Trachtenberg School of Public Policy & Public Administration
THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS
of excellence in public service education
at the George Washington University
From the Director

In February, we celebrated 50 years of public service education at the George Washington University with more than 250 alumni, faculty and current students participating in events and a policy forum to mark the occasion. Throughout the celebration, I was able to connect with alumni and current students who apply the theories we teach them in the private, public and nonprofit sectors.

For more than 30 years I have been privileged to teach the art and the science of program evaluation to students earning a Master of Public Administration, Master of Public Policy and PhD in Public Policy and Administration. I've also taught staff in the U.S. Government Accountability Office, the Federal Offices of Inspectors General and many other federal agencies. And I have been fortunate to be able to provide program evaluation training to public servants in other countries including Egypt, Taiwan, Colombia, Israel, Nicaragua and Canada. In addition to teaching, I have been evaluating public and non-public programs in the Washington, D.C. area for more than 20 years.

I place heavy emphasis in my teaching and mentoring on facilitating development of ethical practices, cultural competence and the capacity to evaluate programs in order to serve the public welfare. I press my students to reflect on the role of values and ethical issues in evaluation practice through requiring them to design evaluations for real clients and sometimes implement them as well, and to role-play in difficult scenarios drawn from real life evaluation situations.

Most of my students become alumni who lead and manage in public and nonprofit organizations. Thus, they need evaluative thinking skills, as well as an understanding of how to build and use evaluation capacity to improve programs and public services. Values, more than technical tools, shape the decisions our alumni make as they strive to design, implement and improve public policies and programs.

We know that 2,000 of our alumni live and work in the Washington metropolitan area. Connecting with so many of them throughout the 50th Anniversary celebration reminded me that the theories and values we teach have long-lasting influence in Washington, D.C. and around the world.

As we look to the next five, 10 and 50 years and strive to prepare today's students to meet tomorrow's public policy and public administration challenges, I am thankful that there are MPs, MPPs and PhDs working to serve the public good through effective leadership and management.

Thank you for being part of the Trachtenberg School tradition of excellence in public service.

Warmest regards,

Kathleen M. Thomaes

Kathy Director

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LGBT Rights as Human Rights: Alumnus Leads at Department of State

"I serve as a cheerleader for LGBT rights as human rights throughout the State Department by developing new ideas and pushing embassies overseas to protect and promote the rights of gay people," said Kenneth Kero-Mentz, MPA ’96, the Senior Advisor on LGBT Human Rights at the U.S. Department of State.

Kero-Mentz recently used his connections to send Judy and Dennis Shepard to five different countries in Europe to tell their story of losing their 21-year-old son, Matthew, to a murder motivated by anti-gay hate in 1998. Determined to prevent others from suffering their son’s fate, Judy and Dennis work toward the causes championed by Matthew during his life: social justice, diversity awareness and education, and equality for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people.

The Shepards’ tour and other ideas from Kero-Mentz are designed to help humanize LGBT issues for countries that have been slow to act on behalf of LGBT human rights.

“My job is to think outside the box and figure out the best ways to get our embassies to encourage their counterparts in other countries to also think outside the box so we can influence change,” he said.

Kero-Mentz can trace his outside the box thinking to his graduate school lessons.

“The MPA program taught me how to review programs, initiatives and projects critically, with an eye toward getting the most of individuals’ talents, and to always remember that everything we do is supported by taxpayer dollars,” he said. "Kathy Newcomer always reminded us: Make them count. We have to get the biggest bang for our buck, with limited human resources, and on a tight schedule.”

“My job is to think outside the box and figure out the best ways to get our embassies to encourage their counterparts in other countries to also think outside the box so we can influence change.”

- Kenneth Kero-Mentz, MPA ’96; the Senior Advisor on LGBT Human Rights at the U.S. Department of State

"There are many places in the world where you can be jailed or killed for having consensual sex with a partner of the same sex," Kero-Mentz explained. His job is to make the world safer for LGBT people.

He credits his time at GW with helping him figure out his strengths and hone them. For Kero-Mentz, that meant an ability to diplomatically manage bureaucracy, succeed in challenging environments, work across groups and agencies and find those people who are ready to do the work to get things done.

For his next challenge, Kero-Mentz is planning to spend a year on a detail to the U.S. Congress encouraging representatives and senators to apply even more pressure on foreign governments to ensure that LGBT rights are seen as human rights around the world.

"It’s more cheerleading," he explained. "Members of Congress can be extremely bold in calling for change. I can’t wait to see what we can do."
GW Celebrates 50 Years of Public Service Education

More than 250 alumni, students and faculty gathered on campus the weekend of February 22-23 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of public service education at the George Washington University. The celebration—which included a reception honoring Distinguished Alumni Award winners, a networking happy hour and a policy forum—was hosted by GW’s Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration and the Columbian College Alumni Office.

The weekend was equal parts homecoming, celebration and food for thought.

The celebration started with a reception Friday evening in the Elliott School of International Affairs’ City View Room. Provost Steven Lerman welcomed attendees and emphasized the Trachtenberg School’s integral connection to two of the four themes of the university’s strategic plan—citizenship and leadership, and governance and policy.

Columbian College of Arts and Sciences Dean Peg Barratt then highlighted the breadth and depth of the alumni community who have completed public policy and public administration degrees at GW over the past 50 years.

“Alumni include cabinet officials in the United States, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia and elsewhere; researchers at many influential think tanks; high-ranking officials at many federal government agencies; city managers and state government officials; presidents of private sector companies; presidents of large nonprofits; professors at colleges and universities across the country; the former commandant of the Coast Guard; and the mother of Lady Gaga,” said Dr. Barratt.

The evening concluded with the presentation of five Distinguished Alumni Awards. The awards were nominated by alumni and faculty for their individual achievements in public policy and public administration as well as their leadership in serving the public interest and enhancing democratic governance. This year, the school selected five winners instead of one, as it typically does, to celebrate the 50th anniversary of public service education at the George Washington University.

Distinguished Alumni Award Winner

Commander Timothy Cronin
U.S. Coast Guard

A native of Long Island, New York, Commander Timothy Cronin graduated from the United States Coast Guard Academy with a B.S. in Government and received his commission in May 1996. Commander Cronin is currently assigned as the Assistant Branch Chief to the U.S. Coast Guard District Seven Enforcement Branch in Miami, Florida. He is primarily responsible for coordinating drug and migrant interception operations across the Florida Straits, Bahamas and Caribbean.

Prior to this assignment, he was Executive Officer of USCOC WIGLANT (NMCC-677) Homeport in Port Canaveral, Florida. He has served in a variety of other afloat tours in Puerto Rico, Florida and Washington. Commander Cronin also served as Senior Duty Officer in the White House Situation Room under President George W. Bush and Military Aide to the Coast Guard’s Chief of Staff.

