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For the third year in a row, GSPIA Perspectives is going to press under the cloud of the Great Recession. The recovery has begun, but as all our readers know, budget cutting is the order of the day from Washington to Harrisburg. However, I am happy to say that there have been many rays of sunshine here at GSPIA. Applications to our programs in 2011 were up 4% and once again set an all-time record, while applications declined an average of 5% at other APSIA member schools. GSPIA raised 214% more from individual donations in FY 2010 than in 2009, and research grant funding for FY11 to date has increased 148%.

It has been a banner year for those within our MPA program working on policy issues close to home. Prof. David Miller’s Innovation Clinic has been formally renamed the Center for Metropolitan Studies (CMS) to better reflect its central focus. The most important CMS project, CONNECT, has received financial support from five different foundations and has frequently been heralded in the media for its efforts to enhance collaboration among the municipalities in our region. Prof. Kevin Kearns’ Leadership Portfolio Program (LPP) has not only proved extremely popular with our students but has strengthened our relations with local nonprofit organizations, many of which have included LPP students as voting members on their boards of directors. And Kathy Buechel, former Alcoa Foundation president, has continued to enhance an important new dimension of GSPIA, the Philanthropy Forum; she has not only brought in a host of important speakers (e.g., Margaret McKenna, president of the Wal-Mart Foundation) but has also helped place our students in positions with philanthropic foundations.

At the same time, our efforts to enhance the School’s global visibility through the development of international partnerships has paid dividends, as international visits to the GSPIA website in 2010 increased 42% overall and by 62% for Australia, 53% for India, 51% for Korea and 50% for China. We signed an agreement this year to offer the “Peace Corps Masters International” program beginning in 2012. We have also continued to expand university partnerships, most recently signing an agreement with Seoul National University’s Graduate School of Public Administration (GSAP). We held our first annual Korean-American Public Management Conference in collaboration with GSAP this November in Pittsburgh, and will hold the second one in Seoul in fall 2011. In January Prof. Nita Rudra hosted the second GSPIA International Political Economy Colloquium, focused on the theme of “Globalization and the Politics of Poverty and Inequality,” in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Management (IIM) in Bangalore, India, where Prof. Rudra spent the year on sabbatical. In May I traveled with Prof. Lou Picard to Johannesburg, South Africa to negotiate a partnership agreement with the University of the Witwatersrand’s Graduate School of Public and Development Management, the interim director of which, Thomas Mogale, PhD ’95, is one of our alumni. Next academic year I will be going to Saudi Arabia to sign a collaboration agreement with the Institute of Public Administration in Riyadh, whose director general, Abdulrahman Al-Shakawy, PhD ’83, is a recent recipient of our Distinguished Alumnus Award. Later this month the new Pitt office in Beijing will be open with GSPIA playing the role of co-administrator. As I write these lines, a delegation of GSPIA students and Pitt undergraduates in Environmental Studies are engaged along with Chinese and Korean students in another exciting international venture: they are with Byong Hyon Kwon, MPIA ’68, former Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs for the Republic of Korea and Korean Ambassador to China, planting trees in Inner Mongolia as part of Kwon’s “Great Green Wall” project to combat desertification.

The cover story of this issue highlights GSPIA’s long-standing commitment to promoting federal service. Since the era of founding Dean Donald Stone, many of the “best and brightest” at our school have aspired to careers in top federal departments and agencies, but those with this ambition have increased substantially over time as our focus has become more international. I met with a diverse group of our Washington-based federal alumni recently so as to convey their reflections on the career path they have chosen.

I should add before closing that the last issue of Perspectives received a major award as one of the best publications of its kind produced in our region. We have tried to uphold that standard with this one as well. We hope you will enjoy it, and perhaps think of sending me a note if you have ideas for how to improve future issues.

Sincerely yours,

John T.S. Keeler, Dean
GSPIA prepares students for many types of jobs, but ever since the era of founding Dean Donald Stone (a former Director for Administrative Management at the U.S. Bureau of the Budget and Director of Administration for the Marshall Plan), many GSPIA faculty and administrators have encouraged their students to consider a career in the federal government.
In recent years, as more and more GSPIA students have enrolled in our international affairs programs, a growing share of our most accomplished students have focused on finding a federal position. The School has taken a wide variety of steps to serve these students: developing the D.C. Semester Program; opening the University of Pittsburgh Washington Center with full-time GSPIA staff presence; offering courses via videoconference taught by D.C.-based adjunct professors currently working in major federal departments or agencies; holding D.C. Alumni Career Briefings; funding trips to Washington for selected classes and student groups; offering an annual “boot camp” for students who wish to enter the Presidential Management Fellows competition; and organizing Dean’s Alumni Councils for the State Department, the Government Accountability Office and the Washington Metro area. In the context of these efforts, 40% of the class of 2010 at GSPIA took positions in the public sector, and most were hired by the federal government. More than 35% of the class of 2010 started their careers in Washington, where approximately 20% of our 8,000 alumni reside.

So what is it like to make a career in the federal government? We know that many students are frustrated every year by issues at entry such as the cumbersome hiring process and the long waits required for security clearances. In the current political cycle, those considering federal employment have also faced headlines like this one in The Washington Post last October 18: “New Post Poll Finds Negativity Toward Federal Workers.” That article reported that more than half of Americans thought federal workers were overpaid and that they did not work as hard as employees in the private sector. Given such rhetorical jibes and the inevitable red tape, should the “best and the brightest” at GSPIA be encouraged to jump through the onerous hoops necessary to start a federal career? Dean John Keeler raised these questions in February with a diverse group of GSPIA alumni, some veterans and others just starting their careers. Most striking was the fact that all of them felt, on balance, that the rewards of their work strongly outweighed the frustrations.

Michelle Morales, MPIA ’10, a new Foreign Service Officer preparing to be posted to Indonesia, was impressed by the fact that many of her friends were “first tours as desk officers they have tremendous

More than 35% of the class of 2010 started their careers in Washington, where approximately 20% of our 8,000 alumni reside.
amounts of responsibility. It’s a little scary but at the same time the fact that someone’s putting their trust in you that you can do this job is very cool….” That theme resonated with others in the group.

David Reimer, MPIA ’85, Deputy Director of the Office of East African Affairs at the State Department, agreed: “One of my friends mentioned to me, ‘Boy, in the State Department they really give you a lot of responsibility at a young age. I mean they just dump it on you and it’s kind of sink or swim.’ That’s one of the things I really appreciate. I recall one time I was listening to some recruiters for NGOs talking to college students, they were saying that when you come work for them you get to influence policymakers and influence a decision. I was thinking, ‘yes, but if you come work for us, you get to make the decision!’ I’d rather be the one making the decision than trying to influence it.”

Kevin Newak, MPIA ’09, an analyst at the Department of Defense, commented: “I’ve been at my agency for a year and a half now but mostly I’ve been doing training, trying to prepare for my role as an analyst. They encourage professional development.” Tom Short, MPIA ’78, Assistant Director, Strategic Issues at the GAO, noted that in his job he has loved “the opportunities to take responsibility. Once you build a level of trust you have a lot of flexibility in what you can do and you have a forum where you can lay out your ideas or thoughts and have them listened to. That has kept me here.”

Another theme that emerged was that our federal alumni are generally very impressed with their colleagues. Amanda Krause, MPIA ’07, Analyst, Natural Resources and Environment at the GAO, said that for all the talk about lazy federal employees, her experience in government has been that “people are incredibly passionate and hardworking. And around you every day you just see people that truly care so much about their job and put in much more than forty hours per week. You see people carrying work home with them every night. And it may not be because they have to, it’s just really because they keep wanting to learn more about it, or get the job done.” Terry Blatt, MPIA ’82, Branch Chief, U.S. Department of State, commented: “I have worked with some of the most gifted people all over the world. Federal workers are some of the most dedicated, talented and laudable people I have ever met.” Blatt added that when Congress furloughed federal employees for a week in the mid-1990’s, “we had

“Once you build a level of trust you have a lot of flexibility in what you can do and you have a forum where you can lay out your ideas or thoughts and have them listened to. That has kept me here.”
no authority to work from Congress; however, thousands of federal employees did go to work. They were so dedicated to their mission, they wanted to get their work done."

Yet another refrain was that, despite the image of the bureaucrat tediously pushing paper, the work of our federal alumni is usually challenging and compelling. Kay Brown, MPA ’84, Director of Education, Workforce and Income Security at the GAO, noted: “There are lots of really complex problems in the world and the federal government has to deal with all of them. Things change and the government has to respond to that. I would like to dispel the myth that nothing ever happens—that it’s a stodgy, bureaucratic place to work. We’ve been under constant change for years. When the economy goes south, or we need to deal with a war, or a crisis in the financial system, we are the ones who have to figure out what to do with it.” Amanda Krause added: “I started my job thinking ‘Well, this is it, the rest of my life. I’m in a boring office, sitting in a cubicle, no windows. Wow, it is going to be really dull.’ And it’s so far from the truth. Every day is different and the skill set is really diverse. I’m being pushed in my oral communication skills, writing skills, team work, working independently, working out in the field with people, going out into rural areas and trying to interview people. It’s been a really good surprise. There may be boring days once in a while, but I’d say nineteen out of twenty days in a month are really exciting.”

“It is fascinating work,” said David Reimer, “and it constantly changes. I have worked in Washington and overseas in places as diverse as Haiti and Switzerland. For my next assignment I am off to Baghdad to head a unit in our embassy that handles refugee and migration affairs. We have a large program where we are resettling in the United States people who have worked for us who are in danger, particularly interpreters. It is going to be a huge challenge, but it is one we feel we have a large responsibility to work on and help solve.”

Mckayla Braden, MPIA’76, Senior Advisor, Bureau of the Public Debt at the Department of the Treasury, summed up her experience as follows: “The biggest thing is you have to be flexible, you have to be willing to do whatever it takes. I’ve gone from being a financial officer to being a public affairs officer. I think that’s the exciting part of the job—being able to do all different kinds of things.”

“The overwhelming majority of federal workers I have known chose federal service because they wanted to change the world,” commented Terry Blatt. “We joke that we don’t work for pay, we work for change.”

One last theme on which all of our federal alumni agreed was that a unique satisfaction of the job was the service dimension. “A surprising and deeply meaningful thing I learned on my first day as a public servant,” Terry Blatt noted, “is that every federal employee takes the same oath of office as the president of the U.S., to support and defend the constitution. Our obligation lies to the American people and the constitution.”

David Reimer seconded this point: “The longer you are here, the more important that sense of service to your country becomes. I am always proud that I work for the American people—and it is one of the things that motivates me in my job.”

The U.S. Office of Personnel Management has selected three recent GSPIA graduates, Lauren Ackerman (MPIA) pictured left, Amelia MacRae (MPA) in center and LJ Ulrich (MPIA) on right, as finalists in the PMF program. The prestigious program offers a two-year paid government fellowship to the best advanced degree candidates and encourages development of leadership capabilities as well as a spirit of public service.

Next Class of Government Leaders:
Three from GSPIA Named Finalists in 2011 Presidential Management Fellows (PMF) Competition

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My personal endeavors had all been in public service, from being a Peace Corps volunteer to an immigration caseworker, to an economic and small business policy aide to former United States Senator Russ Feingold (D-WI). My work for Senator Feingold helped immigrants and citizens navigate the immigration and visa process and get administered by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services faster. In Washington D.C., I handled economic and small business policy issues during the recession and helped small businesses get back on their feet. Being an advocate and trying to assist others in difficult times left a lasting impression on me.

