



Doctoral Program in Public Affairs



News from the Doctoral Program in Public Affairs • College of Health and Public Affairs

Spring 2005

A Message from Director Thomas Wan



2004 was a productive year for the Doctoral Program in Public Affairs. I am grateful for the support of the administration, faculty and students to build consensus on the program vision. The interdisciplinary program is striving to be the premier program in public affairs education and research.

Our concerted effort helped accomplish the following:

- streamlined the curriculum program
- improved the advising and mentoring process
- organized a very successful public affairs research conference
- built a very strong faculty commitment to program excellence
- committed to disseminating research knowledge with the editorship of the *International Journal of Public Policy* (IJPP)
- built an informatics research track for postdoctoral training
- established partnerships with multiple service organizations
- continued producing high-quality students
- formed a doctoral student association to provide student input into the program's development and improvement

Collectively, we continue to strengthen the program.

Our office has moved to the Institute of Simulation and Research (IST) in the Central Florida Research Park. Our new research lab will greatly enhance the productivity of our faculty and students. This facility provides 24-hour access to a state-of-the-art informatics lab. We will actively pursue external funding and develop collaborative interdisciplinary research in public affairs. I am personally thankful to all those from the administration, faculty and students for their support and commitment.

I would also like to congratulate our three most recent graduates from the public affairs program. They are:

- Dr. Reed Oetjen, "Emergency department utilization by insured users: A study of motivating factors"
- Dr. Sandra Swearingen, "Desired nursing leadership characteristics: Effect on nursing job satisfaction and retention of baby boomers and Generation X nurses"
- Dr. Linda Dennis, "Determinants of financial condition: A study of U.S. cities"

— Dr. Thomas Wan

Faculty Research and Scholarly Activities

- Adams, K. "Divergences and Convergences in Public Affairs Education and Research" (Forthcoming in the *International Journal of Public Policy*, 2005)
- Applegate, B & Davis, R. "Examining public support for "correcting" offenders" (Forthcoming 2005)
- Applegate, B. "The myth that the death penalty is administered fairly" (Forthcoming In *Robert M. Bohm & Jeffrey T. Walker, Eds., Demystifying crime and criminal justice.* Los Angeles: Roxbury)
- Bast, C., & Margie Hawkins, M. "Foundations of Legal Research and Writing" (Delmar Learning, in press)
- James, D., Cullen, F., & Applegate, B. "Turning the other cheek: Reassessing the impact of religion on punitive ideology" (Forthcoming in *Justice Quarterly*)
- Kapucu, N. "Public-Nonprofit Partnerships for Collective Action in Dynamic Contexts" *Public Administration: An International Quarterly* (Forthcoming 2005)
- Kapucu, N. "Interorganizational Coordination in Dynamic Contexts: Networks in Emergency Management" *Journal of International Network for Social Network Analysis* (Forthcoming 2005)

(See Faculty ... on p. 2)

Welcome to the second issue of this newsletter, which is designed for members of the Doctoral Program in Public Affairs at the University of Central Florida. We appreciate receiving your questions, comments and suggestions. Contact Hayden Smith, editor, at hpsmith@mail.ucf.edu.

Faculty Research and Scholarly Activities

(Continued from p. 1)

