

THE MPASA TIMES

*Master in Public Administration Student Association
Newsletter*



Pace and LIU students at the MPA Speednetworking event. Spring 2019. Pace University.

IN THIS ISSUE

- MPASA e-board - 2
- Alumni Spotlight - 5
- Get started with your Internship - 6
- Students summer internship experience - 7
- Oxford Study Abroad - 9
- ASPA Student Experience - 10
- Meet the New Professor - 11
- Winter Intersession - 12
- The Oxford Experience - 13
- Last Year in review - 15
- Upcoming events - 17

CHAIR'S WELCOME

Dr. Gina Scutelnicu

I am delighted to welcome new and returning students to a new academic year!

The primary mission of the Department of Public Administration is to advance excellence in teaching, scholarship, profession and the community. The department provides students with a professional education in government, healthcare and nonprofit management by offering a 42-credit Master of Public Administration degree. Also, the department offers two joint graduate interdisciplinary degree programs, MSED/MPA (Master of Science in Educational Leadership - School District Business Leader/Master in Public Administration) joint degree program and the JD/MPA (Juris Doctor/Master of Public Administration) joint degree program. Additionally, the MPA degree can be completed as an accelerated 5-year combined degree program with a Bachelor of Arts in economics, environmental studies, global studies, history, political science or women and gender studies.

In addition to the full degrees, the department also offers Graduate Certificates in Healthcare Policy and Management, and Nonprofit Management. Students can complete a graduate certificate program either by taking courses towards their master's degree (at no additional cost) or in one year.

CONTINUED TO P. 2

This year marks the 40th anniversary of our MPA degree and we would like to celebrate this huge accomplishment with you. Keep an eye out for the various celebratory events which will be shared with you throughout the academic year via our Blackboard community, webpage and social media channels. Mark your calendars for the two events scheduled for this Fall semester:

- First stop: Pace Homecoming, Pleasantville, NY Alumni tent on Saturday, October 26th at 12 pm for a Clam Bake and BBQ.
- Second stop: Northeastern Conference on Public Administration, November 8-10, Brooklyn NY



More events to follow in the spring!

I would like to take this opportunity and communicate to you that, in order to be successful, it's important you get involved in activities inside and outside the classroom. To this end, I would recommend you the following:

- Network with your peers and our alumni through in-person and virtual social events,
 - Actively participate in professional development activities,
 - Present your in-classroom work at university and/or professional conferences and other scholarly activities,
 - Take advantage of the diverse internship opportunities and career services that Pace offers,
- and
- Most importantly, enjoy your time at Pace.

Finally, I would like to introduce you to our professional association, American Society for Public Administration (ASPA) in my capacity as the President of its NY-Metropolitan Chapter. ASPA offers you - the next generation of scholars, practitioners and researchers - wonderful opportunities such as: networking with your professional peers through the NY-Metropolitan Chapter; developing professionally through career-path-based webinars and online tools; presenting at its annual national and regional conferences; connecting with other ASPA students, new and experienced professionals, and getting access to Public Administration Review—the premier professional public administration journal in the field—and PA TIMES magazine, the premier resource for practitioner-based learning. To learn more about ASPA, visit www.aspanet.org.

We would like you to succeed so, please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions you may have. Our faculty and staff are here to guide you.

My warmest regards,

Dr. Gina Scutelnicu
 Chair, Department of Public Administration

MEET THE MPASA EXECUTIVE BOARD

DR. TIFFANY HENLEY



Welcome new and returning students!

I am the faculty advisor for MPASA and my role is to support you all in maximizing your experience here at Pace. We strive to put on events that will help you grow professionally and educationally while fostering a great sense of community that will last a lifetime. We also strongly encourage you to actively participate in the program inside and outside of the classroom and offer suggestions for events that are beneficial for professional, social, and educational development.

We are active on various forms of social media. So, please take the time to like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter. We also have a LinkedIn page and by joining our group, you will have access to a network of Pace Alumni who have completed our program as well as a connection to current students.

We have a wonderful cohort of students and as you transition into being a graduate student and career professional, I also have a few tips for you:

- Manage your time wisely
- Attend functions outside of class
- Network with professionals and your classmates
- Read your emails!
- Meet with your advisor and if you do not know your advisor, please login to Pace Portal, click on the “Students” tab, “Student Records,” and click on “View Student Information,” and your advisor will be listed.
- As you continue your studies, apply your knowledge in your current job or showcase your interests and expertise when you interview for your dream job!

I hope that you all make the most of your time at Pace and we are working toward providing you with opportunities to enhance your experience as graduate students while shaping you all into competent public administration professionals.