GSPIA does a great job in preparing people for careers in public service, through the coursework and the numerous Centers of Excellence. I personally find the Leadership Portfolio Program to be wonderful because it connects organizations in Pittsburgh with students who can gain a year of work experience. It gives students a chance to learn and understand how a nonprofit operates and also gives students a chance to connect school to the real world.
Stephanie Lillegard

While serving in the Peace Corps as a Youth Development volunteer in Shepetivka, Ukraine, I developed the belief that sustainable development projects with ongoing returns are hallmarks of responsible service. The best way to serve a community is to teach those in need how to use the resources available to them. Serving one’s community becomes an opportunity to improve the human condition and make a difference by serving others, your country and humankind.

I was drawn to GSPIA because it offered a Master’s degree in International Development and a focus on non-governmental organizations and civil society. Having the opportunity to tailor my education to Eastern Europe and Central Asia will allow me to apply knowledge from classes of interest. GSPIA is equipping me with a theoretical education, as well as important technical skills, that will prepare me for a public service career. The experienced professors and tailored curriculum are essential in building a foundation for future success. My time with the Peace Corps broadened my view of the world while concentrating on my interests and GSPIA is preparing me with real skills to pursue those interests.

Michael Busovicki

I believe that selfless service is the best way to pay respect to people that have made your way of life possible. In the Army, I developed a sense of achievement, belonging and satisfaction because it requires the use of all your skills, creativity and life experiences to accomplish your mission. The challenges inherent to military life brought direction, focus and the sense of duty and loyalty that doesn’t come off with the uniform. I work as a veteran’s advocate with the Adjutant General’s Office, where I interact with veterans and their families facing the difficulties of transitioning back into the civilian world.

My experiences at GSPIA have improved my abilities to evaluate policy solutions and to understand the interaction and impact of different levels of government. Professionally, I am in contact with local, state and federal agencies on a daily basis. I also look forward to future workshops because government agencies continuously have to find new ways to operate in an increasingly stringent economic environment. Whenever challenges arise, I’m happy to have had the experience and knowledge gained at GSPIA.

My experiences at GSPIA are helping to broaden my view of local government, not only in Southwestern Pennsylvania, but in other municipalities around the country facing similar challenges. — Mark Romito
Near the Kubuqi desert of Inner Mongolia, harsh winds, blowing sand, and drifting dunes have reduced once-arable lands to dust. Crops and herds struggle, as do the farmers who depend on them for fuel and food. Farther away, the blowing sand and dust combine with other particulate matter. This infamous “yellow dust,” or “yellow dragon” as some have called it, is carried by fierce winds and invades homes, schools, businesses and the respiratory systems of residents as far away as China, the Republic of Korea and Japan.

by Jean Hale
This tenacious force of nature in the desert is relentless, but so too is the effort of one individual to combat desertification and restore grasslands in this remote region. Byong Hyon Kwon, MPIA ’68, former Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to China (see Alumni Awards on page 12), brings his own force to bear in the desert. Committed to reversing the negative effects of not only nature but man—overgrazing has compounded the problem—Kwon has spent the past ten years as the head of Future Forest, a nongovernmental organization that is working to save the earth through environmental activities with an emphasis on reforestation in the Kubuqi desert in China. Through relationships—or as the Chinese refer to it, guanxi—developed during the course of his diplomatic career, Kwon has garnered support for his cause from government officials throughout the country.

In partnership with the Chinese Youth League, Future Forest organizes its annual “Green Corps,” made up of the best and brightest students from the Republic of Korea and China. For each of the last ten years, members of the Green Corps have labored together in the Kubuqi desert to improve the lives of people who live near the desert as well as those who live in the path of the yellow dust.

This past April, Jean Hale—Director of Alumni Relations and Development at GSPIA—traveled to Beijing and Inner Mongolia at Kwon’s invitation. Also making the trip were Mark Collins, Coordinator of Pitt’s Environmental Studies Program in the Department of Geology and Planetary Sciences; undergraduate students Amanda Berry, Nikki Luke, and Isaac Fisher; and GSPIA students Richa Pokhrel and Matt Clements. The Pitt team was the first group of Americans to serve as honorary members of the Green Corps.

After landing in Beijing, the group was welcomed by Kwon, his wife, and their son, John, Coordinator for Future Forest, as well as the 114 newest members of the Green Corps. They traveled by train from Beijing to Baotau (Inner Mongolia) and from Baotau by bus to the city of Erdos. The Pitt team

Jean Hale’s “Perspective”

The initial view of the vast desert inspired both awe and a nagging sense of futility: a rational mind cannot help but wonder what good a few trees and bushes will do in the face of such unrelenting wind and immense stretch of sand.

Futility quickly gave way to hope as we hiked in the desert and saw real signs of spring on the thousands of willows, poplars, and other species planted in previous years by Future Forest. Hope turned to motivation as we wrapped our gloved hands around a shovel, dug a hole in the sand, and gently placed the root ball of a 4-foot pine in its new home. Motivation turned to confidence as we realized that the sand isn’t as formidable a place to grow as you might think: only a few inches below the surface, the sand is cool and moist, ensuring that the pine will have a fighting chance at survival, as so many previous plantings have proven.

This was an amazing opportunity to see first-hand an example—one of thousands—of the important work done by the worldwide community of GSPIA alumni. While the conditions were challenging for us, the sand and wind are constant companions of those who live in Inner Mongolia. We experienced the unique culture and environment of the area through the guidance of our new friends who helped us overcome the language barrier with smiles.

We hope that in some small way, our three days in the desert made a difference in the lives of others. And somewhere in the Kubuqi desert, a new species grows—the Pitt Panther Pine!

My deepest appreciation is extended to Ambassador Kwon, Mrs. Kwon, John Kwon, Sung-Gil, and all our new friends at Future Forest for your hospitality and for the privilege of being part of the Green Corps. Thank you to Ambassador Kwon, Dean Keeler and the University of Pittsburgh Honors College for making this trip possible!
When I knew I was going to join Future Forest on its 10th Anniversary, I tried really hard not to have any expectations on what the trip would be like. Beijing, where we arrived, didn’t appear much different than other sprawling cities; however, the next day, we traveled by night train to Inner Mongolia, which is unlike anything I have ever seen!

Even having traveled to other Asian countries, I have never experienced a dry and bare landscape. Looking out over the Kubuqi desert was breathtaking; I didn’t think I would ever consider a desert to be beautiful. On our first day, we visited local farms and hiked the dunes. Then, we worked on sand fixation, essentially laying out a grid to plant our trees in. Our final day in Inner Mongolia, our group, along with the local Chinese community planted trees—one very special tree was planted by the University of Pittsburgh in honor of our institution. Overall, the experience was wonderful!

At GSPIA I had learned of the problem of desertification, but I was unaware of how massive it is. As a future GSPIA alumna, it was incredible to see first-hand what kind of work Ambassador Kwon is doing to halt the progress of the moving sand. I hope that our tree lives for years to come and one day I will be able to go back and see what these efforts have done.
knew of the environmental activities of Future Forest to stabilize the sand and to create a 15 km windbreak in the desert. They had viewed Google images taken before the mass planting efforts and after depicting a vast greening of the desert. They had met Kwon at Pitt’s Homecoming and understood his motivation to tackle the yellow dust at its source, but each person had only a notion of the environment they would encounter.

Six thousand miles from Pittsburgh, Jean and team immersed themselves in the desert for three days, navigating dunes as high as four-story buildings while learning how to shield their eyes, noses and mouths from the blowing sand. They worked side-by-side with members of the Green Corps to bind willow branches and place them in rows to help compact sand and create grids that delineate planting zones. They dug holes, planted trees, carried water buckets and gave the trees their first drink of water in their new home in the desert.

The trip coincided with the 10th Anniversary Celebration of the Green Corps allowing the group to interact with many impacted by the project. Under the fluttering flags of China, the Republic of Korea, and Erdos, were hundreds of people from the local community, local government officials, and officials from Beijing. News media covered the ceremony while children played in the sand.

Kwon has gained credibility by returning to the desert, year after year, and in encouraging members of the local community, some of whom are initially reluctant, to get involved. Through personal commitment, he transforms the lives of those who live on the edge of this vast desert—and those who volunteer alongside him.

Matt Clement’s “Perspective”

My recent experiences in China with GSPIA and Future Forest were some of the most rewarding experiences of my academic career. Given my career interests in Non-Governmental Organizations, community development and the environment, it was incredible to experience first-hand the work that is being done around the world to combat some of the planet’s greatest environmental dilemmas. Meeting Ambassador Kwon and seeing the work of a GSPIA alumnus made me appreciate my education at GSPIA and the opportunities that such an education will provide me in the future.

Embarking on the trip, I didn’t know what to expect from a project that claimed it wanted to plant a billion trees in the middle of the Kubuqi Desert. It was amazing to see exactly how the idea to create a green wall in the middle of the desert, which sounded crazy at the time, could actually be achieved. Equally incredible was gaining an understanding of how the trees planted in China could prevent massive sand storms as far away as South Korea. In the end, seeing how Future Forest approached desertification has made me appreciate ingenuity and the need for unique approaches in solving difficult environmental problems.

In addition to meeting Ambassador Kwon, it was rewarding to interact with representatives from Future Forest and the United Nations Decade for Combating Deserts and Desertification in order to understand the exact work they are undertaking. Through observing their hard work and the international statesmanship that their work entailed, I gained new perspectives and insights into how NGOs function. Meeting dozens of Korean students volunteering with Future Forest’s Green Corp helped me to appreciate and understand their determination as well as the Korean culture in general. Overall, I cannot thank enough those who made this trip a possibility and I will carry this experience with me for many years to come.

Alumni Awards

Recognizing distinguished individuals whose outstanding professional accomplishments bring honor to GSPIA and make them inspired role models to students.

Byong Hyon Kwon, MPIA ’68
Receives Pitt’s 2010 Legacy Laureate Award

During Pitt’s 2010 homecoming festivities, Distinguished GSPIA Alumnus Byong Hyon Kwon, MPIA ’68, received the Legacy Laureate Award—one of the University of Pittsburgh’s most prestigious honors granted to alumni for outstanding personal and professional accomplishments.

“I am honored to be invited to my old campus where I studied 40 some years ago,” Kwon said as he accepted the award.

Kwon, who earned a master’s degree in public and international affairs from GSPIA, has served in a series of diplomatic postings during the past four decades. He has earned numerous awards and decorations working in Australia, China, Japan, Myanmar and the United States.

Most notable, Kwon was the Republic of Korea’s Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the People’s Republic of China at a time when there was a marked warming in relations between the two countries.

He continues to foster strong relations between

From left: Provost Patricia Beeson, Byong Hyon Kwon, Dean John Keeler and Chancellor Mark Nordenberg.
the Republic of Korea and China by serving as the chair of the Korea-China Economic Development Association and working toward the elimination of land degradation and desertification in China.

As the Founder and President of Future Forest, a non-governmental organization, Kwon is helping to raise awareness and addresses the challenges posed by desertification. Through a major reforestation project, the planting of the Korea-China Friendship Great Green Wall (described in the article on pages 8-11), the organization aims to “tame the Yellow Dragon”—the notorious dust storms from China’s deserts.