- *Kapucu, N.* "New Public Management: Theory, Ideology, and Practice" Handbook of Globalization and Public Administration (Forthcoming 2005)
- *Lanther, W.* "Capital Equipment Purchases" Washington, DC: National Institute for Governmental Purchasing (Forthcoming Summer 2005)
- *Lanther, W.* "Public Private Partnerships: the Case of Advanced Traveler Information Systems" International Journal of Public Administration (Forthcoming 2005)
- *Lieberman, A & Falen, T.* (2005). "ICD-9 Coding-Management & Compliance" (Baltimore: Lippencotts)
- *Lieberman, A & Rotarius, T.* "Healthcare as a Commodity — A Financing Mechanism to Control Costs & Assure Access," International Journal of Public Policy (Forthcoming 2005)
- *Lieberman, A et al.*, "Teaching, Learning, and the Development of Leadership Skills Through Constructive Engagement," Journal of Faculty Development (Forthcoming 2005)
- *Maiden, R.P.* "Developing Workplace Substance Abuse" In Sirotkin, S and Kohl, H, Eds. Strategies for Substance Abuse Prevention. Russia and Germany: Tempus Project (Book chapter will be published in Russian and German)
- *Maiden, R.P.* "The Employee Assistance Industry Alliance: Public, Private and the Labor Movement" (Scheduled for March 2005)
- *Maiden, R.P.* (2005). "Welfare Capitalism Comes Full Circle through the Intergration of Employee Assistance, Work-life and Wellness Service" Journal of Workplace Behavioral Health Vol. 20 (1&2)
- *Malvey, D., & Hamby E.* "Case Study: Applying a strategic flow management model to implement value adding service delivery strategies in a county health department" In Strategic Management of Health Care Organizations (Scheduled for publication in spring 2005)
- *Malvey, D.* "Managing with organized labor" In B. Fried, Management of Human Resources in Health Care (2nd ed). Chicago: Health Administration Press (Scheduled for publication in spring 2005)
- *Martin, L.* (2005). "Performance-Based Contracting for Human Services: Does it Work?" Administration In Social Work 29:63-77
- *Myers, S., Smith, H. P., & Martin, L. L.* "Conducting Best Practices Research in Public Affairs" (Forthcoming in the International Journal of Public Policy, 2005)
- *McCarthy, B., McCarthy, B., & Braswell, M.* (2005) "Justice, Crime and Ethics" (Cincinnati: Anderson)
- *Paoline, E., McCluskey, J., & Terrill, W.* "Peer Group Aggressiveness and the Use of Coercion in Police-Suspect Encounters" Police Practice & Research: An International Journal (Forthcoming 2005)
- *Paoline, E & Lambert, E.* "The Impact of Medical Issues on the Job Stress and Job Satisfaction of Jail Staff" Punishment and Society (Forthcoming 2005)
- *Paoline, E., Bernard, T & Pare, P.* "Criminal Justice and General Systems Theory" Journal of Criminal Justice (Forthcoming 2005)
- *Rotarius, T., & D. Oetjen.* (2005) "The Comprehensive Organizational Plan Revisited — Building An Ethical Component into Your COP" (In press)
- *Unruh, L., Zhang, J., & Wan, T.T.H.* "Impact of Medicare Reimbursement Changes on Staffing and the Quality of Nursing Homes" (Forthcoming in International Journal of Public Policy, 2005)
- *Unruh, L.,* (2005) "Employment conditions at the bedside: A cause of and solution to the RN shortage" Journal of Nursing Administration, 35(1), 11-13.
- *Unruh, L., & Rudner, N.* (2005). "Guest Editorial: Patient safety: What's managed care got to do with it?" Journal for Healthcare Quality, 27(1), 1, 58, 60
- *Van Wart, M.* "Dynamics of Leadership in Public Service: Theory and Practice" (Under contract with M.E. Sharpe, due March 2005)
- *Van Wart, M., & Lisa Dicke,* eds. "ASPA Classics in Leadership" (In press)
- *Wan, T.T.H.* "Public Affairs Informatics Research" (Forthcoming in the International Journal of Public Policy, 2005)
- *Wan, T.T.H., Wang, B.L., et al.* "The Health Information System Adoption in American Hospitals" (Forthcoming in Health Care Management Review, 2005)
- *Wan, T.T.H.* "Healthcare Informatics Research: From Data to Evidence-Based Management" (Forthcoming in Journal of Medical Systems)
- *Zhang, J., & Wan, T.T.H.* "Effects of Institutional Mechanisms on Nursing Home Quality" (Forthcoming in Journal of Health and Human Services Administration, 2005)
- *Zhang, J., Unruh, L., & Wan, T.T.H.* "Minimum Nurse Staffing Ratios for Nursing Homes" (Forthcoming in Journal of Medical Systems)

Conference Positions Campus as a Leader in Public Affairs Research

More than 100 students, faculty members and practitioners attended UCF's first annual Public Affairs Research Conference, held Oct. 29 on the Orlando campus. The focus of the day-long event was "Policy Research Dilemmas and Scientific Solutions."

The conference provided a platform for sharing innovative ideas and identifying key issues pertaining to public affairs research, said Tom Wan, professor and director of the Doctoral Program in Public Affairs. It also served as a vehicle to bridge the gaps between academic and practicing fields in public affairs.

In a room filled to capacity, participants from health care, local government, law enforcement and nonprofit organizations joined members of the campus community for morning presentations by leading public affairs' researchers. Guest speaker Michael Munger, professor and chair of the Department of Political Science at Duke University in Durham, N.C., started the program by presenting his views on policy dilemmas and public research. Subsequent presenters focused on divergence and convergence in public affairs education and research; public affairs informatics research; and conducting "best practices" research in public affairs. After each presentation, one or more scholars or practitioners responded with their own thoughts and views on the topic.



