

All About Wilder!

Graduate Student Happenings

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Note from the Graduate Director

The incredible hard work and talent of our graduate students is exceedingly impressive. Alison Alexander, a MURP graduate student has been selected for a Fulbright Scholarship at the Bauhaus University in Weimar, Germany where she will study public spaces and their relationship to politics. Closer to home, Dr. Accordino's Urban Commercial Revitalization class received the Best Student Project Award for 2010 from the Virginia Chapter of the American Planning Association for its Lakeside Revitalization Plan, which is under active implementation in Henrico County. And, one of our doctoral students, Paoula Sehannie, received a dissertation assistantship to focus on environmental stewardship in the Northern Neck and Eastern Shore of Virginia. Excellence abounds among our Wilder School Graduate students! Read about this and much more in this Spring 2010 edition of *All About Wilder!*



Susan T. Gooden

Susan T. Gooden, Ph.D.
Professor and Director, Graduate Programs

**Alison Alexander, MURP Student,
Receives Fulbright Scholarship**

Alison Alexander, a second year MURP student, was selected for a Fulbright Scholarship for a year of study at the Bauhaus University in Weimar next year. An excerpt from Alison's research proposal appears below:

For years I have been captivated by the spaces surrounding buildings and the way in which people use them, and I decided that applying for a Fulbright Grant would provide me with an opportunity to more closely study these spaces.



Continue reading about the Fulbright Scholarship on page 6.

Graduate Student Awards & Presentations

Awards:

Xavier Guadalupe, Master of Sociology student, was recently inducted into the Golden Key International Honor Society on April 17th. Also, Xavier is the recipient of this year's *Outstanding Graduate Student in Sociology Award*.



Presentations:

Jose Alcaine, Ph.D. student, presented his paper, "Government Funding of University-based Community Projects: How Effective is this Policy?" at the School Research Series (sponsored by the Wilder Faculty Council), on February 3, 2010. Additionally, he presented his paper, "In the Neighborhood: Universities, Community Engagement and Development," at 9th Annual Graduate Research Symposium, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia, March 26, 2010.

Nadir Gergin, Ph.D. candidate, will be presenting his paper, "How do terrorist organizations exploit elections to increase participation: The PKK Case," at the *Turkish Institute for Security and Democracy Presents The Crime-Terror Nexus: Perspectives and Lessons Learned from International Researchers and Practitioners* hosted by George Mason University in Arlington, Virginia, on May 3, 2010.

Xavier Guadalupe, Master of Sociology student, presented a paper based on his thesis research, "An Exploration of the Influences of Race, Class, and Gender Identity on the Help-Seeking Behavior of LGBTQ Survivors of Violence" at the Southern Sociological Association annual meeting in Atlanta, Georgia in April 2010.

Publications:

Nadir Gergin, Fatih Balci, and I. Sevki Eldivan, Ph.D. students, recently co-authored a book chapter, "Turkey's Counter Terrorism Policies Against The PKK: The "Fish" or the "Water"?" in the *NATO Science for Peace and Security Series - E: Human and Societal Dynamics Volume 55*, 2009. This volume is edited by Siddik Ekici, Ahmet Ekici, David A. McEntire, Richard H. Ward, Sudha S. Arlikatti.

Paoula Sehannie Receives Dissertation Assistantship



Paoula Sehannie, a Ph.D. student in Public Policy and Administration program, received a dissertation assistantship for spring and summer 2010 from the VCU Graduate School for her work, "Faith-based Environmental Stewardship of the Christian Churches on the Eastern Shore and Northern Neck of Virginia." Her project is being developed under the direction of Dr. Cliff Fox, assistant director of the VCU Center for Environmental Studies. The relationship between religion and environmental policy has been fervently discussed in the years since Lynn White's seminal article, "The Historical Roots of Our Ecological Crisis," *Science* 155:1203 (1967), but our understanding of this relationship is still murky at best. Her study focuses on an area of Virginia where environmental stewardship is particularly salient—the Northern Neck and Eastern Shore.

