

## **Appalachian State University**

### **ICMA Student Chapter 2015-2016**

The Appalachian State University ICMA Student Chapter had a busy year. The chapter had three meetings in the fall and spring semester. Along, with these meeting some of our members were able to attend some of the professional conferences that were held in the State of North Carolina. The highlight of the year was at the North Carolina City and County Management Association (NCCCMA) Conference where one of our members Sarah Harris 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.

### **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.

Chapter members were able to attend numerous panels that were focused on emerging issues in local government. These panels were led by members of our alumni association that have been Town Managers, County Managers, and other roles in local and county government. The best part of these panels was the discussions that arose from the questions that our members asked the group.

Similar to last year 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 the students in our program, especially students in our satellite cohorts.