

Greg Streib

Welcome From the PAUS Network

The Public Administration & Urban Studies (PAUS) Network warmly welcomes all of the incoming and continuing PAUS students! The PAUS network is a fun student group, open to both undergraduate and graduate students. We host events, link non-traditional and traditional students, and help connect students with leaders in the fields of Public Administration and Urban Studies. Joining is free! Info: http://www2.gsu.edu/pausnetwork.

The PAUS Network looks forward to meeting you, so we hope you’ll stop by and see us at the PAUS Open House. Don’t miss this opportunity to ask us questions about GSU, AYSPS, the PAUS curriculum, the faculty, life in Atlanta, and upcoming PAUS Network activities.

The PAUS Network
The New PAUS Graduate Orientation Page

All PAUS students might benefit from a review of the PAUS Graduate Orientation page. The newly designed orientation module includes useful academic information, student networking opportunities, tips on things to do around Atlanta, and a career section filled with helpful tips and networking opportunities.

New Undergraduate Degree Program

The new Bachelor of Science in Public Policy (BS-PuP) degree builds on a core curriculum that focuses on the public policy process, research methods and leadership. Students also choose public policy electives, selected from policy courses offered in many departments at the university, to complete their major. Thus, public policy majors have the freedom to design an interdisciplinary program, studying such topics as urban and international issues, health and educational policy, economics and planning theory, social and political policy.

The BS-PuP degree is great for students looking to begin a career in any aspect of governance or policy, and it is also a great foundation for a professional degree in a wide range of fields. Contact the Office of Academic Assistance (404-651-3504) for more information.

New Undergraduate Track in Public and Nonprofit Human Resource Policy

Beginning in Fall 2006, a new Nonprofit Human Resource (HRN) track will be available in the Bachelor of Science-Urban Policy Studies degree. It includes coursework developed specifically for the track, including Career Development in Public and Nonprofit Organizations, Intro to HRD in Public and Nonprofit Organizations, and Issues and Problems in Personnel Management Systems for Public and Nonprofit Agencies. Prepare to take the lead in a community, school, charity, church or other nonprofit agency, or to work in local, state or federal government settings as a human resources specialist. A capstone element in this track will be internship opportunities to obtain “hands-on” experience and apply your skills in an organizational setting.

Public Performance & Management Group (PPM)

The Public Administration and Urban Studies Department operates a training and technical assistance center known as PPM (Public Performance & Management Group). PPM works closely with public administrators in the metro area, providing assistance with the real world problems they face as managers. There are many opportunities for students to get involved in PPM opportunities – including research projects, training sessions, and policy analysis projects. Learn more here: http://aysps.gsu.edu/ppm/index.htm

PPM Gets New Director of Program Development

The PAUS Department is proud to announce that Tom Wade, Executive Director of the Georgia Technology Authority, will join PPM on September 1st as the Director of Program Development. In addition to his work with PPM, Tom will provide guest lectures and other activities in support of PAUS students’ learning efforts. Read more about Tom here: http://aysps.gsu.edu/ppm/staff.htm

Customizing your MPA program

It is possible to make changes to your elective course requirements. MPA students also have the option of creating an individualized career track.

Petitions for curriculum change must be submitted to, and approved by the Office of Academic Assistance, as well as the department chair, prior to registration for appropriate coursework.

We welcome petitions from students looking to maximize their educational experience.
Student Advisement Options

We offer a two-tiered advisement system. In most cases, the first stop for students should be our Office of Academic Assistance. This office is staffed with experienced personnel able to handle the types of problems that our students typically encounter. They are the ones to talk to about scheduling issues, transfer credit, course substitutions, changes in your academic program, etc. Learn more here: http://aysps.gsu.edu/acassist/index.htm

PAUS faculty members are also involved in student advisement in the capacity of track specialists. The track specialists are available to help you choose the right course of study, guide you toward resources that will help you to develop specific skills and knowledge, and get you started on a successful career. The list is a bit long for the newsletter. You can get a copy of the list from the department chair: gstreib@gsu.edu, from the Office of Academic Assistance, or from the revised orientation page that was introduced in this newsletter.

