



# Urban Studies and Public Administration

## Old Dominion University

### Special points of interest:

- **Welcome New Faculty!**
- **Career Guide 2008!**
- **Internship from a Student Perspective**
- **Ph.D. Updates**

### Inside this issue:

<b>Message from Department Chair</b>	<b>1-2</b>
<b>Welcome New Faculty</b>	<b>1-2</b>
<b>PAUP Program Director</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>MPA Program Director</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>C.R.E.E.D. Update</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>PAUPer's News</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Student Perspective</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Faculty Field Trip</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Congratulations Graduates!</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>PMF Job Update</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Core Course Matrix</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Spring 2009 Schedule</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Career Guide 2008</b>	<b>9</b>

### Message from Department Chair, Dr. Berhanu Mengistu



On behalf of the Department of Urban Studies and Public Administration, I would like to welcome all new and returning students - I hope the semester is going well so far! The Department is very excited to introduce our two new faculty members: Dr. Mohamad Alkadry, from the University of West Virginia, and Dr. Wie Yusuf, from the University of Kentucky. Dr. Alkadry is currently teaching PADM 651, Administrative Theory I and PADM 695, Managing Diversity in Public

Organizations. Dr. Alkadry has already made a huge contribution by putting together a comprehensive list of fellowships and internships geared just for USPA students (a desk copy of this book can be found in our office). A workshop will be held on October 16th in Constant Hall 1043. A detailed advertisement for this event can be found on page 9.

Dr. Yusuf is teaching PADM 671, Public Budgeting & Financial Management and PADM 704, Methods of Public Program Evaluation this semester. Both are a wonderful addition to our presently transitioning Department.

Also, please join us in welcoming our new Graduate Assistants: Kylie Lee, Ashley Lipton,

Katie Neill and Samra Safdar. They are hard at work in our office and can assist you with any questions you may have regarding registration and appointments for academic advising.

The Department is excited to announce that we are currently undertaking a major project. As a nationally accredited program by the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration, we are in the midst of our self-study year. As such, we will be contacting some of you to participate in our surveys for this reaccreditation process. Also, as part of our self-study year, we are working hard to overhaul the website and rewrite course descriptions for the new Graduate Catalog for the 2009-2010 academic year (cont. on page 2).

### Welcome New Professors!

This Fall, we have welcomed two new professors to our department. They make a wonderful addition to our already excellent teaching staff!

#### Dr. Wie Yusuf, Assistant Professor

Greetings! As one of the newest additions to the faculty, I was asked to share with you some details about myself. I come to ODU from the University of Kentucky where I received my

Ph.D. in Public Administration. Prior to Kentucky, I obtained my MBA from Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne, and did my undergraduate coursework in engi-

neering at the University of Notre Dame. I am a big football fan and can't wait for ODU's football season next year. (cont. on page 2)

## Welcome New Professors: Dr. Yusuf (cont. from page 1)

I completed and defended my doctoral dissertation in December 2007. My dissertation research focused on entrepreneurial assistance programs, which is reflective of my interests in entrepreneurship, entrepreneurship policy and economic development. While at the University of Kentucky, I was also a Research Associate with the Ken-

tucky Transportation Center where I worked on issues related to transportation policy, planning, and finance. Beyond transportation finance, I am also interested in public finance.

During the Fall semester I am teaching Program Evaluation and Public Budgeting and Financial Management. I

have enjoyed the MPA and MUS students I currently have in my classes and look forward to meeting others in the coming semesters. My office is 2096 Constant Hall – please stop by and say ‘Hi!’. My door is always open if you have any questions relating to any of my many research topics, or if you just wanted to chat about courses.

## Dr. Mohamad Alkadry, Associate Professor

Mohamad G. Alkadry joins the Department of Urban Studies and Public Administration (USPA) as an Associate Professor. He comes from West Virginia University where he served as an Associate Professor and Director of the Masters of Public Administration Program. He received his Ph.D. from Florida Atlantic University and his Masters of Public Policy and Public Administration from Concordia University. He finished his undergraduate education at the American University of Beirut and Carleton University (Ottawa). Dr. Alkadry has over 20 peer-reviewed publications, three practitioner-

books, and one edited book. His works appear in *Review of Public Personnel Administration*, *The International Journal of Organizational Theory and Behavior*, *Public Administration Review*, *Administration and Society*, *Journal of Education Finance*, *Social Work in Health Care*, *Public Productivity and Management Review*, *Public Administration and Management*, *Public Administration Theory and Praxis*, among other journals.