As a result of these efforts, Kwon was named the inaugural Sustainable Land Management Champion and Greening Ambassador for the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification.

Kwon also is committed to higher education and has been honored by serving as Invited Eminent Professor at Myongji University in the Republic of Korea and as Professor Emeritus at Luoyang Institute of Science and Technology in China. At Pitt, he is a member of the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs’ (GSPIA) Board of Visitors and has made generous gifts to create the Korean Alumni Endowment.


Dr. Kathleen Connell, MPIA ’71
Receives Distinguished Alumna Award

Dr. Kathleen Connell was the first female, elected twice, as California State Controller and served as the state’s Chief Financial Officer. As CFO, Connell managed a $100 billion budget, a monthly cash flow of $10-$12 billion, payroll and retirement payments of 400,000 employees, all State accounting functions and audit responsibilities for all State programs, local schools, local governments and federally supported programs.

Connell was the weekly finance columnist for “MoneyWise” in the Christian Science Monitor and her personal finance book entitled, Moving up to Millions: A Life Calculator Guide to Wealth, was published by John Wiley Publication in the fall of 2007.

Connell worked with both Democratic and Republican governors, shrunk the controller office in California reducing taxpayer dollars and carried a bill through the California state legislature allowing women access to state-of-the-art treatment for breast cancer. She also started a reserve called the Ballona Wetlands near Los Angeles and fought for disability rights. Connell previously held positions as the President of a SEC/NASD registered investment banking firm, Vice President and Director of a New York-headquartered money center bank and Chair of the Center for Finance and Real Estate at the ULCA Anderson Graduate School of Management.

General Arthur E. Brown, MPIA ’65
Receives Distinguished Alumnus Award

After graduating from GSPIA, General Arthur E. Brown Jr. became Executive Officer to the U.S. Representative, NATO Military Committee in Brussels, where he earned the Joint Service Commendation Medal. Then he went on to earn the Silver Star, the Legion of Merit, the Distinguished Flying Cross (two awards), the Air Medal (10 awards), the Bronze Star Medal for Valor and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry. He worked his way up the ranks from Lieutenant to Four-Star General serving as Vice Chief of Staff of the Army, which earned him both the Defense and Army Distinguished Service Medals. General Brown and his wife, Jerry, accepted this award from GSPIA on October 8.
GSPIA Honors

4 Under 40 Alumni Award Winners

Alumni aged forty years or less, who through professional accomplishments and public service, have demonstrated the potential to become leaders in their chosen area of public and international affairs. This event was held on October 29 at the University Center Holiday Inn.

Elizabeth A. Ramborer, MPIA ’99
Associate Director with Arabella Philanthropic Investment Advisors.
“This award is an honor and at the same time validating. GSPIA prepared me well.”

Alison Bonebrake, MPIA ’99
Legislative Assistant to U.S. Senator John F. Kerry in Washington, D.C.
“What I learned at GSPIA provided me with a strong foundation for my career.”

Benjamin Howe, MPIA ’98
Senior Management Analyst in the Office of Inspector General with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs in Bedford, Mass.
“During my time at GSPIA, I met amazing professors, took great classes and met great individuals.”

Eric Hartman, PhD ’08
Lecturer in Global Studies at Arizona State University in Tempe.

Dean John Keeler (left) pictured with award winners: Benjamin Howe, Alison Bonebrake and Elizabeth Ramborger.
School News

Dean Keeler Elected President of APSIA

In May 2011, GSPIA Dean John Keeler was elected to a two-year term as president of APSIA (the Association of Professional Schools of International Affairs). He actually began serving as president in December 2010 when, as APSIA vice president, he succeeded President Brian Atwood (Dean of the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota), who left his academic position to become Chair of the Development Assistance Committee of the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development in Paris.

APSIA is comprised of 34 member schools and more than 30 affiliate schools in North America, Asia and Europe. All are dedicated to the promotion of excellence in professional, international affairs education worldwide by sharing information and ideas among member schools and with other higher education institutions, the international affairs community, and the general public. The full members of APSIA include the highest ranked professional schools of international affairs in their respective countries.

GSPIA Hosts First Annual Korean-American Public Management Conference

On November 12, GSPIA hosted the first annual Korean-American Public Management Conference in collaboration with Seoul National University’s Graduate School of Public Administration (GSPA). The previous June, the two schools signed an agreement making this a yearly event; the next conference will be hosted by GSPA in Seoul. The theme of this year’s conference was “New Research Directions for Globalized Public Management.” The Seoul National University delegation was led by Dr. Shin Bok Kim, a GSPIA alumnus who is a former dean of GSPA and current Provost of SNU.
Dr. Leon Haley publishes biography on General Roscoe Robinson

Dr. Leon Haley, GSPIA faculty member and Professor Emeritus, recently released a book entitled, *The Quiet One*. It is a biography of Roscoe Robinson Jr. who became the first African American to earn the rank of Four-Star General in the U.S. Army.

Haley’s book covers Robinson’s acceptance to West Point Academy, his involvement with the Vietnam War, his years as a graduate student at GSPIA, his retirement and his death from leukemia in 1993.

“I tried to put Robinson’s life in a historical, social and economic context,” Haley said. “To write the book I did a lot of historical research about the time in which Roscoe lived. I personally interviewed his widow, son, daughter and sister, along with 14 or 15 people who served with him. I had wonderful access to Roscoe’s papers at the Library of Congress and listened to Roscoe’s own oral history that he recorded with the Army War College.”

“I became so fascinated the more I got to know the man,” Haley said. “The research really became a journey of love.”

“When Robinson eventually became the commander of the 82nd Airborne Division, an elite appointment, his character and his ability to maintain his identity with the soldiers never diminished his command or leadership ability,” Haley said. “It meant Robinson was approachable and close to his men.”

In November, Dr. Leon Haley read excerpts from his book as part of the Roscoe Robinson Jr. Lecture Series made possible through the gift of Professor Emeritus Donald Goldstein who established the General Roscoe Robinson Jr. Memorial Endowment. *The Quiet One* is available for purchase at the University of Pittsburgh bookstore or on Amazon.com.
Johnson Institute Honors Admiral Thad Allen with the 2011 Exemplary Leader Award

Admiral Thad Allen (ret.) has been in attendance at some of the largest and most devastating disasters that the U.S. has faced. Before retiring, Admiral Allen was the Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard where he led recovery efforts following Hurricane Katrina and also led the federal government’s response to the BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. For his leadership during these catastrophes and others, Admiral Allen is the recipient of this year’s Exemplary Leadership Award from the Johnson Institute for Responsible Leadership.

“Each year, we give this award to a person who demonstrates exemplary leadership as well as a commitment to the Johnson Institute’s core values of ethics, accountability and responsibility,” said Dr. Kevin Kearns, director of the Johnson Institute.

A few characteristics of leaders who succeed in a crisis include their ability to discern facts and understand the context. They establish priorities without ignoring long-term goals and solutions. They practice extraordinary communication skills and they effectively delegate, direct and coordinate tasks.

Admiral Allen is highly regarded by both Democrats and Republicans for his leadership, professionalism and integrity. In 2005, he was given full command of Katrina relief efforts and was chosen by President Obama to serve as the National incident Commander for the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill disaster. During that time, Allen managed a volunteer core of 45,000 people. Before retiring at age 61, he served an illustrious career with the U.S. Coast Guard, achieving the rank of Admiral and serving in the highest position, Commandant.

“In general, we’re dealing with a more complicated world that presents greater vulnerabilities,” Admiral Allen said. “We now have more people, and greater concentrations of them, living in coastal areas and large cities. We simply have more people at risk. We’re dealing with important challenges like climate change and global trade.”

“We will never have a disaster in this country, ever again, that does not involve the public,” Admiral Allen said. “They bring resources, passion and commitment to the cause. We must find outlets to bring these groups into our response.”

A third societal shift that has changed the way leaders manage a crisis includes the gamut of threats and other issues that do not have any notion of political boundaries.

“We’re talking about weather, germs, and data packages,” Admiral Allen said. “And the global commons are more challenging to manage than ever. These involve space, the internet and the ocean.”

“Our goal ought to be to interrupt the supply chain of trouble,” he said. “We can change regulatory systems for offshore drilling or raise safety standards for highway driving, but we can’t prevent everything from happening.”

Given this viewpoint of leadership, it is imperative that students of public policy learn basic skills and competencies that allow them to function at an optimal level against an unknown event.

“We need to create people who are going to be leaders of consequence when they’re called on to perform. Great leaders are great learners. You become a better leader by being a better person and you become a better person by being a better learner,” said Admiral Allen.

Admiral Allen’s methodology for responding to a crisis involves creating a mental model of what the problem is, correctly assessing what needs to be done and giving directions accordingly. Making decisions with a specific methodology equips leaders to explain their response process afterward, even if the outcome was not wholly successful.

“There’s a duty being placed on us to become bigger than we are,” Admiral Allen said. “The best definition of leadership that I know is that it is the ability to reconcile opportunity and competency.”

The Johnson Institute enhances professional and institutional ethics and accountability in public leadership through teaching, research, hands-on training programs and the annual Exemplary Leadership Award ceremony. For more information, visit www.johnsoninstitute-gspia.org.

From left: Kevin Kearns, Johnson Institute director; LaVonne Johnson, philanthropist and benefactor of the Johnson Institute; Admiral Thad Allen and former Pennsylvania Governor Dick Thornburgh.
GSPIA is pleased to announce the establishment of the Center for Metropolitan Studies (CMS). Formerly known as the Innovation Clinic at GSPIA, the new name more accurately reflects the work presently underway at the Center.

“Over the past several years, our efforts have become more focused on addressing the problems and opportunities associated with the governing of metropolitan areas,” said David Miller, director of the Center. “We expect to even further concentrate our energies on this important policy arena.”

Currently, the CMS houses the Congress of Neighboring Communities (CONNECT), an initiative that engages the City of Pittsburgh and the 35 municipalities that border it and share many urban policy issues. The National Database on Innovations in Regional Governance identifies and chronicles new ways metropolitan regions across the United States are responding to public policy problems.

“GSPIA is proud to launch the Center for Metropolitan Studies,” said Dean John Keeler. “Under Dave Miller’s leadership it will enhance our nationally ranked program in urban affairs, provide new opportunities for GSPIA students and facilitate our efforts to contribute to the solution of problems faced by municipalities in Pittsburgh and throughout the country.”

The CMS will also host several lectures by distinguished academics and practitioners of local and regional governance each year as part of the Wherrett Lectures on Local Government and The Changing Nature of Civic Engagement lecture series. Visit www.metrostudies.pitt.edu for additional information.
Center News

Johnson Institute Offers Leadership Portfolio Program

The Johnson Institute for Responsible Leadership is a transformative experience for future leaders at GSPIA. The Institute strives to enhance professional and institutional ethics and accountability in public service and leadership. The Center conducts research, provides leadership training and connects GSPIA students to local and international examples of leadership in action.

Lauren Ackerman, MIPA ’11, is part of the Institute’s prestigious Leadership Portfolio Program (LPP), which is an experience that highly motivated students can complete as an adjunct to their master’s degree curriculum. “Through my work for this program, I had the opportunity to go out into the Pittsburgh community and apply text book principles of leadership to real world experience,” said Ackerman. “The LPP requires students to take selected courses in leadership, complete a community leadership experience, participate in a variety of special leadership seminars and workshops, participate in a leadership book study, and maintain a reflective journal on their leadership style and experiences,” said Dr. Kevin Kearns, GSPIA professor and director of LPP.

