

THE MPA NETWORK

WWW.EMICH.EDU/MPA

ISSUE 40/ WINTER 2017

EASTERN
MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY



Note from the Director

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Director's Note</i>	1
<i>New Faculty Member</i>	1
<i>Alumni & Faculty News</i>	2
<i>Alumni Events</i>	3
<i>Scholarships & Awards</i>	4-5
<i>In-Service Students</i>	6
<i>Blog & Social Media</i>	7



As some of you may know, my one-year term as Interim Director of the MPA program (which quickly morphed into a two-year term) is coming to a close at the end of August, at which point I will be returning to a full-time teaching load. The governance of the MPA program will be more of a team model, with multiple faculty members (including myself) contributing to various pieces of running the program, and with Dr. David Klein (Department Head of Political Science) and Rose Soliven (MPA Coordinator) assuming a greater share of the workload in the program. While we will have to work hard to ensure that our new model runs efficiently, I am excited for the team-based nature of the new plan, and optimistic that we will each have responsibility for the tasks that best suit our administrative interests.

Dr. Jeffrey L. Bernstein I am honored to have had the opportunity to serve. For many years, I taught in the program, but my involvement was largely limited to that. I knew little of the curriculum, did minimal advising, and had only a scant connection to other aspects of the program. Being director offered me the chance to get to know our curriculum, to understand in greater detail the challenges we face, and, most importantly, to get to know our students far better than I previously had. I remain in awe of how hard you work, and how much you accomplish, in a world that does not value the virtue of public service nearly enough. The conversations I have had with so many of you enriched my experience as director; on a good day, my job description read something like "Manage a program that admits extraordinary individuals; teaches them well; and helps them to do extraordinary things when they leave us." It is hard to imagine a more fulfilling job than the one I just described.

Of course, not all tasks were this meaningful, and not all days were wonderful. Like all programs, we have had challenges, and we will continue to have challenges (although now they will be placed at someone else's doorstep). I remain deeply respectful of my colleagues in the department, excited to welcome our new colleague Tucker Staley, and optimistic that we will continue to build on our existing strengths, in continuing our 37-year-old legacy of excellence in educating public servants.

And, for myself, the single biggest drawback of my time as Interim Director was not having enough time in the classroom. I am glad to have pitched in to help, but it is time for me to go back to teaching some more, to getting to know more students, and to doing what I feel I was put here to accomplish. My two years as Interim Director have taught me to appreciate the skills and perspectives that administrators bring to their work. More than that, they have reinforced my belief that inside of me beats the heart of a teacher, not an administrator.

So, over and out, MPA Program, and do not hesitate to come and ask me to pitch in and do my share. You'll be able to find me in the classroom, with a big smile on my face.

Jeffrey L. Bernstein
Outgoing MPA Director

THE MPA NETWORK

Public Administration Program
Department of Political Science
Eastern Michigan University
601 Pray-Harroid
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
734.487.3113

Melissa Benson and
Marnie Michel, Editors

The MPA Network is published biannually by the Department of Political Science at EMU to inform MPA alumni, current students, public officials, and academics about the activities of the MPA program and its graduates.

WELCOME, DR. STALEY!



Dr. Tucker Staley

Dr. Tucker Staley will join the EMU Political Science Department this fall after spending the past four years at the University of Central Arkansas. He received his Ph.D. in political science from the University of Missouri (2012) and his B.S. in political science from the University of Oregon (2005) with a minor in business administration. He specializes in public and non-profit administration and enjoys working with community organizations and local governments. In the classroom, Dr. Staley encourages his students to be active in the broader community and often incorporates service-learning components in his courses. Along with his wife (Madelynn) and dog (Porkchop), Dr. Staley is excited to be joining the faculty and students at EMU.

