Mailing Label

“The Martin School is a National and Local Success Story.”

-2013 Unit Review

Faculty
David Agrawal
Philip Philip
Jack Blanton
Glen Blomquist
Karen Blumenschein
Rebecca Bromley-Trujillo
J.S. Butler
Dwight Denison
Joseph Fink, III
David Freshwater
Donald Gross
Meri Hackbart
David Hamilton
William Hoyt
David Hulse
Edward Jennings, Jr.
Mark Pelfrey
Nicola Petrovsky
Keith Schnakenberg
Jeff Talbert
John Thelin
Eugenia Toma
Steve Vois
Richard Waterman
David Wildasin
Aaron Yelowitz
James Ziliak

U.S. News & World Report
2016
Top 25 Public Affairs
Best Grad Schools

#4 Public Budgeting
and Finance

National Research Council
2010
#4 Overall for PhD Program

Director's Welcome

Greetings from the Martin School.
The 2015-16 academic year has been an exciting and forward focused year at the Martin School. We wel-
comed a new class of MPA, MPP and PhD students with excellent qualifica-
tions, and as the newsletter goes to press, we are looking forward to con-
gratulating our 2016 graduating class. We are also looking forward to wel-
coming Dr. Ron Zimmer as the new Director of the Martin School.

In addition, our faculty and staff have been involved in several new initia-
tives including a new partnership with the Korean Development Institute
(KDI), and the imminent launching of a new “on-line” Masters of Public
Financial Management as well as an accompanying Certificate of Public
Financial Management. We have also formed a partnership with the Henry
Clay Center for Statesmanship at Transylvania University to host a
National College Student Congress in June. The partnership with the Clay
Center will bring college seniors from across the nation to Lexington to
learn about emerging policy issues and the art of compromise in resolv-
ing those issues in a difficult political environment. We are confident that
these initiatives will bring further national recognition to the Martin
School.

I want to thank all of the financial supporters of the Martin School. Your
support through the Martin School Development Fund gifts help our students
finance their public service education and support new initiatives by our
outstanding faculty and students.

Finally, I want to thank all of you for your support of the Martin School and
its activities during my time as Direc-
tor.

Meri Hackbart, Director

Board of Visitors
David Atkins
Dave Adkisson
Mark D. Birdwhistell
Jack Blanton
Daniel Bork
Linda Breathitt
Michael C. Carozza
Ron Carson
Michael T. Childress
Jennifer Coffman
Martha Layne Collins
Brid Cowgill, Chair
David Duttlinger
Doi Farmer
Don Fowler
Linda Gorton
Jim Gray
Trey Grayson
John Hicks
Crt Luallen
Pam Miller
Jim Newberry
Mark D. Birdwhistell
Harold Rogers
Mike Ruehling
Dan M. Sproge
Jonathan Steiner
Harve Wilkinson
Bob Wiseman

For additional information and to stay up to date with
Martin School news and events, check in regularly on our
website: www.martin.uky.edu

Photo Credit: Martin School

Photo Credit: Martin School

Policy Symposium Fall 2015

To mark the 50th anniversary (of the Voting Rights Act of 1965), the
University of Kentucky Martin School of Public Policy and Administration hosted a symposium on “The Foundation of
Democracy: Voting Rights Past, Present and Future.” Held Oct. 13, 2015, the
symposium explored the legacy of laws that sought to secure voting rights and
contemporary controversies over voting rights. Pulitzer Prize-winner Jon
Meachem, who gave the inaugural Wendell H. Ford Public Policy lecture,
headlined the event.

“Thank you to Jon Meachem for a lecture series in honor of Ford, a former
Kentucky governor and United States senator. Ford’s successful advocacy
for improved ballot access culminated in the passage of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993—more
commonly known as the “Motor Voter Act.” The act requires state governments to offer voter registration
through the Department of Motor Vehicles and public assistance offices.

Jon Meachem gave the inaugural Ford lecture and was joined on a panel by Dorothy Gilliam (former
reporter, editor, and Founder/Director of the Young Journalists Development Program for The Washington Post),
and former Lieutenant Governor of Kentucky, Crt Luallen. (Other speakers from around the nation and the University community spoke as part of several sessions discussing various
Voting Rights issues—past, present, and future.)

The symposium provided an excellent venue for the discussion of voting rights. The re-emergence of
this issue and restrictions on the policy agenda requires a similarly renewed attention from policy
scholars.

* Taken from article by Martin School Ph.D. student, Nate Kratzke , published in the PA Times on March
11, 2016.

UK KENTUCKY

The Martin School Welcomes a New Director!

Dr. Ron Zimmer will be taking over as Director of the Martin School in July 2016. Currently, he is the Director of Graduate
Studies and Associate Professor of Public Policy & Education at the Peabody College at Vanderbilt University. He is an
alumnus of the University of Kentucky with a Master of Eco-
nomics and a Ph.D. in Public Policy and Administration from
the Martin School.