Ackerman’s community leadership experience involved a year of service as an ex-officio member of Global Links’ board of directors. Global Links is a Pittsburgh-based nonprofit organization that recovers unused medical supplies, surplus equipment and furnishings from the U.S. healthcare system for distribution to hospitals and clinics that serve the poorest segments of populations in developing countries.

One of Ackerman’s favorite experiences was an event that she hosted with Kathleen Hower, CEO of Global Links and the recipient of the Johnson Institute’s 2010 Exemplary Leadership Award. They offered a group of GSPIA students the opportunity to tour the Global Links warehouse and learn how the organization was created. LPP students also meet regularly with a community mentor to discuss leadership, accountability and career development. Ackerman’s mentor, Robin Orlando, works for the Allegheny County Department of Human Services. Orlando heads the System of Care Initiative, a federally funded community development strategy to improve access to care and facilitate partnerships in the delivery of health services.

“I have learned a lot from her about community consensus building and strategic planning for a public organization,” Ackerman said.

The Johnson Institute influences the lives of students at GSPIA by bringing highly sought-after speakers to Pittsburgh, listing course offerings, conducting relevant research, supporting student and faculty research and providing leadership training. More information can be found online at www.johnsoninstitute-gsia.org.
Pittsburgh’s neighborhoods, municipalities and boroughs create great value for the region, but also create challenges for cooperative governance across the metropolitan area. GSPIA’s Center for Metropolitan Studies (CMS), through its Congress of Neighboring Communities (CONNECT), brings together the 35 distinct communities that share a border with the City of Pittsburgh to coordinate collective activities and address common public policy issues like sewer infrastructure and transit.

The CMS initiated and led the development of CONNECT and became an official forum for local government cooperation within Allegheny County in 2009. Today, CONNECT continues to develop the ways in which municipalities work together to deliver public services. CONNECT facilitates the discussion, deliberation and implementation of new ways to maximize economic prosperity for Western Pennsylvania.

CONNECT has also served to strengthen an important network of GSPIA alumni, current students and faculty. Kathy Risko, MPPM ’05 serves as the associate director of CONNECT and works directly with many municipal officials who are GSPIA alumni including David Montz, MPPM ’03 (manager, Green Tree) and George Zboyovsky, MPIA/MBA ’00 (manager, Brentwood).

“CONNECT’s interns are entrusted with direct responsibility and have multiple opportunities to share their findings with local decision-makers who serve on various CONNECT committees,” said Betty Cruz, MPA ’11. CONNECT intern Jim Price, MID ’11, worked to help solve the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) funding crisis that the 16 local service providers are facing.

Katie Hale, MPA ’10, found her current job as Bellevue Borough’s assistant manager through the work she did with CONNECT. “The borough manager, solicitor and council president all met through their work with CONNECT; the true effect of CONNECT has had a profound impact on Bellevue.”

The CMS is also leading a nationwide effort to document the most dramatic and creative approaches to the shifting focus of governance from the single unit to the collaborative regional entity through the creation of a National Database of innovations in Regional Governance. The Center is also conducting research, through the Infrastructure and Logistics Program on the types of policies, laws, regulations, institutions, strategic planning and investments needed to make logistics corridors work efficiently.

The CMS projects intersect at the Center’s mission to advance innovations in the governing of metropolitan regions that improve the quality of life in urban regions and the expertise of our students in public service wherever their careers take them.
Center for Disaster Management Analyzes “Black Swan” Event in Northeast Japan

At GSPIA, the Center for Disaster Management (CDM) is helping students to understand the local and international responses to the March 11, 9.0 earthquake in Japan. The earthquake is part of an unlikely “black swan event” triggering a tsunami that subsequently caused serious damage to a set of nuclear reactors in Japan.

On April 1, the CDM convened a multidisciplinary panel of experts to discuss the recent events in Japan. The panel of experts came together to analyze some of the key challenges involved with recovering from such a tragedy.

“Victims organized themselves to set up evacuation centers, taking the place of local governments that had been crippled by the events,” said Okada. “Consumer cooperatives and local citizens have partnered with larger organizations to do the relief work.” This kind of collaboration raises questions and the CDM looks at these facts to understand the factors that contribute to self-organizing efforts and partnerships between NGOs and local communities for other contexts.

This disaster “will set Japan back by five years in its economic recovery, and as a result of the disaster, Japan’s international politics have been changing. There is a lot of historical tension with Japan’s immediate neighbors, but with this particular disaster those immediate neighbors were the very first ones to respond to Japan’s needs, and Japan very graciously accepted their support,” said Dr. Muge Finkel, assistant professor at GSPIA.

Experts Dr. Larry Foulke, adjunct professor at Pitt’s School of Engineering and Paul Scheinert, advisory engineer for Bettis Laboratory, shared some of the fundamentals about nuclear reactor design to help policy students appreciate the technical points of failure that triggered loss of power in the plant. Without adequate cooling, the fuel rods in the reactors overheated, releasing radioactive steam into the atmosphere.

The situation caused a third risk for the population in the region who had survived both the earthquake and the tsunami. Finally, Atsunori Nakao, MD, a member of the Tokusyuukai Medical Assistance Team from Pitt’s School of Medicine, went to Japan to provide immediate medical response after the disaster.

The panel represents the type of initiative that supports the Center’s mission to educate the next generation of researchers, analysts, policy makers and professional managers in disaster management-related disciplines. CDM seeks to develop a world-class program of innovative knowledge generation and to enhance the quality of the educational experience for GSPIA’s graduate and professional students.
Ridgway Center Hosts Conference on Violent Armed Groups

The Matthew B. Ridgway Center and the U.S. Army War College brought a group of leading security experts to Pittsburgh last fall to participate in the“Violent Armed Groups: A Global Challenge” conference. It focused on the different forms that violent armed groups are taking and the implications these groups and their activities have for security and stability in many parts of the world.

“Criminal groups have demonstrated the ability to destabilize governments. In this way, they represent insurgency threats as well and they present us with a multilateral challenge because of their international scope,” said Doug Lovelace, director of the Strategic Studies Institute at the U.S. Army War College.

Dr. Phil Williams, director of the Matthew B. Ridgway Center for International Security Studies said, “The purpose of this conference is to examine the rise of a wide variety of armed groups around the world, recognize key characteristics of these groups, and consider the implications for U.S. strategy and doctrine. We are talking about groups such as the Taliban in Afghanistan, the FARC in Colombia, Somali Pirates, Mexican drug trafficking organizations and youth gangs.

More than twenty experts and two keynote speakers addressed conference members about new and emerging realities. Dr. Williams’ capstone class students had the opportunity to interview these experts in security and intelligence studies.

David Akers and Vivek Kocharlakota, both MPIA ’11, interviewed former ABC news correspondent Gretchen Peters, who is known for her book, Seeds of Terror, which explores how the opium trade funds the Taliban and al-Qaeda.

Danielle Vinciguerra and Emily Markham, both MPIA ’11, interviewed Dr. Jenifer Hazen, a Postdoctoral Fellow at the LBJ School of Public Affairs at the University of Austin. Alexandra Mace and Wes Heinkel, both MPIA ’10, interviewed Dr. Jeffrey Bale, the director of the Monterey Terrorism Research and Education Program at the Monterey Institute of International Studies. John Pino, MPIA ’11, explains what he learned at the conference, “The VNSA conference was instrumental in my understanding of the variety and depth of the study of violent, non-state actors. All of the experts in attendance had different opinions, experiences and research areas of expertise, all of which provided for a rich debate.

I appreciated the intense dialogue. The lack of a consensus signals the importance of the issue.”
Ford Institute Lights Up Over Ideas in Action

“The Ford Institute encourages students to ask big, important questions and do the hard analytical research to find answers. With these skills, our graduates think critically and creatively about the difficult policy issues we face today.” – Taylor Seybolt

SPIA’s Ford Institute for Human Security has flourished under the leadership of Human Security expert, Professor Taylor Seybolt. During the past academic year, the Institute presented 11 guest speakers, screened three documentary films and hosted John Prendergast as a Visiting Fellow for two weeks during the spring term. The events highlighted examples of how ideas and research can be transformed into action and gave students an opportunity to connect with successful practitioners in the human security field.

Professor Seybolt, director of the Ford Institute, noted that the Center’s research and activities draw participants from many different departments and academic areas. “The human security field requires that we build a bridge across disciplines,” Seybolt said. “Our speakers have helped us to look at the protection of people from large-scale threats to their physical and economic well being from a broad perspective. But our exploration of ideas in action has focused our discussion and research on pragmatic approaches to policy-making and conflict resolution.”

One example of how the Ford Institute pays special attention to the process involved with turning an idea into action includes Sarah Holewinski’s February lecture “Responsibility of Warring Parties to Make Amends to Civilians.” Holewinski is the executive director of CIVIC: Campaign for Innocent Victims in Conflict, an NGO whose mission is to be the voice for war victims.

“Sarah Holewinski’s idea is that militaries abiding by international humanitarian law are required to not harm civilians. Yet in reality, they do cause harm through collateral damage,” Seybolt said. “CIVIC argues that militaries must make a payment to the affected families,” Seybolt said. To date, CIVIC has managed to convince every country in NATO to agree to this principle. Armies in Afghanistan, Iraq and elsewhere have been following through, and they have been promoting a norm of states’ responsibilities to individuals that goes well beyond what international law actually contains.

The mission of the Ford Institute for Human Security is to promote effective responses to severe threats faced by individuals and their communities as a result of conflict and deprivation. It conducts research on the causes and consequences of political violence and economic underdevelopment and works to advance the idea that governments have a sovereign responsibility to protect their people. The speaker series has been useful for understanding these concepts from different points of view. Throughout the past year, the Ford Institute has invited practitioners from civil society, like Holewinski, and also legal experts, and religious experts to examine peace and conflict resolution in the context of Islam and education experts to look at the relationship between educational attainment, economic strata and attitudes about suicide bombing. ☞
In January 2011, GSPIA co-sponsored its second International Political Economy Colloquium (IPEC): “Globalization and the Politics of Poverty and Inequality” in Bangalore, India. Renowned scholars not only presented their research at the conference, but they also came face to face with the causes and possible consequences of their academic findings by gathering in a place that intimately understands the challenges of growth and welfare distribution.

The Colloquium took place at the Indian Institute of Management in Bangalore and was co-sponsored by GSPIA and The Leitner Program in International and Comparative Political Economy from Yale University. Some of the schools represented included the Harvard Business School, Stanford University, the Institute for Social and Economic Change in India, Georgetown University and the University of Texas.

“The scholars came to India with an interest in how the world economy is influencing patterns of poverty and inequality in the developing world,” Dean John Keeler said. “Participants from all schools demonstrated an important investment in their work, particularly as we saw it playing out on the streets of such a rapidly growing country.”

Nita Rudra, associate professor of International Political Economy from GSPIA, presented a paper that she co-authored with Siddharth Joshi from the Indian Institute of Management. The paper, “Good for the Goose, Bad for the Flock?” examines the effects of foreign direct investment (FDI) on the wellbeing of the poor through an analysis of the impacts of FDI on access to potable water.

