

Masters of Public Administration
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A Message From the Interim Director

It is with great delight that we present you with our annual newsletter. I want to extend my warmest thanks and appreciation to my colleagues, our students, and alumni who have made significant contribution to producing this issue of the newsletter.

I want to also take this opportunity to report a few initiatives that the MPA faculty undertook this year. Some of these initiatives re-emphasize our commitment to remain connected to and serve our outside constituents; others are geared to strengthening our curriculum, program administration and our commitment to serve our student body.

We now have a MPA External Advisory Board consisting of well-known area practitioners from the public and non-profit sector. This is a very involved and motivated group. The board's mission is to assist in our goal to become a premier program in this region. Another important initiative that we undertook this year was to get students' feedback on different aspects of the MPA program. We are currently processing the



Students, faculty, and alumni gather for the Fall Reception in October to hear the state of the program and to mingle (Photo by Edelen)

surveys and hope to report those in our next issue of the newsletter. Last year we also created a MPA blackboard course shell. We are posting different announcements, curriculum policies, course schedules, job and internship information and news in that course shell. Due to all the positive feedback, I believe students are finding the site very useful and informative.

This year we also undertook several initiatives to strengthen our curriculum and program administration. For

example, we now have a set of agreed upon course objectives for all our core courses. We are currently working to develop the core objectives for our elective courses. We have added two special topic courses in our curriculum: Administrative Dispute Resolution and Citizens & Governance: Collaboration, Conflict and Competition. We have also developed and streamlined policies for selecting students for different awards (e.g. Who's Who, MPA outstanding student) (...)

(story continued on pg 2...)

Date: SPRING 2007

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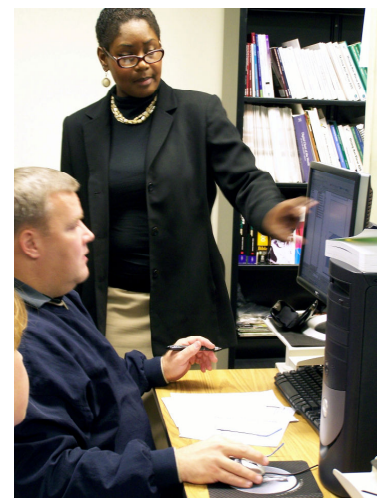
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*(Have submission ideas or corrections? Contact Dr. Ahmed via e-mail at :
ahmed@nku.edu
with your submission or story ideas. Thank you!)*

A Warm Welcome to: *our newest faculty, Dr Julie Raines :*

Dr. Raines received her J.D. from The Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law. She has earned a PhD in Public Administration from North Carolina State University. She was an Associate with Sandman & Strickland, practicing a mixture of litigation and corporate law. She opened her own practice one year later specializing in entertainment law. Dr. Raines' dissertation topic addresses ethical awareness, standards and action of police officers in the United States. Currently, she has published three

articles The most recent of which is *Law Enforcement Policy: Use of Force*, Law Enforcement Executive Forum, 5(4) 2005. Courses she has taught include Intro to the Law, Judicial Process, Criminal Courts, Aviation Law, Aviation Security, Intro to American Government, Legal and Regulatory Environments, Communication Law and Ethics, and Intro to Criminal Law. She will be teaching PAD 615 (Research Methods) in the Spring.



A snapshot of the Geographic Information Systems class, fall 2006

THE MPA EXTERNAL BOARD AT NKU

MPA External Advisory Board Members:

Deborah Kittner, Director Programs & Education, World's Affairs Council.

Daniel P. Groth, City Administrator, Crestview Hills

Miles E. Wilson, Executive Director, Scripps Howard Center for Civic Engagement, NKU

Shiloh Turner, Director, Health Data Improvement, Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati

Jeffrey Brasie, President, Clovernook Center for the Blind & Visually Impaired, Cincinnati

Joan Gilmore, MCSA Financial Manager

Melanie Bates, Development Liaison, Life Center Organ Donor Network

David Elmer, Administrator, Pierce Township, Cincinnati

Melissa A. Williams, Director of Administration, Campbell County Fiscal Court

Senator Katie K. Stine, President Pro Tempore, Kentucky State Senate

MPA Fall Reception Has Record Attendance!

Students, faculty, staff, and alumni were able to mix and mingle at the 2006 Fall Banquet held on October 23. With attendance at an all-time high of 60 people, this banquet marks the largest in NKU history according to the alumni association representative. Everyone was able to enjoy each other's company in a relaxed and informal atmosphere that sparked conversations and interaction among the people involved in the program. The photos will be available on the website soon, so be sure to check in and keep in touch with the MPA program at NKU.



(photo by E. Leising)



(Photo by F. Edelen)



(photo by E. Leising)

(A message from the director, continued from pg1)

I am happy to note that our students and faculty are now more connected with the Greater Cincinnati Chapter of the American Society of Public Administration (ASPA). Since last year, the local chapter has been giving partial reimbursements to students' membership fees with ASPA. We also now have faculty and students serving on the Chapter's board. We are very fortunate to have the support of the Chapter's board, who recently have decided to host their January 2007 program event here on campus to 'meet & greet' our students.

"Our students and faculty are now more connected,"

Overall, the program is doing very well. We are fortunate to have the support of key stakeholders including our alumni, the Office of Graduate Programs, and Dr. Linda Dolive (the interim chair of the department).

Thank you all for supporting the program. I hope that you enjoy this newsletter and wish you all a successful year.

- Dr Shamima Ahmed