Sehannie has adopted a mixed methods approach that combines qualitative interviews with quantitative analysis of survey data for this study. She plans to survey the 400 or so ministers of churches in these two areas about their congregation's activities and beliefs about environmental stewardship. Her analysis will look at differences among denominations, characteristics of the community and congregation, and location in Virginia. Her project will clarify the religion-environmental policy relationship as it exists within non-urban geographies and in varied Christian organizational settings.

Urban Commercial Revitalization Class Wins Best Student Project Award from the Virginia Chapter of the American Planning Association

Dr. Accordino's Urban Commercial Revitalization class is the winner of the Best Student Project Award for 2010 by the Virginia Chapter of the American Planning Association for its Lakeside Avenue Revitalization Plan. The Awards Committee commended the plan for its high level of professionalism. The award will be presented at the annual meeting of APA Virginia in Norfolk on May 4.

The plan covers the Lakeside Avenue corridor, which extends 1.5 miles from Bryan Park in Richmond to the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden in Henrico County. Developed mostly after World War II, this retail corridor is characterized by small, independent businesses that enjoy the loyal support of surrounding neighborhoods. However, urban design and streetscape issues and growing chain-store competition nearby pose serious challenges to the district.



The plan provides many recommendations for comprehensive improvements implemented in an incremental fashion. They include new independent businesses such as a farmers' market, coffee shops, a florist and specialty clothing stores that serve both surrounding neighborhoods and visitors to the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden and Bryan Park. Recommendations also include making the corridor more pedestrian friendly and more "green," and strategies to partner with nearby organizations to promote and develop the area. Since the plan was completed in December 2007, Henrico County and the Lakeside Business Association have been hard at work implementing the plan.

PhD Program Sponsored Workshop: Getting and Keeping an Academic Job

On March 8, 2010 the Ph.D. Program in Public Policy & Administration sponsored two sessions for interested Wilder School students entitled "Getting and Keeping an Academic Job."

The panel discussion was held for Ph.D. Students in Public Policy & Administration, and was moderated by Dr. Carolyn Funk, Ph.D. Program Director. The guest speakers for this presentation included Drs. Bonnie Mani and Nicholle Parsons-Pollard. Dr. Bonnie Mani (VCU Ph.D. 1987) is a full professor at East Carolina University with a specialty in public administration. She has 20 years experience working for the Department of Treasury Internal Revenue Service in Richmond where her work focused on training and development, quality and customer service. Her research focuses on gender equity issues in the public sector. Dr. Nicholle Parsons-Pollard (VCU Ph.D., 2004) is an assistant professor at Virginia State University with a specialty in criminal justice. Her teaching and research interests include juvenile delinquency, truancy, and program evaluation. Her most recent research focuses on cyberstalking. She is also active in the Virginia Association of Criminal Justice Educators.



Recently Awarded Public Policy and Administration PhDs!

VCU Center for Public Policy
Ph.D. in Public Policy & Administration

Three Public Policy and Administration doctoral candidates successfully defended their doctoral dissertations during the Fall 2009 semester. Each student's name, dissertation title, and dissertation chair is listed below:

Randy Barrack

Chair: Dr. William Boshier

"The Use of Collaboration in Nongovernmental Organization Public Policy Advocacy."

Todd Gathje

Chair: Dr. William Boshier

"The Christian Right and Federal Stem Cell Research Policy: A Qualitative Study of Influence and Advocacy Strategies in Congress (2001-09)."

Simon Okoth

Chair: Dr. Susan Gooden

"A 'Seat at the Table': Exploring the Relationship Between Pluralist Structures and Involvement in Decision-Making."



Congratulations to our newly-minted Wilder School Ph.D. 's!

New Wilder School Graduate Faculty

The Wilder School is delighted to welcome a recent Public Policy and Administration alumni, Simon Okoth, Ph.D. to the faculty for a one year position. He has taught History of Political Thought, Comparative Politics, Seminar in the Politics of Developing Areas, and African Government and Politics. Dr. Okoth will teach in the Master of Public Administration program and in the Political Science program beginning in the Fall 2010 semester.



