

MESSAGE FROM THE DEPARTMENT CHAIR

Greetings,

Thank you for your continued interest in the SIUE MPA program. We continue to experience challenging times as the university community and the world perseveres amid the COVID-19 pandemic. For nearly one year, we have adapted to withstand this public health crisis. The need for efficient and effective public administrators in all levels of government remains evident. Federal, state and local organizations are experiencing new and more complex demands in delivering vital public services. We as a community, state and nation exhibit hope and optimism for the vaccine distribution that is currently underway.

The Department of Public Administration at SIUE is flourishing despite the stressful and uncertain times we face. In the fall 2021 term, we will commence a fully online MPA. This online option will not replace our traditional degree. Incoming MPA students will be afforded the choice to complete the degree fully online or through a mixture of online and hybrid course offerings within the traditional MPA. Faculty within the department have been busy laying the groundwork for core and elective courses to accommodate both degree options. With the surging request for online courses and remote capability, our fully online MPA is in high demand.

The Department of Public Administration at SIUE continues to maintain the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA) accreditation due to the outstanding efforts and accomplishments of our faculty and staff. In October 2020, our tenured faculty member Dr. Morris Taylor was promoted to Vice Chancellor of Administration at SIUE. In receiving this promotion, the department had to say good-bye to Dr. Taylor as teaching faculty. We thank Dr. Taylor for his years of dedication and contributions to PAPA. The department is currently working to fill his faculty position and we look forward to announcing a new faculty member prior to fall 2021.

I also wish to share with you that we have updated our department website. I encourage you to visit our program information by visiting <https://www.siue.edu/arts-and-sciences/papa/>. In navigating our site, you will be able to view a listing of teaching staff, course schedule, graduation information, and also learn more about our internship program and Pi Alpha Alpha honor society opportunities.

In this Spring 2021 issue, you will see applicable information for students and interns, highlights of our recent graduates and announcements we wanted to share. I invite you to stay informed and connected with our department. Thank you for valuing public administration and the important contributions made by the field and us.



Dr. Nancy L. Huyck, Department Chair

PAPA FACULTY

- **Dr. Nancy Huyck**, Department Chair & Associate Professor
- **Dr. Drew Dolan**, Program Director & Professor
- **Dr. Morris Taylor**, Vice Chancellor of Administration, CFO, & Associate Professor
- **Dr. John Foster**, Associate Professor
- **Dr. Andrew Wesemann**, Internship Director & Assistant Professor

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2020 GRADUATES

Spring 2020

- Kerrigan Chapman
- Stephanie Christian
- Hannah Dadzie
- Kathryn Maloney
- Maria Miller
- Kassandra Murphy
- Jonathan Simms
- Westenior Valmera

Summer 2020

- Judith Addo Danquah
- Katherine Carr
- Deontrez Dickerson
- Cody Jeter
- Catherine Kessler
- Gena Stringer

Fall 2020

- Rima Abusaid
- Stephanie Cuvar
- Yanely Flores
- Precious Grimes
- Angela Imming
- Dalton Irwin
- Rachel McClery
- Natalie Rosas
- Sadie Spears
- Stacia Weinoffer
- Molly White

JOIN PI ALPHA ALPHA

Pi Alpha Alpha is the global honor society formed to recognize and promote excellence in the study and practice of public affairs and administration. In its constitution, the organization dedicates itself:

To encourage and recognize outstanding scholarship and accomplishment in public affairs and administration.

To promote the advancement of education and practice in the art and science of public affairs and administration.

To foster integrity, professionalism, and creative performance in the conduct of governmental and related public service activities.

To be eligible to join Pi Alpha Alpha, a student must have completed 21 semester hours in the MPA program, including four of the seven core courses with a GPA of 3.67 or higher.

2020 Pi Alpha Alpha Inductees

- Yanely Flores
- Langdia Jones
- Sadie Spears
- Stacia Weinoffer
- Katherine Carr
- Kimberly Lizotte

FACULTY SPOT LIGHT



Dr. Morris Taylor

This past October, Dr. Morris Taylor was appointed the Vice Chancellor for Administration (VCA) at SIUE. Dr. Taylor succeeds Rich Walker, who retired at the end of September. They had the opportunity to work together for two weeks during the transitions.

