

## ICMA Student Chapter of UNC-Chapel Hill – Annual Report, 2014-2015

Over the last year, in keeping with the goals established by the founding officers, the leadership team of the UNC ICMA Student Chapter worked to introduce students to local government management as a profession, establish connections between local government management theories and practices, and cultivate a learning community for members to share experiences. As in previous years, membership increased during the 2014-2015 academic year. Today, our chapter boasts 55 current students and 39 alumni.

### Event Highlights

This year, we focused on coordinating events that exposed members to various aspects of local government management. The Chapter kicked off the fall semester by coordinating members' attendance to the 100<sup>th</sup> ICMA Annual Conference held in Charlotte, NC. The Chapter also held a Brown Bag Lunch where Durham (NC) City Manager, Thomas Bonfield, shared his experience addressing charges of racial bias in the Durham Police Department and his motivations behind putting together a formal report about the matter. Chapter members also took a tour of the Town of Hillsborough Wastewater Treatment Plant and had lunch with Town Manager Eric Peterson.

In the spring semester, the Chapter held a Q&A session for 1<sup>st</sup> year MPA students seeking summer professional work experiences. Chapter members networked during an ICMA Mixer during the North Carolina City and County Manager's Conference. As has become a yearly tradition, the Chapter organized job-shadowing opportunities for members to watch local government professionals at work and learn more about careers in local government. The Chapter also held an event where chapter members played Budgetopolis, a game that simulates the decision-making process local government officials go through when developing a municipal budget.

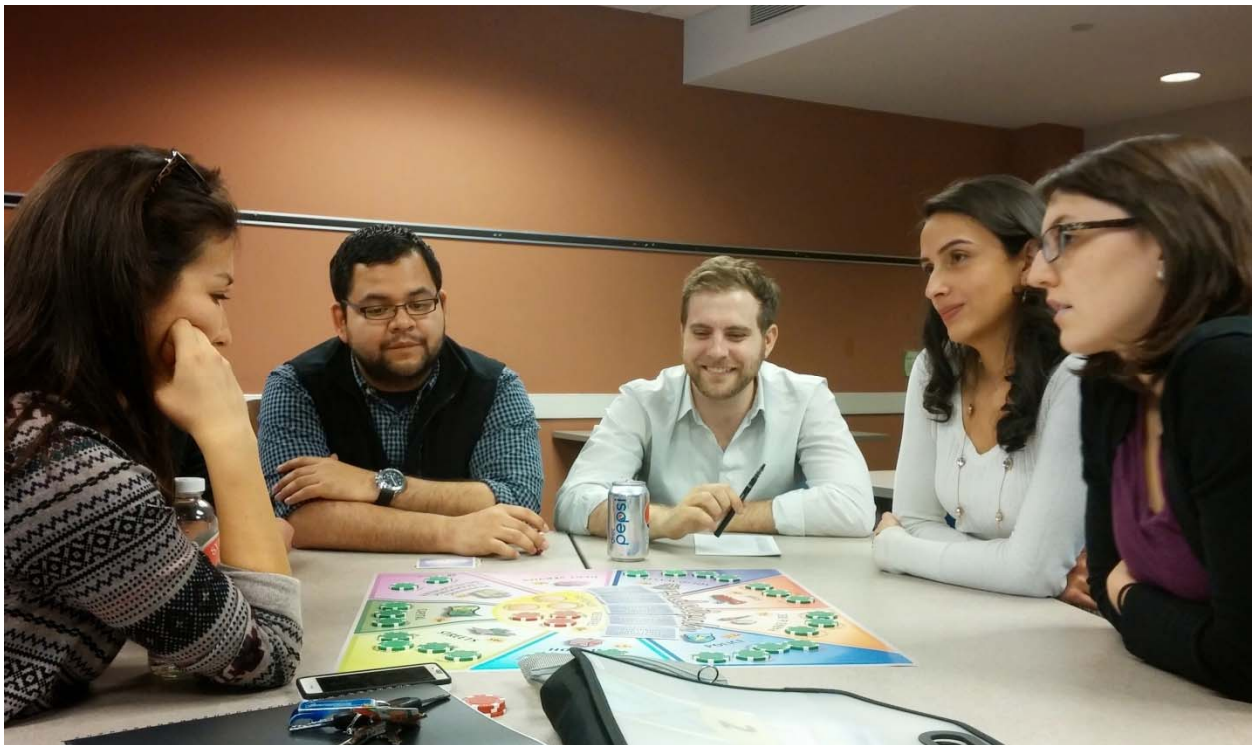
### Looking to 2015-2016

In the upcoming academic year, the Chapter will explore ways to encourage more participation from online students, something that is particularly important as the number of online students continues to grow, and increase networking opportunities with professionals already in the field, alumni, and other student groups on campus.

## Event Photos



Chapter members at the Wastewater Treatment Plant in Hillsborough, accompanied by Eric Peterson, Town Manager.



Chapter members contemplating potential budget allocations during Budgetopolis.