Upon graduating from George Washington University in December 2007 with a master’s degree in Public Administration, Commander Cronin served in the Office of Performance Management and Assessment at Coast Guard Headquarters in Washington, D.C. Commander Cronin and his wife Amy live in Pensacola, Florida with their two children, Raleigh (11) and Connor (9).

Trachtenberg School welcomes hundreds for weekend events

The five winners were:

• Commander Timothy Cronin, MPA ‘07, who is currently assigned as the assistant branch chief to the U.S. Coast Guard District Seven Enforcement Branch in Miami, Florida.
• Christa Fernarutto, MPP ‘05, who is the Federal Aviation Administration’s associate administrator for airports, overseeing a $5.5 billion annual federal airport grants program and passenger facility charge collections totaling $2 billion.
• Dale Didion, MPA ‘93, who has held several public affairs positions for multinational companies over more than 20 years, including a position as the executive vice president of EnergySolutions.
• Nancy Potok, PhD ‘99, who is currently the deputy director and chief operating officer of the U.S. Census Bureau.
• Rep. Michael Stinziano, MPA ‘04, who serves the residents and businesses of Ohio’s 18th District in the Ohio State House.

Following Friday evening’s reception, 150 alumni, students and faculty gathered at local restaurant Tonic for an informal networking happy hour.

On Saturday, the celebration continued in the Jack Morton Auditorium with an address by former U.S. Rep. Thomas M. Davis (R-Va.), the former chairman of the House Government Reform Committee, and current director of federal government affairs for Deloitte & Touche LLP. Rep. Davis’ address kicked off the Trachtenberg School’s 50th Anniversary Policy Forum.

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Trachtenberg School 50th Anniversary Celebration (continued)

Participants then attended one of three panel presentations featuring alumni sharing their expertise on public administration today, navigating a career path and the challenges of implementing health care reform.

The weekend ended with the Fifth Distinguished Alumni Award winners taking the stage for a plenary session about the challenges and opportunities they face in their work and how they apply what they learned at GW to their careers.

"My key take away from the weekend was that despite all the challenges out there, everyone is still upbeat, idealistic and committed to public service," said Robert Goldenko, MPP '86, and current director of strategic issues at the Government Accountability Office.

Distinguished Alumni Award Winner Christa Fornarotto Associate Administrator for Airports, Federal Aviation Administration

Christa Fornarotto currently serves as the Federal Aviation Administration's Associate Administrator for Airports. She oversees a $33.5 billion annual Federal airport grants program and passenger facility charge collections totaling $2 billion. She also manages programs for national airport planning and development, including safety standards, design and engineering, certification, environmental processing and financing.

Previously, she was Deputy Assistant Secretary for Aviation and International Affairs at the U.S. Department of Transportation. In this capacity, Fornarotto served as the principal advisor to the Secretary on a broad portfolio of responsibilities covering domestic and international aviation, international trade and other international cooperation and facilitation issues.

Before joining the Office of the Secretary of Transportation, Fornarotto served as the Legislative Director to Representative Jerry Costello (D-IL) and was a professional staff on the House Aviation Subcommittee, which Mr. Costello chaired. She managed the legislative agenda and handled responsibilities related to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

Fornarotto received her Bachelor's from Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and her MPP from the George Washington University in 2005.

Distinguished Alumni Award Winner Nancy Potok Deputy Director, U.S. Census Bureau

Nancy Potok is currently Deputy Director and Chief Operating Officer of the U.S. Census Bureau. From 1995-2002, she served as the bureau's Principal Associate Director and Chief Financial Officer and was in charge of Field Operations, IT and Administration during the 2000 Census.

Potok has more than 30 years of public, private and nonprofit senior management experience, serving at a variety of government agencies, including the U.S. Department of Commerce as Deputy Under Secretary for Economic Affairs. She has also served as Senior Vice President and Director of the Economic, Labor and Population Studies Department at the National Opinion Research Center (NORC) at the University of Chicago and as Chief Operating Officer of McKinnis & Monico Associates, a management consulting firm.

She was selected as a Presidential Management Fellow and is an elected Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA). She is the recipient of the Arthur S. Flemming Award and the Secretary of Commerce Silver Medal. Dr. Potok earned her B.A. from Sonoma State University, her master's from the University of Alabama and PhD from The George Washington University in 2009.

Distinguished Alumni Award Winner Representative Michael Stinziano State House Representative, Office 18th District

Representative Michael Stinziano proudly serves the residents and businesses of Ohio's 18th District. He serves as the Ranking Minority Member on the House Judiciary Committee and on the House Insurance and House Public Utilities Committees.

Representative Stinziano also serves on the National Governing Board of the Council of State Governments, as Vice Chair of the Workers Compensation Insurance Committee of the National Conference of Insurance Legislators and as a Member of the Labor and Economic Development Committee and the Redistricting and Elections Committee of the National Conference of State Legislatures. In 2008, he became Director of the Franklin County Board of Elections and led one of the largest election jurisdictions in the country.

Stinziano received a bachelor's degree in leadership studies from the University of Richmond. Then, while working at the Virginia Commonwealth International Center, a think-tank for national and international issues in Washington, D.C., he earned an MBA from the George Washington University. After returning to Columbus, Stinziano became an attorney upon graduation from the Ohio State University Moritz College of Law.
Valentines: Kyle Stearns & Stephanie Stone
From Colonial Cable, a publication of the GW Alumni Office

When Stephanie Stone, TSPPPA MPP ’99, arrived at GW in the fall of 2007, she wasn’t interested in dating. “I took graduate school seriously,” she says.

Which is why, at first, she wasn’t receptive to Kyle Stearns, TSPPPA MPP ’19. The two met on the first day of orientation for their graduate program at the Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration (TSPPPA).

Kyle noticed Stephanie right away, as she took a seat in the front of the room—he was sitting in the back. But the students were split into two groups, and everyone in the back rows was asked to move to the front.

“This was my chance to make a move!” remembers Kyle. After building up his nerve, Kyle sat next to Stephanie to introduce himself.

Although Stephanie introduced herself in return, she immediately turned her attention to the front of the room. “We didn’t talk or interact for the rest of the day,” Kyle says.

Undeterred, Kyle didn’t forget about Stephanie. And luck was on his side: they had two classes together that first semester.

“I made sure to sit right next to her in one class, and then play it cool by not sitting near her in the next,” he says.

Finally, the two connected during a GW event at a local bar, where they split a basket of onion rings. After that night, they slowly became friends.

Then on a spring day in 2008, the pair found themselves on an “accidental” first date while taking in DC’s famous cherry blossoms. In a few weeks, Kyle’s campaign was over, and they were officially a couple.

After graduation in 2009, Kyle and Stephanie moved in together in the Eastern Market neighborhood and began careers with the federal government. Kyle works for Department of Health and Human Services, Assistant Secretary for Health, and Stephanie works for the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Public and Indian Housing.

But as active alumni, they attend various GW events and volunteer for their program, which often brings them back to campus. And that’s how Kyle took Stephanie by surprise when he proposed in one of the first classrooms they shared as grad students in the MPA building.

