

**ICMA KUCIMAT Chapter
School of Public Affairs and Administration
University of Kansas
2015-2016**

In June, 2015 the second year students of the Chapter, the KU MPA Class of 2015/2017 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 14, 2015, the new students of the Chapter, the class of 2015/2017, met at the home of John Nalbandian for a welcoming picnic to meet faculty, area practitioners and alumni. Sherilyn Lombos, City Manager, Tualatin OR their Practitioner in Residence and Eric Roche, Chief Data Officer and Performance Management Officer, Kansas City, MO their Young Practitioner in Residence were there to discuss potential activities for the next two years.

On Monday, June 15th, the 2017 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.

In the summer class for the Class of 2017 on The Role, Context and Ethics of Public Administration in American Society by Rosemary O'Leary, Sherilyn Lombos participated in a discussion on ethics. Here is what Lombos reported to our alumni on the class

President Becklenberg (that sounds so very impressive!) and members of the KUCIMAT Alumni Board,

I'm reaching out to you in my capacity as the Practitioner-in-Residence for the 2015-2017 MPA class. Not sure exactly how I got the honor (other than bugging Ray until he decided he needed to get me off his back about it), but I am very excited about it!

I just returned from Lawrence where I sat in on Dr. Rosemary O'Leary's Role, Context and Ethics of Public Administration class (my generation took this class from George Frederickson – ahh the memories that brought back). I got to hear them present their personal ethic statements and then after class I bought them a beverage and spent a couple of hours getting to know them.

I want you to know that from my short time with them, I am excited to say that if they are any indication, the state of the profession is in good hands. They are a great group of kids! They are engaged, smart, and

personable, asked good questions, were active listeners, and generally left me with the sense that they are well grounded.

If you haven't already done so, I'm sure they would appreciate hearing from you – just a quick “welcome to the program”. I've attached their short bios that includes their contact emails.

I look forward to seeing you in Seattle in September! If you're interested, fly into Portland and I'll take you wine tasting then we can put you on the train to Seattle – you can fly home from there.

Thanks for your service to the KUCIMAT program!

Sherilyn Lombos

City Manager

City of Tualatin

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During the summer, the class developed a class blog to share their experiences with alumni
<https://kucimat2017.wordpress.com/>

The class of 2017 started their part-time internships at:

Jackson Brockway, Johnson County, KS

Aurora Yager, Civic Council, Kansas City, MO

Zachary Bauer, City of Prairie Village, KS

Jasmine Austin, Civic Council, Kansas City, MO

Erika Garcia Reyes, Civic Council, Kansas City, MO

Drew Vincent, Douglas County, KS

Emily Hogan, Water One, Johnson County, KS

Danielle Buschkoetter, City of Olathe, KS

Kelly Dumais, City of Eudora, KS

Emmanuel Hernandez, City of Olathe, KS

In Seattle, at the ICMA Conference, September 27 to 30, 2015, the second year students (Class of 2016) of the Chapter met in their first Professional Development Seminar conducted by John Nalbandian and Ray Hummert. They met with Barry Quirk, Chief Executive, London Borough of Lewisham, and Katherine Kersewell, local government professional in the UK; practitioners Christian Clegg, Assistant to the City Manager, Stockton, CA; Ryan Lawler, Consultant, Government Finance Officers Association; Shannon Flanagan-Watson, Assistant County Manager/Business Ombudsman, Arlington County, Virginia; and, Jim Keene, City Manager, Palo Alto CA to discuss:

- What they were doing in their internship that was most rewarding?
- What was the biggest challenge starting a new job?
- What surprised them the most in their internship?
- What competency was focused on the most?

In Seattle, both first and second year students attended the Keynote Sessions, the Eldon Fields Colloquium, and the annual KU Alumni banquet. On Tuesday night the entire student chapter comprised of the 2016 and 2017 classes gathered at a restaurant for dinner. The first year students, Class of 2017 also met with their Practitioner, Sherilyn Lombos, to discuss the conference and the first four months of the academic program.

On October 16, 2015, the Class of 2017 met with Bob Kipp at Hallmark Corporate Offices in Kansas City, MO to have lunch, discuss the local government profession, and to discuss the ICMA conference. Kipp was a former City Manager of Kansas City MO and former President of ICMA.

In January 2016, the second year students, class of 2016, 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 (class of 2017 and second year students (class of 2016) met for dinner and a bowling competition.

During the year, the on campus students, the class of 2017, met in 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 2016, the second year students met for their final Professional Development Seminar in Lawrence which included a discussion on Dual Career Couples with Nickie (Budget Manager, city of Topeka) and Josh (Industrial Engineer, Goodyear Rubber Corporation) Lee. The seminar focused primarily on the competencies rubric and where the students have seen the most movement; what areas were they targeting for development; and discussed short term/longer term goals. They also presented their electronic resumes/portfolios to their classmates, Nalbandian, other faculty, and Hummert.

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 2016 class. On Saturday, the class of 2016, their parents, families, friends and partners gathered at the home of Ray and Mary Lee Hummert to celebrate their completion of the MPA program and their graduation before returning to their full time jobs.