Dr. Tiffany Henley

Faculty Advisor, MPASA

ANGELINA ASTROUSKAYA

MPASA President

It is an honor and privilege for me to serve as the President of the Master in Public Administration Student Association this year. As the President, my goal is to lead the Association in its effort to encourage and provide extra-curricular learning and professional development through intentional student engagement. - Angelina Astrouskaya

Some tips that I'd like to share with new students:

- **Do not miss the opportunity to get to know your professors.** Here at the MPA department, we have amazing professors who are always ready to talk to you, share their experiences, knowledge, and give advice.
- **Get to know your classmates.** You never know if one of them might be your future friend, coworker, or a mentor.
- **Be involved in extracurricular events and activities.** As an active member of the American Society for Public Administration, I have a chance (and I always use it) to be involved in various events, such as earlier this year I attended and volunteered at its annual national conference in Washington D.C. and now I'm working on an interesting project for the NECoPA conference which takes place this November in Brooklyn.
- **Join MPASA!** It's the best way to stay in touch with students in the MPA program, professors and alumni. As well as have fun! We're trying our best to make the MPA experience as lively and worthwhile as possible.



Graduation: May 2020

Track: Government with a Certificate in Nonprofit Management

Hobbies: outdoors, hiking, snowboarding, biking, tennis, photography...

DEEPA JOIS

MPASA Vice-President

Hello! My name is Deepa Jois and I am in my 2nd year in the MPA program, specifically in the Healthcare Management & Nonprofit Organization Tracks. I have lots of experience within the clinical aspects of healthcare and decided to switch gears into the administrative side because I wanted to learn more about the economic and policy realm of healthcare and non-profit organization. I hope in the long run I will be able to either be a part of creating improved healthcare policies, or able to implement better healthcare policies within a macro setting. I am currently a full-time student and a graduate assistant at Pace University. Whenever I am not busy buried under books and finishing homework I love to plan events, travel as much as I can, and just explore NYC!



DENISE FASUYI

MPASA Social Media Coordinator

My name is Denise Fasuyi and I have been in the MPA program for 2 years on the healthcare and nonprofit track. I enjoy sewing, fashion designing, helping others and I work for Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, a renowned nonprofit hospital within New York City. With this MPA degree I plan to continue to help others in different/new capacities within the healthcare sector.

JENELLE BAZIL-CHARLES

MPASA Treasurer

My name is Jenelle Bazil-Charles and I am a second semester MPA student following the government track of the MPA program and my anticipated graduation date is May 2021. I enjoy traveling and volunteering, which are two things that I do a lot of. I love Guyanese food and I am an amazing cook, so I like to believe. Upon the completion of my MPA degree, I hope to one day become the commissioner of the NYC department of human rights. As human beings, I believe that we all should be respected.





ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: WILL DEFEIS

by Angelina Astrouskaya

- MPA program timeline: January 2018 - May 2019
- Track: Government
- Favorite courses: Ethics and Leadership with Dr. Scutelnicu; Seminar in Government (Oxford Study Abroad) with Dr. Knepper; Budgeting with Dr. Crosby
- Works at the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (PANYNJ)

Tell us about your journey to a full-time position at the Port Authority

I started working with the PANYNJ in June 2017 as a management intern in the PATH Labor Relations Division. I never thought I'd end up working there as a full-time employee because I was still unsure what I wanted to do with my career. I was still in undergrad at the time, and I ended up staying on as an intern through my undergrad graduation and my MPA graduation.

It was two full years, which really gave me a foundation of how it is to work in the public sector. The PANYNJ is an interstate agency that was formed by a compact authorized by Congress in the 1920s. I left the agency upon receiving my MPA in May 2019 since they are unable to keep on interns once they are out of school. I wanted to give myself a month off before I started looking for serious work since I knew I would likely not get the opportunity to have that much time off with no obligations until I retire (which is a long time away). I started checking the PANYNJ job postings, and I was excited to see the Labor Relations Analyst role in my old department had opened up upon one of my old colleagues moving on to another job. I applied, interviewed, and then officially started working in August.

Why did you choose to continue your career path with PANYNJ?

There is something to be said about an agency with a reputation like the Port Authority's. The mission is to provide efficient public transportation services to help keep the region moving. My experience has been special in that I had two years "practicing" for the job that I am currently in. I like the work that we do, and I love the people I work with. I have the best boss who embodies the values of

public service that make the Port Authority a robust agency. I continuously learn so much from her and my coworkers, which made the choice to work at the PANYNJ a no-brainer.

What are your day-to-day responsibilities?

My day-to-day responsibilities are diverse. Mostly, I focus on attendance management within PATH department, which includes creating, implementing, and managing initiatives to improve and encourage employees to have good attendance practices.

WHAT SKILLS DO YOU FIND MOST USEFUL FOR YOUR ROLE?

This is a tough question. I think that the most important skill that aids in me successfully doing my job is *organizational skills*. It is important to constantly update records and follow up on action items that need continuous management toward completion. The other thing that is super useful is *people skills*. I constantly think about what I learned from Dr. Scutelnicu in Organization Theory class about the human resources frame of organizations. Managing my work is only made possible by dealing with a diverse group of people with varying needs and motivations, which makes it challenging to get items closed out efficiently. I find that focusing on treating my colleagues at the PANYNJ and PATH with respect and kindness makes the organization run more smoothly and allows us all to efficiently do our jobs.

