

**Report of the School of Public Affairs to Baruch College General Faculty
October 28, 2010**

ENROLLMENT:

The School of Public Affairs welcomes 330 new graduate students this fall semester, representing a +14% increase in new students – continuing a three year trend of over 14% growth in the entering class. This fall the School of Public Affairs had a 16% overall increase in number of applications from fall 2009. The MEd in Higher Education, traditional MPA, and XMPA program experienced application changes of +34%, +11% and +4%, respectively. The School was able to exceed enrollment targets for 2 of its traditional programs, and midstream we increased the projections for our MPA and HEA programs. SPA has exceeded enrollment goals for four consecutive years. 645 continuing graduate students registered at SPA this fall, bringing the total graduate student population at SPA to 975 students, or a modest +3.4% increase from fall 2009.

Traditional MPA Enrollment Report – Fall 2010

- MPA applications up 11% from fall 2009
- MPA Accept rate = 81.5%, a -3.5% decrease from last year
- MPA Yield rate = 65.5%, -4.5% change from fall 2009

MPA Incoming class of 167 (+5.7% F09)

47 Full-time, 134.3% of target

120 Part-time, 104.4% of target

MPA Incoming class 116F, 51M (or 69% women, 31% male (unchanged from F09).

The School of Public Affairs has 78 undergraduate official majors enrolled as of this fall's registration, representing a +1.3% change from fall 2009. There are no remaining BSREMD majors in the School. Total SPA enrollment for fall 2010 is 1,114 students.

OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE PROGRAMS

In Summer 2010, the Office of Executive Programs (OEP) offered for the first time a program in Higher Education Educational Research. The course ran successfully for five full days with session topics ranging from an overview of educational research in the U.S. to research methodology, leading and managing change and improvement, and institutional research and program evaluation. We plan to repeat the program in the fall. The OEP continues to develop new programs in addition to serving its continuing clients such as the New York Housing Authority, Mexican Consulate, and the United Neighborhood Houses. We are exploring the potential market for programs in diversity management, advocacy and lobbying, platform skills training, and arts administration.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND RESEARCH

Research and Grants

FIPSE Grant

SPA is pleased to announce a 4-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education through its Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education. Baruch is the lead U.S. institution in an eight-member consortium of universities from Mexico, the U.S., and Canada. The program will support SPA's efforts to create a new course and curriculum in sustainable community development, and will subsidize SPA students studying at our partner institutions for a visiting semester. At the same time,

SPA will host students from the consortium interested in studying sustainable development in the United States. Thanks to Associate Dean Engel and Angelina Delgado for leading these efforts.

Shelly and Donald Rubin Foundation

Professor Stan Altman announced that the Shelly & Donald Rubin Foundation has kicked off an exciting new collaboration between Baruch College and the Rubin Museum of Art with a \$200,000 grant, plus — depending on the outcome of the first year — a commitment to make four additional \$200,000 grants over the next four years for a total of \$1 million dollars. The grant will finance the development of art-enriched programming at Baruch College. Through this partnership, the College and the Rubin Museum of Art (co-founded by Shelly and Donald Rubin), hope to better educate Baruch students on the important role art plays in the development of civil societies and their cultural and spiritual values. The intent is to help students develop a deeper sense of who they are and their purpose in life. One of the programs to be supported is a faculty fellows program that will help faculty learn more about the Rubin Museum and explore ways to integrate the resources of the RMA into their courses and research. Grants will be available to support faculty efforts -- \$5,000 for the spring 2011 semester; \$2,500 for the summer 2011. The project is being directed in close collaboration with Dean Jeffrey Peck and the Weissman School of Arts and Sciences as well as Student Affairs.