Dr. Alkadry's practitioner experience includes service as a senior research associate at the Center for Urban Redevelopment and Empowerment

(Florida Atlantic University) and as a Value-for-Money Auditor with the Office of the Auditor General of Canada (Ottawa). Dr. Alkadry has authored in excess of forty community and professional studies in areas of economic and community development. He also served on the West Virginia Stroke Taskforce, the West Virginia University Council on Women's Concerns and the West Virginia Behavioral Health Commission Regulatory Workgroup. He also provided substantial technical assistance and research support to several homeless coalitions and the Equal Pay Commission in West Virginia.



## Dr. Berhanu Mengistu (continued from page 1)

Lastly, I have just a few reminders to our current students. The first day to register for Spring 2009 classes is November 10. Please call the office (757.683.3961) and schedule an advising appointment *before* this date! Our customer-friendly Graduate Assistants will be happy to schedule these appointments for you. The second item of

importance that I would like to remind you about is graduation. If you intend to graduate in Spring 2009, the deadline to apply is November 28. All corresponding forms and questions should be directed to the Registrar's Office regarding this matter.

I thank you all for your continued support and hard work. I

look forward to another successful semester and hope that each of you will continue to grow and prosper in your learning, in your career and in your personal endeavors.

Regards,  
Berhanu Mengistu, Ph.D.

## Message from PAUP Program Director, Dr. John Morris

Well, this academic year promises to be a very busy time. In addition to our reaccreditation self-study and our new faculty searches, we will be revisiting the Ph.D. curriculum.

As some of you may remember, the department created the current Ph.D. program in 2003-2004, and it became effective in 2005. With several years' experience now behind us, we are beginning to identify a few things we think should be revisited. Between the "trial and error" and our experience, coupled with the departure of two faculty members who were instrumental in the last program transition, we think the time is right to see what we could "do better."

To this end, the faculty has asked me, in my role as GPD, to formulate a proposal for program revision, a task I plan to undertake this fall. However, I don't plan to do it alone—I want your input! To this end, I will be planning a series of meetings to solicit input from current (and former) Ph.D. students as to the kinds of changes we should consider for the program. Furthermore, I have asked the faculty, and they have agreed, to invite representatives from the PAUPers to the meetings in which the program changes are discussed. I will be asking the PAUPers to appoint formal representatives for this purpose.

Your input is important—this is

your program, and its structure will have a profound impact on your future. So, please plan to participate as frequently as you possibly can. If you are not able to come to meetings, send me your ideas, or ask one of your fellow students to present your ideas at a meeting.

This year we have several new (and returning) students in our midst. Ben Inman, Sessa Moon, Jennifer Taylor, and Sawsan Abutanjeh started this fall. Helen Lacrocco and Lucy Major have deferred admission until the spring. Finally, Nina Joyner and Nate Worley have re-joined us after an absence. If you run into these people, please be sure to introduce yourselves.



### Congratulations Ph.D. Graduates!

**Ralph Cann-Tamakloe**

**Elizabeth M. Gagnon**

**Madeleine McNamara**

## Message from MPA Director, Dr. William Leavitt

As always, it is a pleasure to address our MPA students through this Newsletter. If you are in the MPA program and you have not yet met me, its time to schedule an appointment! Advising is a critical part of your smooth passage through the MPA program. My job as MPA program director is to make sure you are on track as you progress through the program and that you get the most out of what the program has to offer.

Here is some general advice. As I have noted before, the best place to start is with the MPA Student Handbook, which will give you the MPA general program requirements. There has been one recent change. The prerequisite course for PADM 753 Research Methods for Public Administration has been elimi-

nated. This was the PADM 410 course (Data Analysis for Public Managers). Basic statistics and spreadsheet analysis, previously covered in 410, is now covered in the 753 Research Methods course. The MPA Student Handbook can be sent to you electronically if you don't have a copy – just call the office at 683-3961.

The guidelines for internships (PADM 668) are currently being revised. These revisions will provide more structure to the internship experience. Dr. Mohamad Alkadry will serve as the internship coordinator for the MPA program. We will be sending an email soon to all students explaining changes to the internship program.

Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find the two year

matrix of required MPA core courses. This matrix is provided so that you can plan your schedule for taking core courses at the most convenient location for you. When you receive your MPA degree you will note that there is no mention on the degree or in your transcript of a "major" or concentration area. However, you are expected to have a concentration area and your choice of a concentration should be discussed with me before you get very far into the MPA program. You may, of course, choose an "individually configured concentration", but I will need to know what it is and approve it – so again, you need to discuss it with me!

