

The Community Servant

NEWSLETTER OF THE GRADUATE PROGRAM IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION



Spring

2008

FROM THE DIRECTORS' DESKS

Karl Nollenberger – Academic Director

Rich Bonaccorsi – Program Director

The MPA Program here at IIT continues to show great progress! Both the domestic and international programs have been growing in size. The specializations in Public Management, Nonprofit Management and Public Safety have been popular additions to the Program. We are looking forward to continuing to train the future generation of public and nonprofit managers here in the Chicago area!

Covering the Local to Global Spectrum

You are probably aware of our collaborative program with China government managers. Specifically, this year we are hosting in our program nearly 100 government leaders from China. You might not know, however, that we have also forged student and faculty exchanges with various international universities. And you probably aren't aware of recent exchanges involving Mexico.

Building on IIT's institutional-wide relationships with ITESM, also known as the Monterrey Tec, we have been involved in a number of conversations with MPA faculty and staff relating to topics which range from program development to real world cases of public administration and economic development.

In early March, Dr. Edgar Aragon, director and professor at ITESM, visited our international management and public policy course to lead a discussion about a case he authored, "Implementing NAFTA in Aguascalientes: How one Mexican State responded to the Possibilities and Problems of Free Trade".

In mid-April, Dr. Mariana Gabarrot will visit classes and will also address our MPA community at our semi-annual reception held on April 17th (see details on last page). She'll discuss US-Mexico migration in a global context.

As an update in other areas closer to home, we continue to be encouraged by the continued interest in our specialization tracks. The latest specialization provides comprehensive content in "Public Management". Allow us to remind current students who are interested, and who have not declared an interest in this specialization, that you are very welcomed to speak with Larry Ruffolo about course requirements and registration. At the same time, both non-profit and public safety content areas continue to be augmented as well. Recently, with the help of our non-profit instructors' advice and contacts, we began offering lunch-time seminars, starting with "Fundraising in a Diverse World" by David Brown, at our downtown campus for those interested in a variety of nonprofit topics. Please stay tuned for the next event to be held this summer.

Finally, be sure to take note of courses being offered this summer in each of three areas of specializations. They are:
Performance Measurement in Public and Non-profit Management
Incident Response, Disaster Recovery, and Business Continuity
Local Government Management

We hope you are pleased with, and taking advantage of the expanded scope of our program from things local to global.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Spring Reception on April 17th!

Rich and Karl

RECENT IIT MPA GRADUATES

IIT's Graduate Program in Public Administration is proud to recognize the following students who have successfully completed the requirements for the MPA degree and graduated during the Summer and Fall 2007 terms.

SUMMER & FALL 2007 GRADUATES

Neil Dorigan	Assistant Engineer of Treatment Plant Ops., Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago
Spiro Georgas	Sergeant, Chicago Police Dept.
Richard McFarlane	Sergeant, Chicago Police Dept.
Adriana Morales	Probation Officer, Cook County Juvenile Court Home
Traci Nixon	Coordinator/Case Manager, Seguin Services
Percy Palmer III	Police Officer, Chicago Police Department
Megan Popielarz	Administrator, AIG, Inc.
William Riesche	Sergeant, Chicago Police Department
Anna Shaleva	Lending Manager/Vice President, Illiana Financial Credit Union
Nathaniel Upshaw	Market Specialist, Harris Bank
Meng Xia	China Programs Assistant, IIT MPA Program
Thomas Znavor	Firefighter-Paramedic, Chicago Fire Department

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES
TO ALL OUR MPA GRADUATES!

SUCCESSFUL FALL RECEPTION

The Fall 2007 MPA Reception was held on November 8th at the Downtown Campus. It provided an opportunity for well over 100 students, faculty, and alumni of the MPA Program to socialize and hear a presentation given by **Illinois State Senator Mattie Brown**. Mattie spoke about her background in public administration as well as the value of a Master's degree in her field. Students were then able to directly socialize with her and ask questions. It proved to be a very exciting and successful event for the MPA program! We are looking forward to another great Semi-Annual MPA Reception on April 17th here at the downtown campus!



Students, Alumni, and Faculty enjoy the reception and take time to socialize and get to know each other.



Senator. Brown captures the audience's attention with her riveting speech.

ALUMNI FEEDBACK AND RECRUITING MPA STUDENTS



Larry Ruffolo and Karly Miller recruit MPA prospectst at the Chicago Police Department Headquarters.

