

# *Public Policy Bulletin*



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**Victor Kwaku Akakpo**

## *Health Policy*

Akakpo is native to Ghana and received his Master's degree in Health Policy, Planning and Financing in Budapest-Hungary from Eotvos Lorand University, but he now calls Arkansas home.

He joins the program with a focus in Health Policy aiming "to contribute to the body of knowledge... in the areas of maternal and infant health." Akokpo previously worked in a community where poverty was endemic, particularly affecting women and children. He shared that during his wife's pregnancy with the couple's first child, "she went through a lot which nearly drained our entire life savings." This event motivat-

ed him to want to do more on maternal and infant health policy.

When asked why Akokpo selected the UA program for his Ph.D., he says that he "believes the University of Arkansas has the needed resources to make my dream of a Ph.D. in Health Policy come true." He also adds that he is "on a journey of self-discovery in the field of my endeavor, and I strongly believe with the resources available to me, I will make it. God bless my homeland Ghana, God bless America."

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**Candis Angoe**

## *Agriculture Policy*

With a Master's in International Business from Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (Kumasi, Ghana) and experience as a planning officer for the Forestry Commission in Ghana, Angoe will expand her skills in the PUBP program with a focus on agricultural policy. Angoe chose this program because she felt the program would equip her with "the requisite skills and knowledge that I need to become a good policy analyst."

Her main research interests include the role of government or public policies in agriculture in developing countries, international agricultural policy, and international food law and policy. Angoe hopes to become a policy analyst or lobbyist in either a private or government organization. She is also considering becoming a lecturer.



**Sarah Campau**

***Community Development***

After earning her Master’s degree in Psychology as well as a certification as a Board Certified Behavior Analyst, Campau decided to continue her education through the PUBP program with a hybrid focus on education policy and community development. She believes there is a strong overlap in these areas and feels this combines both her passion and educational experience.

Campau’s research interests include LGBTQ+ conversion therapy. She recently published an article on the subject, “LGBTQ+ Conversion Therapy and Applied Behavior Analysis: A Call to Action” in the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*.

Self-identifying as a “boots-on-the-ground, get-your-hands-dirty” type of person, Campau wants to use this energy to actively serve and advocate for others. Her career goals include job positions that empower her to do that.

Campau lives with her sassy cat, Muffin.



**Jordan Frederking**

***Higher Education***

Frederking holds an Master’s degree in Education with a concentration in Organizational Leadership from Newman University in Wichita, Kansas. In the PUBP program, she will specialize in Higher Education policy to further her “knowledge regarding policy that directly affects college students.” She has spent her career in higher education serving students as they navigate their collegiate experience.

Frederking is interested in research on fraternity and sorority hazing, specifically on state hazing legislation and the issues surrounding prevention, campus support, and the student conduct process in determining liability for hazing violations. She states that “hazing is an issue that is incredibly prevalent in the fraternity/sorority world and identifying how we can better hold institutions accountable in the prevention process is something I want to explore.”

When asked about her future career goals, Frederking says that she “would love to continue working in higher education... and serve in a leadership role like a Dean of Students where I can

continue to advocate on behalf of the student experience.”



**Camille Gillmore**

***Social Justice***

Gillmore holds a Master’s degree in Public Service from the Clinton School of Public Service and will focus her studies in the PUBP program on social justice. She chose the specialization because, she says, “human rights for all should be equitable and inclusive to promote a better quality of life for all.”

Gillmore selected the UofA for “its history of research and development and its effects on the economy and society.” She adds that she believes “the University’s forward thinking will serve as a catalyst to transform my education, career, and life.

She is interested in research relating to women minority-owned business entrepreneurs and agriculture. Her career aspirations involve teaching at a university as well as “redefining what entrepreneurship should be for minorities in the United States.”



**Landon Lynch**

***Policy Management***

Lynch works currently for the U.S. Army Civilian Human Resources Agency as a Labor and Employee Relations Specialist where he serves as strategic partner to ensure that the civilian workforce meets the needs of the Army and its mission. He will continue his employment while pursuing his Ph.D. The flexibility to do so was what attracted Lynch to the PUBP program.

Building on his graduate education, having earned a Master’s in Human Resources Management (Troy University) and in Public Administration (University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill), Lynch will specialize in Public Policy Management, a good fit, he says because “I am heavily involved in policy management in my current professional role at the federal level.”

Lynch would like to investigate federal employment demographics and organizational satisfaction data to help improve federal human capital management policy. In the future, he aims to work at the Senior Executive Service level of the U.S. Federal Government’s civilian workforce, and perhaps become a political appointee to run a federal agency.

