The ICMA student chapter at Arizona State University School enjoyed an encouraging year including active participation and leadership from over 20 new members. The chapter has been pleased to receive participation and support from the staff within the school of Public Affairs, including Director Karen Mossberger, Program Manager for Career Advising Maryjo Douglas Zunk, and Associate Clinical Professor Shawn Novak. Our chapter was pleased to have Dr. Jim Thompson, Professor of Practice at ASU as well as the City Manager of Casa Grande, continue to serve as the chapter sponsor.

The focus of our chapter this year was to expanding interactions between students and industry leaders as well as promoting opportunities for professional development. Student leadership of the chapter included President Craig Dudek, and Vice Presidents Kristen Ayers and Blaise Caudill. For the 2016-17 Academic Year, Blaise Caudill will be serving as President and Kristen Ayers will continue to serve as Vice President.

Social Mixers: Our Student Chapter also hosted a series of social mixers and networking events throughout the year at local restaurants. This gave students the opportunity to come meet various local government officials, as well as members of the school’s alumni advisory committee. Our student body represents a unique mix of working professionals, full-time students, and involved interns with a number of resources in their respective communities.
Networking and Conference Preparation- Before, During, and After:

In preparation for the many conferences that members attended this past year, the chapter held an information session hosted by Maryjo Douglas Zunk. Students participated in an interactive information session on the secrets of professional branding, appropriate etiquette during networking and conference sessions, and how to maximize and retain new connections.

Arizona City County Management Association Winter Conference:

In February 13 students and 3 faculty members from ASU joined members of the Arizona City and County Management Association (ACMA) in Sedona for the winter conference. Over three days, students joined local government leaders to learn about current issues in local governments, as well as to connect with administrators from across the state. The chapter received over $1000 from the university to assist attending students through scholarships. In all, each of the 13 students received financial assistance in part or in full from the University or ACMA to attend the conference.

Students also attended various other conferences during the course of the year, including ASU’s Conference on Public Finance (March), the ICMA National Conference in Seattle (September), and the Summer conference hosted by ACMA
(July). Additionally, seven members were able to attend a Next Generations conference - a joint session between the Alliance for Innovation and ACMA, aimed at developing future leaders in local government (November).