A number of open houses were held during our Summer and Fall semesters. The success of these open houses, due to the involvement of faculty, staff, current students, and alumni, helped fuel record enrollment.



Assistant Director Larry Ruffolo and MPA Professor Ron Melka chat with prospective students at one of our many open houses last fall.

The MPA Program is always looking for ways to improve our programs and provide more relevant training for public administration professionals. Your feedback would be greatly appreciated. Please feel free to contact Karl Nollenberger, Academic Director, on ideas for improvements at 312-906-5196 or nollenberger@iit.edu

The MPA Program seeks qualified MPA candidates on a regular basis and encourages you to promote our program! It would be helpful if you could pass along information about our program to the appropriate office at your workplace so that it could be shared. We would be pleased to mail program information to you or the office that you designate. Just contact Larry Ruffolo, Assistant Director, at 312-906-5197 or ruffolo@iit.edu. If you know a person interested in our program, please have him or her contact the MPA Program office.

EVENTS

On March 11, 2008 IIT's MPA Program hosted the Chicago Chapter of the American Fundraising Professionals (AFP) Webconference Seminar titled "Fundraising in a Diverse World" by David W. Brown. The program drew distinguished members of AFP, as well as faculty, students, and alumni of the program. IIT will be hosting another AFP Webconference Series on August 13th on "Four Tried and True Keys to Fundraising Success". Please contact Larry Ruffolo at 312-906-5197 for more information.



AFP Members gather with IIT MPA faculty, students, and alumni for the Webconference Seminar "Fundraising in a Diverse World".

NEW STUDENTS

We welcome new students for the Spring of 2008! The following students have been admitted to the MPA Program:

Gabriela Amador	Assistant Director of Admissions, Chicago-Kent College of Law
Nicole Anderson	Monograph Specialist, IIT
Dionne Ballinger	Employee Manager, UIC Sport and Fitness Center
Pamela Dumas	Senior Research Analyst, Chicago Police Department
Scott Hilts	Project Manager, Village of Wilmette
Michael Leinartas	Lead Release Engineer, Orbitz Worldwide
Kevin Lerash	BA/MPA, IIT
Amanda McCrary	Project Accountant, IIT
DeAndra Mitchell	Field Service Engineer, Instron
Ladon Reynolds	Sergeant, Oak Park Police Department
Cheryl Sims	
Patricia Walsh	Commander, Chicago Police Department

MPA PROGRAM OFFICE HOURS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

The MPA Program Office in Room 659 of the IIT Downtown Campus (565 W. Adams St., Chicago) is open on Monday through Thursday 9:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m and Fridays 8:30 am –5:00 p.m. Most forms and information you might need are available there.

MPA Program Office	312-906-5198
Fax	312-906-5199
Email	mpa@iit.edu
Richard Bonaccorsi, Program Director	312-906-5194 bonaccorsi@iit.edu
Karl Nollenberger, Academic Director	312-906-5196 nollenberger@iit.edu
Scott Peters, Professor	312-567-5130 peters@iit.edu
Larry Ruffolo, Assistant Director	312-906-5197 ruffolo@iit.edu
Patrick Ireland, Chair, Social Sciences Department	312-567-5211 pireland@iit.edu
Karly Miller, Program Coordinator	312-906-5198 karlyn.miller@iit.edu
Jennifer Meng Xia, China Programs Coordinator	312-906-5198 mxia@iit.edu
Han Yao China Programs Assistant	hyao5@iit.edu

SPRING OPEN HOUSES

We will be holding open houses on April 14, May 6, and May 22. They are to be held at our downtown campus from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. If you are interested in volunteering your time, please contact Larry Ruffolo at 312-906-5197 or ruffolo@iit.edu. Please feel free to invite any prospective students. Please refer prospective students to www.mpa.iit.edu/openhousespring08.php

SPRING 2008 RECEPTION

5:00 – 6:30 PM
10TH FLOOR EVENT ROOM

The Spring 2008 Reception for alumni, students, faculty, and interested parties will be held from 5:00 - 6:30pm on Thursday, April 17th in the 10th floor Event Room of the Downtown Campus Building (565 W. Adams St., Chicago). Dr. Mariana Gabarrot of Monterrey [Mexico] Institute of Technology and Higher Education will be our featured speaker.

We encourage you to invite any colleagues interested in public administration and any prospective students. If planning to attend, please RSVP online at <http://www.mpa.iit.edu/events/reception/rsvp.html> or to Larry Ruffolo, Assistant Director, at 312-906-5197 or ruffolo@iit.edu.