“

My division deals with a lot of other tasks that are thrown at us, and we always make sure to handle them efficiently and with the public service values in mind

What advice can you give to students?

I think the best advice I can give is exactly what my boss tells me: your career may have many stops on the road to its final destination, or maybe there won't even be a final destination. As professionals, especially young professionals just starting our careers, we may have various jobs in our lifetime. So the important

I also write briefs that are submitted to arbitration for discipline and grievance cases. I assist my colleagues with collective bargaining tasks as needed. These are some of my core responsibilities, but my division deals with a lot of other tasks that are thrown at us, and we always make sure to handle them efficiently and with the public service values in mind.

Thank you to the great faculty in the MPA Department. Special shout out to Dr. Scutelnicu for all her support as my advisor and mentor throughout the program. Without her knowledge, patience, and devotion to her profession, I would not have achieved what I did, including getting this job at the PANYNJ.

- Will DeFeis

thing is to learn as much as you can in each role that you have and assert those skills as you grow and take new steps in your career. I have had several internships and jobs before becoming a Labor Relations Analyst, and those are exactly what made me qualified for the work I do today.

INTERESTED IN A CAREER IN THE NONPROFIT OR GOVERNMENT SECTOR?

SERVE. IMPACT. CHANGE.
FALL 2019
NONPROFIT AND
GOVERNMENT
CAREER MEETUP



Interested in making a difference?

Meet representatives from the non-profit sector at our upcoming meetup.

Register for this event at:
<http://bit.ly/PaceNonprofitMeetup>

Come as you are.
No need to suit up!



October 17, 2019

One Pace Plaza
Student Center
2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Don't have a resume?
Connect with us during
Open Hours!

Monday, October 14
1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 15
1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 16
10:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

INTERNSHIPS

GET STARTED IN 4 SIMPLE STEPS

1. Complete Online Webinar
2. Attend an Interview Workshop
3. Schedule an Appointment with a Career Counselor
4. Join Handshake



CLICK ON EACH STEP TO LEARN MORE



join handshake to explore careers options, find jobs and internships, and more.

CLICK HERE TO JOIN THE PACE UNIVERSITY MPA LINKEDIN GROUP FOR STUDENTS, PROFESSORS, AND ALUMNI



A group for students, faculty, and alumni of Pace University's Masters of Public Administration program. A place for all of us to connect, keep in touch, and support each other in our careers.



INSIDE THE SUMMER INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE OF OUR STUDENTS



I am an intern in the New York State Assemblymember Brian Barnwell’s Office. As an Assembly office team, we are committed to supporting the constituents of our district through a variety of programs, events, and constituent services. Our team is dedicated to resolving the issues of our residents and finding long-lasting solutions for each constituent complaint.

Assemblymember Brian Barnwell represents NY State Assembly District 30, which consists of approximately 120,000 residents in Astoria, Elmhurst, Long Island City, Maspeth, Middle Village, Rego Park, Sunnyside, and Woodside. Our office makes community engagement a priority and organizes a multitude of community service projects to assist the residents of our district.

As an intern, I exercise the daily office goals, such as to aid the residents of our district with any issues they may face, regularly attend community board and advocacy group meetings, as well as other events on behalf of Assemblymember Brian Barnwell, and maintain relationships with our partners.

POLINA POLSKAIA

Title: Senior Community Affairs Liaison Intern
Department: Partnership Unit
Organization: Office of New York State Assemblymember Brian Barnwell (District 30)
Responsibilities: meeting with community, civic, and advocacy groups; maintain office day-to-day administration; coordinating community-based projects, events, and initiatives.

Maintaining and building new relationships with community partners is my primary role in the Assembly Office as an intern of the Partnerships Unit. The Partnership Unit at the Assembly District 30 office focuses on forming and strengthening relations with community partners and organizations both in and out of the district. First, our Unit aims to improve existing relations with partners by discussing potential ways to collaborate and ways that our office can support their mission. Second, our Unit aims to build a relationship with entities that may have a direct or indirect relation with our constituents. Third, our Unit aims to have a dialog with an organization’s members to understand the issues that are a priority to them.



I would strongly recommend this internship for everyone who wants to run for or manage an elected official office. This internship gives a base of valuable contacts and a tremendous experience.

