The University of Wisconsin – Oshkosh Masters Program in Public Administration is a working professionals program for students interested in moving up in their careers in public service or moving from another profession to public service. The students almost all work during the week and attend classes on Saturday by driving some distance to Oshkosh for all day classes. There are five all day Saturday classes for each course in the program and the five days are spread out over the semester so that students can take as many as three courses each semester.

The ICMA Student Chapter has been an enhancement for students to join ICMA and become familiar with the public management profession. The students have found the resources available to them on the ICMA web site to be extremely valuable. They comment on the value of this resource frequently. In addition they are in touch with public management through the other resources available through ICMA such as newsletters and other informational distribution that the association does for its members. The core of the membership in the student chapter take the Local Government Management course and others such as Economic Development Management and the classroom becomes the student meetings since their time on campus is limited to the Saturdays of class.

The students have expressed a strong support for the Student Chapter for the resources that they receive to help in their MPA Program courses. It has been a success for the students, the program and ICMA.

Karl Nollenberger
Associate Professor University of Wisconsin - Oshkosh