Chapter Formation

Under the guidance of Bob Stripling, a long time ICMA members and municipal leader, a small group of students at Virginia Tech decided to survey the student population of the Center for Public Administration and Policy (CPAP) to gauge interest in establishing the group. Several students at our Blacksburg and Alexandria campuses expressed interest in a student chapter, so we developed a survey to collect information about prospective members’ programming interests.

Funding

Virginia Tech’s Center for Public Administration and Policy agreed to fully fund all annual fees.

Chapter Leadership

The Chapter is fortunate to have Bob Stripling as its Faculty Advisor. In addition to serving as an adjunct faculty member in Virginia Tech’s MPA program, Mr. Stripling has also served as the manager in four communities: Colonial Beach, Blacksburg and Staunton in Virginia and Colleyville in Texas. He also served as assistant city manager of Charlottesville, Virginia. He is a life member of both the Virginia Local Government Management Association and ICMA.

Officers

- Chapter President: Nicole DuPuis, CPAP Ph.D student
- Blacksburg VP: Neileen Millar Shoemaker, Environmental Policy and Planning
- NCR (Alexandria) VP: Daniel Mekibib, CPAP MPA student

2014–2015 Activities

- **Fall 2014**
  - Surveyed the group of prospective members to gauge interest in chapter establishment and programming.
  - Held an online election for officers
  - Held inaugural meeting with newly elected officers to discuss possible programming, management of cross-campus divisions, and development of bylaws.

- **Spring 2015**
  - Worked with people in administration at the Virginia Tech Richmond campus to recruit additional members.
  - Began actively distributing announcements, information, and opportunities for engagement to chapter members.

- **Future Activities**
  - Development of chapter bylaws.
  - Development of activities and relevant programming that can bridge the gaps between all three campuses.
  - Explore the possibility of sending chapter delegates to ICMA meetings.