

Executive Education

NEWSLETTER

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Maxwell School of
Citizenship & Public Affairs

SUMMER 2023

Maxwell Welcomes Newest Executive Education Graduates



More than 100 Executive Education degrees were conferred during May's convocation and commencement ceremonies. These students completed degrees in December 2022, May 2023 and anticipate completing in August 2023.

Graduates included E.M.P.A. (residential and online), E.M.I.R. (Syracuse and Washington, D.C.), Defense Comptrollership Program (E.M.P.A./M.B.A.) and Certificates of Advanced Study in Public Leadership and Management (formerly CAS Public Administration) and Leadership of International & Non-Governmental Organizations.

Katherine Osborne (Australia) was selected as the student speaker for the Graduate Convocation, which also included Ph.D. and Master's graduates at the Maxwell School. Due to the pandemic, which closed Australia's borders in 2020, she had to delay her program start. With the flexible nature of the executive degree, she was able to

“I encourage all my fellow graduates, as you celebrate your achievements, to also take a moment to reflect on your time here at Maxwell, and what you have learnt both personally and professionally, and to use this to guide you on your next challenge.”

— Katherine Osborne

start online and arrive in Syracuse with some courses under her belt. “Maxwell has been filled with classes taught by passionate and dedicated professors, opportunities to engage in a wealth of policy and public administration areas, and continuous learning from my fellow students,” she states. “The students at Maxwell bring unique identities, backgrounds and experiences with them. This diversity enriches us all. It has been invaluable to me and will be central to the learnings I take back home: a new breadth of perspective and international understanding.”

Graduates celebrated the evening before with a dinner honoring all Executive Education graduates. Online Executive M.P.A. and E.M.I.R. in DC graduates travelled to Syracuse and joined their on-campus colleagues in celebrations.

On Sunday, May 14, many joined Commencement in the JMA Wireless Dome, where Donna E. Shalala G'70, H'87, former U.S. secretary of health and human services, delivered the keynote address.

**BEST
GRAD SCHOOLS**

U.S. News & WORLD REPORT

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS
2024**

#1

in the Nation for Public Affairs
and Highly Ranked in 10 Subspecialties

Greetings!

The Maxwell School is thrilled to announce that it once again has been named **the top school of public affairs** based on a survey of its peers by U.S. News and World Report. This distinction comes as another academic year has concluded, we celebrate our graduates while also preparing to welcome incoming students and welcome back continuing degree candidates.

This upcoming year will be special for a couple notable milestones: Maxwell's centennial and Executive Education's 60th anniversary. There'll be more information forthcoming, but suffice it to say, neither of these would have been possible without our dedicated alumni.

Our alumni are selfless in assisting current Maxwellians in networking, returning to campus and staying connected in any number of ways. Does your organization have educational or training opportunities for midcareer professionals? I'm always happy to reach out and connect to help expand the Maxwell family as we've done with MOUs with Seoul National University (SNU), Austral University (Argentina) and Universidad Católica Santa María La Antigua (USMA) in Panama. You can contact me [here](#).

As I speak of family, I note with sympathy the passing of **Professor Walter Broadnax** in December 2022. He was an advocate for midcareer students and many of you may remember taking his Managerial Leadership (PPA/PAI 895) class. A memorial service was held at Hendricks Chapel in April. "As a teacher, scholar and lifelong public servant, Walter has always been an inspiration," said Maxwell School Dean David M. Van Slyke in a Syracuse University news release. May we all be so inspired!

MARGARET LANE



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Festive Evening Recognizes December Graduates

December's graduation celebration recognized fourteen graduates earning Executive Master of Public Administration, Executive Master of International Relations and CAS in Leadership of International and Non-Government Organizations. Current students, Humphrey fellows and Visiting Executive Scholars were among those honoring Exec Ed's most recent graduates on a wintery evening.

E.M.P.A. graduate Min Thu Aung was selected to provide reflections on his experience from Myanmar to Maxwell. He expressed gratitude to the many who encourage and supported his studies: professors, the Syracuse Myanmar community, his wife, and his mother, who instilled the importance of education in him. "My time in Maxwell has made me a stronger...and better person! My life has been changed for the better," he reflected. "I now know how to ask better questions, how to find out things I want to know and how to communicate it effectively. More importantly, how to work lead or work in a group. I believe I have the skills and knowledge that will be useful in contributing to rebuilding Myanmar. I am ready, and for that...I am eternally grateful to the Maxwell community."

