Executive Education Welcomes New Students

Executive Education welcomed 15 new students to its executive degree programs for the Spring 2012 semester. These students, hailing from ten countries, are enrolled in the most diverse degrees in program history: Executive Master of Public Administration, Executive Master of International Relations, Certificate of Advanced Study in (CAS) Public Administration in addition to Certificates of Advanced Study in e-Governance, Leadership of International and Non-Governmental Organizations and the department’s newest CAS, Public Infrastructure and Management and Leadership, in conjunction with Syracuse University’s L.C. Smith College of Engineering and Computer Science. The students spent a day in orientation learning about Maxwell (and the all-important Athenian Oath) and program requirements. They had the opportunity to hear from Senior Associate Dean Michael Wasylenko, Executive Education Director Steve Lux in addition to Executive Education Associate Director and PARCC Director Catherine Gerard, and Professor Larry Schroeder. The new students join the 85 other full- and part-time students in Executive Education.

Pictured in the photo above, back: Steve Lux, Director, Executive Education; Ali Isler, Turkey; Fatih Akman, Turkey; Prem Gera, India; Dong Seok Woo, South Korea. Middle: Margaret Lane, Assistant Director, Executive Education; Ahmet Kaya, Turkey; Rekha Gupta, India; Dwi Simanungkalit, Indonesia; Yavuz Ilter, Turkey. Front: Waheed Ahmad, Afghanistan; Sofia Greco, Argentina; Chong Eun Kim, South Korea; Kishan Gangadhara, India. Not pictured: Mohammad Bushahri, Kuwait; Cory Cali, United States and Bayasgalan Nyamdavaa, Mongolia; Blessed Sikhosana (United States/Zimbabwe)
What’s New at Maxwell and in Executive Education

The Maxwell School was once again ranked #1 in graduate schools of public affairs as reported by U.S. News and World Report. Maxwell has held this position since this category was created in 1995. This is very exciting news.

Dean Jim Steinberg has announced the creation of a newly created position, Associate Dean for External Affairs to oversee Maxwell’s alumni, communication, external relations and development efforts. Larry Weinberg, ’77 MPA, was named to this post, bringing with him over 30 years experience in communication, development and nonprofit management expertise.

While students set their sights on final projects, capstone projects and May graduation, we have been busy in Executive Education ensuring past, present and future students are connected to us and each other.

We are proud to announce our inaugural alumni event for CNY and regional NYS alumni to be held April 19 at the Syracuse Center of Excellence (CoE). Special guest is Catherine Gerard, Director of the Program for the Advancement of Research on Conflict and Collaboration (PARCC) and Associate Director of Executive Education. Many of you remember Catherine not only from PARCC, but also from her PPA 895 Leadership Seminar course. Serving as location host for the evening is Mark Lichtenstein, ’05MA (PA), Executive Director of the Syracuse CoE Center for Sustainable Community Solutions. We anticipate future alumni events in various locales!

Another way to stay connected is through the many portals of our Career and Alumni Services. Norma Shannon, Director of Alumni Relations offers details on page 6. We’d also love to keep in touch on our soon-to-be enhanced website, Facebook or LinkedIn.

In the previous newsletter, I wrote of the merging of the Public Administration and International Relations departments into the Department of Public Administration and International Affairs. Beginning with the Fall 2012 semester, students will see one last element of this merger - the combining of course prefixes from PPA and IRP into one, PAI.

Nothing makes Tammy’s day more than to receive an email from you—personal or professional triumphs, updates, celebrations or news. We love hearing from you and I encourage you to stay connected to us and each other—through this newsletter, Facebook, LinkedIn and of course, Tammy!

Sponsor Spotlight: IREX– Muskie Fellowship

Since 2007, Executive Education has partnered with IREX, hosting one or two students per year through the Muskie Graduate Fellowship Program, allowing emerging leaders in former Soviet states to gain knowledge and experience in such fields as public administration and the related fields of environmental policy, public health, and the rule of law. Founded in 1968, IREX works with over 100 partner countries to promote vibrant societies through educational programs at various levels. IREX is the Muskie administrator for this program of the United States Department of State.