Another scholar, Thad Dunning, associate professor of political science from Yale University, presented a paper that he co-authored with Janhavi Nilekani from the JFK School of Government at Harvard University. Entitled “Caste, Political Parties, and Distribution in Indian Village Councils,” the paper examines the effects of electoral quotas for marginalized castes and women in Indian village councils. The results of their research point to the importance of broad political coalitions in shaping the distributive impact of caste-based quotas.

Paper presenters received feedback from both India and US-based experts on poverty to incorporate diverse perspectives and to set the stage for future dialogue. The conference papers from the first IPEC gathering have been published as a collection in a book. The hope is that the papers from the most recent conference will be published in leading peer-reviewed research journals in the near future as well.

GSPIA Co-Sponsors International Colloquium in Bangalore, India

From left: Rajeev Gowda, Indian Institute of Management Bangalore; Janhavi Nilekani, Harvard University; Nita Rudra and Dean Keeler, GSPIA; and Kenneth Scheve, Yale University.
The Philanthropy Forum at GSPIA created a star lineup of speakers for the 2010-2011 school year. Students and community members heard presentations from and dialogued with Margaret McKenna, president of the Walmart Foundation; Leslie Crutchfield, coauthor of “Forces for Good: The Six Practices of High-Impact Nonprofits,” and Gara LaMarche, president and CEO of Atlantic Philanthropies.

“Our guest lecturers form part of an ongoing speaker series sponsored by the Philanthropy Forum,” said Kathleen Buechel, director of the forum, senior lecturer at GSPIA and former president of the ALCOA Foundation. “We’re interested in understanding the concept and practice of philanthropy in uncertain economic times. Pittsburgh has a rich history of philanthropic initiatives, and the city provides a stimulating backdrop for our research and presentations from field experts.”

In January, the president of the Walmart Foundation, Margaret McKenna, shed light on key topics like strategy, collaboration and volunteerism in the charitable sector.

“Philanthropic money should build capacity, create sustainable change, and make people’s lives better,” McKenna said. “But we cannot make a dent in our problems if we try to do it ourselves. We have to find ways to work together.” The Walmart Foundation’s grant-giving process focuses on a collaborative effort with the organizations they fund. Together, McKenna said, the Walmart Foundation and the organization partner to find the best solutions to create positive social change.

In December, Crutchfield, a leading authority on scaling social innovation and high-impact philanthropy, discussed the numerous ways that funders can extend the reach and impact of their giving.

“Catalytic donors find ways to create impact far beyond the checks they write. This is what allows smaller donors to have just as much impact as the billionaires who rank above them in terms of amount given,” she said. Crutchfield recommended that donors work with government to advocate for change; blend profit with purpose by harnessing market forces; forge nonprofit networks; work with civil society; lead adaptively, and learn to create change over time.

In April, Gara LaMarche, president and CEO of Atlantic Philanthropies, discussed the importance of persistence in philanthropy. He used his organization’s work to influence human rights and health issues in the U.S. and South Africa to demonstrate his point.

“Persistence is about not losing sight of the goal over a long period of time,” LaMarche said. “It takes time to achieve reform in the U.S. and improve access to retroviral drug therapies in South Africa. You need to empower people to take responsibility for their lives.”

The Atlantic Philanthropies is an international grant-making foundation dedicated to bringing about lasting changes in the lives of the disadvantaged by focusing on four areas of social challenges: aging, children and youth, population health, and reconciliation and human rights.

“These speakers gave GSPIA students and also the Pittsburgh community a rare opportunity to interact with people whose lifelong work has the possibility to remake the playbook for philanthropy,” said Buechel. “I believe the lecture series has brought a new dimension of learning to the school.”

GSPIA’s Philanthropy Forum offers a university-based setting to explore the history and future of philanthropy. Through teaching, practice-based research and exchange with practitioners and thought leaders, GSPIA’s Philanthropy Forum examines the innovations and implications arising from the field. The Forum highlights philanthropic advances originated in Pittsburgh, tapping the city’s rich philanthropic tradition as a learning laboratory to understand past progress, current practice and future developments. Core activities of the Forum include: a graduate level course on philanthropy and society; case studies; teaching tools and research developed from applied knowledge; a speaker’s series; and, additional outreach and engagement.
International Learning from International Leaders: A Year in Geneva
By Cathleen Marcks, MPIA ’11

This past year, I attended the University of Geneva as a part of the Masters in Public and International Affairs (MPIA), GSPIA and International Organizations Master of Business Administration (IOMBA) joint degree program.

The IOMBA program is an intensive, ten-month academic program and a three-month internship experience. The academic component of IOMBA has a unique structure with courses taught by faculty members from across the world, as well as practitioners from global organizations. Courses are taught in short, intensive modules during which content is delivered through a diverse mix of lectures, case studies and field research.

In addition to business and management skills, the IOMBA program focuses on teamwork and the cultural understanding necessary for organizations that operate globally.

IOMBA seeks to model the environment of international organizations, which therefore places students in small groups with diverse backgrounds, interests, nationalities and native languages. The groups are then forced to balance personality, cultural and language differences in order to accomplish tasks similar to those faced daily within international organizations.

The cultural dynamics of IOMBA are incredible and the program mirrors the challenges of an international environment. My IOMBA class contained 40 students who represented 22 nationalities! Through the coursework at IOMBA, I was able to meet and work with international organizations, nonprofits and foundations.

While in Geneva, I gained experience in social entrepreneurship through an internship with a Geneva-based foundation. After that, I interned with the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in Paris, France. My ability to succeed in these positions is rooted from the knowledge that I gained through my studies. GSPIA gave me research skills and a thorough understanding of international affairs theory and IOMBA provided me with international business skills and exposure to practitioners in the international sector.

I am excited to take what I have learned from my time at GSPIA and IOMBA and apply it to making a difference in the world. I am currently working for a large private sector international organization and plan to pursue opportunities in corporate social responsibility and sustainability in the near future.
Last summer, I had the privilege of completing two internship programs: working in the D.C. office of Senator John D. Rockefeller IV (D-WV) and participating in the EU Studies Summer Program through the University of Washington-Seattle in Brussels, Belgium.

In Washington, D.C., I completed a month-long internship in Senator Rockefeller’s personal office, which included a week-long stint in the Senate Commerce Committee. While in the Senate, I worked alongside the senator’s office staff organizing legal documents, compiling weekly foreign affairs reports and running correspondence to the Senate floor and between personal offices. Learning from the different backgrounds and experiences of the Senator’s office staff was instrumental in shaping my views of the diverse nature of the politics within Senate office and a microcosm of politics within the Senate. I enjoyed attending committee meetings, taking notes on high level testimonies from the likes of Secretaries Clinton, Gates, and Chu to Senators Kerry, McCain, Levin, Schumer, Lieberman and Collins. Working with the Commerce Committee provided excellent exposure to senators and their staffs, as well as inside knowledge of the oversight process that Congress provides for the Executive and Judicial branches.

Socially and intellectually, D.C. is a dynamic place to live with its museums, concerts, protests, World Cup, etc. Justice Kagan’s confirmation hearings, the replacement of General McChrystal with General Petraeus in Afghanistan and the death of Senator Robert Byrd (D-WV), all made my experience in the Senate unforgettable.

In July, I spent the second half of my summer in Brussels, Belgium, studying the European Union (EU). My professional and educational experience in Europe was made possible due to the generous grant I received from GSPIA. The EU Studies Summer Program, sponsored by the University of Washington-Seattle, was a five-week compilation of seminars, EU site visits, classes and travel with a group of 20 undergraduate and graduate-level students. The seminars concerned actual EU institutions, such as the EU Commission, Parliament, Council and Court of Justice. Following seminars, the site visits to each of the EU policy-making bodies were indelible learning experiences because we had one-on-one time with diplomats and career civil servants. This afforded us access to the central operations of the European Union.

Our classes regarding past and present EU policy formulation and actions (i.e., EU climate policy or monetary policy), were taught by a program professor at the Free University of Brussels, where we lived in dormitories. My travel to Luxembourg, the Hague, Normandy, London, and Paris, taught me life lessons that won’t be forgotten.

Having worked in both American and European systems of government, I am capable of comparing the two systems and have an advanced understanding of how policy is generated on both sides of the Atlantic.
To me, Africa is a magical place with its steamy jungles and exotic animals and I have always been drawn there due to the river in Joseph Conrad’s *Heart of Darkness*. So, what better way to spend my summer than by doing an internship with Watoto Wa Baraka Orphanage in Pundamilia Village, Kenya?

My GSPIA coursework prepared me for my internship in Kenya by giving me a solid understanding of the complex problems faced by NGOs in the developing world and it enabled me to view a new culture without simply being a “development tourist.” But as everyone knows, coursework can only take you so far, making my internship invaluable. It allowed me to remove the “us” and “them” labels that we inevitably apply to people and really understand what it means to want to help people.

During my internship, I improved the efficiency and effectiveness of programming, I initiated a new partnership with a local NGO and even though I was exposed to corruption, I gained an understanding of what the magic of Africa really is.

I discovered that children want to be loved no matter what culture, race, or religion. I learned that teenagers will still giggle and flirt and that women will always laugh when a baby does something funny. The magic of Africa is this humanity that we all share, deep down. It becomes a string that binds us all together, despite our myriad differences.

My internship helped bridge the gap between classroom and field so that I am able to apply real people and real stories to the theories and tools that I am learning in my second year at GSPIA. This will enable me to be a more effective development professional and a better servant for humanity.

"Serving Humanity: A Summer in Kenya"

By Emily Tanner, MID ’11

My internship helped bridge the gap between classroom and field so that I am able to apply real people and real stories to the theories and tools that I am learning in my second year at GSPIA.
In the summer of 2010, I was part of an exclusive group of students representing schools from 11 universities including Harvard, Johns Hopkins, Princeton and Georgetown, to take part in the Japan Travel Program for U.S. Future Leaders. Sponsored by The Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership, in collaboration with the Association of Professional Schools of International Affairs [APSIA], our student group met with experts and leaders from Japanese think tanks, policy institutes, businesses, government and nonprofit organizations.

This program is designed to foster a new generation of leaders in the United States who are interested in achieving an enhanced understanding of Japan and its role in global affairs. Our delegation was divided into research subgroups. As part of the international political economy group, I had the opportunity to meet with diplomats at the American Embassy in Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, as well as high ranking representatives from the Bank of Japan, Japan External Trade Organization and with financiers from Mitsubishi UFJ Morgan Stanley.

After learning about Japanese international affairs in Tokyo, we traveled to Hiroshima to visit the memorial site of the A-bomb, where we met a survivor and heard her compelling story. From Hiroshima, we took a bullet train to Kyoto in order to experience traditional Japanese culture. We visited beautiful temples, a Zen garden, and a ryokan, a traditional Japanese inn where we experienced Japanese onsen (hot bath) and enjoyed Japanese cuisine seated on the floor in yukatas (cotton kimono-like robes).