One last thing, many students ask me about taking the Directed (cont. on page 7)



## Event Preview

### Center for Real Estate and Economic Development

#### In the News at CREED

On Monday, June 23, the annual CREED Advisory Board Business Meeting and Luncheon was held at the Ted Constant Convocation Center. Members were joined by representatives from the ODU community and industry and local government representatives, to hear this year's featured speaker, Dr. James DeLisle, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Urban Design and Planning, and Director of the Runstad Center for Real Estate Studies at the University of Washington. A PDF copy of

Dr. DeLisle's presentation, "Real Estate Education & Centers: A Status Report", is available at <http://bpa.odu.edu/creed/Presentations/reeducupdateoduv11.pdf>.

CREED exhibited at the Commercial Real Estate Council of Hampton Roads (CREC) annual trade show in Hampton, Virginia, on Wednesday, August 27. Dr. John Lombard met with CREC members to discuss and solicit support for CREED initiatives.



2008/2009

#### Membership Campaign

CREED is making it easier to join and take advantage of the benefits membership offers. Visit [odu.edu/CREED/advisoryboardfaq.html](http://odu.edu/CREED/advisoryboardfaq.html) for information on membership applications and renewals.

March 11, 2009

#### The 2009 Hampton Roads Real Estate Market Review

Mark your calendars and plan to attend CREED's 14th annual market report and review at the Ted Constant Center on the campus of Old Dominion University.

Don't miss this important opportunity to hear market forecasts for the office, industrial, retail, single family and multi-family real estate markets. Leading industry experts will reveal their projections on the challenges and growth trends the Hampton Road's economy will face in 2009.

### Ph.D. Corner: PAUPer's News from Brandi Blessett

Welcome back to school PAUPers! I hope that the summer was restful and you are all ready to embark on a new academic semester. On September 11, 2008, the PAUPers hosted their first speaker Dr. Patricia Shields from Texas State University – San Marcos who presented on "How to Write Excellent Research Papers." I would like to extend appreciation to all those students that attended the seminar. It is my hope that we can generate more

student support for our future initiatives, as the PAUPers will only be as great as the time and effort we commit to our organization. Just a few reminders, Dr. Morris will be soliciting input from Ph.D. students on how the new curriculum should be designed and what it should contain. If you are interested in being a representative for PAUPers contact Dr. Morris, [jcmorris@odu.edu](mailto:jcmorris@odu.edu) or myself, [bblessett@odu.edu](mailto:bblessett@odu.edu). Prospectus and dissertation de-

fenses will be held throughout the semester, students are highly encouraged to attend. We will all be in the "hot seat" one day, so it is beneficial to understand the process and expectation of faculty members. Finally, our monthly meetings will be held on the last Wednesday of each month starting September 24, 2008 at 5pm in the Pindur Library. Have a great semester and I look forward to seeing you throughout the school year!



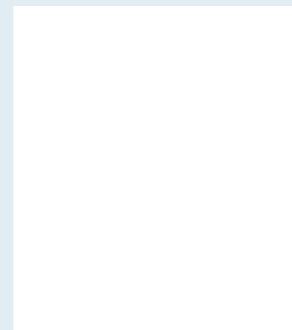
### The Perks of Being an Intern...Adam Smith

Adam Smith, a recent graduate of the MPA program, began working at the US Government Accountability Office (GAO) in July. In fact, he started working only a few weeks after the end of the first summer session and before his degree was even formally conferred in August. Adam became interested in the GAO after a recruiter, none other than Dr. Morris's wife, Betsy, visited one of his classes in January of 2007, encouraging students to intern at the organization's local

field office. "Interning is a great way for a young person to get a foot in the door of the federal government," says Smith. "The federal workforce is rapidly aging, and there are great opportunities in federal work that were relatively scarce just a few years ago."

After interning in the Summer of 07, the GAO offered Smith a full-time position as a Defense Analyst contingent upon completion of his degree. He notes that "having a job wait-

ing for me made my remaining classes much less stressful than they would have been, because we all know that job-seeking is a full-time occupation in itself." Currently, Smith is assessing a Department of Defense report related to transferring administrative jurisdiction of reservists' education benefits from the Department of Defense to the Department of Veterans Affairs. "My work has an impact on how the nation is run, and that's a good feeling," he remarks.