Stephanie thought she was coming to campus to speak to prospective students at the request of Paul Blinkley, who was director of TSPPPA career services at the time. She didn’t know that Kyle had secretly contacted Paul to create a decoy alumni event so that he could propose.

“We’ve helped with similar events in the past, so I thought nothing of it!” explains Stephanie.

“Oh the day of the event, I rushed to GW from work, mentally rehearsing what I’d say to the students,” she remembers. “When I arrived, Kyle was in the lobby and told me that we were supposed to wait in the classroom across the hall until it was our turn to speak.”

Naturally, Kyle had set up the room to look just as it did when they were students. “It took me entirely too long to realize what was going on, but as soon as I did, I said yes!” says Stephanie.

Afterwards, Kyle also arranged for a group of friends to meet at a nearby bar—the same bar where they shared their first “ring” as grad students.

Kyle and Stephanie will also have their friends with them on July 6, 2013, when they tie the knot.

Although they chose GW for the prestige of their program and the one-of-a-kind career opportunities in DC, there’s another reason they’re happy to be GW alumni.

“I’m from Kansas and Stephanie’s from California,” says Kyle. “We never would have met if it hadn’t been for GW and the Trachtenberg School!”

Books Published by TSPPPA Faculty and Alumni

Lobbying the New President: Interests in Transition
By Heath Brown, PhD ’05
Health Brown recently published Lobbying the New President: Interests in Transition, part of the Routledge Research in American Politics and Governance series. The publisher calls the book a valuable resource that goes beyond the field of presidency studies, which American politics scholars and public policy specialists should not go without. Brown uses an innovative mixed methodology to uncover the politics of interest group influence during presidential transitions.

Crisis, Disaster, and Risk: Institutional Response and Emergence
By Kyle Farmby, MPA ’94, PhD ’99
Kyle Farmby recently published Crisis, Disaster, and Risk: Institutional Response and Emergence. The publisher, M.E. Sharpe, describes the book as an exploration of the interactions of theories of risk with natural disasters, health crisis and crisis in the areas of science and technology. Farmby provides a series of best practices and lessons related to each of the emergency and crisis situations covered, which will help both students and practitioners respond to these crises more effectively.

Bounded Bureaucracy and the Budgetary Process in the United States
By Jay Eung He Ryu, MPH ’98
Dr. Jay Eung He Ryu recently published Bounded Bureaucracy and the Budgetary Process in the United States. The book demonstrates that well-managed bounded bureaucracy can substantially improve the rational behavior of organizations and reduce institutional frictions.

Occupational Labor Shortages: Concepts, Causes, Consequences, and Cures
By Burt Barnow, Amsterdam Professor of Public Service
Dr. Burt Barnow published Occupational Labor Shortages: Concepts, Causes, Consequences, and Cures with co-authors John Trubko and Jacklyn Schade Plata in early 2013. The publisher, W.E. Upjohn Institute, describes the book as an exploration of whether persistent occupation-specific labor shortages might lead to inefficiencies in the U.S. economy. The authors describe why shortages arise, the difficulty in ascertaining that a shortage is present and how to assess strategies to alleviate the shortage.

State Tax Policy: A Political Perspective
By David Brunori, BA ’84 and MA ’95, Research Professor of Public Policy
In 2012, Professor David Brunori published the third edition of his book, State Tax Policy: A Political Perspective. As explained by the publishers, Urban Institute Press, state tax systems are in trouble, as outdated revenue collecting methods strain to deal with 21st century economies. In his updated book, Professor Brunori analyzes critical challenges facing state governments and examines possible solutions in formulating and implementing state tax policy.

Regulation: A Primer
By Susan E. Dudley, Director, GW Regulatory Studies Center and Research Professor of Public Policy & Public Administration
Professor Susan E. Dudley’s new book, Regulation: A Primer, co-authored with Jerry Brito and published by Mercatus Center, is an accessible guide to regulatory policy process, theory and analysis. The book examines the constitutional underpinnings of federal regulation and discusses who writes and enforces regulation and how they do it. It also provides insights into the different varieties of regulation and how to analyze a regulatory proposal’s impact on citizens.

Welfare Warfare: The Not-So-Hidden Costs of America’s Permanent War Economy
By Gregory Squires, Professor of Sociology, and Public Policy and Public Administration
Dr. Gregory Squires recently edited a book with Marc Raskin, which was published in 2012. Welfare Warfare: The Not-So-Hidden Costs of America’s Permanent War Economy. This book deals with the domestic and international effects of America’s perpetual state of war. The publisher, Potomac Books, calls the book “a thought-provoking, forward-thinking contribution concerning America’s future at home and abroad.”
Fall 2012 Capstone Projects

Students graduating in December 2012 completed capstone projects in which they worked pro bono for government and nonprofit organizations throughout Washington, D.C., and New York. This course gave the students the context and opportunity to integrate and synthesize the diverse components of the MPP and MPA curriculum by using their learning and experiences over the course of their semesters to address a real-world need, situation or issue. The capstone seeks to synthesize many diverse components of the curriculum, launches a major pro bono project of value to an external client and brings closure to the GW MPA and MPP experience. The Capstone semester culminated with a public presentation of each team’s work.

Project synopsis: Emergency Response: Building Financial Resilience at the State and Local Level

The Federal emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) Office of External Affairs tasked this capstone team with developing a Capacity Building Toolkit that would provide states with effective and potentially cost-saving solutions for disaster preparation and response with the intention of bolstering state-level financial resiliency. Additionally, FEMA requested recommendations for long-term planning that could be incorporated into the organization’s Strategic Foresight Initiative.

The students performed a policy analysis in order to answer the research questions and develop the deliverables. During the course of their research, they reviewed a variety of sources, including government publications, university-sponsored research, think tank policy papers and insurance industry literature from which they identified eleven potentially beneficial policy options for states and the federal government to consider. Team members reached out to several state emergency management offices and spoke to representatives from both nonprofit and for-profit organizations to solicit feedback on their research questions and pursue new leads on policy options to analyze.

They developed four criteria to evaluate the policy options: (1) the resulting change in state financial resilience, (2) the administrative feasibility of the option, (3) the legal feasibility of the option and (4) the political feasibility of the option.

They then assigned each option a value on a seven-point scale between 1 (least feasible) and 7 (most feasible) based on each criterion. Using this scale, they were able to produce an extensive and well-defined list of policy alternatives for inclusion in the State Capacity Building Toolkit, as well as for consideration as part of FEMA’s long-term community-wide planning effort, the Strategic Foresight Initiative. Finally, they recommended changes to federal-level policy that could potentially give states increased capability to build their own financial resilience.

