

PPPM Circle

Department of Planning, Public Policy and Management
School of Architecture and Allied Arts

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From the Department Head Transitions



Greetings from Hendricks Hall! With students arriving and graduating every year, there are always transitions in PPPM. But this year transitions have special meaning. At the national level, the transition to a new administration has already generated a lot of excitement. On the UO campus we have seen a new level of activism across the political spectrum, and a renewed interest

in the things we do in PPPM. We are seeing this in a number of ways, including record enrollment in our undergraduate classes.

A transition in PPPM is my return to the role of department head after a yearlong sabbatical in Australia. All of us are grateful to Marc Schlossberg for serving as acting chair during my absence, and he is continuing to lead several efforts started last year.

Another transition relates to retirements. Last year, Ed Weeks retired after thirty years at the UO. In spring 2009, PPPM will be hosting a forum in Portland focusing on the research and practice of deliberative democracy, which has been Ed's area of work. Next year, both Judy and Mike Hibbard will also be retiring, and we hope to host similar public events. Luckily, all three of them will continue teaching and research through the university's retirement program. These transitions mean we are hiring two new faculty members in public administration this year and one new faculty in planning next year.

In the School of Architecture and Allied Arts, faculty transitions and initiatives are leading to new cross-department collaborations around urban design,

sustainable development, and the graduate certificate in ecological design. The UO will also be welcoming a new president next year. Many of us in PPPM appreciate the leadership of President Frohnmayer, who has helped PPPM in many ways over the years.

This is an exciting time for planning, public administration, and nonprofit management, but also challenging because of the economic downturn. Federal and state fiscal pressures will continue to make funding a challenge at both the University of Oregon and the PPPM department. Our steady increase in enrollment and research funding puts us in a good position, but we are increasingly dependent on other fundraising to continue attracting the highest-quality students. More than ever before, we are depending on donations from many of you to help educate the next generation. We hope you can give generously and make PPPM part of your annual contributions.

As always, please keep us informed about what you are doing, and please stop by Hendricks Hall if you are in Eugene.

Rich Margerum
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Link In With Alumni

Want to connect with former classmates? Looking for other PPPM alumni in your area? Want to improve your professional networks? The PPPM department has launched a new PPPM group through the commercial website LinkedIn.

What is LinkedIn? Some people have best described it as Facebook for grownups. To sign up, you create a LinkedIn account with as many or as few details as you want to provide. You then request to join the PPPM Alumni and Friends network and you can connect to others in the network.

The steps for joining our PPPM group are as follows (if you already have an account, start at number 3):

1. Visit www.linkedin.com.
2. Create an account by filling out your profile information
3. Join the PPPM group by clicking on "groups" and search for PPPM.

You will be notified of your acceptance shortly.



Alumni Yadilichukwu Okwumabua and Ifioke Ibang meet with current MPA students as part of Salem Day.



UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

Student Highlights

Applying Academics in the Field

PPPM undergraduate and graduate students completed internships with eighty-one organizations in the U.S. and abroad this past year. From the City of Albany, Oregon, to Quechua Benefit (at 15,000 feet) in Peru, students gained valuable experience while contributing to the enhancement of local and international communities. The students applied their course work, developed new skills, and made lasting connections with professionals.

Examples of student accomplishments include the following:

- Undergraduate Chris Castrillo honed his research skills as he tracked bills on behalf of California State Assembly member Warren Furutani.
- Undergraduate Molly Roman wrote and designed the annual report for Clatsop Community Action, a nonprofit social service provider in Astoria, Oregon.
- Undergraduate Justin Tandingan was selected for the highly competitive "Generation Next" program and completed his summer internship with the City of Portland Office of Sustainable Development.
- M.P.A. candidate Michael Massof was the Gulf Coast Renewal Campaign fellow at the Institute for Policy Studies' Hip-Hop Caucus in Washington, D.C. He wrote *Humanity on the Line—Third-Year Anniversary Report on Hurricane Katrina*, which was presented at the 2008 Democratic National Convention.
- M.C.R.P. candidate Lorna Flormoe-Cowles completed an internship with the City of Eugene's Community Development Division and has been subsequently hired as a neighborhood planner.

Three PPPM Graduate Students Appointed as Presidential Management Fellows



Left to Right, Matthew Peterson, Andrea Sparks, and Lee Pera

The following recent graduates were accepted federal service appointments through the prestigious Presidential Management Fellows Program:

- Matt Peterson, natural resource specialist with the U.S.D.A. Forest Service in Bishop, California.
- Andrea Sparks, budget analyst with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in Washington, D.C.
- Lee Pera, analyst with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs in Washington, D.C.

The Presidential Management Fellows Program is a highly competitive program established in 1977 to attract outstanding graduate students to federal service. This year, 3,600 students from around the country were nominated by their schools. After a rigorous selection process, 754 finalists were selected to compete for fellowship appointments.

Faculty Spotlight

Young Guest Speaker for Municipal Arborists

Assistant Professor Robert Young recently completed a national survey of urban foresters examining how they are managing municipal green space (i.e., street trees, parks, cemeteries, and conservation areas) to produce ecosystem services such as flood control, urban heat island mitigation, carbon sequestration, and biodiversity enhancement for municipalities. Young presented his preliminary findings to the Society of Municipal Arborists as an invited speaker at their annual meeting in San Diego, California this October.

Yang Receives Dean's Award

Assistant Professor Yizhao Yang has been awarded the 2008–9 A&AA Dean's Award for her research, "Understanding Person-Environment Fit in the Planning for Urbanism." The A&AA Dean's Award is one of the awards in the faculty research and creative works series, given each year by the School of Architecture and Allied Arts. Recommendations are made by the Research Liaison Committee.