Our Unit aims to maintain these relationships by keeping the lines of communication open through periodic calls, meetings, and collaboration on events, legislation, and resolutions. So, my regular duties are to get in touch with consulates, nonprofits, and other organizations, maintain a database of our partners, and write reports in regard to each meeting/call, etc. I would strongly recommend this internship for everyone who wants to run for or manage an elected official office. This internship gives a base of valuable contacts and a tremendous experience. The suggestion that I would give to somebody starting an internship is to know the name of every politician in Queens before their first day in the office. - Polina Polskaia

SKILLS LEARNED

- The Ins and Outs of New York City and New York State Government
- Public Speaking & Speech Writing
- Strategic Communication
- Event & Project Management



WANT TO WORK FOR ASSEMBLYMAN BRIAN BARNWELL’S OFFICE?

CLICK HERE TO APPLY THROUGH HANDSHAKE

In the course of two and a half months of my internship at the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (PANYNJ) I gained extensive exposure to the inner workings of the most important transportation agency in the region. The internship at the Management and Budget Department allowed me to touch on many different work projects and get hands-on experience by being involved in departmental meetings and professional workshops, by getting mentorship from working professionals, and executing various tasks. Not only had I worked with different teams in my department, but I also had an opportunity to meet professionals across the entire Agency.

ANGELINA ASTROUSKAYA

Title: Budget Analysis and Management Intern
Department: Management and Budget Department
Organization: Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (PANYNJ)
Responsibilities: communicate with budget preparers to ensure timely budget submissions, as well as keep track of the submitted documentation; prepare actuals-to-budget reports, MoM and YoY budget analyses; keep track of action items and ensure their timely execution.



If you have ever flown out of JFK airport, biked across the George Washington Bridge, or captured that perfect picture of the World Trade Center, then you have witnessed just some of what the Port Authority of NY& NJ does. Port Authority is a self-supporting corporate agency formed in 1921 between the states of New York and New Jersey for the purpose of developing and operating trade and transportation facilities in the northern New Jersey-New York City region. The facilities include Lincoln and Holland tunnels under the Hudson river, bridges linking the two states. Kennedy, LaGuardia, Newark, Stewart and Teterboro airports are also under the jurisdiction of the Agency, as are the Port Authority Bus Terminal, Port Newark Elizabeth Marine Terminal, and the World Trade Center complex.



Aboard a Ship at Port Newark Elizabeth Marine Terminal



In June, during the initial stage of the budget season at Port Authority, all agency departments had to submit their budget documents to the Management and Budget Department for review. As a management intern, I had to keep track of budget documents, communicate with budget analysts and the Agency’s budget preparers to ensure timely budget submissions. I was tasked with attending all the budget review meetings to take notes of Action Items for each department, then I had to keep track of their progress by following up with budget analysts and make sure they execute the Action Items on time. As a budget analysis intern, I worked closely with a budget analyst to prepare actual-to-budget, month-over-month and year-to-day budget analyses to identify financial trends.



Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting Vehicle at JFK Airport



Management and Budget Department

“

The internship at the Management and Budget Department allowed me to touch on many different work projects and get hands-on experience by being involved in departmental meetings and professional workshops, by getting mentorship from working professionals...

SKILLS

The experience of working inside one of the most important departments of the Agency taught me that it is essential to be able to prioritize and focus spending on things that are most important for the Agency overall and that align with strategic initiatives set by the Executive Director, especially in situations where there are not enough resources. Project management is another skill that I acquired during this internship. I enhanced my skill of managing people by working in teams, managing actions items, and making sure they’re executed. - *Angelina Astrouskaya.*



Fuel Farm at Newark Airport



JENELLE BAZIL-CHARLES

Title: Graduate Intern
 Department: Personnel & Employee Benefits Unit
 Organization: New York Police Department (NYPD)



Over the summer I had the opportunity of interning with the NYC Police department as a graduate intern. Over the course of two months, I worked in the Personnel & employee benefits unit of the NYPD. I was specifically placed in the health insurance unit, where I worked with both civilian and uniformed members of service regarding adding/dropping dependants from health insurance, enrollments, etc. During the time I spent with the NYPD, they had set up countless trips for the interns to get fully acquainted with the different units within the agency. Some of those units are the Internal Affairs Bureau, the Harbor Unit, the Candidate Assessment Unit and many more. I truly enjoyed my time interning with the NYPD, it was a great experience learning about law enforcement and meeting new people.



During the time I spent with the NYPD, they had set up countless trips for the interns to get fully acquainted with the different units within the agency. Some of those units are the Internal Affairs Bureau, the Harbor Unit, the Candidate Assessment Unit and many more. - Jenelle Bazil-Charles

**INTERESTED IN
 STUDYING AT OXFORD?**

**CLICK HERE TO APPLY BEFORE
 NOVEMBER 15**



See pages 13-14 to read
 our students' stories
 about their Oxford
 experience!

Register for our Spring 2020 study abroad course and travel in July 2020!

WHEN
JUL 5- JUL 15, 2020

WHERE
Oxford, England



"I had the approach that it would be an extremely formal experience given the caliber of the guests we were to meet. Instead I found each guest speaker to be personable and sympathetic to each student and their cause. This was truly a phenomenal experience and one that I would highly recommend to each student who is able to take advantage of the opportunity!!!"

