

School of Public Policy and Administration

November 2015 – Volume 3, Issue 23

Important Reminders

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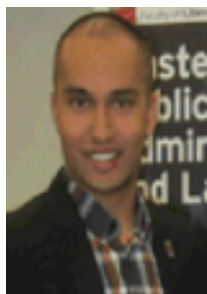
SPPA Events / Announcement

School of Public Policy & Administration celebrates excellence during annual awards dinner

York University's School of Public Policy & Administration (SPPA) recognized several of its community members during its annual **Student, Alumni & Community Awards Dinner** on November 12, 2015.

The event included the presentation of four awards, the recognition of two special guests of honour and the reflections of several prominent attendees.

Awards were presented in four categories: Undergraduate Student, Graduate Student, Alumni and Practicum Honoree. This year's recipients included:



• **Undergraduate Student Award – Kevin Baksh**, who served as the president of the Public Policy & Administration Student Association, and since graduating in the spring has been working in various positions and on various projects with the Ontario Ministry of Community & Social Services.

• **Graduate Student Award – Sadaf Syed**, who graduated with her master of public policy, administration and law (MPPAL) degree in the fall. Syed is also the recipient of the Professor Ian Greene Book Prize for academic achievement. As a dedicated mother of two young children, she took a few minutes to thank family members for their understanding and support, as she spent many hours studying or in classes while working to complete her degree.



• **Alumni Award – Corey Davidson**, senior adviser, Partnerships & Business Development, ServiceOntario. Davidson graduated from the MPPAL program in 2013 and has served as the president of the SPPA Alumni Association.

• **Practicum Honoree Award – Michelle Leung-Elder**, who serves as the manager, Corporate Services Unit, Corporate Services Branch, Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing, OPS. Leung-Elder accepted the award on behalf of her entire branch.



Two special guests of honour were also highlighted at the event. **Professor Saeed Rahnema** and **Professor Haideh Moghissi**, a senior scholar and Trudeau Fellow, were both recognized on the occasion of their retirement from York University.

Among the many noted accomplishments and contributions of these two distinguished Professors emeriti was Rahnema's service to the University as the founding director of the SPPA. Without Rahnema's hard work, effort and dedication, there would not be an SPPA at York.



There to support the event were several prominent attendees, including: **York University President and Vice-Chancellor Mamdouh Shoukri**; **York University Vice-President and Provost Rhonda Lenton**; **Ontario Minister of Research and Innovation and Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities Reza Moridi**; and **Secretary to the Cabinet and Head of the Ontario Public Service (OPS) Steve Orsini**, who is also a York alumna.



Also in attendance were **Master of McLaughlin College, Professor David Leyton-Brown**, and the **Chair of the Department of Equity Studies, Professor Minoo Derayah**.

The formal portion of the meeting was chaired by **Adriano Mena**, 2014 Alumni Award winner. It commenced with opening remarks from **SPPA Director, Professor James C. Simeon**.

Simeon emphasized the importance of highlighting outstanding individual contributions of SPPA, as well as efforts to advance the school and its programs in fulfilling its mission, mandate and values in the furtherance of “good governance” in Canada and abroad.

Those who excel in their field, he said, show us the way forward and inspire us to achieve our full potential – not only as professional public servants, but also as human beings focused on social justice issues and concerns through good governance.

Shoukri was called on to introduce Moridi, and he noted he is extremely well-suited for his dual portfolios having

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served as the vice-president and chief scientist of the Radiation Safety Institute of Canada, as well as a CEO and chair in the electrical industry.

We are privileged, said Shoukri, to have an award-winning scientist, engineer, educator, business and community leader in the province of Ontario as our minister of research and innovation, and of training, colleges and universities.

Moridi shared a few words, offering that the postsecondary educational field is a key sector for Ontario’s economy and is possibly the foremost economic stimulus for innovation and realizing competitive advantage in the province.

He went on to congratulate all of the evening’s award winners and thanked the faculty and staff of the School of Public Policy & Administration for their contribution in preparing those who will be serving in the public service in the years to come – a sentiment echoed by Orsini during his talk.



