Welcome New Students!

The Public Policy Program admitted several new students this spring in the criminal justice, family policy, and policy leadership specializations. Featured below are brief biographies of four of the incoming students. The variety of experiences prior to entering the Program is one of the aspects that makes the PUBP Program so unique!

Leland McQueen - Criminal Justice

Leland has a Bachelor's and Master's in Criminal Justice from Northeastern State University at Tahlequah, Okla. His research interests involve higher education in law enforcement, with a specific interest in Oklahoma's Collegiate Officers Program. Leland lives in Claremore, Okla., and commutes to Fayetteville twice a week. He has been married to the same woman for 29 years, but is concerned there may be trouble ahead as he has officially become an Arkansas Razorback (and she is a University of Oklahoma alumna). Leland's goals are to graduate with a Ph.D., retire from policing, and become a professor.

Rodica Guzun - Family Policy

Rodica just finished her Master's in Sociology at the University of Arkansas. Her previous degree was in Legal Studies and was from a university in Romania. Rodica is from Moldova, an Eastern European country, and her main research interest pertains to the trafficking of women in Moldova. Specifically, her thesis examined research on media and scientific images of trafficked women. In the future, Rodica would like to analyze the effects of Moldovan human anti-trafficking policies on women being trafficked. She is also interested in research on power relations and the domains of social change.

Brenda Kilby - Policy Leadership

Brenda has a Bachelor's and Master's in English, although her interest in public policy has been ongoing for years. Brenda lives with her husband, Larry, in Pineville, Mo., in McDonald County, the same county she grew up in. In fact, her dissertation plans are to study McDonald County's unique position, sandwiched between the Joplin metropolitan area and Northwest Arkansas, and the interlocking roles of political influence and natural resources.

In addition to her academic career, Brenda is an award-winning, nationally-recognized journalist; in fact, she covered Northwest Arkansas in the Tulsa World for seven years. She is also currently an Assistant Professor of Communication at Missouri Southern State University and serves on the faculty senate. When not working or studying, Brenda can be found on the internet, at her blog, brendakilby.wordpress.com, or in her kitchen cooking. She also enjoys spending time with her grandchildren, grown children, and her 89-year-old Mom, who lives in Neosho and likes Facebook.

Justine Hines - Family Policy

Justine received a Bachelor's in Interdisciplinary Studies in 2004 from the University of Texas at Dallas, concentrating in Environmental Studies. In 2007, she concluded a Master of Public Health degree from the University of North Texas Health Science Center, School of Public Health. While living in Dallas, she was fortunate enough to work with some great individuals (Drs. Timothy Bray, Marcus Martin, and Kathryn Cardarelli) at the Foundation for Community Empowerment and the J. McDonald Williams Institute. These institutes strive to build bridges among the Dallas-Fort Worth public and private sectors such as universities and grassroots organizations.

Justine is particularly interested in program evaluation and accountability and health and safety issues. She spent most of 2008 on sabbatical during which she completed a private pilot's certificate and formed a consulting company, Argus Associates. She is also currently expecting the birth of a baby boy, her first!
Welcome New Faculty

The Public Policy Program has several new professors that have recently joined the Program's faculty. Below is a brief description of each professor’s role in the Program as well as some other interesting information about their academic and personal lives.

Dr. David Jolliffe
Ph.D. in English, University of Texas - Austin
M.A. in English, West Virginia University

What is your role in the PUBP Program?
Working with students with interests in the connections between and among literacy, schooling, the arts, and community development.

What are your current research interests?
My current research is examining how organizations in small communities—schools, churches, literacy councils, not-for-profit organizations, government agencies, and libraries—can effectively work together to raise the public’s perception of the importance of literacy in the 21st century.

Which department do you work in?
The English Department as the Brown Chair of English Literacy

What are some of your recent publications?