- Cheryl Garcia, RN Oxford 2018



Please contact:
Dr. Hillary Knepper at
hknepper@pace.edu

Need funding?

Dyson College of Arts and Sciences is pleased to announce the availability of a limited number of competitive World Cultural Exchange Fund awards worth \$1,000 each for undergraduate/graduate International faculty-led study abroad courses for the Spring 2020 Semester.

Applicants must be enrolled in any major at Dyson College and must have accrued a minimum of 12 credits at Pace. Applicants with QPA below 3.0 will not be considered.

Deadline: November 29, 2019

Application Link:

<https://www.pace.edu/dyson/current-student/international-travel>

**PAA 644 SEMINAR
 IN GOVERNMENT
 MANAGEMENT
 STUDY ABROAD IN
 OXFORD**

Location: Oxford, UK

Date: in country - JUL 5- JUL 15, 2020

THIS IS A TRAVEL COURSE TO THE UNITED KINGDOM THAT MEETS TWICE PRIOR TO THE TRAVEL DATES. SOME LIMITED ONLINE WORK IS REQUIRED.

ESTIMATED COSTS:

1. Pace Spring Tuition
2. Faculty-Led Study Abroad Course Fees- \$1,500
3. Airfare- about \$1,100 (estimate, arrangements made on your own)
4. Spending money for lunches/dinners, additional travel costs if you travel away from Oxford during your free weekend, mementos, additional tours not included as part of the course (for example, the Walking Ghost Tour of Oxford is not included in your course price).

Interested in additional financial aid for this class? Contact Kristina Gallagher, International Studies office, at kbyrne@pace.edu for further details.

*Up to date passports are required for this course.

**Students traveling on non-U.S. passports will need a visa (Kristina is your contact again).

FACULTY

Dr. Hillary Knepper & Prof. Joanna Broda

CREDITS

3 GR

WHAT'S INCLUDED IN OXFORD?
 Housing, cultural excursions,
 guest lecturers, site visits, some
 meals, insurance,
 and student advisement

THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE WITH ASPA

American Society for Public Administration

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.
- Margaret Mead

You, today's students, represent the next generation of scholars, practitioners and researchers entering into public service and administration.

The goal of the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA) is to help students develop their skills, connect with today's best and brightest and learn how to advance their career, so they can continue advancing excellence in public service for decades to come.

WHY JOIN ASPA?

- NETWORK
- LEARN
- PUBLISH
- FIND MENTORS
- CONNECT

Watch this video to find out why
Paul Danczyk, ASPA President,
thinks that students should join ASPA



Learn more and apply here



For those interested in connecting with fellow public administrators in person, [ASPA national Annual Conference](#) and [regional Northeast Conference](#) offer you with a yearly opportunity to gather for several days with colleagues and peers to learn from each other and inform yourself of current trends and philosophies within the discipline.



*Northeast Conference
on Public
Administration*

**SOON IN
BROOKLYN!**

Click here to buy
tickets

Learn more about NECoPA

April 3-7
@ASPANational



Anaheim
#ASPAn2020

What can you expect out of our time in Anaheim? Fun!

ASPA Annual Conference is the premier conference of the year for:

- Meeting public administrators
- Meeting scholars
- Presenting research and best practices
- Road-testing new ideas
- Meeting people to partner with on future research
- Building internal ASPA communities (Chapters and Sections) and planning for future events
- Learning about publishing in the discipline

WHAT CLASSES ARE YOU TEACHING THIS SEMESTER?

First, I'm teaching all online courses this semester, which is a bit strange since I'm not able to meet all of my students in person. I look forward to doing so for most of them at some point, though. I am currently teaching PAA 602 (Org Theory), PAA 641 (Municipal Management) and PAA 699 (Capstone). It's been a challenge getting up to speed on these courses, but I'm trying my best to be available when students have questions or concerns. Also, I'm excited to announce that I will be teaching the regional planning course in the January Intersession, and Policy Studies (632) and Research Design (606) in the spring.

“

I'm a big fan of urban cycling... I'm also a huge music fan, with more than 200,000 songs in my iTunes library

What are your hobbies?

As you may have surmised from my comments above, I'm a big fan of urban cycling. I haven't had a car since early 2017, and my bike is my main mode of transportation. If you come to my office, you'll see my little folding Dahon tucked into the corner. I'm also a huge music fan, with more than 200,000 songs (and counting) in my iTunes library.



MEET THE NEW PROFESSOR: DR. RIC KOLENDA

by Angelina Astrouskaya

Where were you before Pace?

It's probably easiest to give you a reverse chronology of my recent positions. Most recently I taught at DePaul University and University of Illinois at Chicago, both in Public Administration departments, and both in Chicago. Before that I was at Appalachian State University in Boone, NC, which is a lovely little town in the Blue Ridge Mountains.

