The University of Idaho ICMA Student Chapter was founded in the late spring of 2016. Founded by a core group of MPA candidates and undergraduate political science majors, our members have outlined a full schedule for the chapter in the coming academic year. We believe that while the professional development made available to student members will prove invaluable in supplementing our formal instruction, one of the greatest opportunities the chapter can provide is a community within which local government students and practitioners can interact in order to begin the development an otherwise nonexistent professional network within the region.

Events planned for the coming year are diverse in their scope. Hosted public policy panels, travel to the national conference, scheduled presentations from regional practitioners, several social events, resume and curriculum vitae workshops, and participation in trainings offered by the national association should ensure that chapter members never lack for engaging opportunities in the coming academic year. Additionally, the chapter will attempt to connect its membership with internship opportunities for its current student members as well as career opportunities for graduating members wherever possible.

Due to its recent founding, chapter membership is still fairly low with only approximately twelve members. With the return of students to the campus in the fall, recruitment will begin and formal officer elections will take place. While the chapter does have an acting president—Daniel Gray—with the chapter’s foundations now laid, formal leadership for the academic year will be chosen as soon as a full chapter meeting can be called in August.