



CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION
UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST

E-Bulletin

Summer 2006

Contents:

[CPPA News](#)

[Faculty News](#)

[Events](#)

[Student News](#)

[Alumni Updates](#)



Members of the MPPA Class of 2006 during the May 26 graduation ceremony at the Fine Arts Center

CPPA News

CPPA Announces Change in Leadership

On July 1, 2006, John Hird, professor of political science and public policy, stepped down as Director of CPPA. Professor Hird led CPPA since its inception in 1998. He leaves CPPA to serve as chair of the UMass Amherst Political Science department. Under Professor Hird's leadership and guidance over the past eight years, CPPA has increased the size and quality of its Masters Program and has built a national reputation for excellence in academics and research. Although he will no longer be leading CPPA, Professor Hird will continue to teach in the Master's Program and be active on the Center's committees.

Dean Janet Rifkin of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences appointed Jane Fountain, professor of political science and public policy as Director of CPPA for the 2006-07 academic year. Professor Fountain is also founder and Director of the [National Center for Digital Government](#), and she heads the Science, Technology and Society Initiative at UMass Amherst. Dean Rifkin stated, "I am very excited that Professor Fountain will serve as the director of the Center. I expect that her leadership will be critical to its continuing growth and development."

Staff Changes at CPPA

Jackie Brousseau-Pereira, MPA '00 will be leaving CPPA in September. Jackie has served as Special Projects Manager since March 2004. She has been appointed Director of External Affairs for the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences at UMass Amherst.

CPPA Events

George Sulzner Retirement Party

Place: Massachusetts Room, UMass Mullins Center

Date: Friday, October 6th 2006

Time: 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Professor George Sulzner, who retired in May 2006, was instrumental in establishing a Master's Program in Public Administration at UMass. Please join us for drinks and hors d'oeuvres while we honor George, beloved professor, mentor and colleague. Proceeds from this event will support the George T. Sulzner Scholarship Endowment Fund. For more information, please contact Jackie Brousseau-Pereira at 413-577-0239 or jackie@pubpol.umass.edu



Faculty News

Professor David Mednicoff Receives Fulbright Scholarship for Study in Qatar

[David Mednicoff](#), assistant professor of legal studies and public policy has received a full-year Fulbright senior scholarship, as well as an additional \$15,000 grant from the American Institute of Maghrib (North African) Studies, to continue his research in 2006-7 on the rule of law in contemporary Arab politics and US foreign policy. Prof. Mednicoff will be based in Doha, Qatar, where he will be a visiting professor at the University of Qatar, and the first American Fulbright scholar to teach political science and Western law in the country. Professor Mednicoff conducted an inter-agency briefing this past June in Washington for Bush Administration officials on rule-of-law policy reform strategies in Arab countries, as a result of his previous publications on this topic for the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. His research will take him to Egypt, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia, along with Qatar, in the upcoming academic year.



Professor James Murphy Takes Rasmuson Chair of Economics at University of Alaska

[Jim Murphy](#), assistant professor of resource economics and public policy is on a leave of absence to take a visiting position at the University of Alaska Anchorage as the Rasmuson Chair of Economics. While in Alaska, Professor Murphy will continue his research using the tools of experimental economics to address public policy issues pertinent to Alaska. He will be on leave until December 2007.

Professor Laura Jensen Teaching in Virginia

Laura Jensen, associate professor of political science will be on leave during the 2006-07 academic year. She will be teaching public management at the School of Public and International Affairs at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

Professor Krista Harper Briefs New Ambassador to Hungary

Krista Harper, assistant professor of anthropology and public policy was recently invited by the U.S. State Department to help prepare Ambassador April Foley for her posting in Hungary. The briefing, which took place July 13 in Rosslyn, Va., covered a range of topics intended to familiarize the new ambassador with Hungarian business, politics, and culture.