## Faculty Tour of the U.S.S. Ike, by Dr. John C. Morris

In August, four members of the USPA faculty were invited for an at-sea visit to the USS Eisenhower (CVN-69). Professors Morris, Leavitt, Lombard, and Alkadry flew out to the “Ike” on a Navy C-2 Greyhound aircraft, which performed an arrested landing on the carrier. After a greeting by the Executive Officer, the visitors were outfitted with headgear and other safety equipment, and were given a tour of the flight deck to watch ongoing flight operations. They met with the Ike’s Commanding Officer, CAPT Dee Mewbourne, and were given a tour of the ship’s bridge.

After additional opportunities to watch flight operations from “Pri-Fly” on the ship’s island, the group dined with the Executive Officer and other senior officers from the ship’s crew. After dinner, it

was back to the flight deck to observe night carrier landings and launches. Thankfully, flight operations were suspended by midnight—our cabins were located right under one of the catapult systems! We were also able to experience “mid rats” in the Wardroom—another full meal served at midnight.

We were invited to eat breakfast in the “Goat Locker” with the ship’s Command Master Chief and other senior enlisted personnel, after which we were given a tour of the ship’s spaces. The tour included a look at the mess decks, the ship’s hospital and dental spaces, library, and chapel. We also toured the cavernous hanger deck, the jet engine shop, the avionics shops, an ordnance storage bay, and an arresting gear room. After a final lunch in the Wardroom, it was time

to suit up for the plane ride back to Norfolk. The catapult launch was violent, intense, and over very quickly—Busch Gardens would make a lot of money with a ride like that!

All four of us came back with a renewed appreciation for the conditions under which our men and women in uniform work; we were also struck by the tremendous quality of the men and women of the crew of “Ike.” We should all be proud that men and women of that caliber volunteer for service in our military.

Thanks to LCDR Dave Nunnally (Public Affairs Officer and MPA student) for arranging the tour, and thanks also to the men and women of USS Eisenhower for an unforgettable experience!



## Congratulations MPA & MUS Graduates!

Stefanie Boger	Gina Ginn	Sarah Lemn	Troy Parker
Stephanie Budz	Tim Harding	Angelique Lenoir	Damon Pauly
Mark Cacamis	Theresa Horne	Dessislave Marinova	Mark Prioletti
Julie Campbell	Jamie Hutchins	Shannon McLeod	Yasmin Ramos-Maness
Barbara Clark	Benjamin Inman	Teresa Miles	Monique Ribbon
Marcia Elsberry	Katrina Kehoe	Bamidele Oluwalana	Adam Smith
Erica Ferron	Crystal Kleiber	Geoffrey O'Neill	John White
Tiziana Garner	Anthony Lee	Theresa Orr	Macon Whitson

## Presidential Management Fellows Job Status by Mark Prioletti

To update you on my PMF progress, I wanted to let you know that I officially accepted a position with the Department of Homeland Security in Rosalyn, Virginia. I will be working with newly formed agency US-VISIT which is hierarchally located under Citizenship and Immigration (formally INS). The PMF position assigns me to the strategic planning division tasked

with interpreting congressional mandates and formulating policy for the new biometric initiatives now being used with border patrols, airport security, and seaport security. Citizenship and Immigration continues to operate under the old GS pay structure. I visited last month and met the SES in charge of US-VISIT and agreed on a 1 October start date. This start date is pend-

ing the completion of a security clearance which I'm told takes roughly 3 months.

I'm particularly excited to be using my MPA degree to the fullest and look forward to the challenges that await me in DC.

## CONGRATULATIONS OUTSTANDING STUDENT RECIPEINTS MAY 2008

**Stefanie Boger, MPA**  
**David Chapman, PAUP**

## Dr. Ruchelman's Farewell Celebration, May 2008

The CBPA College Administrators, USPA Faculty and Graduate Assistants held a Farewell Celebration in May to honor Dr. Len Ruchelman's many years of service and dedication to the USPA Department.

Dr. Ruchelman has returned to the department to teach as an Adjunct Professor. During the Fall term he taught URBN 690 and he will be teaching a PAUP course in the Spring.

**Welcome Back Dr. Ruchelman!**



## Message from MPA Director (continued from page 3)

Research course (PADM 698). If you wish to complete a directed research, the first task is to propose a research topic to a USPA faculty member. You must convince the faculty member as to

the value of the proposed research and get agreement from the faculty member to direct the research. I can help you in suggesting a faculty member whose research interests might align

with your proposed topic.