Professor of Practice Catherine Gerard paid tribute to Walter Broadnax, who had passed away the week before. "I think of him tonight because he defined himself as a public servant and took great pride in that title, Catherine reflected. "He said at one point, "public service isn't about something you do today and then you're done. It's about improving the world -for the people that live in it." She considered the charge those in public administration have in collaborative governance concluding, "We need to embrace a new definition- where leadership is about shared power, facilitating the ideas of others, and measuring success based on how people see value in government action. This is the challenge I leave you with as you return to your lives as public servants. I have faith that you can do it!"

"It was an honor to be in the same classroom with a very diverse group of people, many of them are leaders, future leaders in organizations and governments in their respective countries."

—Min Thu Aung



▲ Min Thu Aung



▲ L-R: Ephraim Ozabor, Min Thu Aung, Tial Hnin, Jiyoung Moon, Seungwan Hwang, Jin Jun



▲ Jiyoung Moon receives congratulations from Executive Education director Steve Lux, PAIA professor of practice Catherine Gerard and Executive Education assistant director Margaret Lane

Peer to Peer Series Highlights Experiences of Midcareer Professionals

The Peer to Peer continued its focus on Executive Education midcareer professionals with a robust speaker series open to the Maxwell community. Exec Ed students, Humphrey fellows, Visiting Executive Scholars and a SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry Fulbright Visiting Scholar presented on a wide array of topics. Two Exec Ed students were featured speakers during this academic year:

Shahzeb Khan (EMPA): China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC): Myth vs Reality

Shahzeb offered perspectives on CPEC based on his experience as former Director General of Gwadar Development Authority, where he was a member of many CPEC working groups. He was also a 2016-2017 Humphrey Fellow at Maxwell.



Gabriel Uy (DCP): Healthcare challenges for the U.S. National Guard and Reserve

Gabriel discussed the different roles of the U.S. National Guard and Reserve, how they are being activated at the highest frequency since WWII and the challenges faced in their healthcare and insurance coverage, offering recommendations to alleviate them. Gabriel was most recently White House Associate Director of Intergovernmental Affairs.



▲ Additional perspectives from Peer to Peer were recently [profiled on Executive Education's website](#).

Alumna Returns to Maxwell for Moynihan Discussion

Nuria Esparch '00 M.A.(PA), the first woman Minister of Defense in Peru (2020-2021), returned to Maxwell during the spring semester to offer a talk, "Governance Challenges in Peru: Lessons from a Former Minister of Defense".

She discussed the governance challenges she faced during her tenure, which coincided with the COVID-19 pandemic response and the 2021 Peruvian presidential election. She is a lawyer from the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú (PUCP) and currently the Senior Manager of Institutional Relations at Southern Peru Copper

Corporation. Her accomplished career has been in both the public and private sectors in Peru.

She also had the opportunity to catch up with Catherine Gerard and meet with Humphrey fellows and Executive Education students. Nuria was a deSardon-Glass fellow while at Maxwell and was able to connect with current recipients during her talk, which was sponsored by the Program for Latin America and the Caribbean at the Moynihan Institute of Global Affairs.



▲ Catherine Gerard, professor of practice in Public Administration and International Affairs, and Nuria Esparch '00 M.A.(PA)

Celebrations Throughout the Year: Welcome Picnic, Pumpkin Party and Graduation Weekend

Welcome Picnic



Pumpkin Party



Graduation Celebration



Alumni Updates

Mary Mack, '95 M.A. (PA) went to work at the University of Minnesota as a Research Assistant after graduating from Maxwell. She worked with states and national organizations to improve high school and transition to post-secondary education for students with disabilities and all students and comments that it was very rewarding work. After retiring in 2010, she settled in Athens, Georgia.

Mary Cameron '00 M.A. (PA) currently serves on four boards in the City of Crystal, Minnesota: Police Department Multicultural Advisory Board, Chamber of Commerce, Employee Review Board and the Inclusion and Diversity Commission. She earned a Doctorate in Education and Management in 2012 from the University of Minnesota Duluth, where her dissertation was entitled “No Child Left Behind: A Review from a Critical Race Theory Lens”. She retired from the University of Minnesota Duluth in 2017.