Student News

Sulzner Fund Interns

CPPA has awarded funds to three, first-year MPPA students to allow them to participate in internships that are particularly well-suited to their interests and career goals. The awards come from the George T. Sulzner Scholarship Fund and they are given to selected students who will complete internships at organizations that are not in a position to offer sufficient financial compensation to interns.

Nancy Haque was awarded funding to work with the Transnational Institute, a world-wide fellowship of scholar-activists engaged in non-partisan and objective research to support developing solutions to the global problems of militarism, poverty, social injustice and environmental degradation. Nancy will be involved in research for the Institute's New Politics project, a new initiative that seeks to identify opportunities for innovative thinking in matters of participatory democracy and progressive governance through an evaluation of past experience. Specifically, Nancy will evaluate policy outcomes of social movements and governance work in the global south, reviewing some of the recent social movement work to contribute to the body of knowledge on social movement efficacy.

Lisa Hilt will work with the Feminist Majority Foundation, a leading research and advocacy organization for women's rights. FMF seeks to break down social, political and economic barriers to that women face across the globe. Lisa will work specifically on their Campaign for Afghan Women and Girls and will help FMF develop a new project on International Issues of Peace that will focus on Iran and Iraq. Her work will include research, writing articles, policy analysis, monitoring press conferences and public hearings, and organizing events and demonstrations.

Jen Neira will spend the summer working with Innpulsar, a business incubator in Ecuador that fosters economic development through skill-building activities and providing resources to develop sustainable small businesses. Jen will be helping Innpulsar to identify international funding opportunities and build local and international network partnerships, as well as evaluating the impacts of Innpulsar's development activities and microloan programs, particularly among women and the indigenous population.

Contributions to the Sulzner Fund can be made by contacting Eric Yates, Director of Development for the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, at (413) 577-1700; eyates@sbs.umass.edu

Alumni Updates

Michael Hannahan, '84 - Mike just completed teaching CPPA's first online course, Budgeting for Policymakers. He plans to offer the course again in the spring of 2007. Mike currently leads the [Civics Initiative](#) at the UMass Donahue Institute.

Marjorie Hutter '88 - Margie recently accepted the position of Director of Development for the Women's Fund of Western Massachusetts. Based in Easthampton, the Women's fund serves Hampshire, Hampden, Franklin and Berkshire Counties and provides grant support to organizations that serve women and girls,

Maura O'Brien, '96 - Maura is a Public Housing Revitalization Specialist for the US Department of Housing and Urban Development in Boston.

Christopher Ketchen, '00 - Chris has recently started a new job as Financial Management Analyst with the Massachusetts Department of Revenue - Division of Local Services.

Nelson Petrosyan, '02 - Nelson and his wife welcomed the birth of their son Mark in July.

Lucinda Lefferts, '03 - Lucinda has recently accepted the position of Information Specialist with Easter Seals' [Project ACTION](#), a federally funded program to help people with disabilities use public transportation.

John Mathews, '04 - John recently appeared in articles in the Daily Hampshire Gazette and the Holyoke-based journal, [Business West](#) detailing work on a new steam plant at UMass Amherst. John is assistant director of Campus Projects, Facilities and Campus Planning, and is coordinating the planning and design of this environmentally friendly project. The online version of UMass Magazine also did a piece on John and the steam plant which can be read [here](#).

Maura Devlin, '06 - Maura accepted a position as Resource Advisor for the Saturday One Day Program at Bay Path College in Longmeadow, MA.

Ann-Marie Watt, '06 - Ann-Marie has accepted a position as an analyst with the Drug Enforcement Agency in Washington, D.C.

Joseph Wyman, '06 - Joe and his wife, Gina, welcomed the birth of their daughter Julia in July.

ALUMNI - We'd love to hear from you! Send your updates to info@pubpol.umass.edu or use the online [alumni update form](#).

Questions or comments about the CPPA E-Bulletin?

Please contact [Jackie Brousseau-Pereira](#) at 413-577-0239.