Additionally, the Wilder School welcomes James (Jim) Keck to the faculty for a one year position. Professor Keck will be teaching in the Master of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness program, and the undergraduate program beginning in the Fall 2010 semester. Jim Keck, MHA, brings over 30 years of professional experience managing organizations in health care administration, transportation, homeland security and emergency management. In addition to serving in the USAF Medical Service Corp managing AF hospitals, Jim has worked for MCV Hospitals, the Virginia Department of Transportation and the Virginia Department of Emergency Management.

Welcome Professors Keck and Okoth!

Urban & Regional Planning Student Association Happenings

The Urban & Regional Planning Student Association (URPSA) has been very busy this semester under the direction of the 2010 officers. In February the organization held its first “Meet the MURPs” lunch, a lecture/lunch series to bring together student’s, faculty and practicing planners about a “day in the life” of planners and local planning issues. Anne Peace, of Richmond’s Department of Planning & Development Review was the guest speaker. In March, URPSA held a “Happy Hour” in addition to a resume-building workshop to aid students in refining their resume for applying for summer internships and job applications. Also, in March, as part of the implementation of a former graduate student, Kathy Wright, Studio II Planning students volunteered as part of the Cannon Creek Greenway clean up and beautify Cannon Creek.

On March 25, URPSA hosted the first ever Virginia Planning Directors Conference, a symposium of local planning directors visiting Virginia’s graduate planning programs (next stops UVA, Virginia Tech). The event features planning directors from Richmond, Hanover, New Kent, Petersburg, Orange, Goochland, Chesterfield and Fairfax, Virginia discussing working in the field of planning, Virginia planning issues, the Virginia Chapter of the American Planning Association and providing networking opportunities for graduate and certificate students. The event was organized by VCU Masters of Urban and Regional Planning alumnus Jim Zook (Class of 1975), the director of the Master’s program Dr. Ivan Suen and URPSA President Tyler Klein.

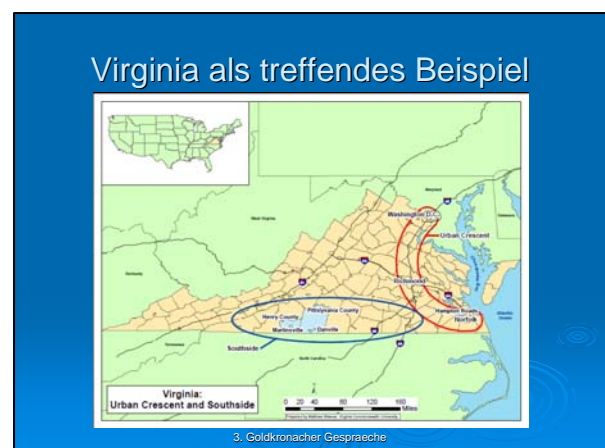
Virginia Planning Directors Conference at VCU, Hosted by URPSA: March 25, 2010



From left to right: George Homewood (New Kent Co.), Mike Crescenzo (Hanover Co.), Kirk Turner (Chesterfield Co.), Leonard A. Muse (Petersburg City), Robert Hammond (Goochland Co.), Rachel O’Dwyer Flynn (Richmond City), Debbie Kendall (Orange Co.), Katie Schwing (URPSA-Vice President), Jennifer Peterson (URPSA-Secretary), Heath Henshaw (URPSA-Treasurer), Tyler Klein (URPSA-President), Jim Zook (Fairfax Co.)

Dr. John Accordino Presents Paper at Third Annual Goldkronacher Gespräche (conversations) Conference in Germany

On November 19, 2010, John Accordino presented a research paper at the Goldkronacher Conversations conference sponsored by the Universities of Kaiserslautern and Chemnitz, Germany on economic globalization and its consequences for regional development. Dr. Accordino’s paper, “The International Mobility of Firms and Workers – Consequences for Southside Virginia,” focuses on the out-migration of the furniture, textile and clothing industries from the Danville-Martinsville area and the subsequent efforts of these communities to revitalize the economy. The paper will be published later this Spring.



