

In its first year of operation, the University of Idaho's ICMA Student Chapter participated in a variety of events in the region, including resume and curriculum vitae writing workshops with university faculty, the state chapter's winter conference in Boise, an economic development summit in Boise hosted by the department, a follow-up meeting with a veteran economic development coordinator located in the Coeur d'Alene area, and a Chief Appointed Officials meeting in Liberty Lake, Washington. Overall, our founding members were quite satisfied with the variety of events pursued, and with the willingness of so many regional professionals to donate their time towards providing technical discussions outside of the classroom to help supplement our academic curriculum.

The chapter did face its own challenges in the past year, most prominently in regards to membership. The MPA program at the University of Idaho dedicated resources towards developing online course offerings to reach prospective students across the state and, though our program enrollment did increase on campus, thus the potential for recruitment was slim. Reaching out to undergraduate students was more difficult than anticipated, as our curriculum rarely features cross-listed classes, and a lack of invested undergraduate members made it difficult to engage those students on a more personal level.

As all three of the original founding members are leaving, a new president was appointed from the incoming graduate class, ensuring steady leadership in the coming year. With demonstrated success in organizing events, the chapter should enjoy another year of a wide variety of activity, and with the retention of two founding members by local nonprofit organizations, the chapter should be able to continue developing a strong professional network. Though a strong recruitment effort in the coming year will be critical in ensuring the long-term success of the chapter, we are exceedingly confident in the leadership of the new president, Trevor Memmott, as well as the interest shown by our newest recruits.