

School of Public Policy and Administration

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Important Reminders

NOTICE: Option to Unsubscribe from the SPPA Newsletter

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

SPPA Events / News

Undecided? The School of PPA offers a “Get to Know Us” session

A growing number of first-year undergraduate students are entering university without declaring a major. At York, some 400 students started their university education without declaring a major or minor area of study.

In an effort help students who may be considering a career in the public service through a bachelor's degree in public administration, the School of Public Policy & Administration (SPPA) in the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies held the first in a series of information sessions Feb. 5 to let students know about public service careers available in the municipal, regional, provincial, federal or international levels of government.

The SPPA Information Session took place in the Founders Assembly Hall in Founders College on the Keele campus. The program featured welcome and introductory remarks from **Professor James Simeon**, Director of the School of Public Policy & Administration. Two leading members of the school's alumni, **Fausto Natarelli** (BA Spec. Hons. '84), director of the Windsor Border Initiatives Implementation Group and recipient of numerous public service awards and **Corey Davidson** (MPPAL '13), president of the SPPA Alumni Association, made presentations about their work experience in government. Both presenters emphasized the skills and abilities they acquired as SPPA students.

Professor Alena Kimakova, Undergraduate Program Director, spoke to the students gathered for the day, and her remarks outlined the features and the requirements of the school's undergraduate degree and certificate programs. There were also presentations from two of the Public Policy & Administration Students Association (PPASA) representatives, **Munisha Basiram** and **Sanura Daniel**, both members of the PPASA Executive. The information session concluded with a lively Q&A segment that addressed points that were raised by the six presenters.

Students had an opportunity to meet with the Faculty teaching in the program, key SPPA staff and **Tanya Cora**, Student Academic Adviser in the Faculty of LA & PS, along with a number of undergraduate and graduate students currently enrolled in SPPA programs. Students considering SPPA had an opportunity to discuss different aspects of the school's programs in an informal and relaxed atmosphere, and from the vantage point of those who are responsible for delivering the degree and certificate programs, said Simeon. They also had an opportunity to explore the many career options in government and the prospects for pursuing more advanced studies in professional schools and graduate programs.



For more information, visit the SPPA website:
<http://www.yorku.ca/laps/sppa/index.html>

MPPAL Team Ranks High at the 2015 National Public Administration Case Competition

This year's Competition was held at the School of Public Administration, Dalhousie University on February 6-7, in Halifax. Paula Biebelheimer, Suhail Iqbal, Jennifer Nguyen, and Sadaf Syed brilliantly represented team York from the Master's program in Public Policy, Administration, and Law (MPPAL). The faculty members who acted as their co-coaches were Professors Naomi Couto and John Wilkins. These students showed how part-time students make a full-time commitment to excellence.



MPPAL Team YorkU students took the initiative to confer with the judges afterwards on how they did. Even though IPAC/CAPPA case studies competition only announces the two finalists, York finished a nose behind Toronto in its group. On the flight home, the team was still strategizing how to improve upon third place next year. Returning student Jennifer is spreading the word with her peers about the incredible experience.

Next year's Competition will be held in Ottawa and we are inviting all MPPAL students to think about joining our team for the pre-competition training and preparations and to help select the four students who will be representing our School's MPPAL program at the Ottawa Competition. The event continues to get

better! Below is an informative link to the IPAC/CAPPA site on the Competition both past and present. Even if you do not want to be on the Competition team, do come out and sharpen your case study analysis, public policy decision-making and presentation skills during our training and practice sessions! Keep reading this Newsletter for exciting updates.

<http://www.ipac.ca/CaseStudyProgram-Competition>

Reflections from York's Student MPPAL team:

The event was very well organized and provided a great opportunity for students and professors to interact and exchange ideas. In other words, the experience was extremely enriching and gave students a chance to apply different skills that they have learned in their various courses.

The competition itself was an intense experience: we learned to analyze facts, conduct research and form a proposed solution in a very short time period. Most importantly, we were bound to work together as a team. This means that we got to know each other's strengths and weaknesses and we had to compromise and balance different opinions and approaches. This was perhaps the most valuable lesson of the competition.

We are extremely grateful to the MPPAL program and our coaches for providing us with this wonderful opportunity and supporting us throughout the whole process. Competitions such as these form an essential element of every student's learning experience. To further enhance next year's experience, we would like to suggest that the selection and training process should begin in October (or even earlier if possible), so that the team members identify each other's strengths and learn how to best utilize those aspects. Additionally, it would also give us more time for students to think on their feet and work on their delivery in front of an audience. Finally, we suggest that this would also give us more time to analyze and attempt to resolve more cases during the training sessions in order for students to get trained in applying different case study frameworks and techniques.

Notices

Invitation to Question and Answer Panel MSA at York University

Date: Wednesday, February 25

Time: 4:30pm

Location: Vari Hall A

The Muslim Students' Association at York University will be hosting a Question and Answer panel entitled "What does the Qur'an say?" during Islam Awareness Week the week of Monday, February 23rd to Friday, February 27th.