- Degree: Ph.D. in Public Policy
- Specialization: Urban economic policy
- Fall'19: PAA 602, 641, 699
- Winter'20: PAA 642
- Spring'20: PAA 602, 606, 632

[Click here to see more info about the professor](#)

I was teaching urban and regional planning there. Before that was I was in Atlanta for six years getting my Ph.D. in Public Policy at Georgia Institute of Technology and Georgia State University, and also teaching at GSU. I moved to Atlanta from Wilmington, NC, in the southeast corner near the beach, where I started and ran a hotel & restaurant association and taught at UNC Wilmington. Prior to my move south, I spent many years in Philadelphia where I went to get my MA in Urban Studies at Temple, then stayed for many years thereafter, mostly in the Internet/information technology industry. And finally, I was born and raised in the Grand Rapids, MI area, not far from where Dr. Crosby is from. In fact, we both got our bachelors degree from Grand Valley State University there (though mine was much, much, *much* earlier!).

I know you moved to NYC just recently. How do you like NYC so far? What are the main differences between life in Chicago and NYC?

I'm loving NYC! It's the fourth top-ten city in which I've lived (see above), but there's nothing quite like New York! And from my apartment in Park Slope I have a short bike ride across the Brooklyn Bridge to get to Pace. It really doesn't get much better than that! As for the differences between NYC and Chicago, I'd say they both have the advantages of a large, and very international, city, but Chicago is very much a midwestern city.

Wider streets and a bit slower pace are some of the differences I've noticed right away. They certainly both have their advantages, but I'd say the biggest thing I miss is Lake Michigan, which I could see from my apartment. Growing up in western Michigan meant Lake Michigan beaches, so the lake has a special place in my heart. There's also a great bike path all along the shore that I definitely tried to take advantage of as much as possible.

My musical tastes are quite broad, spanning everything from classical and jazz to hip-hop and folk. I also love international pop music, especially from Brazil, Latin America and Africa. I love getting turned on to new music, so please let me know if you think there's something I must hear. One other thing I'd like to start up again is sailing. I haven't sailed since Georgia, but I'm hoping that will change soon.

Anything you'd like to add?

The main thing I'd like to add is to say again how excited I am to be at Pace. I've worked and studied in several universities and departments, and I don't think I've experienced a better bunch of people than the faculty and students I've met here. Everyone has been so kind and welcoming, even before I was offered the position. I look forward to meeting more of you as time goes on. And one more thing... while I do have excellent training in all things public administration, my Ph.D. is technically in public policy and planning, with a focus on urban economic planning and policy. I only mention that so that students who might have interests in those areas know that they can talk to me about them, and maybe we can find some way to advance those interests as part of their program. And that's why I am very excited to be teaching Regional Planning this winter intersession, with a focus on social equity in the planning process. - Ric Kolenda

Connect with Dr. Kolenda at
rkolenda@pace.edu
[linkedin.com/in/rkolenda/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/rkolenda/)



PAA 611 -

Management and Organizational Development with Dr. Chen

Course Description: This course examines the effects which organizational structure, change and policies have upon employees. Students are exposed to the literature on organizational design and change. Diagnosis, analysis and interpretation of these variables are discussed from the perspective of their capacity to develop both the individual employee and the organization.

PAA 604 -

Budgeting and Financial Analysis with Dr. Crosby

Course Description: This course provides an in-depth analysis of budgeting and finance as applied to government, health care, and the nonprofit sectors. Its main focus is on principles of public finance and budgetary analysis as seen in financial decision making. Topics introduced in the course include the budget cycle, budget methods, budget reform, taxation and tax structures, intergovernmental fiscal relations, and cost and break-even analyses. The course also involves computer applications of these concepts to problems in government, health care, and nonprofit sector decision-making.

PAA 642 -

Regional Planning with Dr. Kolenda

Course Description: This course examines the political and institutional environment in which regional planning takes place. The relationship of planning to political and market processes and the structure of urban, suburban and regional political systems are explored. Alternative strategies for planning on a regional basis are presented using theoretical approaches and case analyses. Techniques of making regional forecasts of employment, population, income and housing demand are presented. Required of all government track students with a specialization in planning and evaluation.

PAA 695 -

Internship (if needed)

Course Description: Designed as an educational work experience within an area of public sector management or policy related to a student's field or interest and supervised by a professional who has expertise in that field.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY STUDY ABROAD

by Lafragia Moore and Deepa Jois



The first time I learned about the Oxford study abroad trip was when I entered the MPA program in the spring semester of 2018. In the fall semester of 2018 I decided to apply for the course because I was ready to embark on this adventure of exploring different cultures, learning about another country's government and policies, and the opportunity to network with individuals that offer different views and opinions. This would also be an experience to make awesome memories and develop new friendships. As a healthcare track MPA student, I would finally get a chance to learn more about the National Healthcare System (NHS) in the United Kingdom, and compare the differences between healthcare delivery in the UK vs. healthcare delivery in the US. This study abroad trip to Oxford gives a chance to compare life in the UK to life in the US, not only from a government perspective, but also to experience social settings, and cultural norms.