CAPSTONE TEAMS:

Sustainable Green Power for U.S. Coast Guard Navigation Buoy System: Client: U.S. Coast Guard
Team: Lilia Drezler, James O’Maras, Allison Primack, Sarah Thumble, Tyson Weiners

Early Intervention to Reduce High School Drop Outs in New York: Client: HIV 360
Team: Celso Contreras, Casey Pearce, Claire Tonore, Abby Walsh

Strengthening Coalition of Youth Advocacy Organizations in Washington, D.C.: Client: D.C. Alliance for Youth Advocates
Team: Sarah Auble, Jennifer Bryant, Colleen McLoughlin

Realizing the Potential Health Benefits of Capital Bikeshare: Client: Capital Bikeshare
Team: Jamie Palumbo, Eric Pierce, Brian Alberts

Team: Matt Baker, Mike Kahle, Brandon Key, Kelly McCoy, Adriana Valenciano

Meet the New Student Organization Presidents

In November, Trachtenberg Student Organization (TSO) members elected a new board to serve during the spring and fall semesters of 2013. After two transitional meetings with the outgoing board, the newly elected members took office in January and began planning events such as the annual Spring Fling and organizing exciting new professional development and volunteer opportunities for students.

MPP President Jennifer L. Wong is a first-year student completing concentrations in strategy and innovation as well as health and technology policy. Mike Veselik, MPA President, is also a first-year student and expects to complete his concentration in budgeting.

Q: What inspired you to run for this position?
JVW: I was excited by the opportunity to have a platform to build our graduate school community, create value and make an impact as public leaders.

MV: I loved attending TSO events in the fall and really wanted to engage with the program more. I thought TSO board would be an awesome way to serve a school that has already given me so much.

Q: What event(s) are you most looking forward to this year, and why?
JVW: I’m excited about the 50th Anniversary Celebration, Accepted Students Days and Orientation – opportunities to get to know the past, present and future of the Trachtenberg family.

MV: Well, of course Spring Fling and Fall Ball, but definitely the New Student events as well. All of those events helped make my decision to attend GW easy. They also allowed me to feel welcome from the start.

Q: What goals do you have for your year as TSO President?
MV: I hope to create a more inclusive community by hosting events for our part-time students and also our older students.

JVW: This year I hope to serve the school by building bridges and engaging with faculty, public service leaders and the greater GW and D.C. communities; elevating the visibility and reputation of the Trachtenberg School; strengthening and expanding our community and identifying and creating opportunities to help develop our student body to become local and national leaders.

Q: What do you each hope to gain from this experience?
MV: I hope to learn a lot more about GW and to make the grad school experience better both for myself and my fellow T-bergs.

JVW: I look forward to learning more about the public sector and how things work in our nation’s capital, and I am excited to have the privilege to work with a diverse, talented team of individuals who are also passionate about making our grad school experience fun, worthwhile and valuable.

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS

Trachtenberg Student Organization

Executive Board:
Mike Veselik, MPA President
Jennifer Wong, MPP President
Nayan Vedenskaya, MPA Vice-President
Haas Bhatia, MPP Vice-President
Gia Fisher, MPA Treasurer
Akon Friedman, MPA Treasurer

Trachtenberg School Orientation and Welcoming Committee:
Andy Callaghan, MPA Chair
Erik Cox, MPP Chair

Community Engagement Committee:
Anita Ornel, MPA Social Chair
Ana Valenzuela, MPA Social Chair
Ellie Flick, MPA Volunteer Chair
Justin Rodean, MPP Volunteer Chair

Professional Development Committee:
Katherine Haltman, MPA Chair
Jon Briones, MPP Chair
Steven Cruz, GMAC Representative

Diversity and Inclusion Association:
Samantha Marie Haynes, MPA Chair
Carlin Brandt, MPP Chair

Anacostia Public Service Program:
Ana Jara, Program Co-Director
Rachel Evans, Program Co-Director

Policy Perspectives:
Anne Berry, Editor-in-Chief
Kristin Hubing, Managing Editor

PhD Liaisons:
Kari Nelson, PhD
Estelle Raimondi, PhD
Steve Mummford, PhD
Imtiaz Bhatti, PhD

Brad Hawkins Elected to Washington State House

Brad Hawkins, MPA ‘01, recently won election to the Washington State House of Representatives. Hawkins represents Olympia and the 12th legislative district. Previously, Hawkins worked as a policy analyst at the Douglas County public utility district. He unseated incumbent Mike Armstrong in last November’s election. Hawkins commented to The Wenatchee World, “They looked at our qualifications and compared us. They looked at who we are.” The best person to represent our district for our future. Hawkins added that he was "straightforward with voters. I told them what I thought was right, whether they wanted to hear it or not, and I think they responded to that." He supported his credit, he credited them with his victory. “We’ve worked really hard. It’s not me, it’s the supporters who’ve spent so much of their time and resources helping us with the campaign.”
Career Services for Students, Alumni and Employers

2012 Graduate Employment Statistics

The Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration's Career Development Services offers activities and services for students, alumni and employers including one-on-one advising, a career management website, employer briefings, events to improve career and job skills and networking opportunities. In the fall of 2012, Career Development Services facilitated more than 20 events, held nearly 250 advising appointments and posted hundreds of jobs, internships and fellowships to the career management website.

In Fall 2012, the graduating class of 2012 completed a survey about their employment six months after graduation.

INDUSTRY/FIELD OF 2012 GRADUATES AND AVERAGE SALARY RANGE

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<th>INDUSTRY</th>
<th>PERCENT</th>
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<td>Consulting Services/Contracting</td>
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Resume Guide and Other Career Resources for Students and Alumni

Rachel Krefetz Fyall Joins Faculty at University of Washington

Rachel Krefetz Fyall, MPA '06, recently accepted a teaching position in Public Administration at the University of Washington. Fyall is currently pursuing a PhD in Public Affairs at the School of Public and Environmental Affairs at Indiana University (Bloomington). Her research area of focus is the intersection of the nonprofit and public sectors, especially in the area of social policy. Her dissertation, "The Influence of Nonprofit Organizations on the Formation and Delivery of Public Services," uses the concept of affordable housing to examine nonprofit advocacy and the way nonprofit organizations systematically shape the public services they provide. Fyall is looking forward to returning to Seattle's beautiful environment and being part of its innovative nonprofit sector. She also looks forward to sharing lessons from her research with MPA students dedicated to careers in nonprofit management.

In February the Trachtenberg School’s Career Development and Alumni Services released a new resume guide to serve as a resource for students, alumni and others seeking to enhance the power of their resumes. Career Development and Alumni Services Director Denise Redman developed this guide based on previous Trachtenberg School resources and current resume trends, with the help of interns Daisy Rosen and Roanne Piotrowski.

The guide emphasizes three key objectives:
1. Ensure each resume answers the questions "So What? Who Care? Why Does It Matter?" and passes the Three C's Test by being clear, concise and compelling
2. Find a resume style that uniquely works for the opportunities being sought
3. Use a results-based approach to create a resume that stands out from the stacks of resumes an employer receives

More resources are coming soon, including career guides for cover letters, federal resumes and interviews. Future guides will also include salary negotiation, CVs, recommendation letters, informational interviews and networking.