Prior to his time at Vanderbilt, Dr. Zimmer spent roughly ten
years working at RAND Corporation in a number of policy
research positions, and he spent time on the faculty at Michi-
gan State. Dr. Zimmer’s primary research field is education,
specifically school choice and school finance. He has served
on the Editorial Board for the Economics of Education Re-
view as well as serving as Co-Editor of the Education Evalua-
tion and Policy Analysis Journal. We are very pleased to wel-
come Dr. Zimmer back to Kentucky and back to the Martin
School!
Martin School Staff: New Administrative Support Associate
In August 2015, recent Martin School graduate, Katie Sanders, joined the staff at the Martin School. She completed her degree in July through the Accelerated MPA program, focusing in Non-Profit Management. She re-joined the Martin School in a new capacity less than a month later. Katie is a native Lexingtonian. She graduated from Dunbar high school and went on to receive her Bachelor of Arts in Commerce, Language, and Culture at Georgetown College. She enjoys coordinating events at the Martin School as well as working on the nitty gritty details that keep our programs running. She is happy to answer your calls, point you to the best new restaurant in town, or take your money (for scholarships of course).

MPA Alumni Spotlight
Shea Bartlett (MPA '15) is living her dream of working for an arts nonprofit in Washington DC. After moving there with her husband, she was able to break into the DC bubble and has been happily living and working there for six months. She works as a Marketing and Communications Associate at Imagination Stage, helping to bring the joy and wonder of live theatre to families of the greater DC/VA/MD area. Shea said “I am more or less working my dream job at an amazing organization and can provide valuable feedback to MPA and MPP students!”

Faculty Achievements
Our faculty have been busy, too! Below is a sampling of what they’ve been up to in the past few months:
- Dr. Joseph Fink was re-elected as one of two public members to the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME), a joint venture of the American Medical Association and the Association of American Medical Colleges.
- Dr. David Agrawal published a paper on sales tax policy to the Journal of Urban Economics. He also presented work at the Public, Urban and regional Economics Conference with Dr. Hoyt, and at numerous other conferences.
- Dr. Glenn Blomquist not only published in Land Economics, but also received the Department of Economics Faculty Outstanding Teacher Award for 2015!
- Dr. Dwight Denison has a forthcoming publication entitled “Determinants of Debt Concentration at the State Level” in Public Budgeting and Finance, co-authored by Martin School alumni, Robert Greer.
- Dr. Eugenia Toma has been selected as one of the University of Kentucky’s 2017 University Research Professors by the Office of the Vice President for Research.

MPA/MPP Professional Development Trips
In October, Martin School students visited Washington D.C. to learn about careers in federal agencies and national non-profits. In January, a group of MPA and MPP students visited Frankfort to learn more about working in state government. Both experiences enhanced the students’ educational experience of the Martin School.

Washington, D.C.
Thirteen students and two faculty members connected with public servants and Martin School alumni. The trip began with practitioner panels, including staff from the National Governors Association, Council of State Governments, American Red Cross, Congressional Budget Office, and Social Security Administration. We traveled to the Department of Education to discuss their work with innovations in education, and finished the day with a visit to Representative Barr’s office and an alumni dinner. Our trip concluded with visits to the State Department, the Government Accountability Office, and with US AID. And of course, no trip to DC would be complete without a guided tour of the Capitol building!

Frankfort, Kentucky
Twenty-two students along with faculty representative, Dr. Petrovsky, networked with professionals and Martin School alumni from several state government agencies, including the legislature, the Governor’s office, and other who support the Commonwealth through management of public funds or the budget. Topics of conversation included skills needed to be successful in state government careers, the unique opportunities and challenges in particular positions, and the focus of the 2016 legislative session. It was a treat for the students to be in Frankfort during a legislative session— a time during which they could feel the energy!
Coming Soon!

New Graduate Certificate in Public Financial Management

New Master of Public Financial Management Degree

In the next two years, the Martin School will be introducing two new online programs. With a recognized reputation in the field of public financial management, the Martin School will implement distance learning options including a graduate certificate and a new Masters of Public Financial Management degree.

Contact katie.sanders@uky.edu if you or someone you know would like to know more about this exciting opportunity!

From Frankfort to DC:

Distinguished Martin School Alumni named Executive Director of NASBO

John T. Hicks, Martin School graduate (MPA, 1985), was named the 2015 Distinguished Alumnus during the annual Alumni & Friends Reception. He demonstrated excellence in public service in the Kentucky State Government for over 31 years, 24 of which were with the State Budget Office. Since 2005, John has been the Deputy State Budget Director for the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Throughout his tenure in the State Budget Office, he has been a lead staff person in many areas of the office including post-secondary education, capital projects and debt, criminal justice, workforce development, and natural resources and environmental protection. Hicks has also been heavily involved in the National Association of Budget Officers (NASBO), serving as President in 2011-12, and becoming the only person to receive both of NASBO's top awards, the George A. Bell and the Gloria Timmer award. Most recently, NASBO announced John Hicks' appointment as the association's next Executive Director, a position he begins April 11, 2016.
We are proud of the honors, awards, and opportunities our students earn throughout their degree program. Congratulations!