ALUMNI NEWS

Jennifer Hawes '16

Jennifer currently works as a Physician Recruiter with Emergency Physicians Medical Group. She recruits emergency medicine physicians and mid-level providers for 6 states and over 20 hospital health systems including St. Joseph Mercy Health System. She is also the Clinical Employee Engagement Manager, managing the 90-day new hire interviews/survey and Provider Touch Program (employee feedback survey interview), which reaches over 400 clinicians annually. She serves on the executive board as Vice President for the Ypsi-Arbor American Little League (first little league in Michigan and in the world to allow female players). She also volunteers with the American Red Cross as an Emergency Services team member responding to local and national disaster responses across the country. Jennifer is also active in her son's school PTO, Cub Scouts, and church, as well as other various causes.

Joe Martinez '16

Joe is currently attending the Oakland Police Academy class 112, 2017-18. His cohort is scheduled to graduate June 16, 2017. At this time, Joe has a conditional offer from the City of Southfield Police Department, but that won't be finalized for probably another month or so. Joe recently became engaged, so we send our sincere congratulations to Joe and his fiancée, Lilly.

Kevin Rhea '03

Kevin is currently assigned as the Novi Police Department's Training and Standards Sergeant responsible for policy development, agency training, and records, as well as serving as Accreditation Manager for the agency's accreditation with the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). Kevin also teaches Recruiting, Hiring, Training, and Mentoring at EMU's Executive School of Police Staff and Command.

SPOTLIGHT FACULTY RESEARCH

**Dr. Barbara Patrick**

Dr. Barbara Patrick has been working as a professor at EMU in the Political Science Department since Fall 2012. Her tenure follows getting her doctorate at Mississippi State University. Dr. Patrick does not currently have a pet but states that she would like to get a dog and name him Memphis.

Dr. Patrick is currently the budgeting specialist for the MPA program. Some of the projects she is working on are listed below.

Current Works in Progress

"Who Does It Better-Public Schools or Public Sector Alternatives? Assessing Citizens' Views on Education Quality," to be submitted to the *Delta Journal of Education*.

"Examining States' Commitment to Performance Reforms: Does the Presence of Sanctions in Accountability Systems Affect Performance?" to be submitted to *State and Local Government Review*.

"Local Budgetary Woes, State Intervention, and the Emergency Financial Manager System: The Case of More Bureaucracy and Less Democracy in Michigan," to be submitted to *Public Finance and Management*.

"The Administrative Voice and Racial Tensions between Racial Minorities and the Police: What Is Said Really Matters," work in progress.

"The Tieabout Hypothesis, Performance Policies, and Options: Will Citizens Vote with Their Feet," work in progress.

STUDENT-ALUMNI NETWORKING EVENT HIGHLIGHTS



Ypsilanti Event

On March 7 at Aubree's in Depot Town, EMU MPA alum John Bennett, a former Detroit police officer, shared his thoughts on law enforcement in the Trumpian era. It was a fantastic perspective in the transitional process of the political world!



Livonia Event

The Livonia event also had a great turnout for the MPA Networking Event on March 20! Thanks to all the students, alumni, and professors who stopped by.

If you have ideas for new events for our students, alumni, and faculty, please don't hesitate to contact Rose Soliven, MPA Coordinator, at rsoliven@emich.edu.



BARSON FELLOWSHIP

Marnie Michel is the recipient of the 2017-2018 John Barson Fellowship. Marnie's background includes an undergraduate degree in Public Administration from EMU. Healthcare has always been of special interest to her, so Health Administration served as a good choice as a minor. The increase in government involvement within the healthcare field, both at the state and federal levels, influenced her decision to enroll in the MPA program at EMU. She was able to develop a customized course of study that has allowed her to develop a more thorough understanding of both bureaucratic and healthcare administration. The flexibility of the program is allowing her to simultaneously pursue the Management of Public Healthcare Systems graduate certificate, along with the MPA.



The Michel Family: Margaret, Maddie, Patrick, Pat, and Marnie

Marnie is conducting an independent study this semester, focusing on the public mental healthcare system. The research involves determining which methods of care delivery are most effective and efficient today, and which organizational structure changes may make it more viable in the future. Over the summer, she will be interning for state representative Lana Theis. Representative Theis chairs the House Insurance Committee. Recent developments have made healthcare coverage options a top priority; Marnie is looking forward to observing and participating in the policy development process.

