



Connect

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY & ADMINISTRATION

UNIVERSITY OF
DELAWARE

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A New Initiative

IN COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT

PLUS:

Leadership Students Showcase National Model for Leadership Development

Capstone Studios Allow Students to Learn by Doing

IPA Celebrates 25 Years of Engaging Local Governments



FOR MORE THAN HALF A CENTURY, THE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY & ADMINISTRATION HAS TRANSLATED RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP INTO PRACTICES AND POLICIES THAT ADDRESS THE CRITICAL NEEDS OF COMMUNITIES, FROM NEIGHBORHOODS TO NATIONS.

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From the Director

Dear Connect Readers:

It is my pleasure to return to you as Director of the School of Public Policy & Administration (SPPA). I am very thankful to Leland Ware for assuming the directorship while I was president of the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA).

As we begin a new academic year, I am pleased to welcome four new faculty members and a visiting scholar to SPPA. From public finance, comparative administration, and organizational leadership to statistical research in support of evidence-based policy and performance management—these scholars are leading experts in their respective fields:

- Dr. Dan Smith, Associate Professor and Director of the MPA program, comes from New York University (NYU) where he served as an associate professor and director of the finance specialization at NYU Wagner School of Public Service. His research focuses on the effects of state fiscal institutions.
- Dr. K.C. Morrison, Professor, previously served as head of the Political Science and Public Administration Department at Mississippi State University. His research focuses on comparative public administration and African American studies.
- Dr. Jane Case Lilly, Assistant Professor, spent more than a decade working in government and the nonprofit sectors before joining SPPA. Her research interests are in the intersection between social scientific study, organizational leadership, and public policy.
- Dr. Tibor Toth, Assistant Professor, has been working for our Center for Applied Demography & Survey Research and has extensive expertise in managing statistical research projects that support evidence-based policy making.
- Dr. Joseph Wholey, Visiting Scholar, is Professor Emeritus at the Price School of Public Policy, University of Southern California. His current research focuses on the use of strategic planning and performance management to improve the performance and credibility of public agencies, nonprofit organizations, and public-private partnerships.

These new faculty will be joining an outstanding interdisciplinary team of academics and professionals whose focus is on integrating academic excellence with professional experience—providing transformational experiences to our students.

In Graham Hall, we welcome the Community Engagement Initiative, directed by our own Dr. Dan Rich, University Professor of Public Policy. Dr. Lynnette Overby, Professor of Theatre, serves as deputy director of the initiative. This initiative is both a reaffirmation of what our community partners and we have accomplished and our commitment to do more. The focus of this work is on what makes every community strong: improving public education, community health, and environmental quality; encouraging economic development and innovation; and expanding arts and cultural programs that enrich quality of life. You will be able to read more about this initiative in this issue of Connect.

With all best wishes,

Maria Aristigueta



Maria P. Aristigueta

Director, School of Public Policy & Administration
Charles P. Messick Chair in Public Administration
Immediate Past-President, American Society for Public Administration

UD Water Resources Center Celebrates Golden Anniversary

GERALD J. KAUFFMAN

The past year has been a watershed for the University of Delaware Water Resources Center (DWRC) and the Diamond State. DWRC faculty, scientists, and students celebrated the 50th anniversary of the center's founding at the University of Delaware, won national/regional awards, were elected as president of the American Water Resources Association (AWRA), and invited to the White House Water Summit. What will the next decade bring for water resources at the University of Delaware?

founding at the University of Delaware at our annual research poster session at the Trabant University Center. Founded in 1965, a year after Lyndon Baines Johnson signed the Water Resources Research Act on July 17, 1964, the DWRC is one of the 54 National Institutes for Water Resources (NIWR) supported by the United



At the annual April luncheon, DWRC Director Jerry Kauffman leads DWRC graduate and undergraduate students in a celebratory cakecutting.



Land-grant institutions supported by the USGS by the 1964 Water Resources Research Act.

In January 2015, Dr. Gerald Kauffman was appointed as the third director of the DWRC since 1965. Dr. Kauffman succeeds Dr. Tom Sims, deputy dean of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, who served as second director of the DWRC since 2000. Sims made a substantial difference in the careers of many students, faculty, and scientists who conducted water research at the University of Delaware. Founding director of the DWRC is Dr. Robert Varrin, professor of civil and environmental engineering and long-time friend of the White Clay Valley.

