

# School of Public Policy and Administration

## August 2015 – Volume 3, Issue 16

### Important Reminders

#### Stay connected with SPPA

Facebook: [YorkUSPPA](#)

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If you wish to unsubscribe from the SPPA Newsletter, please send a reply email to [lapssppa@yorku.ca](mailto:lapssppa@yorku.ca) asking to be removed from the mailing list. Thank you.

### SPPA Events / Announcement

#### Undergraduate Program Director

The school of PPA welcomes our new Undergraduate Program Director, **Professor Lorne Foster**. We are all delighted that Professor Foster has agreed to take up these responsibilities and know that he will do an outstanding job, given his extensive academic administrative experience and his commitment to higher education and our students' learning experience and success.



We should also like to thank **Professor Alena Kimakova** for her many years of service as our Undergraduate Program Director. Professor Kimakova has worked tirelessly on behalf of our School to develop our undergraduate curriculum and our two professional certificates as well as to resolve the myriad of issues related to bringing together a

number of streams and programs that were grand-parented in our School when it was first established in 2007. Professor Kimakova will be on sabbatical as of January 2016. - **James C. Simeon**, Director, School of Public Policy and Administration

#### Canadian Political Science Association (CPSA) honours Ian Greene



On June 4, 2015, three sessions – “The Challenge of Honest Politics & Judging Judges” sessions – were held as part of the CPSA’s annual meeting in Ottawa in honour of **Professor Ian Greene’s** contributions, which include several books and over 40 articles and book chapters.

The first session, “Ethics and Government: Irreconcilably Different?” was chaired by **Prof. Dagmar Soennecken**, who also served as chief organizer of the sessions honouring Greene. The session featured a talk by Mary Dawson, Parliament’s Conflict of Interest and Ethics Commissioner, who spoke on the advising, educational and enforcement roles of her office. **Prof. Naomi Couto** presented a paper entitled, “Reading Honest Politics: Ian Greene and Ethics in Public Life,” and University of Ottawa’s Prof. Michael Pal presented a commentary on the issues facing Canada’s lobbying regime. Greene collaborated with Garrett MacSweeney, a York PhD student who has been prominent in the York Collegium for Practical Ethics, on a paper on ethical issues surrounding Canadian Senate reform. All papers concluded that, while there is always tension between ethics and government, they are not irreconcilably at odds and that ethics is an essential ingredient in democratic government.

The second session, “Looking Forward, Looking Back: The Charter and Judicial Behaviour,” was chaired by Gregory Tardi, House of Commons legal counsel and former PhD supervisee of Prof. Greene.

The third session, “Social Sciences in the Canadian Justice System,” was chaired by Greene himself.

Greene was thrilled with the quality of the filled-to-capacity sessions, which – as he enters retirement – helped him appreciate the impact of his research. He is grateful to Prof. Soennecken, who brilliantly organized the sessions.

## Notices

### UIT Announce: StageFright Bug Affecting Android Devices

A vulnerability has been discovered in the Android operating system that allows an attacker to access data stored on your device or remotely install software by just having your mobile phone number. This vulnerability is being referred to as "StageFright". All Android based phones after and including versions 2.2 are vulnerable.

An attacker can use your mobile number to remotely execute code using a media file delivered via text message such as a picture or video message. You are especially vulnerable if you have your device configured to auto-download media in your messaging apps.

You can take the following actions in this regard:

To turn off auto-downloading of MMS messages..  
OPEN SMS app - tap MENU > SETTINGS > Multimedia messages > Auto retrieve, REMOVE check mark. You will now be prompted to download an image when receiving an MMS message.

To block messaging from unknown contacts..  
OPEN SMS app - tap MENU > SETTINGS > SPAM FILTER, Turn ON > Select "Block unknown senders"

It is also recommended that you contact your device manufacturer and cellular data provider to identify if and when a patch may be available for your individual device and operating system.

For further information please see:

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/business/stagefright-bug-makes-nearly-1-billion-android-phones-vulnerable-zimperium-says-1.3171108>

<http://staff.computing.yorku.ca/support-services/your-york-computer/protecting-your-computing-devices/stagefright-bug-affecting-android-devices/>

Please direct any questions or concerns to UIT Client Services -email: [ithelp@yorku.ca](mailto:ithelp@yorku.ca) or visit <http://ithelp.yorku.ca>

## Seminars / Workshops

### August activities at the Career Centre

This month the Career Centre is offering the **Ready, Set, Hired!** event from **August 10-14, 2015**. This event includes a Twitter chat, in-house workshops and a webinar designed to help students leverage LinkedIn in their job search.

For UNDECIDED MAJORS student who can't decide what program of study to pursue, the **Who Am I? Self-Assessment Game** is being offered three times this month on Tuesday, August 4th, Thursday, August 20th and Monday, August 31st. This interactive game is designed to help students better understand what influences their career choices so that they can take their next steps with confidence.

**What can I do with my degree?** workshop is also being offered this month on Tuesday, August 18th and 25th at noon in Vari Hall. This is a great opportunity for students to discover how the skills they're developing in their degree and the experiences they're gaining while at York can help build a foundation for their future!