Maxwell’s partnership with IREX has resulted in 8 alumni including doctors, professors, and NGO professionals. Past Muskie Fellows in Executive Education have hailed from Georgia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Russia and Kyrgyzstan. Adema Zholdoshbekova, from Kyrgyzstan, is our current Muskie Fellow. The 16-month program includes a summer internship component in addition to fulfilling requirements for the EMPA degree.
Lunar New Year Celebration 2012

In February, Executive Education students, fellows and staff met at Tokyo Seoul Restaurant in a grand celebration of the Lunar New Year. This is a long-standing tradition complete with karaoke. The night was full of fun, good food, and stellar karaoke performances by students, staff and family members alike. This year marks the Year of the Dragon!

Right and below: Executive Education students and fellows enjoyed a winter’s evening celebrating with family and friends the Lunar New Year with delicious Korean food. EMPA, EMIR, CAS, DCP and Humphrey Fellows joined Exec Ed staff in this fun annual tradition. The bravest of the bunch serenaded others with their karaoke renditions. They were fearlessly led by Development Director (and former Executive Education director) Bill Sullivan, as he joined Tokyo Seoul’s proprietor, Mrs. Kim in soulful renditions of some “golden oldies.”
Peer to Peer Speaker Series

Below are topics presented by Executive Education students in Fall 2011 and Spring 2012. Six Humphrey Fellows also presented in the series.

Status Update on the News: How Social and Mainstream Media are Evolving Together
Speaker: Glenn Coin, United States; EMPA

How to Foster Partnerships among the Private Sector, NGOs & Communities in Developing Countries: A Case of Venezuela
Speaker: Enrique Rubio, Venezuela; EMPA

Progressive Governance and Reform: a Case Study of Kenya
Speaker: William Tengecha, Kenya; EMPA

Terrorism and Counterterrorism: A Pakistani Perspective
Speaker: Abdul Jabbar, Pakistan; EMPA

Colombian Civil Society: Partnerships to Fight Corruption
Speaker: Nicolas Hernandez, Colombia; EMPA/Humphrey Fellow alum

India’s Right to Information Act
Speaker: Prem Gera, India; CAS PA

Intergovernmental Relations among Federal, State and Local Governments in the United States
Speaker: Travis Glazier, United States; EMPA

Peer to Peer Speaker Series - Drawing From A Wealth of Experience

Executive Education’s Peer to Peer series introduces a diverse student body to a group of dynamic, experienced individuals presenting on a variety of topics. Peer presenters are students and Fellows in Exec Ed and experts in their respective fields. During Peer to Peer talks, they share overviews, insights and personal stories about issues of social justice, political reform, and much more. The series has been tremendously successful this year—13 events were scheduled and attended by over 400 students, staff and faculty from Maxwell and the broader SU campus.

Above: EMPA Candidate (and Humphrey Fellow alum) Nicolas Hernandez presents “Youth and Partnerships in the Fight Against Corruption: Lessons from Colombia’s Experience.” Nicolas examined the increased need for transparency and accountability in developing countries and discussed strategies, challenges and opportunities of collaboration among public, private and international organizations.

Left: EMPA Candidate Abdul Jabbar discusses “Terrorism and Counterterrorism: A Pakistani Perspective.” He is a career police officer with 12 years experience in Punjab and KPK provinces. Abdul raised questions such as how to break the vicious cycle of violence, if there is a “critical mass” of support in the country for extremists and if the perception is stronger than the realities in regards to Pakistan’s war on terror.

Below, students listen to Peer to Peer presentations in Maxwell. Events have been universally wellattended with active audiences of students and community members from diverse backgrounds in attendance.
Alum Q & A - Miquel Calçada

Miquel Calçada is a 2010 graduate of Executive Education’s EMIR program. Armed with an extensive communications background, Miquel went from being a radio host to establishing a media group with a staff of 110. This organization is dedicated to promoting the Catalan language, culture and issues. Miquel has a B.A. in Journalism from the Universitat Abad Olilia and a Humanities and Law Bacca- laureate degree from Universitat Oberta Catalunya.

News & Views: Could you mention a little bit about what brought you to Maxwell and how your studies here will influence or inform your future career?

