

ICMA KUCIMAT Chapter Report
School of Public Affairs and Administration
University of Kansas
2016-2017

In February, 2016, KU MPA Class of 2015/2017 meet with their Practitioner-in-Residence, Sherilyn Lombos, City Manager, Tualatin OR; Eric Roche, Chief Data Officer and Performance Management Officer, Kansas City, MO their Young Practitioner in Residence; John Nalbandian, Professor Emeritus, University of Kansas and Ray Hummert to discuss resumes and job interviews as the students prepared to apply for their full time internships for their second year in the Program. In April, 2016, Sherilyn Lombos and Ray Hummert met with the students to outline the second year of the Program and discuss the highlights of the first year on campus. They agreed that Rosemary O'Leary's class on the Role, Context, and Ethics of Public Administration in American Society was the academic highlight because of writing their own personal ethics statement. They thought the budgeting class with Alfred Ho and the Finance class with Jacob Fowles were also important learning experiences. The overall highlight was attending their first ICMA conference in Seattle where they interviewed and interacted with practitioners; bonded as a class; interacted with alumni; and, enjoyed the conference especially the keynote speakers.

In June, 2016 the second year students began their second year in full time jobs. Students and placements were:

Jackson Brockway, City of Fort Collins, CO
Aurora Yager, Eden Prairie, MN
Erika Garcia Reyes, Mid America Regional Council
Drew Vincent, Cookingham-Noll Fellow, Kansas City, MO
Emily Hogan, City of Lee's Summit, MO
Danielle Buschkoetter, City of Lawrence, KS
Kelly Dumais, City of Edina, MN
Emmanuel Hernandez, City of Aspen, CO

On Sunday, June 12, 2016, the new students of the Chapter, the class of 2016/2018, met at the home of John Nalbandian for a welcoming picnic to meet faculty, area practitioners and alumni to discuss the next two years of the Program. They were introduced to Kathy Sexton, City Manager of Derby, the class Practitioner-in Residence and Jamie Shockley, Assistant City Manager, Tonganoxie, KS who was to assist Sexton.

On Monday, June 15th, the 2018 class met for a General Orientation which included more detailed introductions, an official welcome and meeting with several second year students. Also included in the orientation were representatives from the KU Writing Center and KU Libraries. After the formal presentations, the students walked to the Student Union for lunch and a brief walking tour of campus. On June 20, the students began their summer classes

The class developed a class blog to share their experiences with alumni
<https://sites.google.com/site/kucimat2018/home>

The class of 2018 started their part-time internships at:
Charissa Wahwasuck-Jessepe: City of Topeka Manager's Office
Brian Bickers: City of Olathe, Budget Office
Jake Doerr: City of Topeka Manager's Office
Ian Hutcheson: City of Prairie Village Administrator's Office
Chelsea Morton: Johnson County Manager's Office
Jaron Balderes: City of Topeka Manager's Office
Logan Masenthin: Douglas County Manager's Office
Chante Mitchell: Water One, Johnson County Communications Office
Austin Good: League of Kansas Municipalities
Jason Rohloff: City of Eudora Manager's Office
Joshua Robinson: City of Overland Park
Tyesha Ignacio: City of Tonganoxie Manager's Office

Both first year students and second year students attended the ICMA Conference in Kansas City, MO, September 25 to 28, 2016. The Conference will be discussed in greater detail as the highlight event of the year for the Chapter. In summary, the second year students met in their first Professional Development Seminar conducted by John Nalbandian and Ray Hummert. They also participated in Conference sessions. First year students assisted in the preparation for the conference; assisted the Host Committee during the Conference; interviewed practitioners on their careers; joined the second year students for dinner with their Practitioners in Residence; and, attended Conference sessions.

On October 6, 2015, the Class of 2018 were invited to lunch with Bob Kipp at Hallmark Corporate Offices in Kansas City, MO. Kipp a former City Manager of Kansas City MO and former President of ICMA discussed with the students the importance of good professional local government; the importance of supporting the profession; and, the ICMA conference.

In January 2017, the second year students met for their second Professional Development Seminar led by John Nalbandian and Reggie Robinson which focused on leadership. This seminar explored connections between facilitative political and administrative leadership, professional expertise, and citizen engagement. Politics and the political arena; administrative/technical expertise and the relationship between the arenas of politics and administration were discussed. The students discussed the concept of citizen engagement and adaptive work. On Wednesday of the week, the on campus first and second year students met for dinner and a bowling competition.

During the year, the on campus students, met in bi-monthly seminars with area practitioners to discuss careers in the public service, their part-time internships, economic development, public/private partnerships and resume writing and interviewing skills.

In April 2017, the second year students met for their final Professional Development Seminar in Lawrence which included a discussion on Dual Career Couples with Mandy and Don Cawby. Mandy is Director of Customer Relations for Water One in Johnson County KS; and, Don Cawby is City Manager in Osawatomi, KS. The seminar focused primarily on competencies developed, where the students have seen the most growth, and what areas were they targeting for development. They also discussed short term and longer term goals. They presented their electronic resumes/portfolios to their classmates, Nalbandian and faculty. Several examples included: <https://drewtvincent.wixsite.com/portfolio> and <http://emilymlhogan.wixsite.com/mpaportfolio> . The students also met with Mark Funkhouser, Publisher of Governing Magazine who discussed with them the status of local governance.

Both classes of the chapter attended the Annual Kansas City & County Management Conference sponsored by the School of Public Affairs and Administration. On Friday evening of the Conference, the School celebrated the graduation of the 2017 class. On Saturday morning, the second year graduating students, their parents, families, friends and partners gathered at the home of John Nalbandian to celebrate their completion of the MPA program and their graduation before returning to their full time jobs.