The synthesis of modernity and tradition is a defining characteristic of Japan and this program in its entirety gave me a deeper understanding of the country and its rich culture. The lectures were informative, but it was the combination of the academic lectures, visits to cultural sites and the discussions during the “research day” interviews that made this an exceptionally rewarding learning experience.
Faculty News

Published Authors, Researchers, Presenters, Contributors within Talented GSPIA Faculty

Dr. Nuno Themudo received the 2010 Best Paper on Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Research award for his article, “Gender and the Nonprofit Sector.” His research illustrated a strong correlation between women’s empowerment, volunteerism and the nonprofit sector worldwide. Themudo received the award from the Association of Researchers on Nonprofit Organization and Voluntary Action (ARNOVA) at its conference in Washington, D.C. in November 2010. ARNOVA is the largest association of scholars interested in philanthropy and the nonprofit sector. Themudo was also presented the Donald M. Goldstein Teacher of the Year award during the graduation ceremony on April 28. Read more on page 33.

Mr. Dennis Gormley presented several papers throughout the year at the following conferences including: Nuclear Disarmament: Pipe Dream or Policy Objective, sponsored by Australian National University held in Canberra, Australia; an international conference in Berlin, Germany, sponsored by the International Interdisciplinary Expert Workshop on Arms Control for Robots at Humboldt University; a conference held in Washington D.C., Life after START: New Threats, Different Restraints, sponsored by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and the Nonproliferation Policy Education Center.


Dr. Sera Linardi presented two papers, “Competition as a Savings Incentive: a Field Experiment at a Homeless Shelter” and “Can Relational Contracts Survive Stochastic Interruptions?” at the American Economics Association annual meeting. She was invited to present to the Interdisciplinary Center for Economic Science (ICES) at George Mason University. In addition, Linardi published several articles including: “No Excuses for Good Behavior: Volunteering and the Social Environment” in the Journal of Public Economics and “Prediction Markets: Alternative Mechanisms for Complex Environments with Few Traders” in Management Science.

Dr. Shanti Gamper-Rabindran conducted research on Superfund remediation with her co-PI, Christopher Timmins, with funding from the Environmental Protection Agency. The
research has been published as a National Bureau of Economic Research working paper. A second paper, “Hazardous Waste Cleanup, Neighborhood Gentrification, and Environmental Justice: Evidence from Restricted Access Census Block Data” is forthcoming in the American Economic Review: Papers and Proceedings. She received a $10,000 research grant from the University Center for Social and Urban Studies. Gamper-Rabin dr presented her research on hazardous waste remediation and industry self-regulation at the World Congress of Environmental and Resource Economics, the American Economic Association and the Association of Public Policy and Management meetings. She was also invited to present seminars at Carnegie Mellon University, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Georgetown and Resources for the Future.

Dr. Nita Rudra was awarded a Fulbright-Nehru Senior Research Scholar to conduct research. In January, she held GSPIA’s second International Political Economy Colloquium conference in conjunction with Yale University’s Leitner Program in International & Comparative Political Economy and the Indian Institute of Management in Bangalore, India.

Dr. Annemie Maertens led the development of the Pittsburgh International Trade and Development Seminar Series—a joint undertaking sponsored by the University of Pittsburgh Department Of Economics, GSPIA and Carnegie Mellon University’s Heinz College.


Dr. Phil Williams, Ridgway Center director, hosts conference on violent armed groups (page 22).

Student Awards

2011 Graduation Award Winners

- Caitlin Rice, Dean’s Award
- Shelley Scherer, MPA Division Award
- Anne Marie Toccket, MID Division Award
- Alexandra Mace, MPIA Division Award
- Anne Mulgrave, MPMM Program Award
- Richard Clayton Wukich, Doctoral Program Award
- Joshua Gelman, David E. Oeler Award
- Amelia MacRae and Anne Mulgrave, Gloria Fitzgibbons Memorial Award
- Emily E. Thurston, Sergeant James “Rip” Taylor Memorial Award
- McKenzie S. O’Brien, Lindsay Martin Wood and Emily E. Thurston, Taraknath Das Award

From left: Anne Marie Toccket, Anne Mulgrave, Richard Clayton Wukich, Caitlin Rice, Shelley Scherer and Alexandra Mace.
GSPIA Celebrates 2011 Graduation

The University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public and International Affairs held its 2011 graduation ceremony at Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall and Museum on Thursday, April 28, 2011.
Dr. Kathleen Connell, in her graduation address, challenged students to “find opportunities that expand your perspective, demand full engagement of your intellect, and empower others to achieve their goals.” She shared her version of the “Six i’s” of leadership: innovation, initiative, independence, integrity, introspection and insight. She encouraged students to be creative, risk failure, take time to rest, and establish a reputation for integrity, “the essence of everything successful.” Finally, Connell challenged graduates to “live each day as if it is your singular opportunity to make a difference.”

Since graduating from GSPIA, Connell has achieved recognition in both the public and private sectors. She was the first woman elected Controller (chief financial officer) of the state of California, serving the maximum two terms (1995-2003) allowed by the state constitution. She has taught at UC Berkeley’s Haas Graduate School of Business, where she founded the Corporate Directors Enterprise Center, and at UCLA’s Anderson School of Management, where she was Chair of the Center of Finance and Real Estate. Connell has served on 57 policy boards, worked in investment banking in New York and Los Angeles, and published a weekly finance column. She is currently president of the Connell Group investment advisory firm in Washington, D.C.

Connell is a strong advocate of public higher education. She emphasized to students the value of a GSPIA degree, encouraged them to make donations to the School, and offered a matching pledge to enhance such financial support.

The graduation ceremony also featured the announcement of major awards for GSPIA faculty, staff and students. 2010 Student Cabinet President Ian Young presented the Donald M. Goldstein Teacher of the Year Award to Assistant Professor Nuno Themudo. This is the second time students have selected Themudo for the teaching award and Young described his classes as “an experience everyone appreciates and few forget.” Young presented GSPIA Enrollment Counselor Kelly McDevitt with the Staff of the Year Award for her dedication to students. Young noted that she knows every one of her students by name, always manages to greet them warmly and goes out of her way to help them.

Associate Dean William Dunn presented the endowed awards. Amelia MacRae and Anne Mulgrave received the Gloria Fitzgibbons Memorial Award for women with high scholastic standing and leadership potential. Emily Thurston received the Sergeant James “Rip” Taylor Memorial Award for exemplary public service and academic achievement. Joshua Gelman received the David E. Oeler Award for exceptional work in public information systems. McKenzie O’Brien and Lindsay Wood received the Taraknath Das Award for academic excellence in Asian studies.

Dean John Keeler presented the awards given to the students ranked by the faculty as having the best overall record, as determined by both academic achievement and service to the School, in each of GSPIA’s five degree programs: Alexandra Mace (MPIA), Anne Toccket (MID), Anne Mulgrave (MPPM), Shelley Scherer (MPA), and Richard Wukich (PhD). Keeler then presented the Dean’s Award, for the most distinguished record among all students in the graduating class, to Caitlin Rice (MPIA). In her address to her fellow graduates, Rice encouraged them to use their new skills to change the world. "Never lose the passion that you carry," urged Rice, "and own it proudly every day."

“The world needs you now more than ever,” proclaimed Dr. Kathleen Connell, MPIA ’72, in her address on April 28 to the graduating class of 2011.
In his opening remarks, Mahley reminded graduates, “This school wasn’t named accidently. Donald Stone and other deans, including Dean Keeler, have nurtured it over the years to provide an environment and a curriculum that prepares you students, in a practical sense, to wrestle with increasingly complex and enormously difficult issues of governance.”

Mahley, who served 27 years of active duty in the United States Army until he retired in 1992, stressed the importance of “governance” and the difference between it and “government” noting that government seems to have forgotten what governance is.

In addition to serving as Deputy Assistant Director for Multilateral Affairs of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency and Deputy Director of the Defense Plans Division in the United States Mission to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Mahley taught at the National War College at Ft. McNair and at the United States Military Academy at West Point. Additional words of wisdom for graduates were based on a few principles learned during his career:

First: “There is never a right answer...there are answers that are better or worse.”

Second: “Try to do the very best you can to be balanced. Understand what it is you are emphasizing and promoting.”

Third: “There are times when your job is going to be painful—and then philosophies change.”

Mahley explained that a career in government may not be financially rewarding, but should be rewarding in other ways—including a sense of accomplishment.

“I’m not solely responsible for anything that was improved in the world, but there are some things that if I hadn’t been around, would not have happened,” he noted recalling his participation in the removal of weapons of mass destruction from Libya.
Your time at GSPIA was a unique, personal experience. For many alumni, GSPIA is remembered as the place where they completed a rigorous academic program, where they encountered new ideas, and where they forged friendships to last a lifetime. GSPIA is also remembered for the people—deans, faculty, and staff, past and present—who helped students in ways big and small. Sometimes, that help meant finding financial resources for qualified, motivated students to complete their studies at GSPIA.

Many prospective GSPIA students are eager to embark on their own journeys. For some, it is only possible thanks to the generosity of our donors. Students like LJ Ulrich (see below) and the many other students who have been given an opportunity, thanks to your generosity, to complete their studies at GSPIA. Just recently, two students who received significant and prestigious awards shared the following comments with me:

“I in 2009, LJ Ulrich was a full-time staffer for Senator Jay Rockefeller working on national security, tax and trade policies. It was a position that he enjoyed and it provided great opportunities for networking in the nation’s capital. However, LJ felt it was important to earn his master’s degree so he would be prepared for more complex challenges he hoped to have in future positions. He applied to GSPIA’s Master of Public and International Affairs degree program because of the reputation of the faculty, strength of academic programs, and impressively diverse alumni network.

LJ was offered admission to GSPIA for the fall of 2009. On the strength of his academic and professional credentials, he was

What Does MY GSPIA Mean to You?

Jean M. Hale, Director of Alumni Relations and Development

“Receiving a gift says to me that someone is willing and kind enough to believe in my dream and has given me the resources and opportunities to achieve great things.”
- Rebecca Van Regenmorter, MPA ’11

“Receiving the de Zafra Leadership Fellow Award has afforded me unforgettable life experiences and being able to meet my donor changed my perspective on what the money meant. It was a real person who made a real sacrifice to give to students.”
- Christine Waller, MPIA ’11

What does GSPIA mean to you? Did you receive financial assistance from Pitt or GSPIA, or did you wish that there had been more funding available to you? It is no secret that a significant portion of financial assistance to GSPIA students is made possible through the generosity of our donors. Gifts of $25, $50, $100 or more can make a difference! To make a gift to GSPIA of any amount or for information about creating an endowment with an annual pledge of $2,000 for five years, please visit www.gspia.pitt.edu and click on “Giving,” or contact me at jmh73@pitt.edu or 412-624-6660. Thank you for your continued support.

Alumni Fellows Fund Helps Launch Another Brilliant Career
selected by members of the GSPIA Awards Committee to receive the prestigious Alumni Fellow Award. The award enables GSPIA to attract and retain outstanding students by providing full support for tuition, fees, and a monthly stipend for one or two students each year.

The Alumni Fellow Award is made possible through annual gifts to GSPIA from alumni and friends. As stewards of those gifts, the faculty and staff at GSPIA work hard to ensure that it—and all awards made possible by gifts from alumni and friends—are given to motivated, dedicated, and promising students like LJ.

Upon reflecting on what the award has meant, LJ said, “Receiving the Alumni Fellow Award made it possible for me to leave a full-time job in a difficult economy; the award gave me the flexibility to focus on my studies and the opportunity to experience more than I thought I would when I came to graduate school. I’ve gained exposure to municipal issues as well as international issues.”

