Our SPPA Undergraduate Student Profiles are back for 2017! Presenting this week

Peter Rappai, BPA student and Senior Ambassador for PPASA

For me, and for many other students, the transition from high school to university was not an easy one. I knew that I wanted to study Public Administration, due to my interest in government and law, and because I believed it to be more hands-on than Political Science. To me, it seemed that the former was practice and the latter was theory. Based on my beliefs at the time, Public Administration was the obvious choice. I was pleased to find that I could pursue my interest in this field at York University, because it’s not too far from my home.

My first year studying in the Bachelor of Public Administration (BPA) program at York University was not an easy time. Attempting to transition from fixed schedules, having teachers not know me on a first-name basis, and struggling to maintain a solid GPA posed a challenge for me. While my first year in the BPA could have been more successful in academic terms, I did meet some great people, whom I had no idea at the time would play a significant role in my time spent at York.

Despite the number of services offered at York University, I was convinced that I couldn’t count on anybody but myself. As such, I continued my journey on my own, trying to balance life and school, and improving my academic outcomes. By taking higher level courses, I met some professors who inspired me to strive to perform my best. It was this inspiration that changed my outlook and put me towards a successful path in university.
I began to meet more people, and I was finally feeling satisfaction from attending and participating in courses. By getting to know more of my peers, I started to hear about the Public Policy and Administration Student Association (PPASA), and the events they are involved in. I knew that some of my friends were members of the Association, so I asked them to tell me more about these events. At the same time, I started to make use of the services offered by York University, including the Academic Advisors to discuss the requirements as I slowly started to look to the future and plan my graduation. Eventually, I was personally approached by someone I knew from the program, and got invited to an event downtown. It was there that I realized how important networking was, and that I couldn’t solely rely on my academic accomplishments to consider my time at York University a success.

Soon after, I decided that it’s better late than never, and I got involved with the PPASA by securing the position of Senior Ambassador dedicated to liaise with upper year undergraduate students. I believe that my experiences along with the lessons I’ve learned could be put towards communicating to other Public Administration students the importance to make the most of their time at York.

If there is one thing I could tell every student studying Public Administration at York, it would be to get involved, to seek help if you need it, and to spread the word that the Student Association is here to support you if you feel lost. - Peter Rappai

Canada possesses a Parliamentary System of Government which is Executive Dominant, in that, the Executive the Prime Minister and Cabinet controls the decision-making agenda. In the 1960s the decision-making system was rationalized by the recommendations of the royal commission on Government Organization (Glassco). In the 1970s following criticisms by the Auditor General the Lambert Commission on Financial Management recommended improvements in Accountable Management within a framework of a fiscal Plan (A Mutually Compatible Management System). Yet the system continued to be Executive Dominant. Pursuant to the patronage scandal the Harper government passed An Accountability Act and established a parliamentary Budget Office and Officer who subsequently categorized the system to be Un-Accountable. In the 1960s, the Pearson Government had established an Economic Council with freedom to publish its findings without Cabinet authorization. It was abandoned in the early 1990s. Why the persistence of the accountability challenge? How can we address issues of Executive Dominance, Parliamentary Effectiveness and Accountability and Citizens Engagement in the 21st Century?

RICHARD W. PHIDD is a (retired University of Guelph 1972-2005), Professor, Public Administration and Public Policy, Fellow Adjunct Professor, McLaughlin College, York University 2005-2017. He also authored several studies of public sector organizations and policy-making issues in Canada since the early 1970s.
Support the student participation in the CAPPA Case Study Competition and win prizes!

$5 raffle tickets sold at IPAC National events or Buy 5 for $20 or 10 for $30 ONLINE.

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10 Subscriptions of 1 year from LRDG Online for Language acquisition software and training worth $600 each @lrdg_online
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2 $125 Gift Certificates for a Dress Rental and free fitting session from Rent Frock Repeat @RentfrockRepeat

Grand Prize:
A $1200 Coaching session with Career Joy @CareerJoy

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https://www.ipac.ca/CAPPA-Raffle-Tickets

Publications
A new book edited by UNBC Geography Professor Dr. Greg Halseth describes the multi-faceted process of transition and change in resource-dependent rural and small town regions since the end of the Second World War.

Titled Transformation of Resource Towns and Peripheries: Political Economy Perspectives, the book incorporates international case studies from Australia, Canada, Finland, and New Zealand. It highlights similarities and differences in patterns and practices in each country.

