

## **Missouri State University student Chapter of the ICMA**

### *1<sup>st</sup> year report*

The first year of operation for the student chapter at Missouri State University, located in Springfield, MO, was a success. The first President of the chapter was Jerry Kendall, with Vice President Allyssa Miget. Both lead the chapter with a great sense of purpose and helped to establish the presence of the ICMA on campus.

Over the spring semester of 2015, the first semester of operation, many activities and events were accomplished. The first event that was held was an informal gathering of chapter members and local leaders of the community. City Managers, University presidents, and Mayors from around the area were invited to attend and get to know the students and help them to understand more of what it means to be part of city and community leadership. The mixer was well attended and helped to set up for the next several events.

The several events were tours of local high profile businesses and government facilities, and had 40+ people in attendance at all of these events. The effort put into a consistent email campaign, Facebook presence, word of mouth, and setting up good events paid off and more and more students have been made aware of the presence of the ICMA chapter on Missouri State Universities campus.

As mentioned by the leadership of the ICMA chapter, the sentiment is that the chapter is a good way for students and local leaders to get together and meet one another. The events are a lot of work to put on, but the connections made during the events has lead to better support for the students in the organization from local leaders as they finish with school and enter the workforce. It has also been helpful to the chapter to have a great amount of support from the Political Science department at the University. Their willingness to help us to make connections with local and statewide leaders has helped expand the network of contacts for our members.

Overall the first semester of this chapter was a success. There are still many problems to overcome and mistakes to be made, but with the success that we have had so far we are confident that as we work hard and continue to strive to connect our student population to the leaders of the local community that we will have great success in the years to come.