The purpose of the panel is to answer any questions Muslims and non-Muslims may have about the teachings of the Qur'an and what Muslims believe and do not believe. Due to recent events, we, at the Muslim Students' Association, believe that an event of this nature has been necessitated. We are looking to challenge the popular narrative concerning Islam and Muslims that has been propagated by the media and regain control of our narrative by way of this panel. The panel is not a debate and is faith based, while it will discuss the social aspects of Islam from the Qur'an.

Seminars / Workshops

Career Success: Employment Supports for York Students with Disabilities

Date: February 25, 2015

Time: 1-1:30pm: Complimentary pizza, refreshments and networking

1:30-4pm: Round-table discussions

**** This event is open to York students with disabilities only ****

Connect with and hear from employers, community service providers and employees with disabilities about workplace disclosure and accommodations for persons with various disabilities (e.g. physical, learning, mental health). Learn about employment supports in the workplace for persons with disabilities.

Employer & Community Agency Participants

The following employers and community agencies will be in attendance to share information, talk about accommodations in the workplace and answer your questions:

- Canadian Council on Rehabilitation and Work (CCRW)
- Career Edge
- Devices 4 Disabilities (York Student Club)
- Futurpreneur Canada
- Government of Ontario
- JobStart
- Lime Connect
- Rise Asset
- Development
- Scotiabank
- TD Canada Trust
- YES Employment Centre
- York University Asperger Mentorship Program (AMP)

Registration is required:

<http://careers.yorku.ca/online-system/>

Call for Papers / Proposals

15th International Symposium on Public Sector Management

The call for papers for the *15th International Symposium on Public Sector Management*, to be held from **July 2-3, 2015** at the University of Hamburg.

The theme of this year's symposium is: ***Public Sector Management in a Globalized World***.

We would kindly remind you that the deadline of submission of abstracts addressing this theme and related subtopics is **March 1, 2015**.

Please feel free to forward this e-mail or to announce the symposium to your faculty.

We look forward to receive numerous applications and to a fruitful discussion in Hamburg.

Opportunities

City of Brampton Park Maintenance

The Parks & Maintenance Operations Division of the City of Brampton is looking for motivated team players to assist with the summer maintenance activities within the City of Brampton's parks and also to work as clerks in the Division's administrative offices.

Applicants must be post-secondary school students returning to studies in the fall.

For more information please visit the City of Brampton Employment Website:

<http://www.brampton.ca/EN/City-Hall/Employment/Seasonal/Pages/Seasonal-and-Temporary.aspx>

Internships

United Nations Association in Canada - Internship Opportunity

Deadline: March 16th, 2015

UNA-Canada is now accepting applications for its prestigious **International Development & Diplomacy Internship Programme (IDDIP)**. Are you a graduate or post-grad who is ready to apply your skills and expertise to pressing development issues? Deployments include: **UNHCR, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, IOM, UN Women, UNCDF and UNODC.**

Successful, selected, Junior Professional Consultants take on challenging assignments, making a difference with real UN work. These **competitive, six-month, self-funded** internships provide successful applicants with a unique career launch, and an unforgettable experience.

<http://unac.org/unac-projects/international-internships/>

MaRS Studio [Y] Fellowships

Applications are now open for Studio [Y], a fully-funded innovation and leadership fellowship for young Ontarians aged 18-29. Each year we invite a cohort of 25 Fellows to join us for a once-in-a-lifetime journey of work and learning. Have an idea for how you want to change

the world? We'll give you an environment where you're guided and coached to build the essential skills and networks you need to solve complex real-world problems and challenges with partners from across sectors.

During the eight-month Fellowship, Fellows also receive a \$20,000 stipend to cover living costs during their time with us and access to up to \$5,000 in transition support funding upon successful completion of the program. Best of all, you'll get to pursue your ideas for bold change in society.

March 16: Applications Close

For more information visit the fellowship website <http://www.marsdd.com/systems-change/studio-y/news/applications-open-studio-y-cohort-3/>

Join the Institute on Governance as our 2015 Founder's Intern

The Institute on Governance is now accepting applications for the 2015 Founder's Internship Award. Applications will be accepted until all internships have been awarded for 2015.

Recipients of the Award may take-up their internships as of April 27, 2015 with starting dates to be agreed to between the recipient and the Institute.

The Founder's Internship Award recognizes excellence in scholarship and student engagement in public sector governance. The Founder's Internship extends the Institute's mission of promoting good governance as a key factor of success of governments, organizations and democracies. The Award consists of a twelve to fourteen week resident internship at the IOG's office in Ottawa. Recipients receive a stipend for the duration of their internship. Recipients of the Internship contribute to all facets of IOG's activities, thereby applying the knowledge and experience to the Institute's research, publishing, and training programs.

Interested candidates should submit their applications to the Institute by email to Lorraine Cole at cole@iog.ca. Applications should consist of a covering letter and curriculum vitae. The cover letter should indicate the areas of the Institute's activities where the candidate expects to make a contribution. The deadline to apply is **Friday, March 27, 2014.**