Dr. Tom E.C. Smith
Ed.D. in Special Education/Educational Administration, Texas Tech University
M.A. in Special Education, University of Mississippi

Which department do you work in?
The Department of Curriculum and Instruction (CIED) (was previously Head of the Department)

What is your role in the PUBP Program?
My role with the PUBP program is to serve as the coordinator for the Education Policy Specialization (K - 12).

What are your current research interests?
My current research interests are inclusion of students with disabilities, and legal issues pertaining to individuals with disabilities.

What are some of your recent publications?

Other interesting information
I grew up in West Virginia, where I lived for the first 30 years of my life. After completing my Ph.D. at the University of Texas, I moved to Chicago, where I taught at the University of Illinois at Chicago and DePaul University and got deeply involved in community literacy outreach projects. I moved to Arkansas in 2005 to accept the initial appointment as the Brown Chair in English Literacy.

Dr. Smith has authored or co-authored 18 books; eight book chapters; and 35 journal articles. He has made more than 200 presentations at national, regional, and state professional meetings; and he has conducted workshops on Section 504 in over 40 states (from the CIED website). Dr. Smith is married, and has three children, Jake, Alex, and Suni.
New Faculty Cont.

Dr. Patrick A. Stewart

Ph.D. in Political Science,  
Northern Illinois University

M.A. in Political Science,  
University of Central Florida

Which department do you work in?  
The Department of Political Science

What is your role in the PUBP Program?  
I’m here to teach the core class in Public Policy (PLSC 5163) and am looking forward to working with Ph.D. students.

What are your current research interests?

Currently I’m doing research on: humor and laughter in presidential primary elections; facial display behavior of politicians in competitive and leadership situations (both content analysis and experimental); public attitudes towards mosquito control methods; public attitudes towards college athletics. Also, I’m taking a break from my work on agricultural biotechnology policy, but will return to it in about a year (after I clear my research agenda a bit).

What are some of your recent publications?


Other interesting information

I’ve got a wife, Jennifer, and two puppies (a Weimaraner - “Duchess” and a Shih-Tzu “Gracie). I’m most recently from Jonesboro (Arkansas State University – where I was faculty for approximately ten years). My hobbies are currently Judo, grappling, and fitness generally. Also, I was assistant coach for the ASU rugby team for about nine years where we were in the top eight of Division 2 eight of those years.

Ice Storm 2009 Facts

- The financial cost of the Jan. ice storm was estimated at $500 million.
- The peak number of power outages in Northwest Arkansas occurred Tues. evening with over 100,000 residents without power.
- More than 40,000 electric poles snapped or were damaged due to the storm.
- The amount of electrical wire that was restored the past few weeks could go from here to Los Angeles.

Hwy 112 in Fayetteville the morning after the storm.
UPCOMING EVENTS

March

03/09 - 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. Conference Presentations
Old Main 422

03/13 - 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. 2nd RPD Session
Putting Together Committees
Old Main 523 - Lunch Provided

03/27 - SPARK trip to Little Rock

03/28 - 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. Grad. Prof. Development Series
Making the Most of a Conference
Reynolds Center Auditorium
RSVP through the Graduate School website at
http://www.uark.edu/depts/gradinfo/recruit/professional/pls-rsvp.php

03/30 - 12:00 p.m. PUBP Brown Bag Lunch - Old Main 430

April

04/10 - 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. 3rd RPD Session
Dos and Don’ts of Conference Papers and Presentations
Old Main 523 - Lunch Provided

04/27 - 12:00 p.m. PUBP Brown Bag Lunch
Old Main 430

Viewing Dissertations Online

1. Login to ProQuest
2. Click on the Advanced Search Tab
3. Change the Database drop-down bar (near the bottom) to Dissertation & Theses
4. When searching, change the first drop-down bar to School name/code (from Citation and abstract) and type in “University of Arkansas”
5. Enter any other keywords or topics you are looking to find in the dissertation.

Please feel free to e-mail any comments or questions to the Editor of the Public Policy Bulletin, Megan Kula, at mkula@uark.edu.