Funding Renewed and New Management Consultancy Course

The department is delighted to announce two new developments for the nonprofit program. First, Pacific Continental Bank announced a generous three-year renewal of their funding to support the Scholars on Board program. This funds the instructional costs for the "Board Governance" course and stipends for graduate students who serve on a nonprofit board for an entire academic year. Second, a soon-to-be-officially-announced program will fund a management consultancy course for students to work on teams, providing administrative assistance to nonprofit organizations.

Department Spotlight

PPPM Faculty and Alumna Commissioned for National Conference Presentation

Professors Laura Leete and Neil Bania have joined former graduate student, Andrea Sparks, in a collaborative effort to analyze the impact of "food deserts" in the United States. The team has been commissioned by the National Poverty Center to write a paper for its Jan. 23, 2009 conference. "Food deserts" are low income and urban communities that lack access to affordable and nutritious foods. Sparks, a June 2008 graduate, received dual masters degrees in public administration and community and regional planning. The paper that Leete, Bania and Sparks are writing builds off of Sparks' master's thesis, a co-winner of the department's 2008 Frazier Award for the best masters in public administration thesis. Expanding on Sparks' work and research questions are the focal point of the paper entitled "Finding Food Deserts: A Comparison of Approaches to Measuring Spatial Accessibility to Supermarkets in Portland, Oregon." Findings from their research will be used by the U.S. Department of Agriculture when contemplating future decisions regarding food access in urban areas. "The combination of work by different people from different regions will provide a broader picture of the impact of "food deserts" in the United States," adds Professor Leete. The conference, "Understanding the Economic Concepts and Characteristics of Food Access," is jointly sponsored by the National Poverty Center, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, University of Michigan and the Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture. The request by the National Poverty Conference for Sparks, Leete and Bania to write a paper for the conference indicates the type of relevant research that is contributing to the UO's already respected reputation.

PPPM Hosts International Forum

The PPPM department hosted an international forum on cross-regional collaboration in Portland, Oregon, in August 2008. The forum was organized and funded by the University of Oregon and the Australian Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO). Richard Margerum and Cathy Robinson of CSIRO hosted the event which included a range of researchers and representatives of the federal and state agencies from the Pacific Northwest, Washington D.C., and Australia. The forum heard a range of case studies, including the Columbia River Basin restoration efforts and water-quality planning on the Great Barrier Reef. One of the immediate outcomes has been a joint article outlining the challenges of these large-scale collaboration efforts. Future initiatives are being explored around research and internships.

CPW Update

What Is Happening in CPW?



The Community Planning Workshop had a busy summer and is currently starting an exciting new cycle.

For the City of Eugene's Diversity and Equity Strategic Plan, we conducted outreach to communities of color, finalized

the plan, and wrote a culturally competent public participation framework to help guide city employees in conducting their public participation. We also conducted intercept surveys for the Lane County Fair, aided in the debriefing after the Olympic Team Trials and wrote the After-Action Report, and created a strategic plan for the Cascadia Region Earthquake Work Group.

Now, this year is in full swing. We have new project managers as well as some returning summer staff members and are working on some fun new projects.

CPW is working with the St. Paul Parish School in Eugene to develop its five-year strategic plan. We have completed interviews with school stakeholders to understand the strengths and issues at St. Paul. Shortly, we'll be sending out a survey to all of the students' families to get input on the importance of addressing the identified issues in the next five

UO kicks off 15th year of RARE Program



UO kicks off the 15th year of the RARE Program as community interns embark on their 11-month assignments to improve rural Oregon communities. In recognition of the long-term impact of the UO's program, The Ford Family Foundation has given the program an additional boost. A three-year \$235,000 grant, given in November 2008, is designed to assist the RARE program in planning for its long-term growth and expansion. The grant will assist RARE in forming partnerships between both campus and community organizations with attention to rural communities. The UO provided matching funds of \$110,000. The Ford Family Foundation was established in 1957 by Kenneth W. and Hallie E. Ford. Its mission is to support successful citizenship and sustain vital rural communities in Oregon and Siskiyou County, California. Megan Smith, Managing Director for the Community Service Center, will direct the long-range planning project and helps in the selection and placement of RARE participants. Communities or individuals interested in participating in the RARE program are invited to contact the UO Community Service Center at 541-346-3889.

years. CPW will also conduct a public workshop to facilitate discussion and identify action items for the strategic plan. We will work with St. Paul through winter term to complete the plan and create a strategy for implementation.

CPW is also in the process of creating a parks and recreation master plan for the City of Mount Angel that will provide direction for the parks system over the next fifteen years. Currently, the CPW team is conducting stakeholder interviews, holding community workshops, and parks advisory committee meetings to gather public input. These public outreach techniques are focused on identifying issues and opportunities for the system, creating conceptual designs for two parks, and promoting public dialogue about parks in Mount Angel.

This is just a glimpse into all that is happening.



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Educating the Next Generation

Many of you have graduated from PPPM to become leaders in your organizations and communities. We are now educating the next generation of leaders, but we need your help. PPPM draws students from across the country and across the world into our programs. With the rising costs of education, it is difficult for students to come to the UO, and we need to increase our support for scholarships, grants to support thesis research, and funding for students to present papers at national conferences. Your donation will be greatly appreciated.

Checks: Make checks payable to "UO Foundation" and mail to the Department of Planning, Public Policy and Management.

Online: Give at <https://supportuo.uofoundation.org>. Choose the "Other" category and type "Department of PPPM."

Scholarships: If you want to specify funds for PPPM student scholarships, there is a list of scholarship funds on our website under "Giving to PPPM": pppm.uoregon.edu.

PPPM Circle is produced biannually by the Department of Planning, Public Policy and Management for alumni and friends. Find the PPPM Circle online at pppm.uoregon.edu.

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