Stanley R. Goettel '00 M.A. (PA)/'03 M.A. (IR) is Director of Strategic Initiatives and Quality Improvement at SUNY Upstate.

David Pasinski '03 M.A. (PA) continues to serve on two nonprofit boards in Central New York: treasurer for Wisdom Thinkers Network and vice president of the board of UnityAcres. He's also a member of the Onondaga County Post Trauma Response Team, a spiritual care provider through the Red Cross, and serves as the convener of the CNY Interfaith Sanctuary Coalition. He teaches courses at OASIS Senior Education Program, ranging from spirituality in the movies to American religious history, modern prophets, in addition to a course on aging. His haiku entry in the Syracuse Poster Project won first prize in 2023's competition. He also writes many letters to the editor and op-eds, 25 of which have been published in the New York Times.

Naoki Fujii '03 M.A. (PA) is Principal Vice Minister for the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism in Japan. She states, “I had a wonderful chance of studying at Maxwell school in the middle of my professional career as a government official. I am still very proud of having the honor of making address at the convocation. In 2019 I became Vice Minister of my ministry, and in June 2022 I was appointed to Principal VM. I sincerely look forward to visiting Syracuse in the near future. Please tell my best regards to Prof. David Popp who helped me to learn basic applied economics, and Prof. Catherine Gerard and Ms. Tammy Salisbury who gave me full support and advice in the midcareer program.”

Bea Gonzalez '04 M.A. (PA) is a [New York Power Authority Trustee](#). Prior to her retirement from Syracuse University in 2020, she was appointed Special Assistant to the chancellor at Syracuse University in 2014 and Vice President for Community Engagement in 2017.

Thomas Constable '04 M.A. (PA) retired after 35 years in the Department of Defense, most recently from the Pentagon. He mentions it was an honor to serve in the most humbling of positions, culminating as the Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manpower and Reserve Affairs.

Sunil Kumar Gupta '05 C.A.S. PA joined as Secretary to the Honorable Vice-President of India in August 2022. He thanks faculty at Maxwell for providing wonderful exposure to public administration best practices. “I am sure that my Maxwell experience and the subsequent exposure to various aspects of governance and administration in India would enable me to make a meaningful contribution to my current assignment,” he reflects.



▲ **Liwei Zhang '06 M.A. (PA)** is now Director of the Foreign Affairs Office of Lijiang Municipal People's Government, Yunnan, China, where he is in charge of all the international exchange affairs. He comments that his year living and studying at Maxwell and Syracuse University prepared him with the expertise and skills for his current position.

Tapan Ray '06 M.A. (PA) was [re-appointed to the Board of Directors of CMS Info Systems Limited](#), a Cash Management and Payment Solutions company in April 2022.

Mark F. Newsome '07 E.M.P.A. is now VP & Senior Partner, US Federal Healthcare, IBM Consulting.

Kurian Thomas '11 E.P.M.A. joined the Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies (MACP) as Vice President of Programs, leading a program team of over 50 people. He previously was Vice President of Programs at the Fetzer Institute.

Ahmad Waheed Ahmadi '12 E.M.P.A. is Family Services Specialist, Workforce Development Department at Stanislaus County, California.



▲ **Olive Sephuma, '12 E.M.P.A./C.A.S. LINGO** spoke to participants of the Syracuse Humphrey Fellowship Workshop, Leadership and Governance During Times of Crisis in her role as Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of InterFaith Works of Central New York. She provided an overview of the challenges faced in refugee resettlement in Syracuse during the shift in administrations

in Washington, the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent re-organization of the nonprofit. She and other InterFaith Works staff met with Syracuse Humphrey fellows to talk discuss the process of resettling refugees in the Syracuse area, the role of volunteers and the various funding mechanisms of the nonprofit.

Faith Nimineh '13 E.M.P.A. is currently Senior Advisor, Humanitarian Affairs for Child Fund Alliance.