In general, the academic assistance office can help you get things done at the university, while the track specialists focus more on helping guide your intellectual and professional development.

Healthcare Research at the Georgia Health Policy Center

The Georgia Health Policy Center has a special relationship with the Department of Public Administration and Urban Studies because the director is a member of our department. This center is involved in many important projects. One current example is the new contract that they have with the State Commission on the Efficacy of the Certificate of Need (CON) Program to determine what affect, if any, CONs have on cost of care, quality of care, and hospitals ability to provide care for the uninsured. The CON program primarily regulates where hospitals and other health care facilities are built and which services are provided.

The purpose of the CON process is to ensure that capital and technology investments in the health care industry are in the best interests of Georgians. This process compares costly capital expenditure proposals with the goal of eliminating unnecessary duplication of services and keeping annual projects within the budget set by Georgia’s Health Planning Statute. CON research at the Health Policy Center will examine outcomes in Georgia, as well as other states, to inform the Commission’s work.

The project’s leader, Glenn Landers, explained that while many previous studies of CON laws were univariate, focusing on the effect of CON on one dimension, the current study is a multivariate design. Further, Landers indicated that the examination of variables such as ownership type, market characteristics, and pricing will facilitate thorough analysis of the effects of Certificate of Need laws. These analyses will be invaluable to the Commission as they make decisions as to the future of CON laws in Georgia.

In addition to Landers, the Certificate of Need study is largely informed by Pat Ketsche and Bill Custer, who serve as Georgia Health Policy Center Fellows, with data support provided by Dawud Ujamma and Mei Zhou.

Applying for Graduate Assistantships

Many PAUS students work with faculty on a variety of projects throughout the Andrew Young School. The best time to apply for an assistantship is during the admissions application process, as many of our graduate assistants are hired in the fall.

Graduate assistantships are a great way to get involved in the many projects and activities underway in the Andrew Young School. For example, we now have six graduate students working with the PPM program on a variety of funded projects. Click here for more information: http://aysps.gsu.edu/new/gra.htm.

The PAUS Leadership Mailing List

We have a number of initiatives underway to get students more involved in departmental decision making, including the new leadership mailing list. This list is used to get student feedback on proposed policies and procedures. Click here for subscription information:

http://mailbox.gsu.edu/mailman/listinfo/paus-leadership

Stay tuned, many new department discussion lists are being developed.

Need Help Planning a Career?

The National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration has an excellent information page for students planning on a government career, see: http://www.naspaa.org/students/careers/

The alumni profiles page is especially good. This is a great way to get a sense of the different types of opportunities that are available.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics is also an excellent source of information. Check out this analysis of Tomorrow’s Jobs: http://www.bls.gov/oco/oco2003.htm
PAUS Students Study in England

PAUS students Amanda Easoz (MS-UPS ’06), Caroline Freeman (MPA ’06), and Heather Stultz (MPA’06) spent last fall semester studying in Newcastle upon Tyne, England, as part of the inaugural exchange between the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies and The School of Arts and Sciences at Northumbria University. Both Caroline and Heather studied comparative public administration and policy analysis. In addition to studying urban regeneration and policy analysis, Amanda completed an internship. She spent three months working with the Centre for Public Policy (CPP) at Northumbria University. She conducted an analysis of the long-term sustainability of a cultural business incubator site in Newcastle and made recommendations for the project’s usefulness within CPP’s agenda and the city’s development goals. The second year of the exchange began in July when MPA students Hannah Stalcup-Burris and Ladonna Blount arrived in Newcastle. They are both participating in internships at CPP. Hannah will remain in Newcastle for fall semester classes.

Located in Northeast England, Newcastle is situated a few miles inland from the North Sea on the north bank of the River Tyne. The city has a rich history dating back to the Roman Empire and is alive today with a vibrant urban culture filled with museums, theatre, parks, sports, shopping, restaurants, and clubs. Weekends provided the students with many opportunities to explore other parts of England, Scotland, Ireland, and even a few countries on the continent including France and Spain. Living, working, and studying abroad are enriching experiences.