In addition, students and alumni are encouraged to take advantage of other Career Development Services resources, including individual advising meetings, the Career Services Wiki page (with listings of fellowships, job board links and employers by field), the Career Services library (MPA room 6D) and free subscription access to job boards (log-in information available at https://tsspaa-gwu.csmplicity.com/student).

This spring's Career Development programming includes employer information sessions on-site at the Urban Institute, Nonprofit Roundtable, National Governor's Association and Partnership for Public Service.

Use the Career Resources and Take action:
• Join the Trachtenberg School (TSPPA) LinkedIn Group and set your account to receive emails
• Like the Trachtenberg School page on Facebook
• Update your contact info at alumni.gwu.edu/update-your-contact-info
• Follow GW alumni events at alumni.gwu.edu and go.gwu.edu/alumni/careerservices
• Look for emails about future TSPPA alumni opportunities
Tracking and Assessing Regulations Attempting to Achieve Policy Goals

By Susan Dudley, Director, Regulatory Studies Center

Regulations are a powerful tool for achieving policy goals. When federal agencies including the Treasury Department or Environmental Protection Agency issue regulations, they carry the force of law, yet unlike statutory law, they can be put in effect without approval from Congress. Given today’s climate—with concerns over the fiscal budget and divisions in Congress—regulations can be particularly attractive tools for achieving policy goals, and experts anticipate an ambitious regulatory agenda over the next few years.

The Obama Administration’s most recent “Unified Agenda of Regulatory and Discretionary Actions” corroborates that expectation. It identifies 2,287 regulatory actions underway, of which 840 are listed for the first time. Some of these new regulations are mandated by legislation passed in President Obama’s first term, such as the Affordable Care Act and Dodd-Frank Act, while others rely on authority in older statutes to implement Presidential priorities such as gun control and climate change mitigation. In addition to pursuing new regulations, the President has called on agencies to examine the influence of existing regulations, to identify “rules that may be outdated, ineffective, insufficient or excessively burdensome and to modify, streamline, expand or repeal them in accordance with what has been learned.”

As the focus on regulation increases, the GW Regulatory Studies Center aims to continue being a respected academic source of applied scholarship on regulatory matters, helping policy makers analyze and understand the bad impact of policies and procedures. Our weekly Regulatory Digest keeps readers informed on the latest regulatory developments in government, academia, think tanks and the media. The Center serves as a hub for regulatory scholarship within the George Washington University and around the country, and brings together experts in an effort to improve how risks, benefits and costs are analyzed when developing and reviewing regulation. As precedential new regulations are drafted, the Regulatory Studies Center scholars will file careful analyses with agencies from a public interest perspective.

The Regulatory Studies Center produces events, publications and commentary to raise awareness on a number of key issues, including trends in regulatory activity, ways to enhance the value of science in the regulatory process, applications of benefit-cost analysis and the merits of different regulatory reform proposals. The Center’s research and policy advice are sought by legislators, opinion leaders, and the media. The Center also continues to be a training ground for current and future policy makers who want to understand the effects of regulation and ensure that regulatory policies serve the public interest.

Learn more about regulation and the GW Regulatory Studies Center’s activities at www.RegulatoryStudies.gwu.edu. Send an e-mail to RegulatoryStudies@gwu.edu to subscribe to our newsletter and follow the center on Twitter @RegStudies.

2013 Policy Forum: Serving Low-Income Neighborhoods

The foreclosure crisis garnered substantial attention in recent years and remains in the headlines. But more work remains as low-income communities continue to struggle and recover from the crisis. On March 7, students, alumni and members of the community joined the conversation during the George Washington Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration 2013 Policy Forum: Serving Low-Income Neighborhoods.

The forum was moderated by Joseph Fischero, Deputy Associate Director and Community Affairs Officer at the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and professor, Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration.

The forum’s discussion offered diverse opinions on the current state of community development policy in the U.S. and potential policy developments over the next four years.

Faculty Accomplishments

Compiled by Mody Callaghan (MPA ’14), Mara McMillan (MPP ’14) and Mike Ruddel (MPP ’14)

Bill Adams
Professor of Public Policy and Public Administration
Dr. Bill Adams, along with Dr. Donna Infeld and Carli Wulff, co-authored an article entitled “Statistical Software for Curriculum and Careers.” It was published in the winter 2013 issue of the Journal of Public Affairs Education. The study examines which statistical software programs MPA and MPP schools are choosing to teach and which programs relevant employers are most requesting. Excel and SPSS were at the top of both lists. He was awarded a split sabbatical for the springs of 2013 and 2014 and will be conducting research on juvenile justice diversion programs in D.C. and elsewhere.

Nancy Augustine
Assistant Professor Lecturer; Senior Research Associate, George Washington Institute of Public Policy
Dr. Nancy Augustine presented at a panel at the National Conference of the American Planning Association in Chicago in mid-April. The panel was titled, “Moving Commuters to a Rider Sharing.” Dr. Augustine discussed local efforts to encourage ride-sharing over the past several decades, as well as factors that contribute to individuals changing their travel mode decisions.

Dr. Pace Testifies before House Committee
Scott Pace, George Washington University’s Space Policy Institute Director and affiliated faculty with the Trachtenberg School, testified before the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology in December 2012. The hearing explored options for NASA’s future and perspectives on strategic visions for America’s space program. The hearing came at a time when NASA faced budget difficulties and changing levels of administrative and political support.

Dr. Pace stated that “U.S. national space policy should be updated to make a more explicit recognition of the need for international partners in a long-range vision of human space exploration... Our nation’s space program needs clear, decisive and steadfast leadership. We have enjoyed a half-century of leadership in space, but now that leadership is ebbing despite the hard work of our industry and government personnel. Yes, more money would be useful, but steadiness of purpose, coherence and bipartisan support are even more important.”

Giving further insight into what might emerge as a space priority in the near future, Dr. Pace asserted, “If there is to be a serious effort at engaging international partners, a lunar-focused architecture is most likely to emerge as the next focus of human space exploration.”

Prior to his work at the Space Policy Institute, Dr. Pace served as the Associate Administrator for Program Analysis and Evaluation at NASA and Assistant Director for Space and Aeronautics at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy.

Steven Baillie
Associate Professor of Political Science, Public Policy and Public Administration and International Affairs
Dr. Steven Baillie recently published “Information Technology, Public Participation, and the Evolution of Chinese Policymaking” in the July 2012 issue of the Journal of Contemporary China. His previously delivered remarks on “The Politicization of Administration” at a symposium on Hyper-Partisanship and the Law, hosted by Georgetown Law School, are being published in the Georgetown Journal of Law and Public Policy. Dr. Baillie also presented a paper entitled “Online Consultation and the Nature of Citizen Feedback in Chinese Policymaking” at the Fifth International Forum for Contemporary Chinese Studies in Beijing in August of 2012, as well as at the annual meeting and international symposium of the Association of Chinese Political Studies in San Francisco. Additionally, Dr. Baillie will chair the public administration section of the 2013 annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association and has been named the research director of the Association of Chinese Political Studies.

