

USC School of Policy, Planning, and Development

## Update in the State Capital

Volume 2, Issue #2

September-October 2009

### Montreal in September

The International City/ County Management Association (ICMA) annual conference will be held this September in Montreal. Dr. Newland will be the USC host of the California Reception that we are co-sponsoring with the League of California Cities and Cal-ICMA. Dr. Newland will also participate in the ICMA's Board and Credentialing Advisory Board sessions at the conference.

### Recruitment events and activities

Information meetings to invite your friends, colleagues and family to:

Thursday, Sept. 10, 5:30 to 6:30pm

Saturday, Sept. 12, 12:30 to 1:30pm (lunch will be provided)

Please RSVP to Scott Steele [ssteele@usc.edu](mailto:ssteele@usc.edu)

We will be attending several graduate school and similar fairs this fall:

CSU Chico Tuesday, September 15

CSU East Bay Wednesday, October 21

Idealist Fair, San Francisco Thursday, October 15

Stanford Thursday, November 5

UC Berkeley Wednesday & Thursday, October 7-8

UC Davis Thursday, October 22

UC Santa Cruz Wednesday, November 11

If you're in the area, please bring a friend, stop by and say hello!

### New Student-to-Student Mentor Program

In order to make our new students feel as welcome as possible, the Graduate Policy Administration Community (GPAC) Sacramento Committee and the Student Health Council (SHC) are planning a student mentor program pairing new students with returning students based on their field of interest. Students should be on the alert for an email from Ryan Arba, Sacramento Chair of GPAC, or Leila Cook, Sacramento Chair of SHC.

### Community Connections

Dr. Newland is serving on the City of Sacramento Charter Review Committee, which has generated a lot of public interest and a lot of publicity. For more information visit

<http://www.cityofsacramento.org/charter/>

Rich Callahan was appointed to the California Department of Toxic Substances Control's new five-member external advisory board. They will monitor performance and help guide the department in protecting public health and the environment from toxic harm. The

Department's EcoTracker website <http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/ecotracker.cfm> gives the public a quick and easy online method to measure the department's performance.

### **Global Business and the Terrorist Threat**

A new book, *Global Business and the Terrorist Threat*, is edited by USC faculty, including Jim Moore, who teaches Statistics and Modeling and Operations Research in Sacramento.

### **Kersten to Advise Students**

Elisabeth Kersten will be on campus one day per week, in addition to her teaching days, to provide MPA students with academic advising. We are excited to have her on board!

### **Alumni Club and Football**

The Sacramento Chapter of the USC Alumni club invites all students and alumni to the first two football viewing parties of the year:

1. Saturday, Sept. 5, at 12:30 p.m. against San Jose State at MVP restaurant, 17th & L streets, Sacramento. Parking is just \$2 for the whole day in the parking garage right next to the restaurant.
2. Saturday, Sept. 12, at 5 p.m. against Ohio State at Mandango's restaurant at Fulton Avenue and Hurley Way. Mandango's shares the building with Pizza Guys, the restaurant fronting the street and whose sign is more visible as you drive on Fulton. So, please look for Pizza Guys.

In addition, the club still has tickets available for the USC-Cal trip on Oct. 3. The cost is \$100 per person for a package that includes a game ticket and a bus ride. Separate game tickets are not available. If interested in the package, please call Art Campos at (916) 489-0309 or email at [sacramento@alumnicenter.usc.edu](mailto:sacramento@alumnicenter.usc.edu)

### **Career Corner**

Many alumni have volunteered to come to the Center to talk to students about their careers. The first of these Career Conversations @ Lunch will be held Friday, Oct. 9<sup>th</sup> with alumni working on issues in aging (county), neuroscience (healthcare nonprofit) and advocacy (special districts and a large school district).

Career Development Workshops will be held on Networking and Informational Interviewing in conjunction with each new introductory class, on Sept. 10 and 18. Resume and cover letter workshops are scheduled for Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>. And a salary negotiation workshop is scheduled for Friday, Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Recruiters will be at the Center from Sutter Health on Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup> and from state agencies on Friday, Oct. 16<sup>th</sup>.

