

USC School of Policy, Planning, and Development

## Update in the State Capital

Volume 2, Issue #1

July-August 2009

### Welcome to Our New Students!

A reception for new students to the State Capital Center will be held Thursday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, from 5:30 to 7:30pm at the Center. Please join the Dean, faculty and staff in giving them a warm welcome. This will follow their afternoon Orientation for students with staff from Los Angeles and Sacramento.

### Recruitment events and activities

Please refer your friends, family and colleagues to Scott Steele, Outreach Coordinator, to find out about our graduate programs. Scott Steele [ssteele@usc.edu](mailto:ssteele@usc.edu) (916) 442-6911 ext. 13

We are interested in expanding our presence on Facebook and Twitter as well as making better use of our website with photos, email contact and videos of alumni. If you have an interest in working with us in this area, please contact Scott Steele [ssteele@usc.edu](mailto:ssteele@usc.edu) (916) 442-6911 ext. 13

### Guest Lecturers Bring Their Expertise to Class

Elisabeth Kersten's Political Leadership class heard from a variety of relevant experts:

- PK Agarwal, Director, Dept of Technology Services. He spoke on millennials, boomers and how they view change and technology and how President Obama is changing politics and policy.
- Donne Brownsey, Partner, Sacramento Advocates. Donne was a former legislative director for Senate ProTem David Roberti.
- Rich Callahan, Director of the USC State Capital and Leadership Programs. He spoke on leadership models, curriculum and teaching leadership in all sectors
- David Kersten, President, Kersten Communications. He discussed why health reform failed in California and the relevance to the health reform debate in Washington.
- Kathy Lewis, VP and COO of Center for Collaborative Solutions. Kathy is former deputy director of Dept of Education and she described the collaborative models that she has developed and refined in her career for problem solving and implementation of challenges involving many levels of government and NGOs.
- Ana Matosantos, Chief Deputy Director, CA Dept of Finance. She spoke on California's fiscal crisis and health reform.

Howard Greenwald's Healthcare Marketing class benefited from the following guest speakers:

- Lizelda Lopez Engstrom, Deputy Director, Public Affairs, California Department of Social Services
- Richard Ikeda, Executive and Medical Director, Health For All, Inc.

- Kevin King, Health Net executive
- Jahmal Miller, Manager-Strategic Marketing & Communications, Sutter Health, Sac-Sierra Region
- Max Villalobos, Senior Vice President/Area Manager – South Sacramento, Kaiser Permanente

### Students Interview Leaders

The following leaders in public policy and administration hosted students in Elisabeth Kersten's Political Leadership class in their offices:

- Lester Snow, Director, Department of Water Resources
- Rita Sudman, Executive Director, California Water Education Foundation
- Assemblyman Roger Niello, 5<sup>th</sup> District

### Publication by USC Students and Faculty

Bob Myrtle and three MHA students, Doug Archer, Stephen Cheung and Brent Pottenger, had a case study accepted for publication in the upcoming 5th Edition of *Cases in Health Services Management*. The case, built around a USC alum's experience in hospital management, will comprise a chapter in the book when it becomes available later in Spring 2010.

### Alumni Help Students

Ana Estrada Julia McGinnis and Jim Nordin spoke to students about their experience (past and current) working for the federal government and how to get jobs there now. The federal government is hiring!

Linda Brughelli spoke about "The Green Office: Sustainability in Practice." She reported about the Attorney General's Office's first-year efforts in complying with AB32.

Over 65 alumni and friends of the Center participated in career events and activities during the year. They were honored at the annual Appreciation Luncheon in June.

### SPPD Academic Capstone Exhibition Award 2009

This award was given to Ryan Adame, Myriam Arce, Jennifer Grutzius, Danielle Higgs, and Alyssa Newton for their project *A Cross-Sectoral Success: Re-Building the MacArthur Maze*.

### Faculty and Advisory Board News

Rich Callahan was the keynote speaker at the Air Force Academy's *Outstanding Academy Educator Awards*, where he spoke on "Leadership Research on Shared Values" to over 400 faculty.

### Community Connections

In May a group of USC students participated in the Walk 'n Rock for Kids. The total event raised over \$200,000 for seven local nonprofit organizations that focus on assisting youth in northern California. More info is at [walknrock.org](http://walknrock.org).

Ryan Arba, MPA student, and Paul Danczyk, MPA alum and Associate Director of the Center in Sacramento, are new members of the board of directors of the Sacramento chapter of ASPA (American Society for Public Administration).

### California Complete Count

The committee established by the Governor to assist the federal government in the decennial census includes a few USC alumni and faculty: Karen Bass, Speaker of the Assembly, Dowell Myers, Professor in the School of Policy, Planning, and Development, and Julie Spezia, Executive Director, Housing California are on the committee. MPA alumna Ditas Katague-Thompson is Director of Census 2010 for California.