Burt Barnow
Amsterdam Professor of Public Service

Jennifer Brinkerhoff
Professor of Public Administration and International Affairs
Jennifer M. Brinkerhoff recently presented “Diasporic Institutional Entrepreneurs and Economic Reform in Ethiopia” as part of the Rethinking Development Policy Series, International Center for Development at Duke University. She was also invited to present this work to RTI International headquarters, where some GW alumni are working on projects in Ethiopia. The work is based on a chapter in her book project, “Diasporic Institutional Entrepreneurs: Catalyzing Reform for Development.”
Faculty Members Elected to the Institute of Medicine

Paula Lantz, Professor of Health Policy and Public Policy
Sara Rosenbaum, Harold and Jane Hirsh Professor of Health Law and Policy

In October of 2012, the Institute of Medicine-elect Trachtenberg affiliates Paula Lantz and Sara Rosenbaum for membership in their distinguished organization. Election to the Institute of Medicine—established in 1970 by the National Academy of Sciences—is considered one of the highest honors in the field of health and medicine. This honor recognizes individuals who have demonstrated outstanding professional achievement and commitment to service. New members are elected by current active members through a selective process that recognizes individuals who have made major contributions to the advancement of the medical sciences, health care, and public health.

Dr. Lantz’s areas of expertise include cancer prevention, protection of infant health and elimination of the vast inequities in health status and health care access in the United States. Dr. Lantz has received funding from major institutions, including the National Institutes of Health, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. She has recently received a project award from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute to study communication strategies regarding evidence-based guidelines for clinical preventive services, and her work has appeared, among other publications, in American Journal of Public Health, Journal of the American Medical Association and Journal of Health Politics, Policy and Law.

Ms. Rosenbaum joined George Washington University in 1999. She has developed her professional career to issues of health justice for populations who are medically underserved as a result of race, poverty, disability or cultural exclusion.

Joseph Cordes
Professor of Economics, Public Policy and Public Administration, and International Affairs; Associate Director, Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration

Dr. Joseph Cordes presented results of his research on the interface between tax policy and the finances of charitable organizations at both the 41st Annual Research Conference of the Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action (ARNOVA) in November 2013, and as a participant on a panel titled “The Charitable Deduction: A View from the Other Side of the CIT” at a conference at the American Institute in February. He recently completed a term as President of the Society for Benefit Cost Analysis and currently serves as Chairman of the Committee of Institutional Representatives and as a member of the Executive Council of the Association for Public Policy and Management.

Dr. Kee Presents Lecture in Cairo

James Edwin (Jed) Kee, Professor Emeritus of Public Policy and Public Administration

Professor Kee traveled to Egypt in November 2012 for a family vacation. While there, he gave a lecture at the American University of Cairo on a new book that he is writing with GW Professor John Forrer and doctoral graduate Eric Boyce; entitled Governing Partnerships and Networks: New Choices for Public Managers.

Professor and Associate Dean of AU Cairo Linda E Bendar hosted Professor Kee at the university in southwest Cairo. His lecture was well received, and there was a great deal of discussion about the current political scene in Egypt. He noted that Egypt’s economy is robust in conflict and severe disagreements among the founders, and a key in the United States constitutional debates was an agreement to create the Bill of Rights. He suggested that a similar document might help ease the tension felt by Coptic Christians and others who fear the Muslim Brotherhood’s approach to governance. The issues are indeed difficult, but Professor Kee believes they can be solved if there is a reasonable amount of good will on the part of the negotiators.

He noted that the uncertainty and violence in Egypt has had a major effect on tourism. Professor Kee’s tour group had only 15 people and was and often the only group of American tourists at historic sites. They toured Cairo and Luxor and took a cruise up the Nile to Aswan and then on Lake Nasser to Abu Simbel. The group was fortunate to have an excellent PhD Egyptologist as a guide. The group stayed at the Intercontinental Ramses Cairo Hotel, just one block from the heart of the demonstrations and democracy movement, Tahrir Square.

Susan E. Dudley
Director, GW Regulatory Studies Center; Research Professor of Public Policy & Public Administration

Professor Susan Dudley recently published the book Regulation: A Primer, co-authored with Jerry Brito. She also published an article analyzing the Office of Management of Budget’s reported benefits and costs of regulation in the summer issue of Business Economics and a report examining trends in the budgets of regulatory agencies, with Melissa Warren of the Weidenbaum Center at Washington University in St. Louis. Professor Dudley was recently re-elected to the board of the Society for Benefit Cost Analysis, and is a member of the Academic Action (ARNOVA) in November 2013, and as a participant on a panel titled “The Charitable Deduction: A View from the Other Side of the CIT” at a conference at the American Institute in February. He recently completed a term as President of the Society for Benefit Cost Analysis and currently serves as Chairman of the Committee of Institutional Representatives and as a member of the Executive Council of the Association for Public Policy and Management.

John Forrer
Associate Faculty, Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration

Dr. John Forrer presented at the Annual Youth Assembly at the United Nations on January 31, for an audience of more than 400 youth from around the world. He participated in the Global Partnerships Forum on a panel entitled, “Moving from ‘TALK to ACTION’”. Dr. Forrer’s presentation focused on using collaborative partnerships as a way to address global problems.
Heidi Hartmann
President, Institute for Women's Policy Research; Research Professor of Women's Studies

Dr. Heidi Hartmann spoke at the Allied Social Sciences Associations Annual Meeting in San Diego on January 6. She presented on a panel titled "Gender and Austerity in the Great Recession," along with colleagues from the United Kingdom, Italy, and Greece. Hartmann presented a paper with which she co-authored with Jeffrey Hayes entitled "Single Mothers in the Great Recession: How Well did the Safety Net Work?" which grew out of their desire to understand what our safety nets were doing to alleviate poverty.

Jasmine McGinnis
Assistant Professor of Public Policy and Public Administration

The DS Coalition (an initiative of the Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors examining philanthropic diversity) awarded Dr. Jasmine McGinnis a contract to write an op-ed piece in the Stanford Social Innovation Review, with a link to a longer research piece hosted on the DS Coalition’s website. Dr. McGinnis also co-authored a book chapter entitled "Voluntary Organizations" with Dennis Young. Georgia State University, Lewis Faulk, American University for Luigi Buzzini and Stefano Zammarelli forthcoming Handbook on the Economics of Philanthropy: Reciprocity and Social Enterprise.