Before taking on this new position, Dr. Taylor chaired the SIUE Department of Public Administration and Policy Analysis for 6 years. Dr. Taylor has been an SIUE faculty member since 1997 and brings 22 years of experience in higher education to the position. At SIUE, he has taught courses in public management, policy analysis, public law, program evaluation, ethics, homeland security and public safety. He is an editor for the Journal of Public Management and Social Policy.

During his SIUE tenure, Dr. Taylor has been extensively involved in campus leadership. He has served as the chair of various committees, including the Planning Budgeting Council (UPBC), Faculty Senate Rules and Procedures Committee, College of Arts and Sciences Academic Policies and Curriculum Committee, and the Thesis Committee. He has also served on the Chancellor's Council, University Leadership Team, Enrollment Management Council, Extended Chancellor's Council University Quality Council, Provost's Space Committee, Teaching Excellence Award Committee, Graduate Council Program Committee, and Graduate Studies and Research Committee.

Prior to joining SIUE, Dr. Taylor was an administrator with the Social Security Administration in St. Louis. He was a police officer for both St. Louis City and St. Louis County during the 1970s. He was also a senior attorney negotiator for State Farm Insurance Co. from 2004-2005. In addition, he served as the Ira Glasser Racial Justice Fellow for the American Civil Liberties Union of Eastern Missouri.

Dr. Taylor's public and community service include being a member of the United States Attorneys' Hate Crime Task Force for Eastern Missouri, the board of directors for St. Louis Area Regional Response System (STARRS), the Southwestern Illinois City Manager Association (SWICMA), the ACLU of Eastern Missouri, and variety of other public policy-focused organizations.

Dr. Taylor earned a bachelor's in liberal studies from Saint Louis University (SLU) in 1985 with a specialization in organizational development. He earned a master's in public administration from SIUE in 1992 and doctorate in public policy analysis with a specialization in social jurisprudence from SLU in 2000.

MPA INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Overview

An integral part of the MPA at SIUE is the professional internship program. Through internships, MPA students combine their acquired classroom knowledge with experience in nonprofit organizations, local governments, and various government agencies. In fact, over the past 20 years, MPA interns have supported more than 75 local, regional, and national organizations.

Students attend courses specifically designed for training future public administrators, while performing the functions of a professional intern in specifically selected government and nonprofit organizations across the St. Louis metro region.

The internship program provides MPA students with the opportunity to cultivate their skills and knowledge through applied work assignments. At the same time, organizations benefit from having professionally trained graduate students carry out significant tasks and projects at reasonable compensation rates, with the support of the MPA faculty and staff. Potential internship projects include conducting surveys, writing grants, assessing programs, and working with citizen groups.

Who are MPA interns?

Our interns come from a variety of backgrounds with bachelor's degrees from many different fields. Their career interests are varied and their desire to learn and engage in significant duties is intense. Many interns bring past professional experience to their internship duties, while others have recently earned their undergraduate degrees.

How are interns assigned?

MPA faculty work with organizations to identify and select qualified interns from the MPA student pool. Interns are assigned on a semester basis, with the option of multiple semesters.

Agencies have the option of arranging 15- or 20-hour work weeks. Supervision of the intern is a joint responsibility between the local agency and the internship director in the PAPA Department at SIUE.

What is the role of an internship site?

The internship site selects the project on which the intern is to work, assigns responsibilities, and sets work parameters. The intern enters the relationship with the understanding that the individual will follow the operating procedures of the organization.

Where are our interns now?

Our interns have gone on to successful career positions as executive directors of nonprofit organizations, city administrators, federal agency managers, regional economic developers, and more!

Contact Information:

Dr. Andrew Wesemann, MPA Internship Director

Email: awesema@siue.edu

Phone: (618) 650-3762

MPA PROGRAM INTERN SPOTLIGHT



Stephanie Christian, MPA

Stephanie was a mid-career student and needed to make a change to create stability in her future. So, she enrolled in the MPA program at SIUE. She also elected to enroll in the MPA internship program and was hired as an intern with the City of Highland. This opportunity provided her with the experience she needed for the job market. More specifically, Stephanie recently accepted a position with the Community Development Administration for the City of St. Louis and attributes this to her internship experience.



