Spring 2019

Department of Public Administration Newsletter
Spring 2019

Wendy Wright
wwright@brockport.edu

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A Message from the Interim Chair

Hello MPA Community!

We have one semester under our belts at our beautiful Brockport Downtown facility. I hope the Spring semester is going well for all.

As many of you know, our MPA program is accredited by the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA). NASPAA is the recognized global accreditor of MPA programs and ensures excellence in education and training for public service. We are now going through reaccreditation with NASPAA and recently welcomed site visitors from NASPAA to share our success stories and receive critical input from the industry leader.

In this edition, you will see information on the International City/County Management Association Student Chapter, the Executive MPA Advisory Board (we’re always looking for a few more members, so let me know if you are interested), and a warm welcome to a new class of MPA students. We hope that this newsletter provides you with a rich variety of news and information.

Best,

Dr. Wendy Wright
Interim Chair
Department of Public Administration

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Connect with us on LinkedIn
Support the MPA program. Make you gift today!
**Shanelle Hodge**

**Hometown:** Staten Island, NY  
**Program:** MPA  
**Undergraduate College and Major:** Healthcare Administration & Biology  
**Expected Graduation Date:** May 2019  
**Current Occupation(s):**  
**Brockport Downtown, Graduate Assistant**—As a graduate assistant I support the operations of Brockport Downtown to cultivate a positive learning environment. I act as a student liaison for all departments located downtown and provide support and resources to students, faculty and staff. I also ensure the proper use of Brockport Downtown’s budget, which is provided through BSG by the student activity fee.  

**Center for Governmental Research, Fellow**—As a fellow I work with a multi-disciplinary team to deliver strategic analysis and management guidance through impactful research to address the most critical issues that local communities face.  

**How and why did you decide to apply for The College at Brockport MPA program?**  
I was encouraged to apply for this program by Vice Provost, Dr. Eileen Daniel and Associate Dean, Dr. Celia Watt. These two women inspired me to continue my education in administration and pursue a career of service in the public sector. Initially, I was solely interested in the Health Care Management emphasis, but later I decided to obtain the certificate in Nonprofit Management as well.  

**What have you enjoyed most about the program so far?**  
I enjoy collaboration with students of different educational and professional backgrounds. I work well with others and have learned from students of various ages, cultural backgrounds and learning styles. I also appreciate the support of the faculty in the program.  

**What are your future goals?**  
Following the completion of this program I plan to pursue a PhD in public administration. Professionally, I intend to work collectively in the community to support youth and mental hygiene. I hope to start my own nonprofit organization to provide children with shoes in undeveloped countries.  

**Anything else you want to share:**  
My experience in this program has been gratifying thus far. I have had the opportunity to network with professionals that have transformed their communities. These connections are imperative to my growth and success in this field and I would not have been able to do so without the direction and motivation of the amazing faculty members within the department of public administration.

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**Emidio Maiorani**

**Hometown:** Rochester, NY  
**Program:** MPA  
**Undergraduate College and Major:** St. John Fisher College, B.S. Accounting  
**Expected Graduation Date:** May 2019  
**Current Occupation:**  
**Academic Support Specialist at Monroe Community College**—As an Academic Support Specialist I provide educational support to students, provide academic advisement, and provide academic coaching support to transitional and international students.  

**How and why did you decide to apply for The College at Brockport MPA program?**  
I was in the B.S. Social Work Program and decided to use my Accounting/Business background as a foundation for Graduate studies.  

**What have you enjoyed most about the program so far?**  
Most of the classes provide practical knowledge about public administration job functions that can be applied to in my professional position.  

**What are your future goals?**  
To obtain a director’s position in the academic support division of a college/university.