Marnie's long-term career goal is to be an active participant in the development of sustainable healthcare policy. The creation of a healthcare system that provides the greatest return on available resources is a process that she would like to be a part of.

ANNUAL MPA ALUMNI AND AWARD EVENT



PA Faculty and Pi Alpha Alpha Inductees: Dr. Adrian Lottie, Dr. Raymond Rosenfeld, Dr. Barbara Patrick, Dr. Greg Plagens, Melissa Benson, Greta Bolhuis, Dr. Joe Ohren, Dalton Floyd, Dr. Jeffrey Bernstein, Melanie Hicks, Corey Mason, and Chris Preston

On March 30 at the Ladies' Literary Club in Ypsilanti, the department held its annual MPA Alumni Chapter Reception and Pi Alpha Alpha Induction. Membership in PAA is limited to those with high academic achievement and/or outstanding public service. This year's PAA inductees included: Melissa Benson, Greta Bolhuis, John Eynon, Dalton Floyd, Dieter Heren, Melanie Hicks, Donald Houston, Corey Mason, Chris Preston, and Ellen Taylor.

At the ceremony, the scholarship and award winners for the year were also recognized. Nicolette Bateson received the Outstanding Public Administrator Award for her contributions to public service, especially for the City of Northville and for transitioning the Detroit Water & Sewage Department to the Great Lakes Water Authority. Marnie Michel won the 2017-2018 Barson Fellowship.

Dr. Raymond Rosenfeld, internship director and professor, presented the Intern of the Year Award to Chris Preston. Chris interned with Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) - Office of Business Development (OBD). Chris is featured in the "A Closer Look" section on the following page.

A CLOSER LOOK CHRISTOPHER PRESTON, MPA INTERN OF THE YEAR AND SOON-TO-BE GRADUATE



Chris Preston and Dr. Raymond Rosenfeld

Chris Preston has been a graduate assistant for the past 2 years with the Political Science Department. In addition to this work, he had worked as an intern with Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) – Office of Business Development (OBD). During this internship, Chris conducted Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) compliance reviews. The OBD is required to conduct a compliance review on construction projects and contractors that receive federal funds. Chris also gained practical experience by conducting field interviews and working with the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program.

Chris was selected as an ICMA Local Government Management Fellow. There were over 60 finalists competing for 22 positions. This fellowship is a nationally competitive program and considered the top fellowship in local government. He was in the top 10 of all finalists with a blended score of 96% over three reviewers. Chris was also offered the Department of Justice (DOJ) Fellowship as a contract specialist within the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). This program only allowed 500 applicants and required passing a general competency test. This was similar to a GRE-style test.

Chris has recently accepted a position with the City of Ann Arbor, in their finance department, and he will be taking this position after graduation on April 22. He was hired as a budget analyst, working with the planning and purchasing departments. Ann Arbor's new City Manager has been encouraging performance management, and implementation is not far away. Chris states, "This will be a great opportunity to use what the MPA program has taught me on the subject." In addition to interviewing with the City of Ann Arbor, Chris interviewed with the City of Olathe for a management fellowship position. Chris was recently offered an interview with the City of Mesa, for their management program. Congratulations to Chris on all of his accomplishments!

OUTSTANDING PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR AWARD RECIPIENT, NICOLETTE BATESON

Congratulations to Nicolette Bateson, who was chosen to receive the Outstanding Public Administrator Award for 2017! Jeffrey L. Bernstein, Interim Director of EMU's MPA program, said, "Nickie's exemplary work with the Great Lakes Water Authority is a testament to her extraordinary ability, admirable work ethic, and the training she received from our program. We are in awe of what she has accomplished and proud to call her one of our most distinguished graduates."



Nicolette Bateson and Dr. Joe Ohren

IN-SERVICE STUDENTS ON THE MOVE



Amelia Rodgers

As the Humane Education Manager at the Humane Society of Huron Valley (HSHV), Amelia Rodgers is responsible for the design, scheduling, and implementation of the educational programs. She states, “The goal of humane education is to inspire compassion for human and non-human animals through positive experiences with our shelter animals.”