Sadie Spears, MPA

When Sadie joined the MPA program at SIUE, she was aspiring to become a leader and make positive impacts in the community, but wasn't quite sure what steps to take. So, she reached out to faculty members of the department. Sadie was introduced to the MPA internship program and then became an intern with the Economic Development Department for the City of O'Fallon, Illinois. Sadie gained the experience and exposure she needed as a professional in her field. Because of her exemplary performance and internship experience, Sadie Spears

is now a Planning Technician under the Community Development Department for the City of O'Fallon.

FALL 2020 & SPRING 2021 INTERNSHIPS

Edwardsville Township, IL

Pictured Left to Right: Brooke Allen (MPA Intern), Beth Behrhorst (Administrator), and Alan Ayala (MPA Intern)



Feed My People STL

Cole Hammel (MPA Intern)



City of Highland, IL

Pictured Left to Right: Breann Speraneo (Director of Community Development) & Matt Kundrat (MPA Intern)



City of O'Fallon, IL (City Hall)



MPA INTERNSHIP CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

Edwardsville Township, IL

Each year, the PAPA Department selects internship partners to highlight and acknowledge through the issuance of a certificate of appreciation. For 2021, this honor was bestowed upon Beth Behrhorst and Fred Schulte with Edwardsville Township.

MPA interns from the Township have left the agency after graduating to make their mark in careers with Madison County government, the City of Edwardsville, BJC HealthCare, the St. Louis Art Museum, and many other organizations across the region and the country. Some have continued their studies, pursuing degrees in law and other graduate programs, as well as professional certificates that complement their SIUE education.

Graduate interns help the Township in many ways—assisting the administrator with the preparation of important board documents and grant applications, updating the Township's website to comply with State transparency requirements, and supporting the community outreach coordinator to deliver essential services to low-income seniors, families and individuals. Additionally, SIUE interns assist in coordinating the details of the Township's Lunch and Learn workshops.

"These workshops tackle important issues of substance in today's world, such as human trafficking, domestic violence, pandemic response, diversity and inclusion, and more," said Bethany Behrhorst, Edwardsville Township administrator and alumna of SIUE's MPA program (2002). "Through these programs, community partnerships are formed and strengthened, and more people are helped through improved access to services. Representatives from area governmental agencies and service providers are connected with each other to discuss these relevant, timely issues and develop a coordinated response."

Behrhorst added the intentional coordination proved to be extremely beneficial during the Township's pandemic response.

"Because of our partnerships, which have been nurtured through the years, and strengthened through these workshops, we were able to not only help residents, but triage and lead them to other governmental units and nonprofit agencies," she said. "This augmented the level of support people received. Additionally, our interns were instrumental in the Township's response. I am so impressed by their adaptability and willingness to step in and get things done. That is a testament to the strength of SIUE's MPA program."

SIUE MPA interns also assist with the coordination of the Township's annual Touch-A-Truck event at Edwardsville Township Community Park. While the event is free and open to the public, drawing thousands of parents, grandparents, and children to Edwardsville Township Community Park for a fun-filled day of exploring a mix of vehicles and helicopters, area businesses sponsor the event at several donation levels. While last year's event was canceled due to the pandemic, more than \$20,000 was raised in 2019. Money raised is used to support Main Street Community Center in Edwardsville and other organizations that assist seniors, families, and individuals in need throughout the community.

NEW ADJUNCT FACULTY MEMBERS



Grant Litteken

Grant Litteken has been with the City of O'Fallon, Illinois, since 2011. He serves as the Assistant City Administrator, where he assists in the coordination of the day-to-day operations of the City of O'Fallon, which includes approximately 200 full time employees and an annual operating budget of \$80 million.

Grant is Past President of the Southwestern Illinois City Management Association and Illinois City/County Management Association Board of Directors. His work has been recognized with an Outstanding Local Government Award by the East-West Gateway Council of Governments and the International City/County Management Association Public Management Publication.

Grant holds a Master of Public Administration degree from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville and a Bachelor's degree in political science and labor relations from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

Grant and his wife (Tara) have one son (Calvin) and a daughter (June).