Kathryn E. Newcomer
Director, Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration; Professor of Public Policy and Public Administration

In the last few months, Dr. Newcomer focused time and attention on planning the Trachtenberg School’s 50th Anniversary Celebration. She was delighted to work with many alumni in planning and implementing the events of February 22-23. She was truly thrilled to see so many of her former students from the ‘80s, ’90s and later. In December 2012, Dr. Newcomer delivered a workshop on program evaluation and monitoring for government ministry managers for the Mandela Foundation in South Africa. She also delivered similar workshops for U.S. intelligence community managers in January and for Iraqi managers in Dubai in March. She recently published a chapter entitled “Basic of Design for Evaluation of Cohesion Policy Interventions” in the book Evaluating the Effects of Regional Interventions: A Look Beyond Current Structural Funds Practice, edited by Karol Olszewska, Marek Kozek and Stanislaw Bilarus for the Ministry of Regional Development in Warsaw, Poland. Dr. Newcomer also co-authored a paper “Reconciling ‘Performance Management’: Situating Performance Measurement within Program Evaluation, and Program Evaluation as a Mission-Support Function” with Clint Brass of the Congressional Research Service and presented it at the American Society for Public Administration conference in March. She is extremely busy planning the annual conference of the American Evaluation Association to be held in October as a board member and conference program chair.

Marvin PhauP
Professorial Lecturer in Public Policy and Public Administration


F. Stevens Redburn
Professorial Lecturer in Public Policy and Public Administration

Dr. F. Stevens Redburn helped organize a reunion of participants in the 1990 budget summit negotiations in November. The event included reflections by then Chief of Staff John Sununu, former Speaker Tom Foley, Senator Pete Domenici, then OBO Director Robert Reichshau, and others on lessons for the present. Dr. Redburn is a steering committee member of the joint ASPA-NAPA Memos for National Leaders project and led the writing of four memos on how to strengthen the federal government’s budget process, co-authored with PBS Joyce, Paul Proster and Roy Meyers. He is a visiting faculty member at Carnegie Mellon University’s Heinz College graduate public management program in Adelaide, Australia this spring.

Gregory Squires
Professor of Sociology, and Public Policy and Public Administration


Stephen Joel Trachtenberg
President Emeritus, The George Washington University - University Professor of Public Service

President Stephen Joel Trachtenberg authored the book Why They Faded, to be released in the spring by the Johns Hopkins University Press. He recently took part in the National Defense University External Review Panel, a panel on “Affirmative Action” at the University of Georgia Law Working in the Public Interest Conference; the American Council on Education Annual Meeting; the Monitor Talent Board Meeting at Stanford Business School and the Education Policy Institute Forum on “The Role of Higher Education in Shaping Research and Policy.” Additionally, President Trachtenberg delivered the keynote at the Limmud Conference this spring and is the District 5 Chair of the 2013 Selection Committee for the Rhodes Scholarships. At GW, President Trachtenberg was a lecturer in Professor Roger Whittaker’s master’s-level class on administration of higher education and delivered the greetings at the Trachtenberg School’s 50th Anniversary Celebration in February. Finally, he served as delegation leader of a study tour for the university president with the America-Israel Friendship League in May. He has recently been interviewed on PBS News Hour and KSVR radio’s This Week in Politics with Ron Wilkins.

Michael Wiseman
Research Professor of Public Policy and Public Administration and Economics, The George Washington Institute of Public Policy

Dr. Michael Wiseman was a guest of the Polish Ministry of Regional Development in Warsaw this winter, where he was a speaker at a conference titled “Evaluation in the System of Public Policies.” Dr. Wiseman and Erica Herbstein (MP’12) presented the paper “State Policy and Supplemental Security Income for Children” at the 34th Annual Fall Research Conference of the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management in Baltimore this past November.

As a part of a collaboration between The Huffington Post and the George Washington University surrounding the 2013 Presidential Inauguration, several GW faculty members blogged in a series titled “The Road Forward: Obama’s Second Term Challenges.” The series closely examined the most pressing issues facing President Obama in his second term.

Among those who participated were Trachtenberg School faculty members Elizabeth Rigby, Robert Stoker, and Gregory Squires. In Dr. Rigby’s piece, “Why We Don’t Need a Second ‘War on Poverty’ (At Least Not Now),” she argued that waging “an us vs. them” war between poor and middle-class Americans at a time of national concern about uncertainty, scarcity and debt would be detrimental. Instead, she writes, “these two groups must join together in shared outrage at the limited opportunities for social mobility in this country.”

In his post, “Saving Social Security by Cutting Middle-Class Taxes,” Dr. Stoker argues that rather than trying to address Social Security’s solvency issues by debating the FICA tax cap, “a better alternative is to expand the tax base, not merely by increasing the FICA tax cap but by taxing other income sources. By doing so, President Obama could preserve and protect Social Security while reducing tax rates.” This reform is pro-labor, pro-employment and pro-growth.

Dr. Squires’ piece, “What Does Barack Obama Owes the Black Community?” addresses the need to focus attention on the black community during Obama’s second term – not because of the President’s race, but because of the 99th African American vote; “because despite all the misplaced rhetoric of our becoming a colorblind, post-racial society, nothing could be further from the truth. And the federal government, among others, has an obligation to address the continuing sacrifice of race in America.”

Each of these articles, along with contributions from other GW faculty can be found at: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/news/the-road-forward.
Alumni updates

Compiled by Caitlin Brand (MPP '14), Maia McMillan (MPP '16), and Phil Gilman (MPP '14)

Reginald C. Griner, MPA ’99 | Reginald Griner is retired after 12 years of teaching public administration at William Paterson University and formed a nonprofit scholarship organization to provide high school scholarship awards for Antiracism conductors’ family members. Over the last five years, he has traveled with his wife to China, Russia, Australia, New Zealand, Alaska, the Dominican Republic and Jamaica.

Sally Burks Schmeltz, MPA ’94 | Sally Burks Schmeltz earned an MPA at GW while working at a law firm/consulting firm in D.C. She then moved to Chicago to work for the Great Books Foundation doing grantwriting and working on special projects. Then, she moved to Boston to work for a U.S.-Canada international environmental association and became an Alumni Director for a Boston college. Additionally, she has lived in Luxembourg, N.C., and Maryland. She is the mother of three children and continues to do volunteer and community service work in between some fun travel overseas and on the Eastern seaboard.

Scott Doxick, MPA ’96 | Scott Doxick owns a consulting business (Capital Pathways LLC) that provides association management, public relations, strategic planning and grant writing services. Most important to him are his two sons who are now in kindergarten and the fourth grade. He is a member of the Natomas Unified School District’s Budget Advisory Committee and chairs its Citizen Bond Oversight Committee. For the last seven years, he has taught at the University of Phoenix Sacramenta Valley Campuses and was honored in 2007 as one of the faculty of the year.

Roy Wright, MPA ’98 | Roy Wright was recently selected as the next university administrator for mitigation at the Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration. In his new position, he brings risk analytics and long-term vulnerability management expertise to Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) programs, and advances the implementation of the reforms to the National Flood Insurance Program passed by Congress last summer. Before his appointment, he led the interagency development of the National Mitigation Framework.

Tara Lovrich, MPA ’99 | Tara Lovrich is the township administrator for Marlboro Township, New Jersey. She currently serves as the vice president of the New Jersey Municipal Management Association (NJMMA). She will serve as president of the Association in 2013.

