



NEWSLETTER

KUCIMAT 2008-2009
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KUCIMAT President Mark S. Watson
City Administrator
Yuma, Arizona

Dear Fellow KUCIMATS,

This week on the front line in America's cities, I faced an angry crowd objecting to a service reduction caused by the recession, Council election debates saying the City Administrator has too much power, and a continual bombardment by local talk radio about how incompetent government and government bureaucrats are! What is it like in your part of the country? As the mood of this nation reminds me of the Future Shock demonstrations of the 1970's, the teachings of the KU MPA program are needed now more than ever.

In the years ahead, the talents of our interns and recent grads will be challenged in a career that will be as diverse as the day is long. One constant that must be preserved in the coming years is a focus on what Kansas University does best – training future local government leaders. We need students that value serving the general populations of our cities and enhancing their quality of life. We need interns that will dedicate this training to active service on the front lines and where impacts will be felt. We need alumni that will nurture and train these “best and brightest” with the tools and practicum that will ensure success. We need academicians that will focus on relevant best practices and topics that develop world class cities.

I know the KUCIMAT alumni are busy fighting the everyday battles on the front line, but I encourage each of you to take time to mentor a young professional in the field or teach a class at KU or use the faculty as a sounding board for new ideas. Donate to the various scholarships to ensure that we can financially assist students with the high cost of tuition. Let us not lose sight of our mission as public administrators and faculty that the KU MPA program is the reason we are recognized as the #1 City Management program in the country.

Many of you will not be able to attend the annual gathering of KUCIMATS at ICMA in Montreal. As your President, it has been my honor to serve you in this small way. And, as they said on NYPD Blues, “Be careful out there!”

--Mark S. Watson

Joint Reception at ICMA

We will be holding a joint reception at ICMA with the Kansas Association of City/County Manager and Wichita State University. The reception will be on Monday night, September 14 in the Drummond Room West of the Sheraton hotel beginning at 5:30 with the program at 7:00. There will be free drinks and hors d'ouerves.

At this time, we anticipate there will be no cost for the reception. The program will consist of student introductions, award presentations, the report from campus, the singing of the alma mater, and the Rock Chalk Chant. If you are planning to attend, please contact Ray Hummert at rhummert@ku.edu.

DEPARTMENTAL NEWS



Letter from the Class President 2009-2011

Raymond Lee

Greeting from the Class 2011! It is an honor to be a part of such a prestigious group of administrators. As we embark on this journey for the next two years we know it will be very exciting, demanding and a great opportunity to expand our knowledge base in public management. We have finished the first two classes of the program and we all look forward to the promising future that is ahead of us.

As most of you know, Dr. Justin Marlowe has left the KU program and we all thank him for his dedication to the profession and to the University of Kansas PA Department.

I know that my classmates would like to thank all of the alumni for their encouragement and the time they have provided to us during the past few months. We can't tell you how much we appreciate your advice and answering questions. All of your assistance has been quite valuable to all of the interns.

The majority of us have been hired into our internships and learning more everyday about our profession. We know we are entering public administration in a complicated economical period, a time of cut backs and job losses. We know the tools we learn in the classroom and outside of the classroom will assist us in tackling important issues such as budget reductions, sustainability, and human capital in public administration. We look forward to seeing you in Montreal at ICMA.

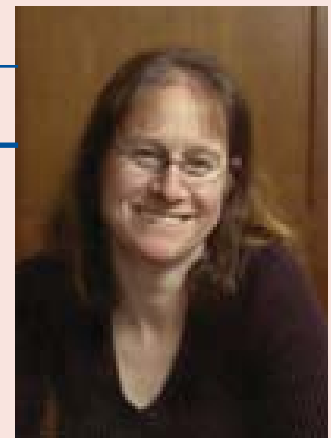
If you would like any information or have any questions regarding the Class of 2011 please do not hesitate to contact me at r.trey@sbcglobal.net

Staff Profile

Noel Rasor

Noel has joined the staff at Public Management Center as the assistant director. She holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan, a master's of urban planning from the University of Kansas, and is currently completing a dissertation for a doctorate in American Studies from KU. Noel has worked at the chapter level as well as the national level for the American Red Cross and has served in a variety of capacities at KU.

At the PMC, she directs the Emerging Leaders Academy and serves as an instructor in other PMC programs. Her office is located at KU's Edwards Campus in Overland Park to assist the PMC in strengthening program offerings for public sector professionals in the Kansas City area. In addition to her new position as assistant director of the PMC, Noel is also enjoying the new role of mother. Questions for Noel? Phone: 913-897-8460
E-mail: noel@ku.edu



WE'RE MOVING!

On October 15th, the KU Public Administration Department is moving to a newly rennovated space on the fourth floor of Wescoe Hall!



**Our new address is:
Public Administration
1445 Jayhawk Boulevard
4060 Wescoe Hall
Lawrence, KS 66045**

In our new location we'll have a conference room, additional office space, updated technology, wireless internet access, and a dedicated classroom.

We'd love to have you stop by and visit us if you are in the area!