A highlight of the awards dinner was an address given by **Professor H. Ian Macdonald**, **Schulich School of Business and president emeritus York University (1974-84)**. Macdonald shared insights from his years as a senior deputy minister in the Ontario Public Service and a resounding call for maintaining a non-partisan public service.

Macdonald was the first chief economist of Ontario in 1965, and later went on to become deputy treasurer and deputy minister of Economics & Intergovernmental Affairs.

Macdonald also inspired the OPS’ H. Ian Macdonald visiting economist position in the Ministry of Finance, which is currently held by David Dodge, former governor of the Bank of Canada.

York University **Professor Brenda Spotton-Visano** took the podium to close the event, remarking on the importance of the awards dinner and recognizing and celebrating excellence.

Opportunities

Manager, Complaint Services Office of the Patient Ombudsman

The Ontario *Excellent Care for All Act* includes provisions that, once proclaimed, establish the Patient Ombudsman.

The Office of the Patient Ombudsman (OPO) is a "start-up" organization. Join the Office in the new and challenging role of Manager, Complaint Services. Reporting to the Interim Executive Director, the Manager will bring his/her vision, passion and creativity to the creation of the Office. The Manager will have a successful track record in leading a complaint resolution and/or investigative team with the ability to put systems and processes in place to ensure excellent service delivery. The Manager will have the ability to successfully motivate, empower and coach staff in addition to possessing the vision, insight and confidence necessary to oversee a team.

Please click here to view details:

<http://www.ipac.ca/Manager15007E>

Director, Political Engagement Canadian Medical Association

Lead the Political Engagement team in executing strategies and tactics focused on federal and regional political engagement, proactive and reactive government policy analysis, and member-focused grassroots advocacy.

Reporting to the Vice-President, Patient & Public Engagement, you will oversee and manage the refinement and execution of a federal/regional Political Engagement strategy. This will see you providing strategic advice and insights to the VP and other CMA leaders on emerging political issues and their impact on organizational and departmental objectives, in order to advance the positions of the Canadian Medical Association with elected and non-elected decision-makers, while ensuring the alignment of key activities against departmental and corporate objectives.

Please click here for more details:

<http://www.ipac.ca/documents/Director-069E.pdf>

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Internships

Parliamentary Internship Program, 2016-17

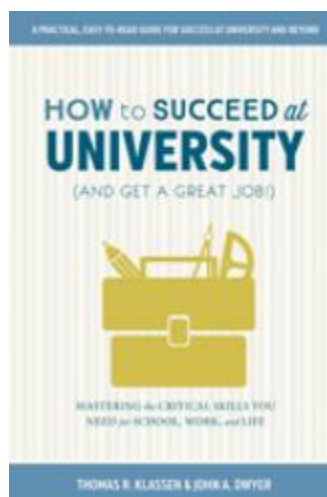
The Parliamentary Internship Programme (PIP) is currently accepting applications for the 2016-17 Intern Year (deadline: **January 31, 2016**).

The Programme offers a paid (\$23,000) 10-month internship that gives Interns the opportunity to work for MPs on both sides of the House of Commons, participate in a weekly seminar, produce an original research paper and undertake comparative study tours to legislatures in Canada and abroad. To submit an application, please visit the PIP Website at www.pip-ppsp.org.

Other Business

[How to Succeed at University \(& Get a Great Job!\)](#)

By Thomas R. Klassen & John A. Dwyer



How to Succeed at University (and Get a Great Job!) : *Mastering the Critical Skills You Need for School, Work, and Life* shows that the best preparation for success at life and on the job is succeeding at university. Giving oral presentations, working in teams, meeting deadlines, overcoming challenges, locating information, explaining

events, writing well, and dealing with people in authority are essential in any professional job. These same skills are also vital for becoming a strong student.

This book gives you advice and strategies, along with real-life examples, on how to improve the skills that guarantee success at school, work, and in life. More than that, by mastering these easy-to-learn skills, you will also have time to enjoy all the other benefits that a university education provides. The book is available as a free download at

http://www.ubcpres.ca/search/title_book.asp?BookID=299174910 as well as in hard copy.