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To nominate a student for the Student Spotlight, please contact Dr. Wright: wwright@brockport.edu
MPA Faculty and Staff

Dr. Wendy Wright
Lecturer and Interim Chair

Dr. Shihyun Noh
Assistant Professor

Dr. Rhucha Samudra
Assistant Professor

Dr. Keith Baker
Associate Professor

Dr. Vaiva Kalesnikaite
Assistant Professor

Dr. Celia Watt
SOBAM Interim Associate Dean, PAD Internship Coordinator

Mr. Mike Andriatch
Adjunct Lecturer
VP for Advancement President, Brockport Foundation

Mr. Bryan White
Adjunct Lecturer

Ms. Allyn Stelljes
Adjunct Lecturer

Dr. Michael Hattery
Faculty Fellow

Mr. Phil LaPorta
Adjunct Lecturer

Mr. Josh Bowers
Adjunct Lecturer

Mr. Fred Rion
Adjunct Lecturer

Mr. Steven Hanmer

Mr. Steven Bouteiller
Important Dates

**College Specific Dates:**
- **March 16** Spring Recess Begins
- **April 12** Deadline to withdraw without Department Chair permission
- **May 3** Withdrawal period ends
- **May 13-18** Finals Week
- **May 17** Graduate Commencement Ceremony

**Department of Public Administration Dates:**
- **March 26** Spring 2019 MPA Open House
  To RSVP: [Click here](#)
- **May 16** End of Year Celebration, details TBA

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**Connect with the MPA Community**

**Pub Nights**
Periodically, throughout the semester students will get a chance to network with one another in a relaxed environment. Our next Pub Night will be **April 12th**. For information on upcoming Pub Nights watch for email announcements.

Graduate Assistant, Aaliyah Johnson is the Pub Night coordinator, [ajohn18@brockport.edu](mailto:ajohn18@brockport.edu).

**End of Year Celebration**
**Save the Date! May 16**—Come celebrate another year of great accomplishments with students, staff, and faculty. Details TBA.

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**Get Support**

**Tutoring**
Graduate Assistant, Dawn Footer, is the MPA tutor. Office hours are by appointment. Hours: Mon-Weds 4-5pm. To schedule with Dawn email: [dfoot1@brockport.edu](mailto:dfoot1@brockport.edu).

**MPA Writing Workshop Series**
- **March 30** PowerPoint Fundamentals—Content, Format & Esthetics. Room 525, 12-2pm
- **April 13** Emails, Memos, and More—Professional Communications. Room 524, 12-2pm
  Contact Dawn Footer for more information [dfoot1@brockport.edu](mailto:dfoot1@brockport.edu).

**Advisor Corner**
Advising of students in the Department of Public Administration is divided among several of the program faculty members. Students in the MPA program are encouraged to check who their assigned advisor is on Banner.
Get Involved

Student Steering Committee
Do you have any questions/concerns regarding the MPA program? The Student Steering Committee would love to hear them! This Committee is a virtual platform for MPA students to share feedback about or launch ideas for the Department of Public Administration. Use this link (also found on our webpage) to share your concerns and questions. Your feedback will be sent to the officers of the Student Steering Committee. Contact Patrick Coyle, for more information at pcoyl1@brockport.edu

Pi Alpha Alpha
The Pi Alpha Alpha Global Honor Society for Public Affairs and Administration (PAA) recognizes outstanding undergraduate as well as graduate students in public administration, public policy, and public affairs. Enrolled Brockport MPA students are eligible for membership upon earning at least 21 graduate level credit hours and a 3.70 cumulative GPA.

Your local Brockport Chapter offers these benefits:
- Professional networking opportunities in the Greater Rochester area
- Opportunities to enrich the MPA program at Brockport through civic engagement, volunteering, educational programs, and involvement in MPA events & activities
- The ability to hold a PAA Brockport Chapter Executive Office position

For more information go to pialphaalpha.org

The International City/County Management Association

Executive MPA Advisory Board
A special thanks to the Board for their work in supporting the department during the NASPAA accreditation site visit. If you are interested in joining the Executive MPA Advisory Board, please contact Dr. Wendy Wright at wwright@brockport.edu. Advisory Board members:

