

Appalachian State University

ICMA Chapter 2014-2015

The ICMA Student Chapter at Appalachian State University had a busy year. The chapter had three meetings in the fall and spring semesters. Along with these meetings, students were able to attend some of the professional conferences held around the state. A few members were able to attend the 100th annual ICMA Conference that took place in Charlotte, North Carolina this past fall. They brought back insights and knowledge and contacts they learned while at the conference. The highlight of the year was at the North Carolina City and County Management Association (NCCCMA) Conference where our President Ian Bumgarner was awarded the Matt W. Williamson (NCCCMA MPA scholars) scholarship.

Fall Semester

The ICMA Student Chapter assisted the Appalachian State University Local Government Alumni Association (ASULGAA) with the Fall Conference and a golf tournament that raises money for scholarships for current MPA students. The annual Fall Conference allows current students to meet alumni that work in the local government profession and begin to find summer internships. Before the conference is held there is a golf tournament at the Red Tail Golf Course that raises money for scholarships to be given to current students that are passionate about local government.

There were two other meetings held in the fall, and one was a panel discussion with alumni that work in various fields in the public sector. Members were able to ask questions and learn about all of the opportunities that can be found in the public sector.

Spring Semester

During the spring semester, members attended the NCCMA Conference and attended various sessions that exposed them to the current state of the public sector. Students also attended the alumni breakfast where they were able to meet and interact with current professionals in the public sector. Those who had not yet obtained an internship were able to communicate further with alumni and locate a potential job for the summer.

The highlight of the spring semester was our meeting with Brock Long. Brock Long is currently the Vice President of Haggerty Consulting. However, he had quite the resume with the public sector and gave a presentation about his time spent as the FEMA Director for the State of Alabama and various other positions. He answered questions and gave advice to members that would like to go into the field of emergency management.

The ASU ICMA Student Chapter is fortunate to have a strong relationship with the alumni and members are exposed to the real world during our meetings. The chapter added a few members this year. However, we are working on different ways to increase membership by reaching out to all of our alumni.