Alison Alexander Receives Fulbright Scholarship (continued from page 1)

The continued excerpt from Alison's research proposal appears below:

For years I have been captivated by the spaces surrounding buildings and the way in which people use them, and I decided that applying for a Fulbright Grant would provide me with an opportunity to more closely study these spaces.



There is currently an emphasis on the transformation and renewal of public spaces, and I wish to learn the best processes for creating successful, usable, and inhabited spaces by working with existing politics and policies. In the continuous process in which politics affect planning and planning affects politics, several factors must be investigated. The origination of the vision for a public space, the reasoning behind the design and programming of the space, the targeted demographic, the financing and maintenance of public space, and the definition of "public" are all factors which must be explored.



As the Bauhaus Universität in Weimar, Germany, is a leader in the field of public spaces and their relationship to politics, I will be learning their model for studying cities. Being located in Weimar will also place me in a living laboratory thereby allowing me to see the actual application of the Bauhaus Universität's studies. It will be able to compare written literature with the actual physical city in order to better understand how the Bauhaus Universität interprets and understands the actors, politics, and processes that are in play in the development of urban public spaces.

The studies of the Bauhaus Universität have been conducted primarily in Germany and Brazil [and no studies have yet been done in the United States]. After I learn the model, I will apply it to a German city which has not yet been studied, which will allow me to "learn by doing" and ensure I understand the model. Upon my return to the United States, I will apply this model to Richmond, which is currently undergoing revitalization and could benefit from the creation and improvement of public spaces. Applying the Bauhaus Universität's model to Richmond will help us better understand and create successful public spaces during this time of urban renewal while providing the Bauhaus Universität with an in-depth study of an American city.

Congratulations, Alison, on this wonderful achievement!

Dr. Bonnie Mani's Guest Presentation

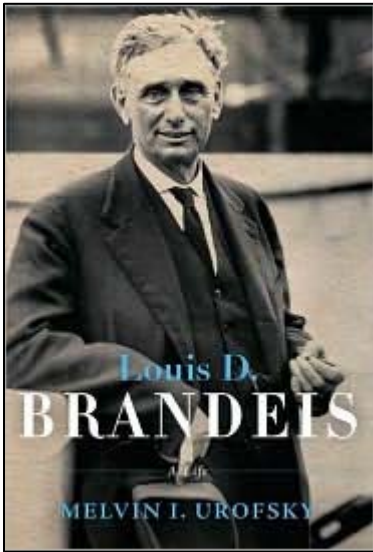
Dr. Bonnie Mani presented, "Women, Men and Human Capital Development in the Public Sector: Return on Investments" based on her recent book on the same title on March 8, 2010 to members of the PhD program.

This research analyzes the gender-based wage gap in the public sector, the factors that contribute to that wage gap and organizational strategies for narrowing the gap in pay and the status of men and women who work for federal, state and local governments. Her work provides both guideposts and specific recommendations for human capital development and the difference gender makes.



Dr. Mani received her PhD in Public Policy and Administration from VCU in 1987 and is currently a Professor in the Department of Political Science at East Carolina University.

Professor Urofsky Publishes a New Book



Dr. Melvin Urofsky, Professor in the Ph.D. Program and former Ph.D. Program Director has published a new book, *Louis D. Brandeis: A Life* with Pantheon Books (Random House). He has been travelling the country for his publisher promoting the book which has received much critical acclaim.

“Melvin I. Urofsky — the author of this monumental, authoritative and appreciative biography of the man Franklin D. Roosevelt called “Isaiah” — would surely agree. A professor of law and public policy at Virginia Commonwealth University, Urofsky has devoted much of his career to documenting the personal and professional life of the great lawyer and justice. In *Louis D. Brandeis: A Life*, he demonstrates, deploying a Brandeisian array of factual material, why Brandeis still matters, nearly 70 years after his death.”

-Excerpt from the New York Times Review

On April 1, 2010 the Brandeis School of Law at the University of Louisville awarded Dr. Urofsky the Brandeis Medal. Former recipients of this award include Harry Blackmun, Sandra Day O'Connor, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Stephen Breyer, Janet Reno, Morris Dees, Robert Morgenthau, John Lewis and Archibald Cox.