US State Department

Professor Stan Altman also secured funding for a program entitled, “Climate Change Professional Fellows Program,” which focuses on the role of professionals in the field of climate change, including environmental and social scientists, climatologists, ecologists, government officials, disaster responders, community leaders, activists, educators and NGO workers. The program will serve 40 participants, including 26 from the four target countries, Australia, China, Indonesia and Japan, and 14 from the United States. The program is divided into two exchanges; participants from the partner countries will travel in two cohorts of 14 and 12 persons to the United States. The United States members will visit partner countries during a three week period scheduled for the summer of 2011. The program is organized as a collaborative effort with the International Center in Washington DC. Total grant amount is \$498,165 for a 24 month project.

CENTERS AND EVENTS

The Center for Nonprofit Strategy and Management is sponsoring a number of events this fall, including a seminar on the future of Business Improvement Districts in New York on September 28th, chaired by Jerry Mitchell, professor of public administration at SPA, with panelists Robert Walsh of the NYC Department of Small Business Services, Tim Tompkins of the Times Square Alliance, Max Javier of the Grand Street Business Improvement District in Brooklyn, and Lawrence Houstoun, Jr., a scholar of Business Improvement Districts. On October 1st, the Center will host a noontime conference of CUNY scholars working on issues across the nonprofit sector, to be hosted by Assistant Professor Hilary Botein and Associate Professor Nicole Marwell, both of SPA. On October 26, the center will host a conference on the role of the media in disseminating information about the nonprofit sector.

On October 21, the School of Public Affairs will hold a one-on-one interview with David S. Birdsell, Dean of the School of Public Affairs, and Seth Pinsky, the President of the New York City Economic Development Corporation, where they will discuss the government's role in fostering private economic development throughout the five boroughs.

The New York Census Research Data Center has approved 35 research project for the fall involving all 14 members from the research consortium. The center continues to be a critical resource for social scientists requiring access to the highly granular data available only from the designated census research centers.

New Faculty

Don Waisanen joins SPA as assistant professor of political communication from the doctoral program at the University of Southern California. Don has published work on rhetoric and public affairs, deliberative democracy in the digital age, and political comedy. At SPA he will be teaching communications courses in both the BSPA and MPA programs.

Cristina Balboa, who earned her Ph.D. from Yale in environmental policy and governance, focuses her research on the intersection non-governmental organizations and environmental protection and regulation. Her work has been supported by Harvard's Hauser Center for Nonprofit Organizations, as well as by the United States Environmental Protection Agency. At SPA she will be teaching courses in research methods, environmental policy, nonprofit management, and the qualitative study of communities.

Rachel Smith comes to SPA to teach in the MEd degree in Higher Education Administration. She earned her Ph.D. from Syracuse University where she conducted research in campus life. She is particularly interested in social networks as a key to creating positive learning environments. At SPA, she will teach several courses in the Higher Education Administration program.

Hector Cordero-Guzman is new to SPA, but not to Baruch, where he served previously as chair and professor in the Department of Black and Hispanic Studies in the Weissman School of Arts and Sciences. Cordero-Guzman, who received his Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Chicago, has broad research interests which include migration, the changing nature of race in the United States, the roll of the nonprofit sector in facilitating immigration, and community building among Latino immigrants. Cordero-Guzman starts at SPA after returning from a stint as program officer at the Ford Foundation in the Economic Development Unit of the Asset Building and Community Development Program. At SPA he will teach courses in research methods, fundraising, and social services delivery, and will develop a new course titled "Diversity, Civil Rights, and Public Policy."

STUDENT NEWS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Steve Larosiliere, MPA '11 received in August the **Mentor Award**: For someone who has done an outstanding job mentoring/teaching/coaching youth in the community, at a ceremony that was held on the Intrepid.

Lilly Okamura, MPA/NUF '10, was recently awarded a research grant from the American Planning Association Housing and Community Development Division for her capstone research, guided by Hilary Botein.

On Sunday August 29th, 2010, **MPA student Angelo Cabrera**, President of MASA (Mexican American Students Alliance) was featured at el TIEMPO with Joe Torrez on WABC channel 7