Graduate students interested in participating in this program should attend one of our study abroad information sessions on October 4th and 5th at 5:00 PM in AYSPS Room 750 and visit www.gsu.edu/newcastle. If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Carol Hansen, PAUS Director of International Faculty and Student Exchanges, at chansen@gsu.edu or 404-651-1653.

A Firsthand Account of the Study Abroad Experience

PAUS student Hannah Stalcup-Burris has decided to use a web log (“blog”) to chronicle her study abroad experience.

Click here to view Hannah's blog.

New Study Abroad Opportunity Coming in 2007

Beginning in fall of 2007, PAUS students can participate in a one semester exchange with the Swiss Graduate School of Public Administration (Institut de Hautes Etudes en Administration Publique (IDHEAP)) at the University of Lausanne in Switzerland. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn about the Swiss Confederation and the European Union. Courses will be taught in French. The summer before classes begin Georgia State students may take French language courses in Lausanne at a small cost.

Located approximately 60 kilometers northeast of Geneva in the French-speaking part of Switzerland, Lausanne is known for its beautiful setting on Lake Geneva. The city rises in a series of terraces from the shores of the lake. It is home to several universities, multinational corporations, and the headquarters of the International Olympic Committee. Much of Lausanne is still wooded, and there are many parks where you can enjoy the stunning views. In addition, this city of 300,000 residents has a vibrant arts scene with a range of festivals, clubs, theatre, opera, and dance.

Graduate students interested in learning more about this program should attend one of our study abroad information sessions on October 4th and 5th at 5:00 PM in AYSPS Room 750. If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Carol Hansen, PAUS Director of International Faculty and Student Exchanges, at chansen@gsu.edu or 404-651-1653.

Tips on Studying Abroad

The US State Department is a great resource for students thinking about studying in another country; know before you go. It is very important these days to stay current on travel warnings, passport requirements, packing, etc. See, http://travel.state.gov/travel/living/studying/studying_1238.html. Do not worry too much, though. Travel is still both fun and educational.

Conference Calendar

Association for Budgeting and Financial Management: http://www.abfm.org/annual_conference.htm

Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management: http://www.appam.org/

Southeastern Conference for Public Administration: http://www.seccopa2006.org/

The American Society for Public Administration: http://www.aspanet.org/scriptcontent/index_conferences.cfm

Urban Studies Conference Information: http://www.conferencealerts.com/urban.htm
TIPS FOR PAUS STUDENTS

Get to know fellow students, as well as the faculty.

- The PAUS Leadership Mailing list is for students who want access to insider information on PAUS decision making. This list will be used for the discussion of proposed policies, pending issues, and possibly class schedules. This is a great way for students to become more involved in departmental activities. Click here to subscribe.
- Study the events page, and show up for a few events. Networking is one of the great benefits of a university education. You are missing out, if you do not take advantage of the many opportunities that are available.
- Take advantage of office hours to get to know your instructors. You never know who or what they know that may hold the key to a brighter future.

Consider studying abroad.

- In today’s world, you can’t afford NOT to have a global perspective. In addition, study abroad experiences look great on both resumes and post-graduate study applications.
- The University System of Georgia online study abroad catalog has been updated and its administrative tools modified and streamlined for easier use. Access it here: http://www.usg.edu/oie/catalog/

Be prepared for class.

- Do the work and the research. Your overall learning experience will be more enjoyable and rewarding as a result.
- For all your research and information services needs, please contact LaLoria Konata who is the librarian for PAUS. Research guides including recommended databases and internet resources are available at http://www.library.gsu.edu/research/paus
- Visit the webpage, or contact LaLoria directly for an individual consultation at 404-651-3726, or llkonata@gsu.edu

Plan your class schedule at least two semesters in advance.

This will decrease your workload (and your “worry load”) later. GoSolar provides the class schedules from the previous spring, summer, and fall schedules. There is really no mystery involved in the scheduling process. We try to offer the same set of classes each semester to help students plan ahead. Check with the Office of Academic Assistance, if you want to know about a specific class.

