

## SPC-ICMA ANNUAL REPORT



*(The 2016-17 SPC ICMA Student Chapter Executive Board: (L to R) Treasurer-Gerard Beaulieu, Secretary- Trisha Bryant, Vice President- Nikishea Wright, President-Niki Johnson-McNealy)*

During the 2016-2017 academic year, the leadership team of the St. Petersburg College ICMA Student Chapter, were effective at keeping with the goals established by the founding officers. Intentional work was put in to familiarize students with the local government management career path and institute relations amongst local government management concepts and practices, as well as encourage a culture for members to share experiences. As in previous years, membership increased during the 2016-2017 academic year. Today, our chapter has added 11 new members this year for a total of 39 current members, 10 of which are alumni.

### **Executive Board Appointments**

Kenneth Del Sardo and Nikishea Wright, the President and Secretary of our SPC ICMA Chapter resigned in January of 2017. To gain interest in the Executive Board, an invitation to apply was sent out to all current members and discussed in every “Intro to Public Policy” course taught by Professor Jeff Kronschnabl, Faculty Advisors for the chapter. Several students from the Public Policy & Administration baccalaureate degree program and existing Executive Board members expressed interest in serving in the open positions. Jeff Kronschnabl, Elizabeth Van Scoyoc, and existing E-Board members held interviews to select and appoint candidates for the Board. The New 2016-2017 Executive Board appointments are listed below:

- Niki Johnson – President
- Nikishea Wright—Vice President
- Gerard Beaulieu – Treasurer
- Trisha Bryant – Secretary

## Event Highlights

This year, we focused on organizing events that exposed participants to numerous facets of local government management. The Chapter kicked off the spring semester by encouraging members to participate in its first event held on Wednesday, February 1, 2017 with guest speaker Larry Goldsmith, a Career Development Specialist, professor, and entrepreneur who attended our general meeting to discuss resume' writing, interview techniques, and workforce preparedness.



*(Larry Goldsmith (center) with ICMA members & PPA students)*

On Wednesday, March 1, 2017, the Public Policy & Administration program hosted its Eleventh Annual Public Policy Leadership Speaker Series luncheon. We were honored to host, St. Petersburg College President, Dr. Bill Law to speak with our ICMA and Public Policy and Administration students. About 110 guests attended, the majority of which were PPA students followed by administrators, faculty, staff, and community leaders.



Dr. Law addressed his experiences since beginning his Presidency at SPC in 2010 and the initiatives that transpired as a result of his goal to put students first and unite our campuses. He discussed how he brought Provosts together from each campus to converse, plan, and work toward common goals for each campus so that SPC students could expect the same services regardless of which campus they visited—which he termed One College. He also shared his experience in serving 37 years of academic service excellence and 7 years of service to SPC.

Our SPC-ICMA Executive Board traveled to Elk Grove, Illinois on March 8th for the ICMA Midwest Regional Summit. While in attendance, we participated in multiple sessions to enhance our knowledge including: “*Leadership Strategies to Move Communities from Disruption to Connection and Renewal*” and “*Inclusiveness and Diversity*”.



We were able to participate in discussions such as “*What Disruptions has your Community Experienced?*” and “*Professional Development Paths*” with attendees of the summit. We also enjoyed awesome networking opportunities with various national public leaders who offered internships and job opportunities!

On Wednesday, March 15, 2017, Michael Delk, Planning and Development Director for the City of Clearwater, shared leadership experiences he has learned during his career and his 12+ years with the City of Clearwater. He spoke about planning for a large city which has varied needs. He also spoke about making tough decisions and the future of development for Clearwater. Mr. Delk is the husband of our Urban and Regional Planning Professor Mary Delk.



*(Michael Delk & Professor K. (center) with ICMA members and PPA students)*

Our ICMA Student Chapter hosted its first semi-annual Ted Talk Discussion on April 24, 2017. The Ted Talk featured Harvard Ethics Professor Dr. Michael Sandel who posed moral and ethical scenarios. After the Ted Talk, attendees discussed how ethical decisions should be approached in the field of public service. For example, think about what it takes to make a hard decision for the public you represent. If you do not make a decision, then you are part of the problem. Briefly give some examples of tough decisions regarding real or hypothetical issues and what you would recommend as a solution? The conversation was both lively and thought provoking! The purpose was to get students to think about the role of public service from a different perspective.



**ICMA** STUDENT  
CHAPTER

St. Petersburg College

## 1st Semi-Annual Ted Talk Discussion

Participate in a team-building activity after the TedTalk series and learn more about our club.

April 24th, 12:30pm-2:30pm

Lunch provided by Chick-fil-A  
SPC-Clearwater campus, LA-151



**JUSTICE**  
— WITH —  
**MICHAEL SANDEL**

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

## **Graduate Successes**

- Peter Parapon was accepted to Saint Leo University's Master of Business program
- Joshua Casey was accepted to Saint Leo University's Master of Business program
- Michael Schaefer accepted a position with Fire Rescue with the City of Dunedin
- Donald Paredes accepted the position of Executive Director at the Oak Ridge Housing Authority in Oak Ridge, Tennessee
- Mecca Bellmore Serfustini accepted the position of Emergency Management Coordinator for Pinellas County

## **Student Achievements**

- Vito Sheeley accepted the position of Senior Advisor to Congressman David Jolly
- Rosemarie Roussel accepted an internship with Pinellas County Emergency Management
- Katherine Park accepted an internship with Pinellas County Human Resources Department
- Bret Shortridge has been appointed to serve on the Code Enforcement Board for the City of Largo
- Kenneth Del Sardo accepted the position of Code Enforcement officer for Pasco County
- Cheryl Ferland accepted the position of Customer Service Representative for Pinellas County Utilities

## **Looking to 2017-2018**

We would like to continue building collaborative relationships and establish the ICMA Student Chapter as a sustainable resource for our students. We will work vigorously on ways to enhance the membership experience for students with the goal of producing prepared graduates. We would also like to increase the use of knowledge sharing networks as a resource for students. Our chapter looks forward to continued progress, and with ICMA's assistance, we are confident in the future!