### Alumni Club News

President Art Campos is building a strong relationship with the Kings and Monarchs, who have great ties to USC: Paul Westphal, new coach, is arguably the best basketball player in USC history, and Lisa Leslie and Tina Thompson, Monarchs players, are two of the best female players ever to come out of USC.

The Alumni Club will hold its annual 'SCend Off on Sunday, July 26. This event allows local alumni to meet high school students from the Sacramento region who will be attending USC for the first time in the fall. New students are free, others pay \$30 for the event. Proceeds go to the scholarship fund. Contact Art Campos for more details.

[sacramento@alumnicenter.usc.edu](mailto:sacramento@alumnicenter.usc.edu)

### Leadership Programs

During the first week of August, the USC State Capital Center will welcome 24 senior legislative staff members from throughout the United States to participate in the Legislative Staff Management Institute. This program is a 5-year collaborative partnership of USC, CSU Sacramento and the National Conference of State Legislatures. A special thanks goes out to Teri Boughton, MHA alum, and the California Healthcare Foundation for providing scholarships that support three participants!

### Career Corner

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

The USC Sacramento Summer Enrichment Program will provide an opportunity for students and alumni interested in healthcare to visit several healthcare organizations in the area for site visits and briefings by their leadership. It will be held July 9, 10, 16 and 17. Please contact Virginia Kaser [kaser@usc.edu](mailto:kaser@usc.edu) for more information.

Be a Mentor! Alumni with 15 or more years of professional experience may sign up to become mentors to MPA and MHA students. Spend one hour each month with a student and provide guidance, networking and advice to them. You will be supported by the Center. A number of Alumni and Advisory Board members have served as mentors this past year. Join this elite group and enjoy the benefits of giving back. Please contact Virginia Kaser [kaser@usc.edu](mailto:kaser@usc.edu) if you are interested in exploring this opportunity.

We 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

Nick Arevalo, MPA 2009, was selected as Fellow in the Clinton-Orfalea Fellowship. He will work for one year on the Clinton Economic Opportunity Initiative in NYC.

Bill Barcellona, MHA 2006, was recently awarded USC's Alumnus of the Year for 2009 by the School of Policy Planning and Development. Bill was recently featured as one of 27 industry experts in the book "Is There a Doctor in the House?" by health economist Richard Scheffler. [wbarcellona@capg.org](mailto:wbarcellona@capg.org)

Mary Ruth Bell, EdD 2006, became the state President for Juvenile Court, Community and Alternative School Administrators of California (JCCASAC) in May. [MBell@scoe.net](mailto:MBell@scoe.net)

Salina Cheung, MPA in progress, was awarded a Government Finance Officers Association scholarship. It was presented to her in Seattle, trip courtesy the GFOA.

Scott Christman, MPDS 2005, has accepted the position of eServices Program Manager at the California Department of Public Health. [Scott.Christman@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:Scott.Christman@cdph.ca.gov)

Molly Khatami, MPA 2006, has accepted the position of Director of Planning, Research and Student Success at Woodland Community College. [mkhatami@yccd.edu](mailto:mkhatami@yccd.edu)

Catherine Horiuchi, DPA 2001, co-wrote the introduction to the Minnowbrook III symposium and wrote an article "A Primitive Value: Reducing Disparity." Both were published in *Organization Theory and Behavior*, Vol. 12, Issue 2, Summer 2009.

Brent Pottenger, MHA 2009, is active as a tutor and promoter of Game Plan Academy, which provides highly personalized and professional athletic, academic, and mentorship services to Sacramento youth who normally would not have access to these resources. The program has provided a series of inspirational speakers to the young athletes, including one by Rich Callahan. [www.GamePlanAcademy.com](http://www.GamePlanAcademy.com)

Albert Sim, MPA 2005, has accepted a position with CalPERS as Program Evaluator in their Office of Audits.

Todd Smith was recently promoted to the position of Regional Vice President, Strategy and Business Development, East Bay Region, Sutter Health. [smitht1@sutterhealth.org](mailto:smitht1@sutterhealth.org)

Kobi Sonoyama, MHA 2008, has accepted the position of Clinic Supervisor, Specialty Areas at Mercy Medical Group, San Juan. [Kobi.Sonoyama@chw.edu](mailto:Kobi.Sonoyama@chw.edu)

Ken Torre, MPA 1979, is now the Director of the Masters Judicial Administration Program at California State University, Sacramento after retiring from his position as Court Executive Officer in Contra Costa Superior Court. [torrecourt@aol.com](mailto:torrecourt@aol.com)

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

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