Randy Mueller

Randal F. Mueller is a lecturer in the Department of Public Administration and Policy Analysis at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. He received his MPA (with a concentration in criminal justice) from City University of Washington, as well as a BA in criminal justice with a minor in political science from Washburn University of Topeka. He is also a graduate of the University of Virginia's Advanced Polygraph Studies Institute and the National Center for Credibility Assessment.

Mr. Mueller is a U.S. Army veteran who has multi-faceted experience in directing and evaluating performance of federal employees, administering quality assurance, teaching, mentoring, conducting polygraph examinations, conducting interviews and investigations, overseeing office budgets, and collaborating with other government agencies. He has been formerly accredited as a Special Agent with the U.S. Air Force Office of Special Investigations, U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command, and employed as a State of Florida Correctional Officer. He currently serves as the Deputy Polygraph Program Manager and Chief of Quality Control for the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency.

Mr. Mueller is a former National Center for Credibility Assessment Senior Instructor, Course Manager, and Adjunct Faculty Member. Publications include: "Professional Ethics and Polygraph Examiners" as well as "Industrial Espionage: What Is It, Who's Involved and What Harm Can It Cause?"



Steven Lynn

With over thirty years of combined experience in healthcare and emergency services, Steven Lynn has joined the Department of Public Administration and Policy Analysis. Over the last ten years, Lynn has held an executive level directors' position for a local emergency service organization. His experience extends into emergency management in which he has fulfilled critical command roles with civil unrest and global pandemic emergencies. His areas of expertise consist of emergency management, leadership, and organization theory.

Lynn holds a BS in psychology and received an MPA from SIUE in 2012. He continued his education by attending the National Fire Academy and completing the Executive Fire Officer Program which provides senior fire officers with leadership tools to manage modern-day fire departments and emergency situations. Lynn has expressed interest in completing his PhD through Indian Wesleyan University in organizational leadership.

In his spare time, Lynn enjoys spending time with his wife and two daughters and is patiently awaiting the arrival of grandkids.

Having ten years of teaching in higher education, Lynn will continue his love for teaching by instructing courses in emergency preparedness, local government, and leadership.

MPA DEGREE NOW OFFERED FULLY ONLINE

The SIUE MPA program is now offered in a fully online format. We have adapted and moved many of our face-to-face and hybrid courses online. With this transition, we still continue to serve students who recently completed a bachelor's degree, as well as students who have worked in the public or nonprofit sector and wish to upgrade their skills and knowledge.

NEW DEPARTMENT WEBSITE

The SIUE MPA program has a new, updated department website, which contains all our programmatic information.

You can access the new website by visiting: <https://www.siue.edu/arts-and-sciences/papa/>

WRITING RESOURCES FOR MPA STUDENTS

The MPA program would like to remind students that resources are available, free of charge, to obtain writing assistance through the university.

If you would like to take advantage of an opportunity to seek writing assistance, please refer to the below links for information.

<https://www.siue.edu/lss/writing/index.shtml>

<https://www.siue.edu/lss/writing/courseofferings.shtml>

<https://www.siue.edu/graduate-students/theses/writing-resources.shtml>

COURSE REQUEST FORMS

During the first month of each semester, complete a Course Request Form (CRF) that can be found on the department website and submit it to the PAPA office with the advisement review form.

To access the CRF, please visit: <https://www.siue.edu/arts-and-sciences/papa/student-resources/forms.shtml>

GRADUATION

Be sure to complete the application for graduation by the first day of the semester that you plan to graduate.

To access the application for graduation, please visit: <https://www.siue.edu/arts-and-sciences/papa/student-resources/graduation.shtml>

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Spring 2021 Semester

- Dec. 21 - Winter Session begins
- Jan. 10 - Winter Session ends
- Jan. 18 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
- Jan. 19 - Spring Session begins
- Jan. 23 - Weekend classes begin
- April 9 - Comprehensive Examination
- May 3-7 - Final Exams
- May 7 & 8 - Commencement

Summer 2021 Semester

- May 10 - May Session begins
- May 28 - May Session ends
- May 31 - Memorial Day Holiday
- June 1 - Summer classes begin
- June 5 - Weekend classes begin
- July 5 - Independence Day Holiday
- July 9 - Comprehensive Examination
- August 8 - Summer Term ends

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
EDWARDSVILLE



Public Administration & Policy Analysis
Campus Box 1457, Alumni Hall, Room 3128