Congratulations, Professor Urofsky, on this new publication and well deserved acclaim!

Professor Albanese Participates in UN Crime Congress in Brazil

Dr. Jay Albanese is a consultant to assist in preparation and reporting on drug trafficking and organized crime as part of the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Salvador, Brazil in April 2010. The theme for the UN Congress is "Comprehensive strategies for global challenges: crime prevention and criminal justice systems and their development in a changing world."

UN Crime congresses have been held every five years since 1955 in different parts of the world and have contributed to shaping international and domestic policies and promoting novel thinking and approaches to complex issues at the heart of one of the key institutions of the modern state: the criminal justice system. Each of the UN's 192 Member States are represented, plus individual experts from academia and representatives of civil society and the media.

Dr. Albanese will prepare a background paper, reporting on global research, evaluation, and practice in the area of drug trafficking and organized crime for one of the five Congress workshops. The day-long workshop on this topic will feature speakers from multiple countries representing governments, researchers, and criminal justice professionals. Dr. Albanese will also be responsible for writing a final report on the results of the workshop.

Member States in the Twelfth Congress will adopt a declaration containing recommendations based on deliberations held during the governmental segment, and the round tables and the workshops, to be submitted to the UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.



Some Recent Articles by Wilder School Graduate Faculty

Brubaker, Sarah Jane. 2009. "Sexual assault prevalence, reporting, and polices: Comparing college and university campuses and military service academies." *The Security Journal* 22(1): 56 —72.

Brubaker, Sarah Jane and Dillaway, Heather. 2009. Medicalization, natural childbirth and birthing experiences." *Sociology Compass* 3(1): 31—48.

Gooden, Susan, Dale Jones, Kasey J. Martin, and Marcus Boyd. 2009. "Social Equity in Local Emergency Management Planning." *State and Local Government Review*, 41(1): 1—12.

Leiber, Michael, Brubaker, Sarah Jane and Fox, Kristan. 2009. "A closer look at the individual and joint effects of gender and race on Juvenile Justice decision-making." *Feminist Criminology*, 4: 333—358.

Ryan, John J., Benjamin Dows, Michael V. Kirk, **Xueming Chen,** Jeffrey R. Eastman, Rodney Dyer, and Lemont B. Kier. 2010. "A Systems Biology Approach Comparing Cancer Metastasis and Suburban Sprawl Development." *BMC Research Notes*, 3:36.

Wooldridge, Blue and Susan T. Gooden. 2009. "The Epic of Social Equity: Evolution, Essence, and Emergence" *Administrative Theory and Praxis*, 31(2): 222—234.



Professor Chen Receives Grant from VDOT



Jimmy Chen, Associate Professor in the Master of Urban and Regional Planning program, and Undergraduate Program Coordinator of Urban and Regional Studies, recently received a grant from the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) on "Virginia National Household Travel Survey Analysis" in the amount of \$20,000.

This project includes the following tasks: (1) Identification of the Statistically Distinct Combinations of Trip Purposes; (2) Analysis on the Impacts of Socio-demographic Characteristics on Trip-Making; (3) Survey Weighting ; and (4) Report Writing and Presentation. Planning graduate students will be hired to provide assistance to this project.

Looking for Something to Do This Summer???

There is still time to secure a great summer internship. Visit the Wilder School homepage at www.pubapps.vcu.edu/gov/ for an array of summer internship opportunities.

Some examples include:

- Virginia Primary Care Association
- Virginia Outdoors Foundation
- VCU Police Department
- Department of Health and Human Services
- 17th Street Farmers' Market
- National Fatherhood Initiative
- Virginia Department of Transportation
- Virginia Resources Authority
- Department of Justice