During LJ’s time at GSPIA, he interned for the U.S. Consulate in Guangzhou, China. Working out of the Economic/Political Section, he: met regularly with government, civic, and business leaders; conducted research on issues ranging from labor shortages to climate change; and drafted a variety of cables on current events. Not only did he gain hands-on experience with the Foreign Service, but he was able to live and work in a foreign country, immerse himself in a new culture and enhance his world view.

This past April, LJ graduated from GSPIA. Prior to graduation, he learned that he was among a very select group of students selected nationwide for the Presidential Management Fellow (PMF) program. The program attracts and selects the best candidates possible and develops a cadre of potential government leaders with “a lasting bond as well as a spirit of public service, ultimately encouraging and leading to a career in the government.” At press time, LJ is awaiting notice of where he will be placed in the PMF program, but wherever it is, he’ll have a positive impact. Good luck, LJ!

“Thank you to the donors who made the Alumni Fellow Award possible,” said LJ. “It is an honor to receive this prestigious award and the financial support that comes with it; I don’t take it for granted.”
Distinguished Alumna Establishes Student Fund

Ambassador Margaret K. McMillion, MPIA ’75, is a public servant and a role model for students. She is also among an increasing number of alumni who have chosen to establish gifts that will benefit generations of GSPIAns. The Margaret K. McMillion Endowed Student Resource Fund will provide, in perpetuity, financial support for students at GSPIA.

“GSPIA prepared me to succeed in my Foreign Service career. I learned in classes with outstanding professors and through interaction with students from around the world. Throughout my career, I often saw GSPIA alumni take a leading role in building and strengthening economic and political institutions in their home countries,” said McMillion. “Establishing this endowment will help ensure that future students will have the same opportunity that I had to prepare for careers in public service across the globe.”

McMillion is a native of Southwestern Pennsylvania whose interest in the Foreign Service began while attending high school in Beaver Falls. That interest grew into a distinguished career, spanning 30 years and including service as the U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Rwanda. In 1992, Ambassador McMillion was recognized with GSPIA’s Distinguished Alumna Award. In 2005, she was recognized with Pitt’s Legacy Laureate award, the highest honor bestowed upon alumni of the University of Pittsburgh. As a member of the GSPIA Board of Visitors, McMillion provides valuable advice and counsel on strategic issues.

“This endowment will help ensure that future students will have the same opportunity that I had.”

– Margaret K. McMillion

NEW ENDOWMENT ESTABLISHES ANNUAL PRIZE FOR FACULTY

Donald Goldstein, GSPIA’s iconic faculty member who retired in 2009, has made yet another mark in the School’s history: In 2010, he established an endowment that provides an annual prize to the recipient of the Donald M. Goldstein Teacher of the Year Award.

“Goldy” is well-known to the GSPIA community, having served the School and the University with distinction for more than 30 years. Of the many accolades given to Goldy during his time at GSPIA, perhaps the one that means the most to him is having been recognized with the Teacher of the Year award a record nine times. By vote of the student body, the award is given to recognize a faculty member who best exemplifies the qualities of commitment and dedication to GSPIA students.

In 2008 at the recommendation of Dean Keeler and in recognition of Goldy’s many contributions to GSPIA, the Teacher of the Year award was renamed the Donald M. Goldstein Teacher of the Year Award. A plaque now hangs in the GSPIA student lounge to forever commemorate the names and photos of the winners of this prestigious award. Recent winners include Muge Kokten Finkel and Taylor Seybolt (2009), William Keller (2010), and Nuno Themudo (2011).
1960’s

Michael Ranney MPA ’68

Howard McKibben MPA ’65, a U.S. District Court Judge for the District of Nevada, received the American Inns of Court 2010 Professionalism Award for the Ninth Circuit.

Michael Ranney MPA ’68 is Executive Director of the Ohio Psychological Association in Columbus.

1970’s

Richard Bickel MURP ’72

was named a fellow of the American Institute of Certified Planners. He serves as Director of Planning for the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission in Philadelphia.

John Campbell Jr. MPA ’75

is Director of Environmental Programs at GE Commercial Finance in Norwalk, CT.

Gorge Cretekos MPA ’70

announced plans to run for Mayor of Clearwater, Fla.

Michael Crotty MPA ’76

celebrated 25 years as City Manager of Satellite Beach, Fla.

Lee Feldstein MPA ’76

is a principal analyst with the Homeland Security Studies and Analysis Institute in Arlington, Va.

Michael Flamang MPW ’75

is a senior civil engineer for the Town of Lexington, Mass.

David Freedman MPA ’71

has worked as an economist and employment policy consultant in Geneva, Switzerland, since he retired from the International Labour Organization.

Peter Giles MPA ’72

relocated to Salt Lake City to serve as Executive Director of The Leonardo, a visitor attraction center dedicated to science, technology and art.

Stephen Gomes PhD ’76

is CEO of Creative Motion Control, a Seattle-area industrial automation company.

Louis Grumet MPA ’71

has joined the New York City office of H.S. Grace & Company as a consultant. He previously served 12 years as Executive Director of the New York State Society of CPAs.

Janet Halstead MPA ’74

is Executive Director of the Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy in Chicago.

John Jacoby MURP ’77

is General Manager of Newark Liberty International and Teterboro Airports at the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey.

Gary Kilmer MURP ’72 is a 30-year veteran of Development Alternatives in Bethesda, Md., currently serving as Senior Principal Development Specialist, Economic Growth.

Komba Kpakiwa MPIA ’76

retired from Pennsylvania government and lives with his wife, Carolee, in Milford, Del.

Robert Lee MPA ’79

is Executive Director of the Center for Florida Local Government Excellence, former City Manager of both Naples and Gulfport, and past President of the Florida City and County Management Association.

Nancy Libson MPA ’70

is Director of Housing Policy at LeadingAge, an association of 5,400 nonprofit organizations dedicated to the aging, in Washington, D.C.

Charles Mitchell MPA ’77

has traveled extensively in the southern hemisphere and South Asia in the five years since he retired from practicing law. He is President of the Clackamas Community College Foundation, teaches political science and works as a pro bono attorney in Oregon.

James Moran MPA ’73

received a U.S. Geological Survey 2010 Coalition Research Leadership Award. He has been the U.S. Representative for Virginia’s 8th congressional district since 1991.

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IN MEMORIAM

William Bostic MURP ’79

died in March 2011 at age 67. He was Executive Director of both the Pennsylvania Higher Educational Facilities Authority and Pennsylvania’s State Public School Building Authority. He previously served as Executive Director of the PA Housing Finance Agency, Secretary of the PA Department of Community Affairs, and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Operations in the U.S. Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights.
1980’s

Chris Masciantonio MPA ‘89 is General Manager of State Government Affairs for U.S. Steel. William Bann MPIA ’81 is Director of Homeland Defense Programs with The Tauri Group in Alexandria, Va.

John Bowman PhD ’86 is the Associate Provost at Frostburg State University in Maryland.

Anthony Cahill PhD ’87, MPIA ’80 is the Disability and Health Policy Division Director at the University of New Mexico Center for Development and Disability.

Carol Castiel MPIA ’83 is the Director of Current Affairs Programming at Voice of America and Founder/President of the Cape Verde Jewish Heritage Project in D.C.

Marc Chandler MPIA ’85 serves as Global Head of Currency Strategy with Brown Brothers Harriman in New York City. His spouse, Jeannine Rudolph MPIA ’86 is CEO of a labor union consultancy, The Tarpinian Group.

Charles Dittrich MPIA ’85 is Vice President, Regional Trade Initiatives for the National Foreign Trade Council and Executive Director of the US-Libya Business Association in Washington, D.C.

Michael Daumer MPIA ’82 has joined the European External Action Service in Brussels as a policy analyst.

Kerry Lee Hane MPIA ’88 is an associate professor in the Department of Political Science at Duke University.

Ephraim Hlopcz MPIA ’88 serves as Ambassador of Swaziland to the United Arab Emirates at the embassy in Abu Dhabi.

Kirby Hudson MPIA ’88 is Assistant City Manager for the City of Coatesville, Pa.

Amer Kayani MPIA ’87 is the Commerce Department’s senior commercial officer in Saudi Arabia.

1990’s

Tammy Goldstein Krauskopf MPIA/JD ’87 co-owns a Chicago-area international trade law practice. She is also an adjunct at The John Marshall Law School and a licensed customs broker.

Raymond Kubiak MPA ’81 is a Portfolio Manager and Senior Analyst with Longfellow Investment Management Co. in Boston.

Tim Little MPA ’89 has been named Municipal Manager of Monroeville, Pa.

Monte Mallin MPIA ’86 is Director of the National Nuclear Security Administration’s Office of Global Security Engagement and Cooperation.

Mark Pellegrini MURP ’81 is Director of City Planning and Economic Development for the Town of Manchester, Conn. His spouse, Linnea McCaffrey MURP ’81 is a Land Use Analyst with Robinson & Cole in Hartford.

Lee Polansky MPIA ’89 is a Research and Communications Specialist at Population Connection in Washington, D.C.

John Rogers III MPIA ’85 is Executive Vice President, Treasurer and CFO at The Urban Institute, a D.C. think tank.

Rebecca (Metz) Smeraglia MPA ’88 is the Fiscal and Planning Manager for Trumbull County Children Services in Ohio.

James Stark MPIA ’81 is CEO of the Fayette County Community Action Agency and owner of JYM Stark Consulting. His daughter, Abigail, will attend GSPIA in the fall.

Ed Warchol MPA ’84 retired in December 2010 after 16 years as Manager of Aspinwall Borough in Pittsburgh.

Richard Whelden MPIA ’82 is Director of the USAID Global Health Bureau Office of Strategic Planning, Budgeting and Operations.

Jonita and Eric Whitaker MPA ’84 work for the State Department as, respectively, Management Officer, Basrah Branch Office, U.S. Ambassador to Iraq and Economic Counselor at the U.S. Embassy Nairobi, Kenya.

David White MURP ’89 serves as Executive VP of Marketing for the Colorado Springs Economic Development Corporation.

Anthony Wysocki MPIA ’88 is a program director in the U.S. Department of Transportation, Office of Inspector General.

Nitin Madhav MPIA ’92 was featured by The Washington Post as a Partnership for Public Service “Federal Player of the Week.” He is the Officer-in-Charge for Burma and China Programs at USAID.

Brad Adams MPIA ’93 is Executive Vice President for Post-Enrollment Services at 2tor Inc., an online education company headquartered in New York City’s Chelsea Piers.

Murat Alici MPIA ’91 serves as Deputy General Director of the Undersecretariat of Treasury, General Directorate of Foreign Investment in Turkey.

Kenzo Agetit-Mzibri MPIA ’97 relocated to Nepal to continue her work as a Senior Program Manager for the National Democratic Institute.

Dorothy Bassett Phd ’95 is Dean of the School of Leadership and Professional Advancement at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh.

Daniela (Canale) Brito MPIA ’98 is of counsel at Nike World Headquarters in Beaverton, Ore.

Isabelle Bully-Conard) Omictin MURP ’93, of San Jose, Calif., serves as Senior Governance Advisor for ICMA International.

Murat Alici MPIA ’91 joined the, 10,000 Friends of Pennsylvania as President and CEO. Grant Ervin MPIA ’03 serves as Policy Director for the organization, which operates from Pittsburgh and Harrisburg.