On April 17, 2015, we celebrated the 50th anniversary of the DWRC's

States Geological Survey (USGS) at land grant universities in the 50 states, District of Columbia, and three island territories of the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico and Guam.

On April 22, 2015, Martha Narvaez received the prestigious Achievement Award from the

Water Resources Association of the Delaware River Basin (WRADRB) at the 33rd annual recognition dinner at

the Downtown Club in Philadelphia. Kauffman co-presented the award for Narvaez's leadership and commitment to promoting and advancing practices of conservation and sound management of water resources in the Delaware River Basin.

On October 5–6, 2015, DWRC cohosted the 3rd Annual Delaware River Watershed Forum at the University of Delaware following the first two symposia at the Academy of Natural Sciences at Drexel University in 2013 and in Bethlehem at Lehigh University in 2014. More than 300 participants learned about the Delaware River Watershed Initiative and the \$35 million investment by the William Penn Foundation to restore the 13,000 square mile watershed that provides drinking water in four states to over 15 million people (5% of the nation's population) and the first (New York City) and seventh largest metropolitan economies in the nation. Governor

Jack Markell, U.S. Rep. John Carney, DNREC Secretary David Small, and National Wildlife Federation President Collin O'Mara spoke about the economic and ecological value of the Delaware River to the First State. Kauffman spoke about "Water Use in the Delaware River Basin" during the opening plenary session.

Accepting the gavel from Dr. John Tracy (Director of the University of Idaho Water Resources Center), Martha



Left to right, Jerry Kauffman, Dennis Palmer (WRADRB Chairman), Martha Narvaez, and Kathy Klein (President, WRADRB) at the WRADRB awards dinner in April 2015.



Green infrastructure bike tour through the University of Delaware campus and City of Newark, Del., led by Jerry Kauffman. Photo taken at the top of the Newark Reservoir.

Narvaez was inducted on November 18, 2015, as the 51st President of the American Water Resources Association (AWRA) at the annual conference in Denver, Colorado. Martha serves during 2016 and follows predecessors from Texas A&M, Penn State, University of Wisconsin, and University of Illinois. Martha is founding president of the Delaware state chapter of the AWRA and co-founder of the University of Delaware student section of the AWRA. Established in 1964, the AWRA has 2,100 members, sponsored 120 symposia over 50 years with 30,000 attendees, and publishes the *Journal of the American Water Resources Association* with an impact factor in the upper third of rankings.

Completing the flow of good news, the University of Delaware was recognized as 2015 outstanding AWRA student chapter at the annual conference in Denver, Colorado. Past president and geography Ph.D. candidate Asia Dowtin and current



Martha Narvaez accepting the gavel from current AWRA President, John Tracy.

and Oregon State University. The UD Student AWRA Chapter was founded in 2005 and is advised by Martha Narvaez and Gerald Kauffman from DWRC.

National water issues such as the Flint River crisis, Texas flooding, and

president and water science and policy graduate student Sandra Petrakis accepted an award on November 15, 2015. Past winners of the outstanding student chapter include the University of Florida, University of Wisconsin,

Agency (EPA), and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

At a February 29, 2016 special leap-day meeting of the DWRC Advisory Panel, we heard presentations on the work of our graduate research assistants and undergraduate interns, who put on display an impressive body of research. Over the last year, DWRC has sponsored the research of 20 students who joined with faculty advisors in four colleges to work on addressing the water resources problems of tomorrow.

The DWRC Advisory Panel discussed water research and education priorities for Delaware and a poll was distributed requesting the panel to update the priorities (such as climate change and sea level rise). AWRA President Martha

Narvaez discussed natural linkages at the national level with the DWRC and the other 53 land grant universities in the National Institutes for Water Resources.

On World Water Day (March 22, 2016), DWRC director Gerald Kauffman was invited to the first-ever White House Water Summit at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, D.C. The White House announced \$4 billion in private capital committed to investment in water-infrastructure projects nationwide and nearly \$35

million in federal grants from the EPA, NOAA, National Science Foundation, and USDA to support cutting-edge water science. Dr. Kauffman and 200 attendees heard from five U.S. Congressmen that water science and policy research at universities such as UD is especially pertinent because water is one of America's top domestic public policy challenges. The push is on to invest more in this economic and environmental resource to prevent the disasters that led to the Flint River, California drought, and coastal Delaware flood emergencies.