Do not expect too much from the summer session

Students sometimes plan to fill out their class needs in the summer, and this is a mistake. As you can see from past summer schedules, the summer term is not a regular semester. Think about it, how many challenging classes can you squeeze into eight weeks?

Working students are limited to one class in most cases—even then, this is a life style decision!

Ask questions, no matter how trivial you may think they are.

There’s a good chance other students are asking the same questions in their minds, but are too shy to voice their concerns.

Join professional organizations.

This is a great way to build your network of professional contacts and enhance your resume!

- American Society for Public Administration
- Urban Affairs Association
- International City/County Management Association

Volunteer your time to help others.

You’ll feel great, and possibly gain some great contacts and resume entries!

Apply for graduation on time!

You need to apply for graduation well before your commencement date. Here are some upcoming deadlines:

Undergraduate Deadlines to Apply for Graduation/Commencement Ceremony

- Fall (Dec) 2006: EXPIRED
- Spring (May) 2007: EXPIRED
- Summer (Aug) 2007: September 1, 2006
- Fall (Dec) 2007: January 1, 2007

Graduate Deadlines to Apply for Graduation/Commencement Ceremony

- Fall (Dec) 2006: EXPIRED
- Spring (May) 2007: September 1, 2006
- Summer (Aug) 2007: January 1, 2007
- Fall (Dec) 2007: March 1, 2007

Make a note of these deadlines! They are strictly observed by the graduation office!
MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Brown Bag Discussion -- Tuesday, August, 29, 2006, at 12:30 p.m. in room 308 of the AYSPS building, located at 14 Marietta Street.

PAUS Open House--Tuesday, September 5, 2006 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. on the 3rd floor of the AYSPS building. This is a chance to meet student, faculty, and staff. This also serves as an orientation. Representatives will be available from our different programs and degrees, the Office of Academic Assistance, etc.

PAUS Library Resources Seminar--Wednesday, September 13, 2006 from 3-4:00 p.m. in the AYSPS Lab, Room 720.

Public Policy B.S. Program Interest Luncheon--Thursday, September 14, 2006 from 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. 7th Floor of the AYSPS Building.

Little Five Points Friday--Friday, September 15, 2006 from 6-7:00 p.m. at the BrewHouse Café located at the corner of Moreland and McClendon. We have two Little Five Points events planned for the fall—happy hour. Students, faculty, and staff are welcome to attend. We did a number of these last year, and they are back!

Idealist.org Atlanta Graduate Degrees for the Public Good Fair--Tuesday, September 26, 2006 from 5-8:00 p.m., in Letitia Pate Evans Dining Hall, Lower Level, of Agnes Scott College, located at 141 E. College Avenue, Decatur, Georgia.

Meet the MPA Board and Learn About Career Options--Thursday, November 9, 2006 from 4:30-7:00 p.m. in rooms 749-750 of the AYSPS building.

UPS Lecture on Nonprofit Leadership, Governance, & Economic Stewardship--“Challenges of Nonprofit Leaders in a Time of Scarcity and Scrutiny,” Friday, October 27, 2006 from 3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. on the 7th floor of the AYSPS building. Herrington Bryce will be the speaker for this event.

Little Five Points Friday--Friday, November 17, 2006 from 6-7:00 p.m. at the BrewHouse Café located at the corner of Moreland and McClendon.

AYSPS Seminar Series--Click here for seminar calendars.

Visit http://domestic.gsu.edu for more event information!

Remember to check your student Email for more event information!
CAREERS & INTERNSHIPS

The Jobs & Internship Mailing List

We like to keep students informed about job and internship opportunities. The jobs and internship mailing list provides a means for students, faculty, and alumni to share information about new opportunities.

Even if you are a new student, you should always keep an eye out for opportunities to develop skills and professional contacts. Many PAUS students complete multiple internships, even when not seeking academic credit for their work.

You should seriously consider subscribing to the jobs and internships mailing list, and actively contributing. Always keep an eye out for interesting opportunities for PAUS students and don’t forget to pass along what you know.

http://www2.gsu.edu/~padgds/maillist.htm

Who Needs an Internship?

