

Report of the School of Public Affairs to the Baruch College General Faculty; October 29, 2015

ENROLLMENT REPORT

The School of Public Affairs began the Fall 2015 semester with a total of 896 graduate students enrolled. This includes 606 MPA students (combining our traditional program, the National Urban Fellows partnership cohort, Executive program, and students in the dual degree MS/MPA), 132 Advanced Certificate students (SBL & SDL) and 144 MEd students (Higher Education Administration and Educational Leadership). 75% of these students were attending part-time, 25% full-time. The BSPA has 180 majors, with a total of 580 enrollments in the fall 2015. This makes a total degree-seeking student population of 1,076 at SPA.

Continuing student enrollment was strong, and along with a small boost in enrollment from the revival of a cohort certificate program (SAM Citywide, School Building Leadership); the overall size of the school was almost identical to fall 2014. The Executive MPA program also saw a slight increase in enrollment.

We are proud to announce that multiple scholarships were granted in various forms including Dean's Leadership Awards, Mayoral Graduate Scholarships, Hagedorn Scholarships & Fellowships, and LCU Fund Scholarships, among others. These awards totaled \$583,000 for the Fall 2015 semester.

SPA ACTIVITIES AND DEVELOPEMENTS

NASPAA Accreditation: Baruch College's School of Public Affairs has earned reaccreditation by NASPAA for a full seven years, through the 2021-22 school year. The accreditation involved an extensive self-study report and an on-site peer review conducted by visiting scholars and practitioners. The peer review team that visited in March 2015 stated that SPA's MPA program "has demonstrated a substantial commitment to quality public service education."

Faculty News: Professor Stan Altman has been appointed to the New York State Blue Ribbon Commission on the Arts. The commission will make recommendations to the New York State Board of Regents by November 2015 on arts assessments that students may take in place of one of the Regents examinations, which are required for high school graduation throughout the state.

Dean David Birdsell has been named a Fellow-Elect of the National Academy of Public Administration. He has also been elected Vice-President of NASPAA and will become President of that organization in October 2016.

Professor John Goering has been selected to be on HSH.com's "Innovative Thinkers in Housing Economics" list based on his extensive dedication and research on real estate, economics, and consultancy.

Professor Robert C. Smith was named winner of the American Sociological Association's prestigious Louis Wirth Best Article Award for his article "Black Mexicans, Conjunctural Ethnicity, and Operating Identities: Long-Term Ethnographic Analysis." The article was published in American

Sociological Review in 2014.

New faculty: Chae Young (CJ) Chung joined us this year to serve as an instructor of research and analysis, mainly teaching PAF 9170 and PAF 9172. He earned his Master of Public Policy from Georgetown University and his Ph.D. in Public Affairs from Indiana University's School of Public and Environmental Affairs. He is interested in building bridges between public management and policy analysis, which are often treated as separate fields of inquiry.

Alexis Perrotta joined us in an Assistant Professor rank. Her research is focused on the intersection of urban transportation policy, planning and welfare. Using qualitative methods, her doctoral research provides a novel exploration of equity and access as it relates to public transportation planning. Ms. Perrotta earned a doctorate in Urban Planning from the Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation (2015). She has a Master's degree in Public Administration from the Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs (2002) and a Bachelor of Arts with a concentration in Interdisciplinary Studies from Wheaton College (1996).

Byron E. Price is a Visiting Professor of Equality and Justice and the Lillie and Nathan Ackerman Chair for Social Justice at Baruch College, which is housed in the Center on Equality, Pluralism and Policy; he is on leave from his position as Professor of Public Administration at Medgar Evers College. He formerly served as an associate professor of political science in the Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs at Texas Southern University (TSU) in Houston, Texas. Dr. Price spent five years at Rutgers University-Newark at the School of Public Affairs and Administration where he served as an assistant professor of public administration and director of the MPA and Executive MPA Programs as well as a number of other leadership positions including serving as the Associate Director of the National Center for Public Performance and Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Public Management and Social Policy. He received his BS and MPA from Texas Southern University, an MBA from Oklahoma City University and a Ph.D. in Public Policy and Administration from Mississippi State University.

Office of Global Initiatives: Our new webpage is up and running on the School of Public Affairs website. The webpage is created for SPA students and faculty to learn about opportunities to study abroad, programs we're creating to bring international students to our campus, joint research programs, and other opportunities to get involved with our international programs.

In late May and early June of 2015, School of Public Affairs faculty taught seminars at the School of Communication and Design at Universidad Argentina de la Empresa. Professor John Casey gave lectures on "International Nonprofits," Professor Robert Walsh discussed "The Growth of Public-Private Partnerships," Dean David Birdsell taught a seminar on "Political Communication." Two seminars have been scheduled for this fall.

In August 2015, a Baruch delegation attended two international conferences. The Americas Society and Council of the Americas annual conference was focused "Argentina's economic outlook and its political prospects leading up to the presidential election on October 25." The World Cities World Class (WC2) University Network conference in London, England was centered on five themes: Transport, Global Health, Global Cultures, Eco-Campus, and Business, and included participants from Brazil, Canada, England, Germany, Japan, Mexico, Russia, South Africa, and the U.S.A.

Fall Events: SPA Career Services hosted employer information sessions in September with the Clinton Foundation and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). We will also be hosting a SPA Alumni and Student Networking Night on October 29th with Executives on Campus in addition to food policy and healthcare panels this semester.

Fall semester is a conference season. SPA is a gold sponsor of the NASPAA conference which will be held in Brooklyn this year. As part of NASPAA activities SPA will be hosting a local tour “DUMBO: The Creative Transformation of a NYC Neighborhood” led by Professor Robert Walsh.

SPA is APPAM conference’s platinum sponsor for the fifth year in a row, and a lead sponsor at ARNOVA. We expect a large number of faculty, staff and student representation at all conferences.

Marc Mauer, one of the country’s leading experts on sentencing policy, race and the criminal justice system will present the Ackerman Lecture this semester. His groundbreaking book *Race to Incarcerate*, on how sentencing policies led to the explosive expansion of the U.S. prison population will be the theme of the lecture.

Fellowships: Executive MPA ’13 alumnus Ron Zacchi was appointed as Baruch’s first Empire State Fellow by the State of New York. He is working in Albany for the next two years under the NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) with a focus in their Bureau of Housing and Support Services.

Jennifer Tejada, MPA ’15, began as a 2015 Leadership Fellow at the Port Authority of NY & NJ. This is a highly competitive two-year rotational program that offers on-the-job experience in Port Authority operations.

Alumni News: The New Immigrant Community Empowerment (NICE) announced in September Baruch MPA ’14 Manuel (Manny) Castro as the organization’s new Executive Director. NICE is a community-based, non-profit organization that works to ensure that new immigrants can build social, political and economic power in their communities and beyond.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Bachelor of Science in Public Affairs

A new partnership with FDNY has been established to provide uniformed and civilian employees a pathway to obtain the BSPA with tuition reimbursement from the FDNY Foundation for fire fighters and EMS. The credit-bearing phase of the program will start in spring 2016.

The NYC Youth Council, a collaborative initiative of SPA, Coro, and the New York City Council, has been introduce its first cohort of high school students, who will learn about public service and public affairs education.

Every year the City of New York picks 25 college seniors or recent graduates from around the country to take part in the prestigious *NYC Urban Fellows Program*. In 2015-16, two of those fellows -- Melanie Ho and Anabel Pérez – are BSPA graduates.