On April 29, 2016, 20 DWRC research students presented posters at the Celebration of Undergraduate Engaged



Amanda Doremus, Samantha Brucker, Matt Luddington, Laura Askin, Kelsey Moxey, Kristen Molfetta, Sandra Petrakis, Asia Dowtin, and John Tracy (AWRA President) at the American Water Resources Association (AWRA) annual conference in Denver.

California drought were the focus of the National Institutes for Water Resources (NIWR) meeting in Washington, D.C., on February 8–10, 2016. Gerald Kauffman and Martha Narvaez attended with colleagues and directors of water resources institutes at 48 land grant universities stretching from Maine to Alaska to Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Overlooking the U.S. Capitol, attendees discussed the need for approval of the Water Resources Research Act legislation by Congress to assist our land grant universities in addressing these national water issues in concert with scientists from National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), USGS, U.S. Environmental Protection

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DWRC Celebrates Golden Anniversary, continued from page 25

Scholarship at the Perkins Student Center. DWRC undergraduate water research internships are funded by the USGS authorized by section 104 of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984.

Part of the Institute for Public Administration and School of Public Policy & Administration, DWRC is part of a land grant water research network that stretches from the North Atlantic

to the South Pacific and includes schools such as California (Berkeley), Georgia Tech, Illinois, Wisconsin, Florida, Ohio State, and the University of Guam. The DWRC belongs to the Mid-Atlantic NIWR region with water resources colleagues at Cornell, Penn State, Rutgers, Maryland, Virginia Tech, and West Virginia. DWRC is supported by appropriations from the USGS, National Park Service, EPA, NOAA, state and local government, and foundation sources. 🔑



Jerry Kauffman outside the White House Water Summit.

Using GIS Story Maps to Engage Citizens in Planning, continued from page 21

Grabelsky's GIS story map focuses on Freeboard as a floodplain management strategy. This exercise was one facet of his extensive work on Creating Flood-Ready Communities in

Delaware, which is showcased within the "Sustainable and Resilient" section of IPA's online *Delaware Complete Communities Planning Toolbox* (www.completecommunitiesde.org).

The GIS story maps can be viewed online at IPA's GIS story map gallery, called Implementing Complete Communities in Delaware

(<http://arcg.is/25DcjGV>). The applied research project work is supported by the Mid-Atlantic Transportation Sustainability Center—Region 3 University Transportation Center and the Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT). 🔑

Medicaid Research Partnership, continued from page 26

with the College of Health Sciences, and Dr. Jae Chul Lee at the University's Center for Disabilities Studies to study health issues affecting vulnerable populations.

Funding for these projects has come from the ACCEL Big Data Grant, the Delaware General Assembly, the Association of University Centers on Disabilities and the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. CCRS has just begun a five-year project with the University of Maryland that will evaluate the implementation of Gov. Markell's recently launched Delaware Contraception Access Now initiative.

Doctoral students have also used the Medicaid data for dissertation work. Kathryn Gifford, who has been a graduate research assistant in CCRS, recently defended her dissertation based upon the analysis of Medicaid claims data.

Looking Ahead

This year, CCRS and CHS formed a Medicaid Research Coordinating Committee comprised of researchers



Kathryn Gifford, Ph.D., CCRS

from both colleges to further our health services research and advance the goals of the Medicaid Partnership between the University and the State. The committee is charged with guiding the Medicaid claims research at the University, assisting researchers in the development of Medicaid research and Human

Subjects protocols, and reviewing proposals prior to submission for the State's approval.

Our interdisciplinary team has the skills, expertise, and experience to develop and lead cutting-edge research. Over time we hope to expand the scope of our work and invite others with an interest in health services research—specifically related to the Medicaid population—to contact Mary Joan McDuffie, Director of the Medicaid Research Program in CCRS, to explore potential collaborations.

We expect this new agreement will allow us to partner more closely with the State and enhance the efficiency and the efficacy of their work with Medicaid. We also hope that the partnership will further the capabilities of the University to perform important research that can contribute to improvements in access to high-quality healthcare, reduce healthcare spending, and ultimately have a positive impact on the health of Medicaid recipients. 🔑