Tom Mahalek MPIA ’91 works as a budget analyst for trade and information programs in the U.S. Department of Commerce Office of Budget.

Robert Mullins MPIA ’95 has joined the leadership team at ATK, an aerospace and defense company, as Senior Vice President, Corporate Strategy.

Todd Sassaman MPIA ’93 is Vice President with The Kafafian Group, a financial consulting firm in Parsippany, N.J.

Veronica Sherman-King MURP ’97 has been promoted to Director of Planning and Community Building for the Seattle Department of Neighborhoods.

Phillip Sorrentino MPIA ’96 teaches global studies at the Maggie L. Walker Governor’s School for Government and International Studies in Richmond, Va.

Myron Dowell MPIA ’97 and Leigh Blackburn MPIA ’97 were married on October 10, 2010, and reside in Montgomery County, Md.

Barbara Fillip PhD ’97 is a Knowledge Management Project Manager at NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md.

Steve Hajjar MPIA ’93 is an attorney with the Federal Election Commission in Washington, D.C.

Kiyoshi Nakamitsu MPIA ’96 is the Asian Development Bank’s Pacific Education Specialist, based in Manila.

Kurt Kissinger MPIA ’94 was promoted to Vice President with Delta Development Group, an economic development and community planning consulting firm in Mechanicsburg, Pa.

Stacy (Hopkins) Kubofcik MURP ’96 is a tax specialist with the Maryland Department of Business & Economic Development in Baltimore.

Constantine Limberakis MPIA/MBA ’96 is Director of Business Development and Marketing at The Shelby Group, a Chicago-area IT consultancy.

Jack Macleak MPIA ’91 joined the 10,000 Friends of Pennsylvania as President and CEO. Grant Ervin MPIA ’03 serves as Policy Director for the organization, which operates from Pittsburgh and Harrisburg.

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continued on page 40
Miriam Bellbidia MPA ’09 received a nine-month Fulbright grant to study water management in Delft, the Netherlands. She is a hazard mitigation specialist for the City of New Orleans.

Benjamin Byron MPAIA ’10 was hired at Booz Allen Hamilton to consult on cyber security and critical infrastructure protection projects in the Department of Homeland Security.

Marco Centurione MPAIA ’10 is a research assistant at the Geneva Centre for Security Policy.


Dawn Close MMPM ’10 has returned to Zambia to oversee FREE, the Foundation for the Realization of Economic Empowerment, which she founded to help women overcome poverty.

Jason Cohen MPA ’07 and his wife, Kristina, welcomed daughter Rozalyn Katherine in October 2010. He is the Assistant Borough Manager of Waynesboro, Pa.

Nathan Daridy MPAIA ’06 and his wife, Valerie, are the Brazil Site Directors for Amizade Global Service-Learning in Santarem.

Carl Dawson PhD ’07 works as a policy analyst at the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development in Paris.

Makedonika Dimitrova MMPM ’05 serves as General Secretary for the Macedonian Center for Energy Efficiency in Skopje.

Kurt Ferguson MMPM ’02 is in his second year as Manager of Hempfield Township in Westmoreland County, Pa.

Arita Gilliam MMPM ’06 received a 2010 Jefferson Award for volunteerism with Pittsburgh organizations.

Whitney Grespin MMPM ’09 visited Haiti as a delegate for Young Professionals in Foreign Policy. She is employed as a program specialist with New Century in Washington, D.C.

Christian Hald-Mortensen MPA ’07 was hired as a consultant by the Confederation of Danish Industry, a lobbying organization in Copenhagen.

Kelli Herd MPAIA ’07 is the Founding Director of WorldPlay, an educational nonprofit in Queens, N.Y.

Jodi Hirsh and Bonnie Rubin, both MMPM ’04, are Executive Director and Chief Operations Officer, respectively, for the National Council of Jewish Women in Pittsburgh.

Mfundo Hlatshwayo MID ’05 is a research analyst with The Corporate Council on Africa in Washington, D.C.

Seth Huffman MMPM ’02 has been hired as a program director with the Carnegie Bosch Institute for Applied Studies in International Management in Carnegie Mellon University’s Tepper School of Business.

John Illson MMPM ’05 serves as Chief of the Integrated Safety Management Section at the International Civil Aviation Organization, the UN agency for international air transport, in Montreal.

Jovan Jovanovic MPAIA ’00 is a Program Officer with the Balkan Trust for Democracy in Belgrade and an Edward Mason Fellow at Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government.

Julia Judson-Rea MID ’09 accepted a development assistant position at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in Washington, D.C.

Tavida Kamolev Ph.D ’06 is on the Public Administration and Policy Department faculty at Thammasat University in Bangkok.

Artan Karini MPIA ’01 is pursuing his doctorate at the Institute for Development Policy and Management at the University of Manchester.

Norifumi Kawai MPIA ’03 is a research analyst at the University of Duisburg-Essen Mercator School of Management in Germany.

Elsa Khwaja MPAIA ’09, Associate for Afghanistan and Pakistan at Chemonics International, was admitted to the George Mason School of Public Policy PhD program.

Margaret Larkins-Pettigrew MMPM ’10 is steering committee co-chair for Pitt’s African American Alumni Council Scholarship Campaign. She is an assistant professor and the Director of Global Health at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine.

Brittany Lozanne MPAJID ’10 joined the McAngus, Goudelock & Courie law firm in Columbia, SC, with a focus on workers’ compensation.

Yekaterina Lushpina MPIA ’02 oversees human rights projects in the USAID/Russia Office of Democratic Initiatives.

Philip Maslar MPAIA ’08 and Kelly Wawrenziak MPAIA ’08 were married in November 2010 and reside in the D.C. area.

Adam McGregor MID ’10 is the communications coordinator at a Pittsburgh nonprofit, Just Harvest.

Shobha Mittal MMPM ’03 accepted a new position as Quality Analyst with Wesley Spectrum Services in Pittsburgh.

Christa Moore MID ’06 is the contracts and grants manager at the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation in Washington, D.C.

W. David Montz MMPM ’03, Green Tree Borough Manager, received the 2010-11 Joseph A. James Memorial Excellence in Local Government Achievement Award from the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission.

Milana (Barr) Nick PhD, MPA ’03 is a research analyst at the Pittsburgh nonprofit 3 Rivers Connect. Kevin Perkey MPA ’09 is its Director of Strategic Initiatives & Development.

Uffe Nielsen MPIA ’01 is a policy advisor for the European Liberal Democrat and Reform group in the European Parliament in Brussels.

Eliada Nwosu PhD ’10, MID ’04 is a senior lecturer at the University Cape Town Graduate School of Business.

Tricia Puskar MID ’08 transferred to Save the Children’s D.C. office to serve as Associate Director of Outreach for the Newborn and Child Survival Campaign.
Alumni Gatherings

PITTSBURGH

Several alumni celebrated GSPIA Homecoming last October at the Holiday Inn in Oakland: Tony Accamando Jr., MPIA ’71; Jen Alpha, MPA/JD ’01; Mary Louise Bittner, MPA ’93; Ali Bonebrake, MPA ’99; Peter Burk, MPA ’90; Marilyn Dadowski, MPA ’95; Paul Fero, MPA ’90; Kevin Flannery, MPA ’85; with Donna Flannery, MPA ’78; Bill Friedman, MPA ’78; Sharon Gratzmiller, MPPM ’08; Jessica Hatherill, MPA ’03; Ben Howe, MPA ’98; Seth Hufford, MPPM ’02; Rich Kowal, MPA ’76; Chris Lochner, MPA ’82; Buba Misawa, MPA ’85; Steve Morus, MPA ’86; Paula Mullineaux, MPA ’81; Eli Pfeuffer, MPA ’10; Aruna Raman, MID ’10; Elizabeth Ramborger, MPIA ’99; Jim Sloss, MPA ’00; Kevin Kearsns, MPA ’80; PhD ’84 and David Miller, PhD ’88.

TAIWAN

Last November, Dean Keeler hosted a dinner at the Howard International House in Taipei with Kai Fang, PhD ’06; Michael Zuck, MPA/JD ’90; Cynthia Wei, MPIA ’09; and Wen-Jiuin Wang. He also visited National Chengchi University as a guest of Jay Shih, PhD ’91, a professor in the department of public administration.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

GSPIA and Pitt School of Law co-hosted a reception and lecture event in March at APCO Worldwide’s global headquarters, thanks to APCO Senior VP Bill Pierce, MPIA ’85. Featured as speakers were Law School Dean Mary Crossley and Professor William Lunenberg, EADS North America Senior VP Sam Adcock, MPA ’87; and Rhoads Group Chairman & CEO Barry Rhoads. Among the audience members were Drew Chelosky, MPPM ’09; Gloria Cohen, MPA ’73; Jessica Hatherill, MPA ’03; Kyle Lamborn, MPIA ’04; Maury Lieberman, MPA ’70; Sam Miranda, MPIA ’88; Kevin Newak, MPA ’99; and Leon Weintraub, MPIA ’67.

Thirty current and former GSPIAns met up at James Hoban’s in Dupont Circle in November 2010. Staff member Jessica Hatherill, MPA ’03; welcomed fellow alums Andrea Arkin, MID ’05; Amber Bechtel, MID ’05; Michael Berhmann, MPIA ’08; Elizabeth (Smith) Behrmann, MID ’08; David Bell, MPA ’06; Doug Brooks, Kathryn Collins, MID ’06; Doug Cortinovis, MPIA ’06; Rob Gile, MPIA ’05; Whitney Grespin, MPIA ’09; Stephanie (Schell) Lukasko, MID ’09; Ashley Masi, MPIA ’08; Kevin McKenna, MPIA ’06; Chrisra Moore, MID ’06; Sameera Pochiraju, MID ’08; Julia Postararo, MID ’06; Elisabeth Rottach, MID ’06; Patricia Skilin, MID ’06; Adam Spier, MPIA ’05; Jen Schwartz, MID/ MBA ’09; and Kerley Tolfpolar, MPIA ’10.

Macedonia

In December 2010, Associate Dean Bill Dunn was the guest of honor at a reunion organized by Veli Krci, MPIA ’01, at the Network of Associations of Local Authorities of South-East Europe in Skopje, where Kelmend Zajazi, MPPM ’05, is Executive Director. The attendees included Andrija Aleksoski, Aferdita Imeri, Snezana Kostovska-Frcovska, Aleksandra Bakanova-Ruzin, Sonja Nikolovska, Elena Pecevska and Petar Teov, who all earned a master’s degree of public policy and management in 2005.

South Africa

While traveling in Johannesburg and Cape Town in May, Dean Keeler and Dr. Lou Picard met up with Peter Capozza, MPIA ’82; Nathan Embry, MID ’09; Kennedy Maimela, MPIA ’99; Pandelani Thomas Mathoma, PhD ’00, MPIA ’94; Thomas Mogale, PhD ’97, and Chisepo Mphaisha, PhD ’79.

Get Involved

GSPIA alumni are encouraged to give back their time and talent and to stay connected with the University of Pittsburgh and one another.

Offer career advice or job and internship opportunities to students.

Connect online via facebook, LinkedIn, the Online Directory and the Pitt Career Network.

Join the Pitt Alumni Association for access to exclusive benefits and services.

Promote Pitt and GSPIA to prospective students.

Attend or host alumni events.

Learn more at www.gspia.pitt.edu/alumni.aspx
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