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# MPA Program Newsletter

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## Greetings From Ukraine!

Dr. Terry Anderson is currently on a year-long international teaching trip in Eastern Europe that began in September 2015. She spent 3 months in Tbilisi, Georgia where she taught 2 classes in the Master's in International Relations Program at the Georgian Institute of Public Affairs (GIPA). She is now in Lviv, Ukraine teaching Research Methods in the MPA Program at Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU). In February 2015 Dr. Anderson was at UCU on a Fulbright-funded project to assist them in developing their new MPA Program, which was approved and subsequently licensed by the Ministry of Education in July 2015. UCU was able to attract enough students in the fall of 2015 to begin offering the program. While on her current visit to UCU, Dr. Anderson had the opportunity to meet with Dr. Peter Eigen, Founder and Chairman of the Advisory Board of Transparency International, and Andrei Marusov, Chairman of the Board of Transparency International Ukraine. Their discussion centered around the importance of the role of the civil society in addressing corruption in political, economic, and social spheres. This discussion



Dr. Terry Anderson and Dr. Peter Eigen

was very timely since Dr. Anderson has been asked by the Director of UCU's School of Public Management to undertake a research project to examine the effects of corruption on Ukraine's economic development and foreign investment opportunities. Dr. Anderson will return to Tbilisi in March 2016 where she will teach another course at GIPA before finally coming back to the U.S. at the end of July 2016.

### Important Dates:

**Feb 12:**  
Deadline to add/drop classes

**Feb 22:**  
Registration for Term 4 begins

**Mar 6:**  
Term 3 classes end

**Mar 14:**  
Term 4 classes begin

**Apr 8:**  
Deadline to file Intent to Graduate form for Term 5, 2016

**Apr 22:**  
Deadline to drop classes or withdraw

**May 2:**  
Registration for T5 begins

**May 15:**  
Term 4 classes end



Dr. Pamela Dunning

## Faculty Profile— Dr. Pamela Dunning

Dr. Pamela T. (for Trump) Dunning joined the faculty in the Atlantic Region (Norfolk, VA) in 2008 as an adjunct and became a full time faculty member in 2009. She's originally from Lakewood, OH, a suburb of Cleveland, which is where she became, and still is, a Cleveland Brown's fan. She served in the Air Force on active duty for eight years with tours in Omaha, NE and Hawaii; spent two years in the Air Force Reserves with the Special Operations Group, Pacific; and, completed 10 years in civil service with the Air Force.

Dr. Dunning was selected as a Palace Acquire intern after her time on active duty which put her in the area of budgeting at the Pentagon. She spent time as a budget analyst, cost analyst, and resource advisor, and was the program manager for the only Air Force Government Performance Results Act (GPRA) pilot project for Air Combat Command in Langley, VA. It was during this time that she became involved in strategic planning and became a certified strategic planning facilitator.

Dr. Dunning has a doctorate in public administration and urban policy from Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia, a master of urban studies and a master of public administration from Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia, and a bachelor of science in business administration from Wayland Baptist University in Wayland, Texas. She spent over seven years teaching in the government and public affairs program at Christopher Newport University, Newport News, Virginia while working on her PhD.

She is active in the local American Society for Public Administration (ASPA) chapter, where she has twice served as president, and is currently secretary for the national ASPA Section on Public Administration Education. Within the MPA program, Dr. Dunning serves on the Marketing Committee, managing the MPA webpage, and is editor of the MPA Newsletter. She also works on the Advising Committee, and was previously the interim MPA Director.

Dr. Dunning's research interests are in budgeting, strategic planning, and educational assessment. She lives in Yorktown, Virginia with her husband Dr. John Dunning, who is also an adjunct professor with TROY.