- Elisha Comer, Ismaila Ceesay, SJ Harris, and Anton Fatah competed in the UK Global Health Initiative Competition.
- Anton Fatah, Beta Ardiansyah, and Salih Salihoglu were selected to participate in the Clinton Global Initiative University 2016.
- Anton Fatah, a Fulbright scholar from Indonesia, also received the Southeast Asia Grant to conduct three research projects and attend two conferences. His research under the grant has included education expenditures’ impact on student achievement in Indonesia and a comparative study of the impact of defense spending on economic growth in Turkey and Indonesia, completed with fellow student Salih Salihoglu.
- Lauren Kesselring received an Honorable Mention from the National Federation of Municipal Analysts’ Peter Fugiel Scholarship competition. She also attended the NFMA’s Bond Credit Analysis conference this fall.
- Several students attended the Council of State Government’s annual conference hosted in Nashville as CSG Fellows.
- Jinhai Yu, a Ph.D candidate, presented his paper “Policy Success and Policy Reinvention in the American State Drunk Driving Laws” at APPAM and is under review for publication for the American Journal of Political Science.
- Jinhai Yu and Hyokyung presented their research on budget allocation at APPAM.
- Wenchi Wei also had a poster at APPAM for his work on state government rainy day funds.
- Nate Kratzer, a Ph.D student, published his research on coal mining and its effects on population loss in the Journal of Appalachian Studies.
- Nate Kratzer’s article on the Martin School’s fall Symposium, “Kentucky Symposium Examines Past, Present and Future of Voting Rights” was published in the PA Times publication of the American Society for Public Administration.
- Maddy Oritt presented her capstone research at the APPAM regional student conference in Washington, D.C. Her research focuses on the financial implications of Medicaid expansion for academic medical centers.

Thank you to our 2015 donors!
Your support helps our students prepare for a career in public service.

Ms. Kathy E. Bailey
Mrs. Joan M. Bernard
The Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation, Inc.
Mr. Brad J. Buckley
Dr. Jonica L. Burke
Mr. Michael C. Carozza
Mr. Ron Carson
Ms. Jayna N. Cheesman
Mrs. Susan L. Clarke
Dr. Wes Clarke, Jr.
Ms. Wendy S. Coplen
Council of State Governments
Mr. Bradford L. Cowgill
Ms. M. Corinna Curl
Dr. Marilyn & Mr. Timothy Dearmond
Dr. John Michael Foster
Dr. Donald L. Fowler

Dr. Virginia E. France
Mrs. Brenda L. Franey
Mr. Shamick P. Gaworski
Dr. Marilyn L. Getchell
Dr. Merl M. Hackbart
Dr. Meg Patrick Haist
Dr. Jeremy Lucas Hall
Ms. Ann Hilary Hanly
Mr. Thomas C. Hanna
Mr. Daniel C. Heil
Ms. Ann H. Heston
Mr. William H. Hintze
Mr. Ronald W. Holder, Jr.
Dr. Edward T. Jennings, Jr.
Mr. Joseph Johnson
Kentucky Chamber of Commerce
Kentucky League of Cities
Kentucky League of Women Voters

Mrs. Kimberly A. Klumpeer
Dr. Linda C. Kuder
Mrs. Melissa Ann Lueker
Dr. Cezar Brian Castillo
Mamaril
Ms. Ruth E. Mattingly
Ms. Lynda J. Matuszek
Mrs. Laurie B. Maudlin
Mr. Joseph H. Meadows, Jr.
Mrs. Pam G. Miller
Mr. Jack Morgan
Cmdr. James W. Perry
Dr. Jean G. Pival
Ms. Crystal D. Pryor
Mrs. Mary Susan Saylor
Ms. Leah Parsons Simpson
Mrs. Marilou F. Singleton
Dr. Margaret Frances Sloan
Mr. Ronald G. Sowell
Ms. Lori C. Spragens

Ms. Tamara F. Stenzel
Mrs. Kathy E. Stumbo
Mr. and Mrs. Todd Switzer
Drs. Eugenia and Mark Tomma
Dr. Rhonda R. Trautman
Mrs. JoAnn A. Travis
United Way of the Bluegrass
Mr. John M. Vidal
Mr. Maurice R. Weeks III
Mr. Harvie B. Wilkinson
Mr. Thomas E. Williams
Dr. Sandra J. Winter
Mr. Robert D. Wiseman
Ms. Kelly S. Woodall
Dr. Ronald C. Young
Ms. Mary Susan Zavos
Dr. Zhiwei Zhang