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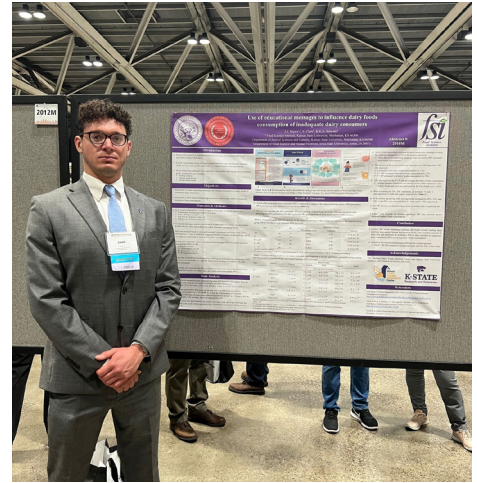


**Rubicely Monter**

***Social Justice***

Monter enters the program with a philanthropic background with experience in grant management and programming. She has a Master’s degree in Higher Education Administration and Student Affairs and will specialize in social justice because, she says, “it is a complement to my professional and personal interests.”

Monter will focus her research on community resilience. Her professional goals are to continue to advance her career within the philanthropy sector. She is particularly interested in non-profits in Northwest Arkansas. Her hobbies include cycling (road and mountain) and watching documentaries. She is also the proud new mom of a two-month old baby!



**Jack Myers**

***Agriculture Policy***

Myers’ enthusiasm for the dairy industry began in high school when he worked on a dairy farm in Fowler, Michigan. Fascinated with milk production, cows, and the end consumer product, Myers went on to earn a Master’s degree in Food Science from Kansas State University.

His background encompasses on-farm dairy production and processing with an emphasis on cheese and ice cream manufacturing. He enters the PUBP program with a concentration, appropriately, on agricultural policy.

Myers’ research will focus on dairy price supports and marketing. His career aspirations include working as a dairy lobbyist or in academia.



**Izehi Oriaghan**

### ***Policy Management***

Originally from Lagos, Nigeria, Oriaghan has lived in Arkansas for some time. She has two master's degrees, one in Public Service from the Clinton School of Public Service and another in Business Administration from UA--Little Rock. She joins the PUBP program with a focus on policy management.

She was drawn to the PUBP program because of its specializations, "particularly the policy management specialization and its prospects for policy leadership across various sectors." She finds that policy management encompasses policy broadly, while it also integrates "policy and administrative issues in healthcare, education, and nonprofit management, providing an opportunity for extensive knowledge/versatility for policy leaders and practitioners."

Oriaghan's general research interests include policy and management issues related to rural/community development, gender equality, and women's rights/empowerment.

In the future, she wants to pursue a career in international development, working with international organizations and supporting policy and program development related to her research interests.

She adds, "I'm happy to be enrolled in this program and I look forward to sharing with and learning from other new and returning students!"

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## Alumni Spotlight



**Dr. Briana Huett**

Briana Huett received her Ph.D. in Public Policy with a specialization in Public Management in Spring 2022 while working on a master's in Statistics and Analytics. Her previous research, including her dissertation, focused largely on understanding the factors that determine and affect individuals' perceptions of social welfare and social justice policy issues, with the goal of understanding how communication barriers surrounding these topics can be overcome to generate forward-thinking policy action.

After graduating, Dr. Huett began a data manager position at the Juvenile Justice Research and Reform Lab located in the Psychological and Brain Sciences Department of Drexel University. For more than 20 years, this interdisciplinary lab has worked to promote best practices in the juvenile justice system by developing, implementing,

and evaluating juvenile justice programming and policies using research findings on adolescent developmental capacities.

Huett works primarily on a research project that analyzes the effectiveness of a city-wide record expungement program. Long after their justice involvement ends, individuals with a history of arrest and/or criminal conviction face restrictions that limit important opportunities, including those related to employment, education, military service, voting, and housing. To help prevent these negative impacts for individuals with a limited criminal history, the Pennsylvania legislature created a process and procedure for expungement, or the erasure of a formal arrest or conviction record. Funded by the United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey (UWGPNJ), in partnership with The Promise and The Knowledge Center, over 30 expungement clinics are being operated by lawyers from multiple legal organizations at events hosted by community-based organizations in neighborhoods across Philadelphia.

When asked about her experience in the U of A's PUBP program, Huett stressed that it prepared her exceptionally well for her current work. The real-life, practical policy analysis and evaluation experience the program offered through its service-learning-based courses and its capstone requirement allowed her to gain valuable experience that she now draws upon in her policy-based career. In addition, she said that the extremely engaged faculty members who provided support through research and career mentorship gave her the confidence she needed to pursue

research-based work in this field.

Aside from her policy research role, Huett also continues to teach an undergraduate course in Public Policy for the U of A's Global Campus and consults as a grant writer for Arkansas PBS.

## Research & Professional Development Series Calendar

*December 2nd*

**12:00 - 1:00 PM**  
Old Main 523

***Topic: Planning and  
Working on Your Dissertation***

*Food and refreshments will  
be served!*