# School of Public Policy and Administration WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

December 2018 - Volume 6, Issue 34

# MPPAL Student, Asare Kester-Akrofi, Featured in the Toronto Star for his Involvement and Contributions to United Way

# THE STAR

### 'It's not about why I should give back but why not' By Liz Beddall



Asare Kester-Akrofi

Somewhere in between working a full-time job, completing a master's degree at York University, taking care of his family and playing basketball with his buds, the charismatic community leader can be found serving as a cabinet member for United Way initiative GenNext and as a dedicated United Way campaign co-chair for the City of Markham. "Throughout my life the United Way has provided services for me at critical times," Kester-Akrofi says. "Ultimately I give back not only because it's the right thing to do, but because I'm fortunate and blessed enough to be in a position to do so. We all need to band together to fight poverty in all its forms."

**Read full article at:** <u>https://www.thestar.com/news/gta/unitedway/2018/11/17/its-not-about-why-i-should-give-back-but-why-not.html</u>

For further information on United Way engagement opportunities, please visit: https://www.unitedwaygt.org/get-involved

# Get Ready for Internships and Summer Job Applications

# Save the Date

Monday, January 14, 2019 140 McLaughlin College, Senior Common Room

## Ontario Legislature Internship Program (OLIP) Information Session - 4:00pm to 5:00pm



Summer Jobs Workshop - 5:00pm to 7:00pm <u>Note</u>: Summer job application deadlines are in early 2019.



Further information to follow shortly.

# Announcements

# LA&PS Study Abroad Opportunities and the Benefits for Students

Dean JJ McMurtry and Associate Dean Narda Razack encourage you to participate in the array of study abroad opportunities available during the Summer 2019 and for 2019-2020. We are excited to offer funding incentives from our Faculty and together with additional funding from York International many of these opportunities are within reach for many of you. We are aware that there may be barriers to engaging in learning experiences abroad. However, we would like you to approach us if you are interested and we may be able to assist you in making a decision.

#### Here are some of the benefits to studying abroad:

Global/International work experiences stand out for employers on your resume! There are increasing challenges to gain employment and with an international learning experience you will have an edge with an employer. You develop a global perspective which is critical in many work places, have a deeper understanding of different cultures and you have broadened your mind and developed a more nuanced perspective of global issues.

#### Some of the opportunities offered by the Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies (LA&PS) include:

Two Summer Abroad courses taught by LAPS professor; Summer School in Seoul, Korea; Summer courses at any of five Summer Institutes through Letter of Permission; Academic Exchanges Abroad with one of over 150 of our partner universities for one or more terms; Global Internships awarding \$3000; Letter of permission to take a course with any of our partners; and Discover India Program.

Further Study Abroad and Funding information is available on the LA&PS website: <u>https://laps.yorku.ca/student-</u> resources/study-abroad/

For further information, questions or to set up a meeting, contact: Harj Singh, International Engagement Coordinator, at (416) 736-2100 Ext.33586 and/or harj78@yorku.ca.

# **IPAC 2019 National Conference**

Public Sector Transformation: Action and Meaningful Change



August 19 - 21, 2019 Fairmont Hotel Winnipeg, Manitoba

#### Sub-themes:

- Public Sector Transformation
- Innovation and Disruption
- Reconciliation and Transformation
- Digital Government

For further information, <u>click here</u>.

To view the conference agenda, click here.



#### Our Rights, Our Freedoms, Always Human Rights Day 2018

Monday, December 10, 2018 12:00pm to 2:00pm 140 McLaughlin College, Senior Common Room

#### International Human Rights Day, 10 December,

commemorates the day on which, in 1948, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). In 1950, the Assembly passed resolution 423 (V), inviting all States and interested organizations to observe 10 December of each year as "Human Rights Day." This is one of the most important international human rights instruments ever produced by the United Nations and it has been the inspiration and model for all other human rights conventions, charters and codes that have been adopted since. This year's International Human Rights Day will feature a number of speakers who will underscore the significance of the UDHR and this year's theme, "Our Freedoms, Our Rights, Always."

MODERATOR: JAMES C. SIMEON - Head of McLaughlin College and Associate Professor in the School of Public Policy and Administration (SPPA).

#### PANELISTS:

**MICHAEL CREAL** - Professor Emeritus in the Department of Humanities, York University.

**DAVID LEYTON-BROWN** - former Head of McLaughlin College and Professor Emeritus in the Department of Politics, York University.

**LESLEY WOOD** - Associate Professor and Chair in the Department of Sociology, York University.

# **Job Opportunities**

#### Program Evaluator - Municipal Innovation Exchange (MIX)

MIX is a joint 3-year initiative with the Cities of Guelph, London and Barrie, building on the work of the City of Guelph's Civic Accelerator pilot and MaRS Discovery District's Procurement by Co-Design project. The Program Evaluator will plan and conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the new initiative, which focuses on innovation procurement challenges across the three cities. Majority of the work is done remotely, but some travel is expected to the partner cities. For more information, <u>click here</u>.

#### Policy Analyst (2 positions) - CAAT

You will support CAAT Pension Plan's legislative, regulatory and plan text compliance while providing recommendations for setting Plan policies and procedures. You will have the opportunity to work closely with the Service Delivery team and respond to inquiries related to policy as well as support content development for member, employer and public communications. For more information, <u>click here</u>.

#### **Policy Analyst - Mitacs**

Reporting to the Director, Innovation Policy, the Policy Analyst will implement the Mitacs Reporting Strategy, while supporting policy research and the preparation of other materials including briefings, presentations, proposals, submissions and other policy documents as needed. For more information, <u>click here</u>.

#### Manager, Transportation Policy - Metrolinx

The Manager, Transportation Policy leads the team that develops and implements recommendations for the successful implementation of the Regional Transportation Plan, related plans and strategies, as well as corporate sustainability plans and strategies through research, studies, programs and implementation plans. For more information, <u>click here</u>.

#### **Research Program Director - People for Education**

The Research Program Director will lead People for Education's long-term research and evidence strategy and direction. The job requires a candidate who combines research and policy skills with a proven capacity for project management, and an orientation towards engagement and communication with the public, the education sector and experts in a range of fields. For more information, <u>click here</u>.

#### **Policy and Project Specialist - York Region**

Reporting to the Program Manager, Human Services Integration, the Specialist is responsible for researching, and providing advice and support on public policies, emerging legislation, industry practices, various initiatives at York Region and across its nine municipalities. For more information, <u>click here</u>.



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