Miquel: When I applied to Maxwell, my aim was to gain some insight into the public administration field. My whole professional career had been devoted to the media. During almost thirty years, I achieved many previously proposed objectives. Now, being in the “second” term of my professional life, I felt the need to reorient myself towards public service, and I wanted to do so in the best school for public administration.

News & Views: Has a certain lesson or experience during your time here stood out to you as particularly valuable?

Miquel: During the last decade, I had the chance to travel a lot. I had the opportunity to get to know many different societies. Nevertheless, nothing compares to steadily living abroad. For someone coming from Europe, especially from the Mediterranean region, living in upstate NY necessarily has to be a different experience. At first sight, one could think this is a community with loose connections. However, after almost two years of living in downtown Syracuse, I must confess this is a very committed society. I am now very proud to count myself as part of this society.

News & Views: Can you discuss briefly your recent TV program and how it relates to your time at Maxwell?

Miquel: The recent TV series I had the privilege to host was about visiting our fellow Catalans that live around the world.

I want to convey their visions and their experiences of living abroad, but most of all, I want them to serve as an example of the courage it takes to gain one’s life abroad no matter where one is living. It also happens that every guest we interviewed was also committed to the society he or she was living in. All those experiences made me realize that it was time for me to rejuvenate an old thought I had of working for the community from a politics and public administration corner. Although I have had a lengthy period of management experience in the private sector, I thought I lacked the specific preparation needed to turn my career toward the public sector.

News & Views: If you could only talk about two to three important aspects of your time here, what would they be?

Miquel: I guess from a personal point of view, I have grown up. Moreover, I have devoted a portion of my studies to the conflict resolution field. I have also gained a broad insight into the myriad of job posts in the public sector that one can pursue to make an impact on society. I am now much more aware of the role of international governmental institutions, NGOs and public agencies. Furthermore, as a graduate student at Maxwell, I have been a fortunate witness to the commitment held by American and international civil servants. Undoubtedly, I will keep the Maxwell pledge to leave this society better off than I found it.
Dear Executive Education Alumni:

Maxwell Greetings!
The class of 2012 will shortly be returning home and they are excited to take their place in the global Maxwell alumni network. Please take a few moments to make the most important contribution you can to this important network - update us with your complete home and work contact information. You are an invaluable contact both for the school and your fellow alumni and we don’t want to lose touch!

We’re also interested to hear where you are and what you’re up to! You should have recently received the Perspective Magazine in your mailbox (and if you didn’t, please make sure to follow the link above to update your mailing address), so you’ll know what we’ve been up to, but don’t forget to send us your stories as well.

We’re particularly interested to hear your Maxwell alumni networking stories and we are always looking for new “Alumni in Action” stories and photos. In between issues of the Perspective Magazine, there are lots of ways to keep up with Maxwell news and alums. Here are just a few:

Your Maxwell LinkedIn Group membership is a window into what’s happening at the Maxwell School and the endeavors of your peers. You can post discussion topics, news or job openings and connect directly with your classmates. Easily find and connect with Maxwell alumni, faculty and staff.

Join one of 13 Maxwell Regional Alumni Groups. With over 10,000 graduate alumni worldwide, Maxwell’s regional groups are vital to cultivating local alumni connections and increasing the visibility of the Maxwell School.

Become a Maxwell fan on Facebook and to keep up with your friends and find out what’s happening on campus and in your region.

Get real time news and info by following us on Twitter.

Finally, I’d like to remind you that you can also find your friends and classmates by using SU’s Online Community. Registration for the SU online community is quick and easy. This database contains listings of all Syracuse University alumni, both graduate and undergraduate. Use the advanced search to look for people who are living in a specific location or who work for a specific organization.

Thank you for staying in touch!

Norma Shannon, Director, Alumni Relations
After graduating from the MA-PA program in 2002, Carmen Apaza returned to Peru, where she was appointed National Manager of Customs Enforcement at the National Superintendency of Tax. In 2005, Carmen left to pursue a PhD at the American University, where she graduated with the American University Award for Outstanding Scholarship at the Graduate Level in 2009. Following her graduation, Carmen was hired as an Assistant Professor in public administration at the City University of New York (CUNY). In 2010, Carmen was chosen by the Organization of American States (OAS) to lead administrative reforms in the Americas. In 2011, she published "Integrity and Accountability in Government – Homeland Security and the Inspector General" in addition to a White Paper on Comparative Public Structure Reforms. She is currently promoting an Inter-American Mechanism for Effective Public Management, which she hopes will help nations achieve better effectiveness in government.