I will look forward to meeting with all of you as you progress through your MPA studies.

### Two-Year Core Course Matrix

Course & Title	Fall 08	Spring 09	Summer 09	Fall 09	Spring 10
PADM 651 - Adm. Theory I	Virginia Beach	Norfolk		Peninsula	Virginia Beach
PADM 652 - Adm. Theory II	Norfolk	Peninsula		Virginia Beach	Norfolk
PADM 671 - Budgeting & Financial Management	Peninsula	Virginia Beach		Norfolk	Peninsula
PADM 701- Pub. Policy & Evaluation	Virginia Beach	Norfolk		Peninsula	Virginia Beach
PADM 733 - Legal & Ethical Foundations	Norfolk	Virginia Beach		Peninsula	Norfolk
PADM 753 - Research Methods	Norfolk	Peninsula		Norfolk	Virginia Beach
PADM 746 - Capstone	Peninsula	Norfolk	Norfolk	Virginia Beach	Peninsula

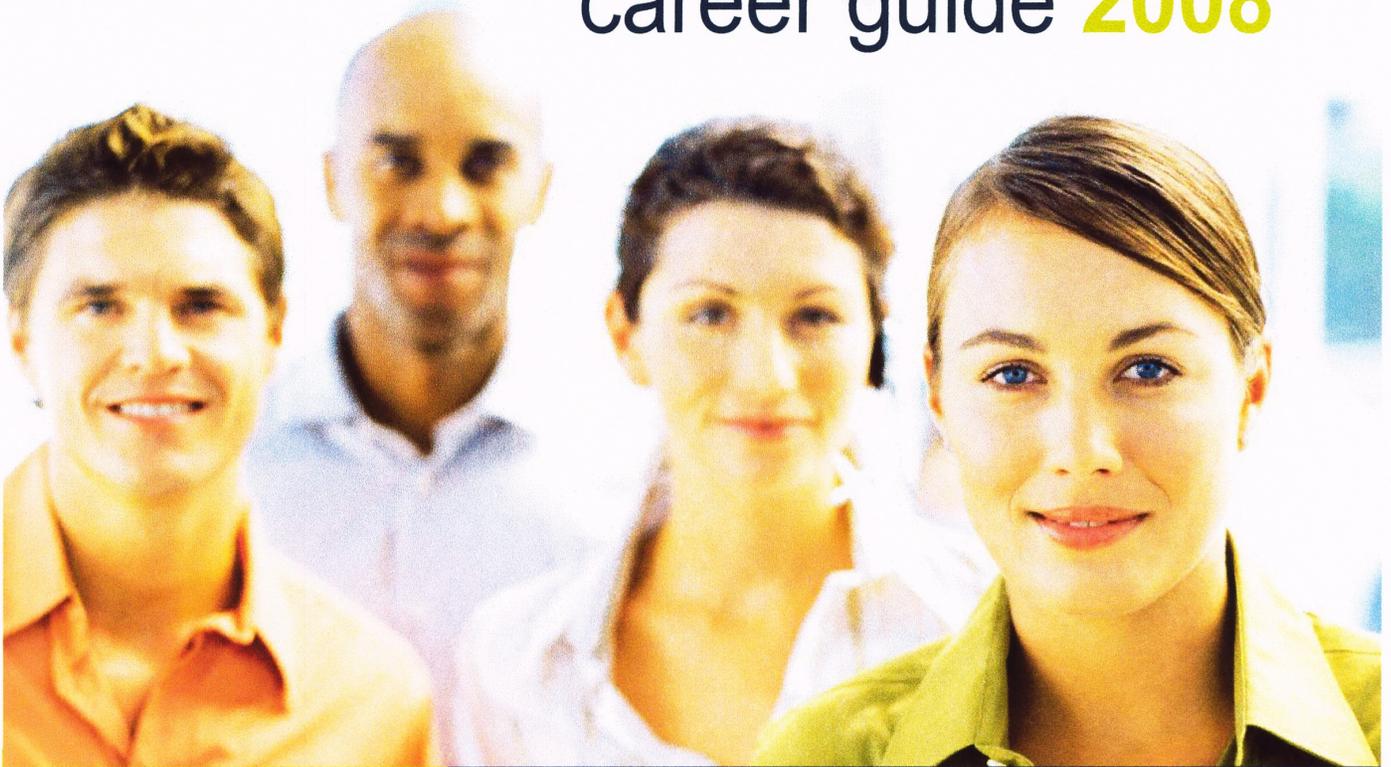
#### Dates to Remember:

- **October 16 – USPA Career Guide Presentation  
Constant Hall Room 1043**
- **November 4 – Last day to withdraw with “W”**
- **November 15 – Spring 2009 Pre-registration**
- **November 26 to 30 – Thanksgiving Break**
- **November 28 – Deadline to apply for  
May 2009 Graduation**
- **December 5 – Last day of classes**
- **December 13 – Fall Commencement**

**URBAN STUDIES AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION  
SPRING 2009 SCHEDULE**

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	NONSCHEDULED
<b>ALKADRY</b>			PADM 651 5:45 – 8:25 pm Campus 1043 23097		
<b>GIBSON</b>	PADM 651 5:45 – 8:25 pm PHEC 26629	PADM 701 5:45 – 8:25 pm Campus KAUF 215 26630			
<b>LEAVITT</b>		PADM 652 5:45 – 8:25 pm PHEC 26627		PADM 720 5:45 – 8:25 pm VBHEC 26628	
<b>MENGISTU</b>		PADM 730 5:45 – 8:25 pm VBHEC 24098	PAUP 802 5:45 – 8:25 pm Campus 2086 24099		
<b>MORRIS</b>	PADM 746 5:45 – 8:25 pm Campus 1043 26632				
<b>YUSUF</b>			PADM 671 5:45 – 8:25 pm VBHEC 24102	PADM 671 5:45 – 8:25 pm CCCH 26620	
<b>MCDOWELL</b>	PADM 733 5:45 – 8:25 pm VBHEC 26625		URBN 705 5:45 – 8:25 pm Campus 26631		
<b>JENKINS</b>				PADM 715 5:45 – 8:25 pm Campus 1043 26623	
<b>FAULCON</b>			PADM 719 5:45 – 8:25 pm PHEC 26622		
<b>SHEA</b>	URBN 633 5:45 – 8:25 pm TCCP 26617				
<b>BERRY</b>	PADM 718 5:45 – 8:25 pm Campus 1055 26621				
<b>RUCHELMAN</b>		PAUP 807 5:45 – 8:25 pm Campus 2086 26618			
<b>CHAPMAN</b>				PADM 753 5:45 – 8:25 pm PHEC 24106	
<b>GREENE</b>		PADM 737 5:45 – 8:25 pm Campus 1043 26626			

# career guide 2008



## WHAT TO EXPECT

- **CAREER GUIDANCE**  
Advice on resumes, cover pages, interviewing skills, and more
- **POST-GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS**  
Opportunities geared toward those who have already obtained a graduate degree
- **GRADUATE INTERNSHIPS**  
Opportunities for pre-service students currently enrolled in graduate classes
- **PUBLIC SERVICE**  
Information specifically designed to target opportunities in the public and nonprofit sectors

## YOU'RE ON YOUR WAY TO A SUCCESSFUL PUBLIC SERVICE CAREER

**Date:**  
October 16, 2008

**Time:**  
6pm - 8pm

**Location:**  
Constant Hall  
Room 1043

Brought to you by ODU's Dept. of Urban Studies & Public Administration, in conjunction with the Career Management Center.

Please join us for dinner and an informative presentation about how to prepare for a future in public service.

Topics will include post-graduate fellowships, graduate internships and career management focused on federal, state, local, and nonprofit organizations.

Bring your resumes, sample cover letters and questions for personally tailored assistance.

RSVP BY OCTOBER 7, 2008  
INCLUDE NAME & DEGREE/MAJOR

EMAIL: [SSTRA013@ODU.EDU](mailto:sstra013@odu.edu)  
SUBJECT LINE "CAREER GUIDE 2008"

Old Dominion University is an independent, state assisted university. Founded in 1930, the University has grown to educate more than 18,500 students. The Department of Urban Studies and Public Administration is housed in the College of Business and Public Administration. The College of Business and Public Administration is one of 315 schools in the United States and Canada accredited at both the un-

dergraduate and graduate levels by the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business.

The Department of Urban Studies and Public Administration offers the Master of Public Administration and a Ph.D. in Public Administration and Urban Policy. Graduate Courses are offered in the evening to permit full-time and part-time students to pursue graduate degrees.

For further information please go to our website at <http://bpa.odu.edu/uspa/index..shtml> for information about the USPA Program, and links to the ODU Graduate Application.