- Bob Bourg, Sr. VP of Human Resources, St. Ann’s Community
- BJ Scanlon, Senior Legislative Analyst, Rochester City Council
- Carly Swieringa, Communications & Special Events Specialist, Eastside Family YMCA
- Danielle Pierleoni, Development Associate, Jewish Senior Life Foundation
- David Seeley, Town Supervisor, Town of Irondequoit
- Dorothy MILFORD, Manager of Clinical Regulatory Compliance, Rochester Regional Health
- Emily Marullo, Assistant Director of Donor Engagement, Monroe Community College Foundation
- Jenn Beideman, Policy & Research Associate, Common Ground Health
- Jennifer Balonek, Consultant & Trainer, CivicPlus
- Jessica Muratore, Regional Director of Quality, Centene Corp.
- Joe Seroski, Data Mining Analyst, Kodak Alaris
- Jordan Stenzel, Supervisor of Health Homes Care Management, Trillium Health
- Julianne DesJardins, Owner, DesJardins Digital LLC (Buffalo, NY)
- Lara Press-Ellingham, Senior Health Project Coordinator, University of Rochester Medical Center
- Lauren Kirchhausen, Major Gifts Officer, Providence Healthcare Foundation (Toronto, ON)
- Lori Ngarambe, Community Engagement Specialist, Rochester-Monroe Anti-Poverty Initiative
- Mona Haleem, Dental Director, St. Joseph’s Neighborhood Ctr.
- Rob Richardson, Assistant Manager, City of Canandaigua
- Terrance Bellnier, CEO, Geriatric Pharmacotherapy Institute, Inc.
Meet our Graduate Assistants!

**Aaliyah Johnson**
I graduated from SUNY Brockport with a Bachelor’s degree in science, and decided to continue my education at Brockport because of the opportunities and resources that the institution provided me with. I am currently a first year MPA student on the general emphasis 2 year track, looking to get into poverty studies for my concentration. Ultimately my career goal is to obtain a position as a Chief Diversity Officer at a higher education institution so that I can effectively implement policies and programs which display cultural awareness and competency towards marginalized groups and their respective causes.

**Kim Ross**
This is my third semester in the MPA program. I am currently the Arts Administration Intern for Lyric Theatre. My professional experiences have included business ownership in graphic communications, a leadership role in the non-profit sector, and various roles in higher education. I know the MPA program will help me develop stronger, sharper leadership skills and a clearer professional outlook. I especially appreciate the networking opportunities provided to me as a student and Graduate Assistant. Upon completing my MPA, I will pursue a career in arts administration, either in a non-profit or higher education setting.

**Dawn Footer**
I consider myself an interdisciplinary scholar. I received my M.S. in Accounting from Brockport in May 2018, while concurrently working on the MPA. The two degree areas mesh well for me, as my interests are in managerial accounting and public finance. Being a part of the MPA program has opened doors to professional networking opportunities that aren’t available to students simply pursuing an accounting degree. In the Fall of 2017 I co-authored a paper with fellow MPA candidate, Hannah Smith. It was submitted and accepted for presentation at the Spring 2018 APPAM Conference. The experience, as well as the support and encouragement we received from the MPA faculty, was amazing. I will be completing the MPA in May 2019.

**Patrick Coyle**
I graduated from Brockport with a BS in Marketing in 2015 and spent three years working in business-to-business telecom sales before deciding to go back to school. I am very passionate about the social safety net and would like to devote my career to trying to help people escape generational, cyclical poverty. I am currently in my second semester in the city and county management program and am really looking forward to working with all the incredibly accomplished faculty members we have in the department.

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**New Student Welcome!**

- Craig Breeze
- Matthew Brown
- David Lanni
- Paul Stutzman
- Vilma Vendrell
- Miah Newell
- Christina Ouweleen
- Janet Roy
- Devin VanDerzee
- Lydia Alston
- Chit Satt Myo Thant
Envision Our Mission

Thank you to all the students who participated in the Envision Our Mission Challenge! We had over 50 entries to our challenge asking you to explain what the PAD mission means to you and the community in three words or less.

The language that students used to describe the mission was uplifting and powerful. The graphic below represents the words of our students.

The mission of the Master of Public Administration Program, College at Brockport, is to prepare future community leaders and managers in State and Municipal Management, Health Care Management, Public Safety Management, Nonprofit Management, and Poverty Alleviation Efforts.

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