Dr. Fred Meine

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## Dr. Meine named Symposium Editor for Public Integrity's Special Edition on Contemporary Issues in Military Ethics

Dr. Meine has been named the Symposium Editor for Public Integrity's special edition on Contemporary Issues in Military Ethics. Successfully addressing the ethical challenges of a multi-cultural, multi-dimensional professional military requires open inquiry and innovative applications in advancing the traditional foundations of integrity, honesty, courage, and loyalty. This special symposium will address perspectives ranging from military and public sector scholarship, civilian military contractors, philosophers, applied ethicists, technology, economics, social and political scientists, medicine, psychology, and management. The need to find effective solutions to the highly fractious and ideological ethical challenges facing the military is of paramount importance in determining guidelines that will serve as a foundation for decision-making into an unpredictable future.



**The MPA eQuad has a new look!**

View your online access to a wealth of MPA advising information and resources to assist you in your MPA classes, registration, adviser access, forms access, course information, frequently asked questions, and much more available 24/7 on the MPA eQuad (located on your Bb Courses page). The home page connects you to PA careers, library resources, and announcements with one click.



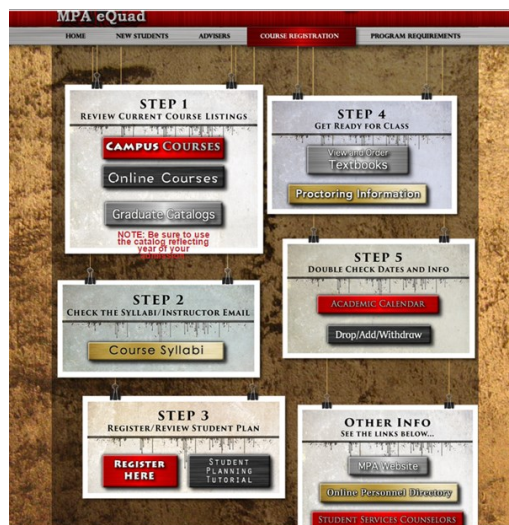
Home Page

If you would like to review any of the program requirements, click on the many areas to review.



Program Requirements Page

To help with registering each term you can always check out the “Course Registration” page that will guide you expeditiously through all the steps and links you use to register.



Course Registration Page

Check out the new MPA eQuad today, and see how easy it is to find information on the Troy MPA Program.

## Pi Alpha Alpha (PAA) Inductions, Fall 2015

PAA is the National Honor Society for Public Affairs and Administration. The purpose of PAA is to encourage and recognize outstanding scholarship and accomplishment in public affairs and administration and to foster integrity, professionalism and creative performance in government and public service activities. Students in TROY's MPA program may be inducted provided they have maintained a GPA of at least 3.7; have completed at least 75% (27 hours) of their coursework, and have the recommendation of the faculty. Congratulations to the following students who were nominated and accepted for induction into PAA in Fall 2015:

Alisha Lafaye Bibb	Pamla DL Johnson	Patrick M. Vega
Xiaofeng Chen	Dustin Lewis Mackey	Kunpeng Wang
Cherae Lynise Gamble	Sara Elizabeth Thompson	

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## New Students

Please welcome the following students who are new to the program starting Term 3, 2016:

Monica Autrey	Te'sha Long
Sanjanetta Barnes	Eneshia Myles
Charles Coats	Cecelia Sanders
Audrey Faircloth	Lisa Stanley
Joseph Foxhood	Kandice Stevenson
Cheryl Ivery	Derek Thomas
Lonnie Kelley	Tamika Whitener
Chantell King	Megan Williams

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## Faculty Updates

Dr. Pamela Gibson had "Cyber-Service: Cultivating "Soft Skills" for Virtual Engagement in Public Service" accepted for presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Conference for Public Administration, Charleston, S.C., October, 2015.

Dr. Fred Meine (with T. Dunn). (2015). Defense and Military Policy: Vietnam War and Military Ethics. In *Encyclopedia of Public Administration and Public Policy*, 3rd Ed.; Bearfield, D.; Dubnick, M., Eds.; Taylor & Francis: New York, 2: 878-884.