The Oxford study abroad course was truly an eye-opening experience. I never would have imagined in my lifetime that I would ever have the opportunity to study abroad, and for that I am truly blessed. Spending time in a foreign country allows you to be fully submerged in the culture and experience the everyday lives of people that are going through the same daily struggles, but dealing with them in different ways. One of the things I did not expect to see during my time in Oxford was the issue of homelessness. I always thought this was an issue that was a huge problem in the US, but never thought was an issue of such vast proportions in the UK. Another thing I found interesting was the Voluntary Sector, which is what we refer to in the US as the Non-Profit Sector. The people of Oxford depend on the Voluntary Sector just as much and maybe even more than government. Each of the individuals from the different voluntary sector organizations, as well as the representatives of county and city government that took time out of their already busy schedules,

showed me that they not only enjoy the work they do, but that it is a passion that they have for the cause that brings them in to work to assist the people that are depending on their organizations for their basic necessities.

“

I would recommend that students in the MPA program consider taking this opportunity to study abroad no matter which specialization track they are on.

Studying abroad as an MPA student, allowed me to gain the necessary insight needed to carry out my duties as a future public administrator. Each lecturer demonstrated the core values of public administration which are professionalism, leadership, ethics, transparency, and accountability. I would recommend that students in the MPA program consider taking this opportunity to study abroad no matter which specialization track they are on. The study abroad course may be titled Seminar in Government, but it definitely has something to offer to health care administration as well as non-profit students. Each lecture provided a foundation for each track. It also allowed me to create memories I will forever cherish, from cultural experiences, like being able to visit Paris for my free weekend, creating new and lasting friendships with classmates and bragging rights that a girl that grew up in Brooklyn had the opportunity of a lifetime to study at one of the most prestigious universities in the world. If you are considering studying abroad, don't think about it, just do it! In addition to strengthening your academic resume it will be an experience that will change your life forever and open your mind to different possibilities and ways of thinking. - Lafragia Moore

Although having visited England many times, either in passing to another city, or just touring the city, I believe that being a student in a foreign country provides a completely different outlook and experience. Being able to immerse yourself into the culture, allows an individual to be a part of the daily hustle and bustle of a city and really understand the different national values and belief systems. Moreover, I truly believe that in order to grow as a person, and understand different perspectives, it is important to understand different ideas and cultures.

During my undergraduate time, being a Health Sciences major, it was difficult to fit a study abroad program into one semester. It has always been on my bucket list to be able to study at Oxford University. From my undergraduate days forward I had always wanted to study overseas, to be able to immerse myself and to really get a feel of the culture and people. After joining Pace University's MPA program and quickly learning about the study abroad program at Oxford University, I was ready to sign up right away!

The program exceeded my expectations in gaining an understanding on how the United Kingdom's non-profit (voluntary) sector, healthcare system and government functions, as well as the many similarities and differences between the USA's governmental role versus the UK's government system. Moreover, I was able to learn more about the United Kingdom's healthcare social program, NHS, and learn about how it operates. It was exciting to hear different perspectives and discuss thoughts and ideas, especially with the current political climate in England due to Brexit awakening uncertainty for Britain's future.

The chance to learn from such highly esteemed professors and directors, along with the chance to hear their career insights was definitely a once in a lifetime opportunity!

It was sincerely refreshing to meet so many kind, genuine people who all had such a true tenacity to help people and be able to make an impact of improving the world we live in. From the very first day of lecture, I felt the sincerity they brought to their job in being able to enhance and make a positive difference. We were able to meet such important people, along with eat, drink and sit in some of the same places where Nobel Laureate, former presidents, actors have sat, it truly was an amazing feeling.

Some of the experiences and lectures I personally felt that left lasting impressions and went beyond my expectations were: meeting the Lord Mayor of Oxford and discussing social entrepreneurship with Dr. Peter Drobac. I also thought his campaign in Rwanda was truly inspirational. Additionally, discussing government policy research methods with John Courable was fascinating. I never in a million years thought I would be able to watch a double murder trial in the Oxfordshire courthouse! After discussing and learning many different topics, I realized that of course there are many structural aspects of government functions between the USA and UK that are quite different, but the problems we face as nations are quite similar. Listening to so many of the lecturers discuss such global topics, it also made me realize that even though the world we live in is gigantic, we are all connected in some way and are all affected by national policies that are implemented.



“

I realized that of course there are many structural aspects of government functions between the USA and UK that are quite different, but the problems we face as nations are quite similar.

