

THE PUBLIC SERVANT
NEWS FROM ASU'S MPA PROGRAM

G.I.S. SUMMER COURSE PROJECTS
CONTRIBUTED BY MARY HOWARD

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Special points of interest:

- Practical Applications of GIS
- 2005 Academic Course Schedule
- Student, Alumni and Faculty News Updates

In the summer term, the Topics in GIS (Geographic Information System) course was expanded to meet four Saturdays in July. The GIS course is intended for students to develop a firm grasp of the many applications and fields that are available in the rapidly expanding field of GIS, and to give the students a “taste” of technology that is becoming an integral part of many local governments, as well as federal and private sector work environments.

The class started with an overview of GIS applications that are used commonplace, such as Mapquest and Yahoo Maps. How do these applications so quickly determine directions and time for travel? They are applications of GIS that follow rules of connectivity and directionality. What that means to the user is this; travel can only be routed through connected streets, and vehicles travel at different speeds in cities than on the interstate, and one-way streets may come into play... the possibilities are many. GIS takes all of these rules into account in quickly determining optimal routes and times, and gives intelligence to these mapping applications. The uses of GIS are numerous, whether it be in emergency response applications used by 911 dispatchers; in crime analysis packages that model crimes and can determine optimal staffing for patrols as well as predict areas likely for crimes to take place; in natural resource management to determine zones for watershed protections for water quality and species monitoring. Locally, in practical application of GIS, the students formed groups and developed projects that integrated the technology they were learning to use and the Augusta State University campus. All of the projects began with GPS data collection and were built from the “ground-up.”

Projects included cemetery managements collection, which was an examination of the Arsenal Cemetery that mapped the headstones and combined them with the existing historical database, as well as collecting and recording features such as trees (species and characteristics),



walls and entryways. Other projects included the mapping of faculty parking lots to determine size, locations, and amenities as related to ASU buildings. A Historical Walk— buildings and other historical landmarks were collected in this project, and the public safety project that mapped the emergency call box locations across campus to show distribution, and to determine a buffer zone around the boxes to illustrate the distance between them and target zones for installation of additional boxes, as well as how far someone would have to go to call in an emergency situation.

Both the class and the project application showed students how GIS technology can be practically applied while also obtaining knowledge of a rapidly growing field.

CONGRATULATIONS TO....

Georgia Political Science Association conference participants, **Tom Chumbley** who presented a paper co-authored by John Peery entitled *A Matter of Public Interest: A Study in Ethical Decision Making and the Taliaferro County Landfill*, and **Laura Collins** and **Dwight Johnson** who presented the 2003/2004 cohort project on *Economic Development in a Rural Setting: The Case of Lincoln County*.



SeCOPA (Southeastern Conference of Public Administration) Participants **April Zahner** and **Ginny Loveless** who presented their paper *The Fight for Environmental Justice: The Case of Taliaferro County*.

Phil Stavale on his completion of the Bridge to Leadership Program for the Savannah District Corps of Engineers from the Department of the Army.



Congratulations to **Mickey Williford** and German Chavarria. Who were married on November, 20, 2004!! Our best wishes to the newlyweds!

Congratulations to yet another MPA newlywed, **John Peery** who married his fiancé Marianne in August in Gibraltar. John was transferred to Bahrain last October and is the Deputy SIGINT Collections Manager. *Continued on Page 3*

HUMAN SERVICE ADMINISTRATION TRACK

Beginning this Fall courses have been offered for the new Human service Administration track. This track prepares students for the challenges of working in Human service Administration (HSA). Agencies involved in providing services to citizens, such as welfare, food banks, shelters, community centers face unique challenges including mixed funding streams, board structures, dependence on volunteers, and infrequent planning. This track will prepare students to meet these challenges.

Listed below are the required track courses, in addition to the regular MPA program of study with the exception of PADM 6300:

- PADM 6550** Human Service Administration
- PADM 6240** Strategic Planning for Nonprofit Organizations OR
- PADM 6250** Planning Resource Administration
- PADM 6300** Public Budgeting OR
- PADM 6301** Financial Management for Nonprofit Organizations

COURSE SCHEDULE 2005 ACADEMIC YEAR

Spring 2005

- PADM 6010**, Communication Skills for Professionals (Wood)
- PADM 6100**, Organizational Theory & Behavior (Walker)
- PADM 6030**, Grant Writing **NEW** (Gray)
- PADM 6050**, Constitutional & Administrative Law (Whiting)
- PADM 6600**, Quantitative Methods (Reinke)
- PADM 6800**, State Government Administration (Harris)
- PADM 7050**, Capstone (Reinke

& Johnston)

Summer 2005

- PADM 6020**, Intro. To G.I.S. (Howard)
- PADM 6200**, Human Resources
- PADM 6300**, Public Budgeting
- PADM 6301**, Financial Management for Nonprofits **NEW**
- PADM 6350**, Emergency Management

Fall 2005

- PADM 6000**, History, Scope and Practice
- PADM 6010**, Communications Skills
- PADM 6500**, Research Methods
- PADM 6550**, Human Service Administration
- PADM 6900**, Internship
- PADM 6700**, Urban Government and Administration
- PADM 6750**, Program Evaluation

CONGRATULATIONS TO...