Adjunct Professors Joel Alvarey and Hal Moeller presented a panel on Contract Management at the Northeast Conference on Public Administration (NECoPA) at George Mason University in Arlington, Virginia in early November. NECoPA, and its counterpart SECoPA, bring together faculty and students from public administration programs in their respective regions of the country for workshops, seminars, and panels on themes relevant to the profession. A student looking to prepare his or her thesis in the coming year is well advised to take advantage of the opportunity to present the core elements of the thesis at one of these conferences, and receive valuable feedback from professional colleagues outside the usual comfort zone of contacts. In 2016 the SECoPA will be held October 13-16 at North Carolina State in Raleigh, and NECoPA will be held November 11-13, at Penn State in Harrisburg. Make plans to attend and participate.

## The Most Common Mistake Students Make When They Miss a Deadline for Submitting an Assignment

You didn't make the deadline last week so you couldn't hand in that assignment because:

- you were in a terrible car accident.
- your unit was dispatched to Iraq.
- your boss insisted you attend the dinner meeting.
- the baby arrived.
- your favorite TV show was on.
- it was raining.
- you just weren't in the mood to do it.

What should be apparent from this listing is that it is inconsequential *why* you didn't meet the deadline. Frankly, it shouldn't be the business of faculty members what you, as adult professionals, do with your time. Surgery complications and family feuds need to be shared with professionals from those fields (your physician and therapist). What instructors are concerned with is the absence of the assignment by the due date.

So, you decide to:

- e-mail it to the faculty member as soon as you can.
- post it after the deadline has passed (maybe he won't notice).
- forget about it (it wasn't "worth" much anyway).

Any of these options ignore the preferences of the instructor for handling the situation, may ignore syllabi policy, and more importantly, are attempts to avoid ownership for the tardiness of the paper and a conversation between adults to ascertain the appropriate action to take to resolve the problem.

Of course, notifying the instructor as soon as you know you won't be able to meet a deadline is essential. This is expected by your family, employer, colleagues, and friends so, why not your instructor? Call or e-mail the message that the paper will not arrive on time as soon as you realize it and, when possible, well before the deadline.

Permission (prior approval to submit late) is easier to grant than forgiveness (approval to submit **AFTER** the deadline has passed). That is, an instructor can make exception to the policy of "no late submissions" or avoid assigning penalties for them, if, ahead of time, an arrangement can be made.

Now, having said that, extraordinary circumstances beyond your control do occur, such as when that idiot t-boned your car and the surprise of that free ticket to the Middle East. These incidences are documentable, like hospitalization, and also allow instructors to more freely grant exception.

*(Continued on pg. 6)*



*Dr. Pamela Gibson*

## The Most Common Mistake Students Make When They Miss a Deadline for Submitting an Assignment

When contacting the instructor, propose a solution of your own that comes closest to meeting the requirements of the instructor and doesn't add to your troubles. To ask, "What do I do now?" allows the instructor to suggest an alternative you might not be able to meet either. Acknowledge any penalty in the syllabus for late assignments; ask about "extra credit" possibilities (if not explicitly rejected elsewhere in class policies); and, respectfully accept the consequences of not meeting a class requirement.

You don't serve your best interests by avoiding the confrontation. Face up to the possible consequences, offer your own alternative, and graciously accept the faculty's efforts to equitably and fairly apply class assignment policies.

Better yet, give yourself a deadline earlier than the one identified in the course. You don't need to contribute unnecessary stress to your life with last minute efforts. Technical difficulties (commonly not an acceptable excuse for late submissions) and the television line up shouldn't determine your performance. But the Procrastination Problem is a topic for another article I'll write, well, later.

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### State treasurer tells Troy University students to 'do the right thing, do it the right way and do it right away'

State Treasurer Young Boozer told a packed crowd of Troy University students Monday, February 8th, that his business and political philosophies are unified and simple. "Do the right thing, do it the right way and do it right away," Boozer told the students during a lecture at Bibb Graves Hall. "When I first got into office, I sat down with my staff and told them this is how we're going to do things."