Webinar
Rural Scotland in Focus 2016: Informing Rural Policy
PRESENTERS: Sarah Skerratt, Jane Atterton
TIME: 10:00 am Central CST, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2017
TO REGISTER CLICK: http://ow.ly/Yrlg3089RQ5

Ontario at 150: Speaking to Our Future
Legislative Assembly of Ontario - Lecture Series

The year 2017 marks Ontario’s 150th as a province. To celebrate Ontario’s future and commemorate its past, the Legislative Assembly of Ontario is offering a new lecture series featuring prominent Ontarians to Speak to Our Future. Presenters will share their personal stories, experiences and valuable knowledge as they continue to contribute to Ontario’s journey.

Our lecture series begins on March 27th, 2017 from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm. Special guest speaker, Mr. Bob Rae will talk about Youth Engagement in Politics. For more information or to reserve your spot and purchase a ticket, visit our website.
# Job Opportunities

**Assistant Deputy Minister, Open for Business Ministry of Economic Development and Growth**

*Salary range:* $148,360-$201,840 per year  
*Location:* Toronto  
*Temporary*  
*Closing date:* February 26, 2017  

**Purpose:**  
As Assistant Deputy Minister (ADM), Open for Business, you, working with regulatory ministries, will lead the government’s multi-pronged strategy programs to deliver less costly, consumer friendly regulations and service standards in this rapidly changing environment. You will be active in the business community, building strong working relationships that allow you to listen to ideas and concerns. In this high-profile role, you will be working with the other members of the senior management team to best position Ontario to meet the challenges of the new economy.  

Please click here to view details: [http://www.ipac.ca/ADM-11126](http://www.ipac.ca/ADM-11126)

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**Senior Inspection Analyst**

*Salary range:* $68,536-$100,994 per year  
*Location:* Toronto  
*Temporary*  
*Closing date:* February 7, 2017  

**Purpose:**  
Make a difference in the lives of people with disabilities!  
Ontario is the first province in Canada to establish mandatory accessibility standards.  
In this senior role with the Accessibility Directorate of Ontario, Ministry of Economic Development & Growth, you can use your valuable skills and experience to break down barriers and make Ontario accessible.  

Please click here to view details: [http://www.ipac.ca/SeniorInspectionAnalyst-12369](http://www.ipac.ca/SeniorInspectionAnalyst-12369)

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**Senior Program Advisor**

*Salary range:* $73,769-$107,220 per year  
*Location:* Toronto  
*Temporary*  
*Closing date:* February 22, 2017  

**Purpose:**  
Bring your strategic policy and program expertise, stakeholder management skills and environmental knowledge to the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change, where you will join a team of professionals dedicated to the implementation of the ministry's Toxics Reduction Program.  

Please click here to view details: [http://www.ipac.ca/SeniorProgramAdvisor-12397](http://www.ipac.ca/SeniorProgramAdvisor-12397)

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**Senior Policy Advisor**

*Salary range:* $68,536-$100,994 per year  
*Location:* Toronto  
*Temporary*  
*Closing date:* February 13, 2017  

**Purpose:**  
Bring your policy development expertise to this exciting opportunity in the Public Safety Branch of the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services, where you will provide strategic policy analysis and advice, project management and stakeholder relations support for public safety related initiatives.  

Please click here to view details: [http://www.ipac.ca/SeniorAdvisor-12393E](http://www.ipac.ca/SeniorAdvisor-12393E)

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**Research Officer (Public Admin/Finance) Legislative Library and Research Services**

*Salary range:* $76,941 - $98,089 per annum  
*Closing date:* February 21, 2017  

**Purpose:**  
Are you interested in public policy? Would you like to join a multi-disciplinary team of legal, political science, public administration, social and other public policy analysts? The Office of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario seeks a dynamic, client-oriented individual to provide high quality, confidential, non-partisan research and analysis to Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPS) from all parties, legislative committees, and senior staff of the Assembly. As a member of the Legislative Library and Research Services branch, you will have the ability to research and analyze complex public policy issues thoroughly and quickly, prepare concise, well-written reports, and deliver oral briefings on a range of topics in a deadline-driven environment. You will also be a highly motivated self-starter with excellent interpersonal skills, the ability to work independently or in a team, and the skills necessary to serve a client group with changing priorities and deadlines.  