Jacob Kethan, MPA ’01 | After working as an assistant professor at Ole Miss for the last five years, Jason Kethan had the pleasure of moving back to his hometown of Buffalo, New York, to teach in the Political Science department of SUNY Buffalo.

Amy Hall, PhD ’03 | Amy Hall was selected as the 2012-2013 Department of Homeland Security-RAND Fellow and is spending a year working on RAND research projects at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Michelle Amante, MPA ’04 | Michelle Amante has been named director of the Department of Unemployment Assistance in Massachusetts, after serving as acting director for the past year. She is very excited to continue the work she has already started in a more official capacity.

Jen Auer, MPA ’04 | Jen Auer is currently working on a PhD in public administration at Arizona State University.

Lee Edgar, MPA ’04 | Lee Edgar serves as a civil engineer with the Department of Public Works of Queen Anne’s County, Maryland, where he manages public works projects and the review of commercial and residential development applications within the county. Edgar’s water quality initiatives were recognized by the County Engineer’s Association of Maryland, Maryland Quality Initiative Award of Excellence and a Portland Cement Association Sustainable Leadership Award.

Sarah Krichels Goan, MPA ’04 | Sarah Krichels Goan is the manager of the South Portland office of Homeland Zellers Associates, an evaluation and social research firm that works with state and community clients on a range of topics. She has worked on the state and local evaluation component for many federal grants, which allows her to see work at the local, state, and national levels.

Lauren Hersh Nichols, MPA ’04 | Lauren Hersh Nichols received the 2012 AcademicHealth.com of the Year Award, which “recognizes the best scientific work that the fields of health services research and health policy have produced and published,” for her paper “Regional Variation in the Association Between Advance Directives and End-of-Life Medicare Expenditures,” published in the Journal of the American Medical Association.

Anya Olsen, MPA ’04 | Anya Olsen currently works for the Social Security Administration in Washington, D.C. She analyzes Social Security reforms for policymakers, think tanks and other government employees. She is currently co-authoring a paper that was accepted to the fall Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management conference, part of a panel using distributional analysis to evaluate reforms to Social Security.

Rani Parker, PhD ’04 | Rani Parker founded Business-Community Synergies as a result of her dissertation research at the Trachtenberg School. BCS works in the extractive field to increase transparency, accountability and corporate responsibility; improve negotiations for communities and workers; and understand local expectations of employment.

Cynthia Conner, MPA ’05 | Cynthia Conner recently accepted a position with the British Consulate in Houston as a policy advisor. She works with a team to understand and influence U.S. energy and environmental policy and to inform U.K. policy based on the U.S. experience. She focuses on the energy industry both in Houston and in entire state governments in the south. It has already proven to be an exciting position for Cynthia.

Mel Farrah, MPA ’05 | Mel Farrah helped establish an inter-agency partnership with the New York City Department of Education’s Office of Early Childhood. As the lead of the Mayor’s Leaders Transition Forum in June 2012, Farrah moderated leaders from Head Start, district schools, charter schools and community-based organizations. A follow-up conference was held in the fall of 2012.

Sache Cantu, MPA ’06 | Sache Cantu recently began a new role at the Spanish-based Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria — also known as BBVA Compass. She joined the Corporate Responsibility and Reputation team in Houston, TX as a vice president, community giving manager, while also serving as a program officer for the BBVA Compass Foundation.

Francisco Cota, MPA ’06 | Francisco Cota worked for the State Legislature of Baja California as the chief of staff of representative Giffert Horta of the district of Ensenada. He then was named deputy secretary of the office of the Ombudsmen in Baja California, where he helped develop the first children’s ombudsman prevention program in Mexico, and worked on new state legislation on rights for people with disabilities. Mr. Cota recently opened a consulting firm in the city of Ensenada.

Whitney Owen, MPA ’06 | Whitney Owen received the Outstanding Young Alumni Award from Georgia Tech. This award recognizes Georgia Tech alumni under the age of 40 who have shown outstanding leadership and service to Georgia Tech, the community, and their profession. Ms. Owen is currently program manager of health systems management at LMI Consulting.

Amanda Riggs, MPA ’06 | Amanda Riggs works as a special advisor on trade policy and business development at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce on Middle East and North Africa Affairs. She is close to completing her first book on being a woman in business in the Middle East. Ms. Riggs holds positions as the director of the Ambassadors Series for Young Professionals in Foreign Policy and as the chair for the Africa and Middle East Committee for Women in International Trade.

Sophie Shen, MPA ’06 | Sophie Shen is in her second year of the DPH executive leadership program at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill. She also works at Johnson and Johnson, promoting high quality and affordable products all over the world. She has had opportunities to visit some of the 250 branches the company has in different regions Singapore, China, Belgium, London and South Africa to name a few.

Meghan Taylor, MPP ’06 | In December 2011, Meghan Taylor welcomed a new daughter, Taleise Eileen Taylor. In May 2012, after nearly six years with the African Wildlife Foundation, she left and is currently working on the Brookings Institution’s Grants Administration team.

Benjamin Deitchman, MPA ’07 | Benjamin Deitchman will be finishing his PhD in Public Policy from Georgia Tech in 2013.

Bethany K. Petrofsky, MPA ’07 | Bethany Petrofsky has been named Contracting Officer of Fiscal Year 2012 for the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency. She also celebrated 10 years of public service in the federal government in July 2012 and was recently promoted to deputy assistant director of the Detention Management Division within the Office of Acquisition.

Patrick J. Kelly, MPP ’08 | Patrick Kelly currently serves as official for privacy and information security branch chief at the Office of Inspector General at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. He also serves on the International Information Systems Security Certification Consortium (IC3’S) Government Advisory Board for Cyber Security and recently received an appointment to the George Washington University as a lecturer in the Computer Science department, and senior research associate with the Computer Security and Research Policy Institute and as lead instructor for the GW Cyber Corps Program.

Landon Derentz, MPP ’09 | After completing 4.5 years with the Air Force, Landon Derentz attended Pepperdine University School of Law and graduated this May. Derentz now works at the Department of Energy as a presidential management fellow.

Daniel Honker, MPA ’09 | Daniel Honker and wife Kristen Warms, both 2009 MPA graduates, had their first child in December 2012. They met as first-year MPA students at the Trachtenberg School.

Matt Kazan, MPP ’09 | Matt Kazan is the principle advisor on Medicare to Max Baucus, Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee. Kazan worked on Medicare as a national healthcare reform. This position grew out of an internship Kazan held while he was completing his MPP: Additionally, Kazan recently completed the Wisconsin Ironman, a 2.4 mile swim, 112 mile bike ride and 26.2 mile run.

Elizabeth Seidman, MPA ’09 | Elizabeth Seidman is the associate director of resource development for Save the Children’s U.S. Programs. In that role, Seidman leads Save the Children’s state-based fundraising efforts. Additionally, Elizabeth recently became engaged to her boyfriend of five years, Christopher Troble, who attended many a Fall Ball and Spring Fling in her side, back in the day.
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TRACHTENBERG SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

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