**Suit Yourself: Personality and Career Choice** workshop is being offered on Tuesday, August 18<sup>th</sup>. In this interactive session students will have the opportunity to explore how their personality type can be a factor in finding career satisfaction, learn about the Myers Briggs Type Indicator and explore which Type they might be, and find out how their personality may influence their career choices.

Students are encouraged to register for these activities through the Career Centre's online system.

**Aug 10 (11:00am–12:00pm): Twitter Career Chat:** How to Find an on-Campus Job follow @YorkUCareerCtr and use #yucareerchat to follow along or pose your questions

**Aug 10 (2:00pm–4:00pm): Dining Etiquette workshop**

**Aug 11 (11:00am–1:00pm): Resume and Cover Letter Writing**

**Aug 11 (2:00pm–4:00pm): You've Got Skills!**

**Aug 12 (11:00am–1:00pm): *Making a Great First Impression in Your Interview and Beyond***

**Aug 12 (1:00pm–3:00pm): *Polishing Your Interview Skills***

**Aug 13 (11:00am–1:00pm): *Job Search Strategies that Work***

**Aug 13 (2:00pm–4:00pm): *Putting Job Search Strategies into Action***

**Aug 14 (11:00am–12:00pm): *How to Find a Job Using LinkedIn Webinar ONLINE***

**Aug 14 (1:00pm–3:00pm): *Creating a Professional LinkedIn Profile***

## Opportunities

### Research Assistant

The **Institute for Research on Public Policy (IRPP)** is accepting applications for the position of Research Assistant. In this role, you will provide support to the Institute's Research Directors in the publication of a variety of research materials and organizing policy events. This is a one-year, full-time position based in Montreal, with the possibility to renew.

#### **Responsibilities**

As Research Assistant, you will contribute to IRPP's ongoing research programs on income inequality; aging; immigration; labour markets; and international trade.

The successful candidate holds an undergraduate degree or above in a field relevant to public policy analysis (ex.: economics or political science) and is fluently bilingual (French and English). General knowledge of Canadian political institutions, actors and policy issues is a significant asset.

**Salary Range:** commensurate with education and relevant work experience, but generally in the range of \$33,000 to \$36,500 per year.

**To apply:** Please submit a cover letter and c.v. to [smcintyre@irpp.org](mailto:smcintyre@irpp.org), responding by **Monday, August 24, 2015**.

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### Web and Communications Assistant

The **Institute for Research on Public Policy** seeks an assistant to join the communications team. This position reports to the Communications Officer and Editor of Policy Options and provides support for the IRPP's online content, maintenance of the IRPP Website and other related functions.

#### **Responsibilities**

- Liaise with team members to ensure online content is updated in a timely fashion
- Monitor new and existing online content to ensure it is consistent with style guidelines
- Assist with the maintenance of content on [irpp.org](http://irpp.org) and [policyoptions.irpp.org](http://policyoptions.irpp.org), using a web-based Content Management System (Word Press) and other tools
- Manage the Policy Options blog and handle inquiries from contributors
- Provide support in transferring content from archive Website to new website

#### **Essential Qualifications**

Successful applicants will have a minimum of one year web related experience. Must demonstrate attention to detail and have the ability to manage competing priorities. Good understanding of the web and standard conventions is important. Applicants must be fluently bilingual (French and English), possess strong interpersonal skills and be able to operate in a team environment. A background in public policy is preferred. The following technical skills are required: basic HTML, Photoshop, photo editing and graphic design for use on web, preparing written documents for use online, and the Windows operating system.

**Salary Range:** commensurate with education and relevant work experience, but generally in the range of \$33,000 to \$36,500 per year.

**To apply:** Please submit a cover letter and c.v. to [smcintyre@irpp.org](mailto:smcintyre@irpp.org), responding by **Monday, August 24, 2015**.

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## **YU Belong seeks volunteers to welcome incoming students**

York U's welcome campaign, YU Belong, is now in its third year and helps new students navigate the campus during their first few days.

The program relies on volunteers from the University's staff and faculty to help students by answering questions and helping them find their way around the campus.

"New students, their families and friends have lots of questions," says Ross McMillan, assistant director at the Centre of Student Community & Leadership Development (SCLD).

The purpose of YU Belong is to ease student transition, and offer increased accessibility to campus information.

YU Belong volunteers are identified around campus by a highly visible and identifiable YU Belong button and lanyard.

"Friendly faces and answers do a lot to help lower the anxiety associated with starting university," says McMillan. "The personal little bit of extra help really means a lot to new students."

Volunteers from the 2014 campaign were enthusiastic about the initiative, with more than 97 per cent of participants expressing interest in signing up again.

After signing up, volunteers receive a package via internal mail containing a map, button, lanyard and some key information.

YU Belong participants can also sign up to volunteer for York Orientation Day to support the largest gathering of incoming students in York's history. It takes place on Sept. 8.

"We know that many faculty and staff are already assisting students," says McMillan. "The YU Belong campaign brings everyone together into an easy-to-identify group."

Staff and faculty can learn more and register to be a part of YU Belong by visiting [orientation.yorku.ca/yu-belong](http://orientation.yorku.ca/yu-belong).