Amelia has worked in the nonprofit field for the last 5 years. For her, working for a nonprofit has become a lifestyle choice. Amelia refuses to spend her days doing work that does not inspire her. She notes that it is easy to be motivated when your personal values align with the mission of your organization. There is never a day she dreads going to work. Even on the tough days, she says that it is hard to not feel happy when you are surrounded by kitties and doggies. Focusing her efforts, energy, time, and her life toward helping others is a feeling of accomplishment she will never be able to give up. Amelia works in the nonprofit field because she wants to help make the world a better place.



Ellen Taylor

Ellen Taylor is the Assistant Fire Chief for the City of Ann Arbor as well as an MPA student at EMU. Her educational background is impressive and includes a Bachelor degree in Computer Science / Mathematics at Eastern Michigan University. She will be completing her MPA in December 2017. Ellen has also been trained as an Emergency Medical and Hazmat Technician, as well as many other areas specific to her current position.

When asked what caused her to be interested in fire safety, she states, “*I had always wanted to become a firefighter during my childhood years but was offered a basketball and academic scholarship to attend EMU. When I decided to sign a letter of intent, I contemplated majoring in nursing or computer science. At this time of decision making, it was not common for women to become firefighters and ultimately decided on computer science. After becoming successful and working sixty-hour work weeks in the business world, I decided to chase my earlier desire to become a firefighter. I have always been one who enjoyed helping others and have always been a daredevil; both characteristics fit well in being a firefighter.*”

Ellen’s daily work and educational trajectory are a perfect fit. She intends to pursue the position of city or municipality administrator or possibly an administrator of a non-profit agency. When asked if she had any advice for those interested in public safety, she relayed, “*I would say that being part of a public safety agency has been very challenging as a woman in a male-dominated environment, but very rewarding in being able to help others in need of medical or fire services.*”

MPA BLOG: A PLATFORM FOR PUBLIC SERVICE



John Seto
*Retired City of Ann Arbor
 Chief of Police
 Director of Housing Security,
 University of Michigan
 Division of Public Safety and
 Security*

“When I decided to pursue a graduate degree, the obvious question for me was: In what “major?” At that time, I had already been a police officer for over 20 years, and to be honest, I just wanted to have a graduate degree on my resume. I already had 12 graduate level credits from completing Police Staff and Command, and I also just wanted to get done as quickly as possible. As I look back now, although perhaps practical, those were not the right reasons for spending the time and effort in obtaining a graduate degree.”

To read more from John:

http://www.emich.edu/polisci/programs/graduate/blog/mpa_public_safety_professional_04112017.php

CONGRATULATIONS TO GRANDFATHER DR. RAYMOND ROSENFELD!!!



“Contemplating world challenges!”

Ezra Sax Rosenfeld Kysel was born on February 12, 2017. Ezra is the son of Dr. Bryn Rosenfeld and Ian Kysel. Bryn is a professor of political science at the University of Southern California, and Ian is a staff attorney at the American Civil Liberties Union. It would be difficult to find a prouder grandfather than Dr. Raymond Rosenfeld!

FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Have you ever wondered what the MPA program was up to in between our semiannual newsletters? The MPA program has a Facebook group, LinkedIn group, and Twitter page dedicated to connecting alumni, current students, and interested individuals from the surrounding communities. Join our groups and follow us to receive updates about program activities, networking opportunities, and current events affecting Michigan public and nonprofit administrators. Search for us on Facebook under **Eastern Michigan University MPA Students, Alumni & Friends**, on LinkedIn under **Eastern Michigan University Master of Public Administration (MPA) Students, Alumni & Faculty**, or on Twitter **@EMU_MPA**



MPA DEVELOPMENT FUND

If you are wondering how you can give something back to the MPA program, please consider making a contribution to the MPA Development Fund. All contributions are tax-deductible and are used to support student and alumni planning and events.

Click the title for hyperlink or visit:

www.emich.edu/polisci/donate

Please mail contributions to:

Eastern Michigan University Foundation
 344 McKenny Hall
 850 W. Cross Street
 Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Please make checks payable to:

Eastern Michigan University
 Please designate “MPA Development Fund” on your checks to ensure your contribution will go to the MPA program.

Thank you for your support!