All MPA students must complete an internship, unless they submit (and receive approval for) a petition to waive this requirement.

Students pursuing a Masters in Urban Policy Studies have the option of completing an internship (in lieu of a practicum or thesis) to complete their degree requirements.

The AYSPS Office of Academic Assistance Waivers frequently grants waivers to students with substantial public management and/or nonprofit experience. To apply for an internship waiver, students must submit a copy of their resume and position description (s) along with the waiver form (which may be obtained from the Office of Academic Assistance).

Even those students not required to complete an internship should consider doing one. Students frequently opt to complete one, or several, internships without academic credit. Countless students have found that the skills and professional contacts built in the course of an internship were invaluable to them long after graduation.

What students said about their internships:

• “This internship really was one of the best experiences I have had in college. This offered so much in terms of personal growth, that I’m sure to benefit from it for years to come. Thank you for making this opportunity available to the students at Georgia State University. I hope more students will have experiences as profitable as my own in participating in the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies Internship Program. Thank you again!”

Presidential Management Fellows (PMF) Program

The PMF program is one of the best ways to start a career in federal government. The possibilities are virtually limitless; and many students find themselves moving quickly into leadership positions, as retirements continually shrink the federal workforce.

Getting a PMF is beneficial to both appointment recipients and the reputations of the Andrew Young School and the PAUS department. As the prestige of an applicant’s alma mater heavily influences hiring decisions, this is something PAUS students should really be concerned about.

Applications for the PMF program are due on October 15th of each calendar year. Professor Robert Eger is the departmental contact for students interested in submitting an application. Students must be nominated by both the PAUS department and the Andrew Young School in order to be considered for a PMF appointment.

Learn more about the PMF program here. Good luck!

Local Government Fellowship (LGMF) Program

The International City/County Management Association (ICMA) is pleased to announce that the application period for the 2007 Local Government Management Fellowship Program will open on September 15, 2006. Created through a partnership between the ICMA, the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration, the National Forum for Black Public Administrators, and the International Hispanic Network, the LGMF program seeks to increase interest in local government careers among recent master’s recipients.

This highly competitive career-development opportunity places fellows in full-time, full-access local government management-track positions characterized by direct mentorship under senior government leaders and rotational assignments. Talented professionals holding master’s degrees in public administration, management, public policy, public affairs, or related areas take advantage of the invaluable opportunity to leap directly into action, assuming real responsibility, and thrive in environments that recognize and reward potential, while gaining unparalleled exposure to local government.

LGMF program applications are available from the ICMA website at http://icma.org/lgmf

Career Tip

Many employers require writing samples. Make sure you develop two solid writing ones before graduation. Make them as diverse as possible, and try to use those best-suited to your career aspirations.
CAREER NOTES

• Chauncia W. Ceullar (MPA, 2001) accepted an Emergency Coordinator position with the City of Tampa, Florida.

• Amanda Thompson (MPA, 2004) accepted the position of Planning Services Officer for the City of Decatur, Georgia.

ALUMNI IN THE NEWS

• Dolph Ward Goldenburg (MPA, 1999) was recognized as “2005 Visionary of the Year” by Visions Today magazine. Goldenburg is the Executive Director of the William Way Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Community Center in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

• Paola Diaz-Torres (MPA, 2006) was recently featured in the Atlanta Regional Commission Action Newsletter, the Global Atlanta Newsletter, and the Georgia Hispanic Chamber Newsletter. Torres recently started a consulting firm, Impacto Consulting, located in Norcross, Georgia. The firm offers business development services to local and international government agencies and NGOs.


We will feature more information about student and alumni accomplishments in future issues. Remember to keep us posted on your career developments!

Contribute to the Spring Informer

‘Accomplishments’ will be the theme of the spring ‘07 issue. This is your chance to let everyone know what you’ve accomplished during the academic year. Please send us your anecdotes, interesting stories, event announcements, personal experiences, career and internship news, and any other accomplishments you’d like to see included in the next Informer.

Submit your ideas to gstreib@gsu.edu.

Thanks to MPA student Elnora Kelly, who assisted with this newsletter effort!