▲ **Bayasgalan Nyamdavaa '13 E.M.P.A./C.A.S. Security Studies** reports he was awarded the rank of Police Colonel, the highest rank of Mongolian Police by the Commissioner General. He is currently the Chief Inspector of INTERPOL National Central Bureau (NCB) of Mongolia (since December 2017). While Chief Inspector, his country became the first Asian country to test INTERPOL's Digital Witness Platform, hosted the INTERPOL workshop 'Fighting Against the Illicit Traffic of Cultural Property' and accepted as a beneficiary country of INTERPOL's 'Project Leader', which provides sustainable digital forensics capacity-building to law enforcement agencies in selected Asian countries. He also stated that although the global pandemic and resultant border closures hindered fugitive extradition operations, Mongolia extradited two fugitives in 2020 and 2021 who were all subjects of INTERPOL Red Notices and successfully participated in the **INTERPOL operation 'Trigger Salvo'**, which strengthens passenger and cargo controls capacities of participating countries and became the first country to test INTERPOL's mobile device, with direct access to the INTERPOL database at border checkpoints. He reflected, "My Maxwell experience, especially knowledge about leadership and international security matters have been the key for my successful career in Mongolian police organization," he states.

Mark J. Cohen '13 E.M.P.A. was recognized by the U.S. Department of State, where he retired at the end of 2021, with a Meritorious Presidential Rank Award in February. The Bureau of Global Talent Management's Office of Performance Evaluation hosted the ceremony where Secretary of State Antony Blinken recognized the Department's recipients and presented the awards. These were first awarded by the President after the establishment of the Senior Executive Service in 1978 and the Senior Foreign Service in 1980, conferred at the President's discretion. The Meritorious Service Award recognizes sustained superior accomplishment.

Annie Sheria Msosa '14 E.M.P.A. is Advocacy Advisor at WaterAid in Malawi.

Fatma Temiz '15 E.M.P.A. is a Labor Expert for the Labor and Social Security Ministry in Ankara, Türkiye.

Young Min Oh '16 E.M.P.A. works for the South Korean Government as a Director in Ministry of Environment and is currently part of an exchange program with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) in Washington, D.C. She is working as a Korean environmental policy expert for 2 or 3 years will then return to her position in the Korean Government.

Oleksiy Anokhin '17 E.M.P.A./E.M.I.R./C.A.S. LINGO/C.A.S. Conflict Resolution became a fellow at the World Economic Forum for 2022-2023, working on a project about opportunities for artificial intelligence in global healthcare, trying to identify how technologies can accelerate the delivery of better results to patients across the globe. Oleksiy states it's a great fit for a Maxwell alum.



▲ **Shri Samar Nanda '20 E.M.P.A./C.A.S.E-Gov/C.A.S. LINGO** reports he is Commissioner Customs Authority for Advance Rulings (CAAR) New Delhi, CBIC, Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance. He was conferred the Presidential Award for Specially Distinguished Record of Service during Republic Day in 2022 by the Government of India. He's been a member of the Indian Revenue Service for 19 years.

Justin Norfleet '21 E.M.P.A. is now working for New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) in Disaster Recovery. The agency works as the liaison between local governments and FEMA to secure public assistance grant funding following federal emergency and disaster declarations.

Graham Kelly '22 E.M.I.R. is an Associate with Senstrom Consulting.

New Tradition Continues Leadership Lessons

In the 3rd annual joint session of PAI 895 (Managerial Leadership), professors Catherine Gerard and Sean O’Keefe offered thoughts on “What Makes Someone a Leader?” Executive Education students, Visiting Executive Scholars and Humphrey fellows heard perspectives on the obligation of leadership and the impact of technology and remote work on leading and managing teams, among

other lessons of leadership. Both professors teach one of the core course requirements of Executive Education. The joint sessions were established to provide a setting outside the classroom for Exec Ed students to connect and have a common experience where they can further consider issues of leadership.



Defense Comptrollership Program Prepares Future Military Comptrollers

The Defense Comptrollership Program has a storied history at Syracuse University and was **highlighted** on Syracuse University’s website in October **and again** in May. There have been more than 2,000 graduates since the 1950s. DCPs complete a dual MBA and EMPA in the specialized 15-month program, the only such program in the U.S.



▲ Daniel Huseman G’22 receiving congratulations from Michael Haynie, vice chancellor for Strategic Initiatives and Innovation, during his cohort’s graduation ceremony in July 2022