Our December Graduate, **Marion Cantrell**.



Phil Stavale for winning the Gwen Y. Wood Book Scholarship for the Spring 2005 term.

New parents **Ellen Byron** and her husband Craig on the birth of their daughter Grace Margaret Byron who was born Saturday, August 7, 2004. Grace weighed in at 7 lbs.

Marion Cantrell, who is working for the Augusta Chronicle as a Classified Sales Assistant. Marion works as the middle-man between the Chronicle Sales Representatives and the Press.

Dwight Johnson for being selected as a semi-finalist for the class of 2005 Presidential Management Fellows Program.

Donald Mills will be the new Graduate Assistant for Spring 2005, Donald will be assigned to Dr. Reinke along with **Laura Collins**, and **Katie Little** who will be continuing her work with Dr. Walker in the Research Center.

Stephanie Quattlebaum who was a presenter at the Forum on Chronic and Terminal Illness held on campus on November 4th. Stephanie is a hospice bereavement counselor and discussed the spiritual issues associated with end of life care.

FACULTY UPDATE

•**Dr. Reinke** presented a paper on the privatization of the Augusta YDC at the Southeastern Conference on Public Administration. Her paper illustrated the ethical conflicts that can emerge in privatization decisions. At this year's National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration conference and at the Georgia Political Science Association annual meeting, Dr. Reinke presented a paper she co-authored with Dr. Walker on the challenges universities face in creating long-term relationships with the community.

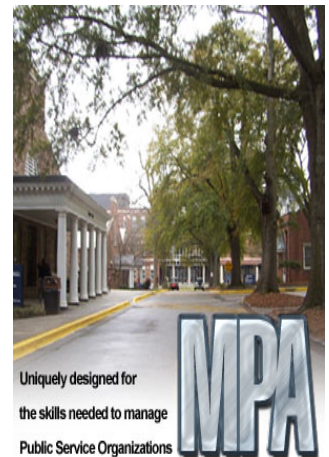
•**Dr. Harris** organized and participated in a panel discussion "A Transnational Diaspora in the Making? Russian Jews in Israel, Germany and the United States" which was held October 6th and hosted by Georgia State University's Middle East Center. The panel was composed of scholars from Germany, Israel and the United States.

•**Dr. Miller** presented a paper at the Southeastern Conference on Public Administration on the dark side of reinvention. His research illustrated how increases in management discretion can lead to nepotism in hiring. In addition, Dr. Miller served as discussant for a panel on teaching skills at the Georgia Political Science Association's annual meeting.

•**Dr. Harris** delivered the following paper "The Russian Jewish Diaspora in Germany and the United States" at the International Studies Association—South Conference which was held October 22-23 on the campus of The University of South Carolina.

•On election night, **Dr. Harris** served as the political analyst for the local NBC affiliate WAGT Channel 23, **Dr. Walker** served as the political analyst for News Channel 6 WJBF.

•Finally, as advisor of the Political Science Club, **Dr. Harris** organized two campus wide events earlier this fall, "Clergy Forum: Spiritual Perspective on 2004 Election Issues" and "Together We Care: Public Policy Challenges to Chronic and Terminal Illness".



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non-profit managers for
tomorrow's challenges.*

ALUMNI NEWS

Trent O'Neil (2003) who is now working for the Drug Enforcement Agency.

Anthony Chandler (2004) starting working July 29th as the Assistant Director for Development for the Housing Authority of High Point, North Carolina.

Linda Grijalva (2003) has taken a job with the CSRA Regional Development Center as a Planning and Development Specialist. She works with 13 counties and 41 cities writing and administering grants, conducting research for local governments, assisting counties with pre-disaster mitigation plans and comprehensive housing.

Helen Bratton (2003) who is Coordinator of Youth Services for Richmond/Burke Job Training Authority. Helen oversees all the youth activities/programs for these two counties, which include summer and year round programs.

Our Mission

The Master of Public Administration degree prepares current and prospective professional public managers whose skills enable them to adopt to changes and new demands in public, nonprofit or voluntary organizations. The degree seeks to foster the intellectual growth of students through faculty emphasis on teaching excellence and applied management practices. The program will address the needs of public and nonprofit sector organizations in the community and in the region through the application of intellectual resources and applied research.

Our Faculty

Dr. Paul Harris

Dr. Nabil Ibrahim

Dr. Bob Johnston

Dr. Saundra Reinke

Dr. Ralph Walker

Dr. Steven Weiss

Dr. Ray Whiting

Dr. Gwen Wood

Ms. Mary Howard

Mr. Andy Crosson

Dr. Randall Miller

Ms. Carmen Landy