Finally, it was wonderful to create new memories with my classmates, along with being able to learn all the idiosyncrasies of the city. I felt that I was able to expand on becoming a more secular public administrator through this course by making new networks, connecting with new people and overall broadening my international horizon. It felt like time flew by and at the end of the trip, on the last day, I really couldn't believe how fast the entire program had gone. I would definitely recommend this study abroad program to anyone interested in learning more about international government, healthcare administration and non-profit organizations! - Deepa Jois.

A YEAR IN PICTURES: 2018-2019



*MPA Holiday Get-Together,
December 7, 2018*



*MPASA sponsored Toys for
Tots Charity*



*On a train to White Plains
campus*

*MPA Speednetworking
event with Pace and LIU
students, March 29, 2019*



*MPA Mixer, November 2, 2018
MPA students with alumni
Charles Fall and Joseph Aremu*



*Pi Alpha Alpha Induction Ceremony,
May 6, 2019
(from left to right: Dr. Tiffany Henley,
Dr. Andy Crosby, Angelina Astrouskaya,
Dr. Gina Scutelnicu, Dr. Rebecca Tekula)*

*Career Panel: Cultivating Effective Leaders in
Public Administration, April 12, 2019
(from left to right: Deepa Jois, Angelina
Astrouskaya, Will Ciaccio, Joseph Aremu,
Charles Fall)*



*ASPA National Conference, Washington,
D.C., March, 2019
(from left to right: Dr. Gina Scutelnicu,
Angelina Astrouskaya, Dr. Hillary
Knepper, Dr. Tiffany Henley)*

click here to
RSVP

Join us to mix & mingle with
Pace and LIU students

MPA SPEED NETWORKING

Friday, October 11, 6pm - 8pm



Volunteer Day with
MPASA

**SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 16**

**SATURDAY SOUP KITCHEN
AT FATHER'S HEART**



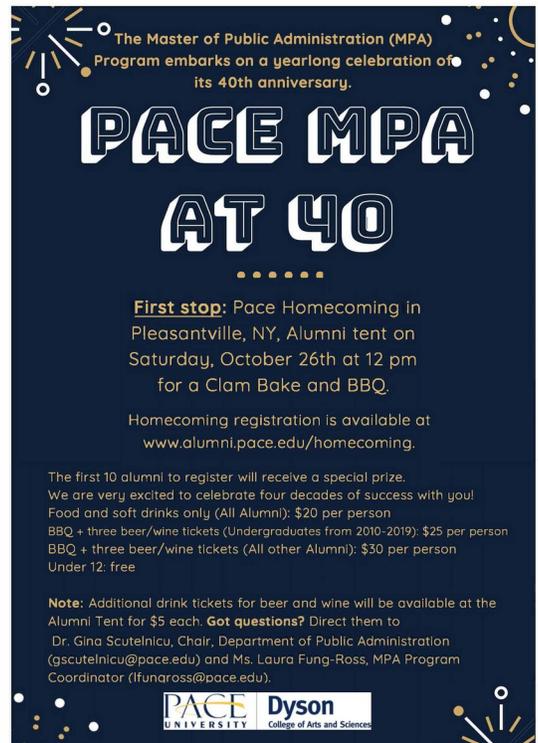
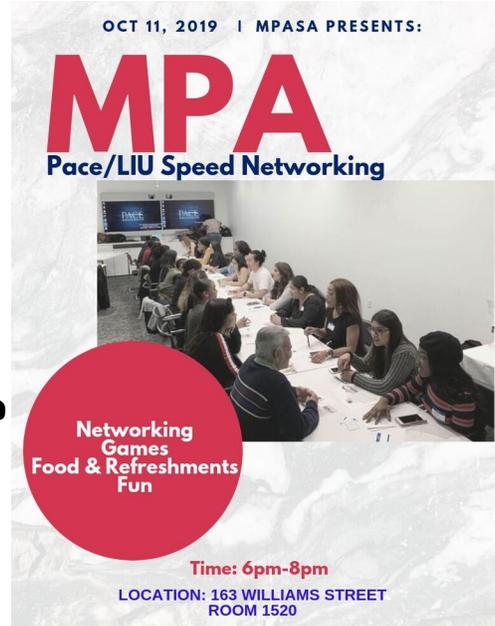
November 8-10, 2019 | Brooklyn, NY

*Northeast Conference
on Public
Administration*

**SOON IN
BROOKLYN!**

Click here to buy
tickets

Learn more about NECoPA



Follow us for more



@pacempasa



facebook.com/
mpasapace



@pacempasa



THE MPASA TIMES

*Master in Public Administration Student Association
Newsletter*



Editor in Chief	Angelina Astrouskaya
Editor	Tiffany Henley
Contributors	Gina Scutelnicu Tiffany Henley Angelina Astrouskaya Deepa Jois Jenelle Bazil-Charles Denise Fasuyi William DeFeis Polina Polskaia Ric Kolenda Lafragia Moore