Summer Courses

Course	Title	Instructor	Dates
URSP 621	Introduction to GIS	Ivan Suen	May 24 - June 11
URSP 622	Community Socio-Economic Analysis Using GIS	Michela M. Zonta	May 24 - June 11
URSP 625	Spatial Database Management	Jimmy Chen	May 24 - June 11
PPAD 717	Law & Public Policy	Melvin I. Urofsky	May 24 - August 13
PADM 601	Principles of Public Administration	Blue E. Wooldridge	May 24 - July 14
CRJS 550	Professional Ethics & Liability (Online)	Jay S. Albanese	May 24 - June 24
CRJS 591	Special Topic in Violent Crime (Online)	Robyn L. Diehl	May 24 - June 24
PADM 607	Public Human Resource Management	Blue E. Wooldridge	May 25 - July 15
PADM 652	Administrative Law	Carl F. Ameringer	May 25 - July 15
PADM 657	Nonprofit Advocacy & Government Relations (Off Campus)	John A. Toscano	May 25 - July 15
CRJS 591	Current Debates in Criminal Justice (Online)	Patricia Grant	June 14 - July 22
HSEP 501	Institutional Challenges (Off-Campus)	Matthew E. Dyer	June 14 - August 4
HSEP 502	Survey of Terrorism (Off-Campus)	Maureen Moslow-Benway	June 14 - August 4
HSEP 602	Government, Industry, & Community (Online)	Joseph E. Pascarella	June 14 - August 4
HSEP 603	Risk Assessment (Online)	Joseph E. Pascarella	June 14 - August 4
PADM 661	Nonprofit Law, Government & Ethics	Deborah B. Williamson	June 14 - August 4
SOCY 656	Social Network Analysis (Online)	Jennifer A. Johnson	June 14 - August 4
PPAD 722	Survey Data Analysis Techniques	Ivan Suen	July 26 - August 13

Please see the VCU Schedule of Summer Classes at www.pubapps.vcu.edu/scheduleofclasses/ for a full listing, including specific course dates and times. Remember to consult your advisor to make sure a course is appropriate for your specific program of study.

Upcoming Events

33rd Annual National Teaching Public Administration Conference, Putting the SERVICE back into Communities: Transformational Service," hosted by Grand Valley State University, Michigan, May 13 – 15, 2010. www.teachingpa.org

Public Administration Theory Network, 23rd Annual Conference of the Public Administration Theory Network, " Alternative Ways of Thinking about Democratic Public Administration & Policy," at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, May 20 – 23, 2010. www.pattheory.org

2010 Social Equity Leadership Conference, "Imagining and Improving the Future" hosted by the University of Baltimore, Baltimore, Maryland, June 16 – 18, 2010. <http://home.ubalt.edu/UB17H40/SEL2010Conference.html>

2010 International Association of Schools and Institutes of Administration (IASIA) Conference, "Public Administration facing New Dynamics: Constraints, Innovation and Sustainability" and "Public Sector Strategy for overcoming Growing Global Inequalities". Bali, Indonesia, July 12 – 17, 2010. www.ias-iisa.org

2010 Southeastern Conference for Public Administration SECOPA Conference, "Setting the Course for Excellence in Public Service" Wilmington, North Carolina, October 13 – 16, 2010. <http://uncw.edu/dpscs/conferences/secopa/>

2010 International Conference on Public Administration, "Public Administration Challenges and Opportunities: Serving Citizens in a Globalised World," Canberra, Australia, October 22 – 24, 2010. www.icpa-uestc.cn/en/home/default.php

National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration (NASPAA) 2010 Annual Conference, hosted by the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Nevada, October 30 – November 2, 2010. www.naspaa.org

Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM) 2010 Fall Research Conference, "Making Fair and Effective Policy in Difficult Times," Boston, Massachusetts, November 4 – 6, 2010. www.appam.org

Mark Your Calendars

Newsletter Edited By:

Lindsey L. Evans
Graduate Research Associate
L. Douglas Wilder School
923 West Franklin Street, 501
Richmond, VA 23284-2028
(804) 828-2545
EvansLL@vcu.edu

We welcome your comments and submissions.

"The courage to question...the knowledge to inform...the tools for change."



VCU Wilder School
Virginia Commonwealth University

**L. DOUGLAS
WILDER SCHOOL OF
GOVERNMENT AND
PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

Monroe Park Campus
Scherer Hall, Room 301
923 West Franklin Street
P.O. Box 842028
Richmond, VA 23284-2028