The lecture was sponsored by the Troy University Economics Club and featured Boozer explaining, among other things, the duties of his office. "As treasurer, I am basically the banker for the state," Boozer said. "My office takes in revenue from all over the state and deposits it into banks around the state." Boozer said he also manages money for about 20 other agencies that have their own funds. He also supervises the Alabama Trust Fund, where he said his philosophy came into play.

"When I got there, I saw how it was structured. 'Do the right thing' was already in place," Boozer said. "It was put in place a long time ago and amended a bunch of times. That created a jigsaw puzzle that led to unintended consequences. I realized if we keep running it like this, the fund will go to zero. We can now change the way we manage the money for the 21st Century." Boozer said his simple philosophy guides him in business, in politics and in his personal life. Boozer was first elected to the post of treasurer in 2010, then was re-elected in 2014, running unopposed. He credited, of all people, Jay Leno with helping him in his initial election.

"Someone from Mobile had gotten my push card," Boozer said. "Leno started with his 'Headlines' segment, and the first thing up was my card. He looks at the camera and says, 'I know this man is qualified, but this is the worst name in politics.'" The comment drew a laugh from the crowd, but Boozer followed up by saying it was a blessing. "Ladies and gentlemen, it was the best thing that could have happened to me," he said. "Jon Stewart mentioned it and so did Paul Finebaum."

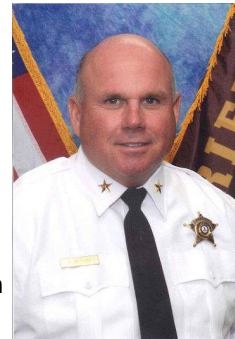


The mission of Troy University's Master of Public Administration Program is to strengthen the quality of public service by facilitating learning, promoting scholarship, improving practice and engaging in public service. The program strives to develop graduates who bring to the public work force the intellectual acuity, ethical commitment, and professional competence to effectively serve the public interest.

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## Alumni News

Norfolk, Virginia Sheriff Bob McCabe (MPA, '04) is running for Norfolk mayor in May 2016. In an interview with the *Virginian-Pilot*, McCabe said his top two concerns are Norfolk's embattled school system and what he described as the city's lack of transparency. During his more than 25 year law enforcement career, Sheriff McCabe worked as a Norfolk Police Officer and a Corrections Officer for the Department of Corrections. In addition to serving as Sheriff since 1994, McCabe is an adjunct professor of criminal justice at Old Dominion University and Tidewater Community College.



*Sheriff Robert McCabe*

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## Student News

John Kilgore received a scholarship from the Alabama City and County Managers Association to attend their Summer Conference sponsored by ICMA. John was selected, along with 3 other MPA students - one from University of Alabama, and two from Auburn University - to attend the conference with city and county managers from across the state of Alabama as well as the President of ICMA. He met with individuals representing contractors from a variety of areas including budgeting, construction, contracting, and planning. As John stated, "I made some great contacts and gained a bit of real world experience from individuals currently practicing public administration." In November, John was selected and initiated into Troy's circle of Omicron Delta Kappa, the leadership and honor society.

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## Library News

Ms. Kelly Wilson is the new Social Sciences/Government Documents Librarian at the library on the Troy campus. There is an updated Library Guide available at: <http://trojan.troy.edu/library/assets/documents/pdf/public-administration.pdf> and a new library database: ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global. This database is the world's most comprehensive collection of dissertations and theses from around the world, spanning from 1743 to the present day.

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## Share Your News!

Our next issue will be May 2016 and we need your help to fill it. Please e-mail the Editor, Dr. Pam Dunning ([pdunning@troy.edu](mailto:pdunning@troy.edu)) if you have recent news that you would like to have included in the newsletter.

*A special thanks to everyone who contributed to this newsletter. Your help is greatly appreciated.*