Michael Munger



Provost Terry Hickey welcomed participants to the morning session, held in the Student Union.



The afternoon poster session prompted discussions among many participants. The session was held in the atrium of Health and Public Affairs building I.

After a luncheon, the participants attended an afternoon poster session featuring displays on 25 faculty, staff and student research projects. The posters reflected a wide variety of research interests in social work, criminal justice, public administration and health administration. In addition, "They showed the high quality of collaborative research occurring between faculty and students," said Wan.

Many researchers stood by their posters and answered questions about their work. They also viewed their colleague's posters on research projects such as "Transitional Elder Care in Latino Families" by Assistant

(See Conference, p. 4)



Student Tracey Trotter (right) discusses her poster on a client satisfaction survey for Quest, Inc., at the Center for Community Partnerships with public affairs Director Tom Wan (center) and center coordinator Wende Phillips.

Conference *(Continued from p. 3)*

Professor Denise Gammonley, “An Analysis of the Use of Strategic Planning Among State Correctional Agencies” by student Laurie Gould, “The Effect of National Board Certification on Burnout Levels in Educators” by student Tanya Judd, and “Long-Term Cost Savings of Evidence-Based Diabetes Care” by postdoctoral fellow Allan March. The winners of the poster competition were Alicia Sitren, Jeff Goltz and Dianne Ross.

Wan said evaluations of the conference, which was sponsored by the public affairs doctoral program and UCF Center for Community Partnerships, were extremely favorable and clearly marked the event as a success.

“Having a successful conference should help position the public affairs doctoral program as a progressive and nationally recognized enterprise in public affairs research,” he concluded.

— *Karen Guin*

Public Affairs Student Association News

The Public Affairs Student Association provided financial assistance for the Public Affairs Research Conference on Oct. 29, 2004. On behalf of the association, I would like to thank Alicia Sitren and Jeff Goltz for their hard work and dedication in securing the funding we made available to the conference committee. In the new year, we will continue to work with the Graduate Student Association in order to prepare for an even more successful conference in 2005!

Fresh on the heels of this success, the Public Affairs Student Association has plans to be even more aggressive in seeking financial support for future endeavors. The association also aims to develop a sense of culture. The first annual conference was a large step in this direction and the momentum should continue. Several students have expressed interest in the development of clothing (t-shirt or polo shirt) or cups/mugs that feature the name of the public affairs program. The hurdle we face is that the Graduate Student Association will not provide funding for these items. One suggestion has been the introduction of nominal fees for students in the program. These fees would be reasonable and would facilitate getting these ideas off the ground. I personally believe this would be an important step in developing a public affairs culture. Thank you for your continued support.

— *Hayden Smith*

“The New Vision”

The Doctoral Program in Public Affairs has officially introduced “The New Vision,” a strategic plan and focus for fund-raising efforts over the next five years. The goal: to place UCF’s program at the very top of all nationally ranked public affairs programs. In order to meet this goal, the program believes it must do the following four things:

- continuously work to enhance the quality of the program, disseminate its findings and identify key links with the practice community
- foster interdisciplinary and collaborative research, using the meta-data laboratory to develop decision support systems for leaders in both public and private sectors
- establish scholarships for the recruitment of the most talented students nationally and internationally
- endow a professorship so that an academic leader in public affairs informatics and research may be recruited to the faculty

These initiatives, combined with the program’s highly successful emphasis on services and informatics research, will be a reflection of the four words that most aptly describe the program and its vision: innovation, technology, excellence and community partnership. If you are interested in supporting the Doctoral Program in Public Affairs through a charitable gift of any kind, please contact Beth Guba Schaan, director of major gifts, at (407) 823-1600, or Office of the Dean, College of Health and Public Affairs, HPA I, Room 365, Orlando, FL 32816-2200. Keep in mind that for a 2005 tax credit, gifts need to be received by Dec. 31, 2005.

The program sincerely appreciates all contributions to serve as a vital support to our students and in maintaining our state-of-the-art informatics research laboratory. Please make contributions payable to: Doctorate in Public Affairs Venture Fund. The mailing address is: Doctoral Program in Public Affairs, UCF, Box 162200, Orlando, FL 32816-2200.