Students and alumni who wish to attend any of the above events should RSVP to [kaser@usc.edu](mailto:kaser@usc.edu)

Students and alumni may view job postings on the website at <http://www.usc.edu/schools/sppd/careers/jobs/> You can search from your home computer. Contact Nina Losorelli [losorell@usc.edu](mailto:losorell@usc.edu) for the ID and password. We also send job

announcements to interested students and alumni! Contact Virginia Kaser for more information. [kaser@usc.edu](mailto:kaser@usc.edu)

### **Alumni and Student Updates**

Jennifer Baker, MPA 2002, is now working on retirement, civil rights and early childhood education issues as a Legislative Advocate with the California Teachers Association. [jbaker@cta.org](mailto:jbaker@cta.org).

Lisa Chan, MHA 2007, has started a new job as Consultant with the Senate Health Committee. [Lisa.chan@sen.ca.gov](mailto:Lisa.chan@sen.ca.gov)

Claudia Crist, MHA 2007, has a new position: Assistant Administrator, Oncology & Orthopedics at Sutter Medical Center. [CristC@sutterhealth.org](mailto:CristC@sutterhealth.org)

Melissa Gamer, MPA 1995, is now with the Department of Forestry and Fire protection (aka Cal Fire). [Melissa.Gamer@fire.ca.gov](mailto:Melissa.Gamer@fire.ca.gov)

Mia Orr, MHA, is now a consultant in the senate health committee, working on public health, chronic diseases including HIV/AIDS, health disparities, and environmental health. [Mia.Orr@sen.ca.gov](mailto:Mia.Orr@sen.ca.gov)

Rhonda McFarlane, MPA 2002, has a new job at Tahoe Regional Planning Association (TRPA) as their Finance Director. [rmcfarlane@trpa.org](mailto:rmcfarlane@trpa.org)

Danielle Reno, MHA 2007, was tapped for a leadership training position and will work with affiliate hospitals and medical foundations across the system to improve business processes as a Six Sigma Black Belt, Sutter Operating System, at Sutter Health. [RenoD@SutterHealth.org](mailto:RenoD@SutterHealth.org)

Kirin Rizvi, MHA 2008, has completed her residency at Sutter Health and is now Director of Development and Innovation at Sutter Medical Foundation.

Ed Sanchez, MHA 1994, Lt Col, USAF, MSC Flight Commander, 332d EAMDS/CASF Joint Base Balad, has been deployed in Iraq with the Reserves since early July and will return mid-November. He reports, "Our role is to prepare patients that are injured in battle and non-battle injuries for military, DOD civilians, and contractors for Aeromedical Evacuation here in Iraq. We are the busiest facility of our kind both in Iraq and Afghanistan and we are co-located with the theater hospital where most trauma patients are received and stabilized before they are move onto Germany or Walter Reed Army Hospital for definitive care." [Eddie.Sanchez@blab.afcent.af.mil](mailto:Eddie.Sanchez@blab.afcent.af.mil)

Katie (Hall) Schnaser, MHA 2005, has accepted the position of Administrator of Operational Support Services at the Cleveland Clinic. [SCHNASK@ccf.org](mailto:SCHNASK@ccf.org)

Scott Suckow, MHA 1995, is serving in the reserves in Iraq with Ed Sanchez.

*In Memorium*

Memorial services were celebrated on 25 July 2009 in Sparks, Nevada, for Dr. Michael Steinmann, who completed his DPA degree at the Sacramento Center in October 2004. Mike's dissertation was a leading study of "Alberta's Economic Development of the Athabasca Oil Sands." His son, Fred, is carrying on his father's academic tradition by completing his own USC dissertation on Redevelopment in California and Nevada.

Please send your update to Virginia Kaser [kaser@usc.edu](mailto:kaser@usc.edu)

*If you were sent this newsletter in error or would like to discontinue receiving this and other emails from the Center please reply to the sender. Your updates are always welcome.*