Dr. Sanjay Chahande, '10 (EMPA) is presently the Director General of YASHADA State’s apex training and resource industry. Additionally, Dr. Chahande serves as the Vice Chancellor of the University of Pune, a prestigious university in India. It was at the University where he recently met U.S. Deputy Secretary of State William Burns. (to complete this “small world” picture, Deputy Secretary Burns recently spoke at Maxwell in an event sponsored by the Moynihan Institute of Global Affairs and the Moynihan European Research Centers.)

Hadjio Abd Abdoulmoumine, '01 (MA-PA) has been appointed as Ambassador Extraordinaire of Niger to the country of Ghana. This picture shows Hadjio meeting with the President of Ghana, Mr. John Atta Mills. She sends her best wishes and love to all!

Kurian Thomas, a 2011 graduate of Maxwell’s EMPA program, now works with the Fetzer Institute in Michigan, as the lead for Governance and NGO advisory councils at the Institute. After graduating from the MA-PA program in 2000, Carmen Apaza returned to Peru, where she was appointed National Manager of Customs Enforcement at the National Superintendency of Tax. In 2005, Carmen left to pursue a PhD at the American University, where she graduated with the American University Award for Outstanding Scholarship at the Graduate Level in 2009. Following her graduation, Carmen was hired as an Assistant Professor in public administration at the City University of New York (CUNY). In 2010, Carmen was chosen by the Organization of American States (OAS) to lead administrative reforms in the Americas. In 2011, she published "Integrity and Accountability in Government – Homeland Security and the Inspector General" in addition to a White Paper on Comparative Public Structure Reforms. She is currently promoting an Inter-American Mechanism for Effective Public Management, which she hopes will help nations achieve better effectiveness in government.

Youngsoo Kim, '01 (MA-PA) has recently been hard at work establishing the Korean Cultural Center (in 2011) in Sydney, Australia to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Australian – Korean relations. He is presently back in Korea, working at the Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Tourism. Youngsoo states he treasured his Maxwell experience during his intense years as the Director of the Korean Cultural Center in Australia.

Sungyeol Shin (Phil), '11 (EMPA) reports that Maxwell has a strong presence in South Korea’s Ministry of Public Administration and Security (MOPAS). Pil-Eon Seo ’96 (MA-PA) and Sam-Kul Lee, ’97 (MA-PA) are Vice Ministers at MOPAS, where Phil has been working since graduation. MOPAS and Executive Education have had a wonderful relationship through the years.

Sungyeol (Phil) Shin Pil-Eon Seo Sam-Kul Lee
Hearing from our fantastic alumni is one of the most rewarding parts of my job. Please keep us up to date on your news, accomplishments - both personal and professional! Photos are always welcome.

Our next newsletter will go out over the summer, so it’s never too early to drop us a line! We’d love to help spread the news.

2000’s:
Hien Thanh Huynh, ’00 (MA-PA), is currently working in the U.S., for the Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC), on a project in partnership with Georgetown University. Her daughter is completing her bachelor’s degree in science, and has only one more year to finish her degree. Hien sends her best regards to everyone who remembers her, especially her Maxwell family!

Elona Konomi, ’01 (MA-PA) published a book in 2010 called “The Art of Leading People” which features interviews with a dozen executives working in Albania. She currently serves as the Dean of Student Affairs at the University of New York Tirana in Albania.

KyungJin Park, ’06, has a new position with the Onondaga County Public Library as Director of Internal Services and also is serving as the President of the CNY Korean Association in Syracuse.

Ashok Singh, ’08 (EMPA) is currently working on the world’s largest biometric ID project as a Deputy Director General with the Unique Identification Authority of India. He also serves as the head of the Financial Inclusion Initiative.

Ron Fairbank, ’02 (MA-PA) retired from United Technologies Carrier in 2006 after 37 years. Ron still resides in the Syracuse Area and is currently a Member Veterans Advisory Board Onondaga County War Memorial & On-Center.

2010’s:
Jess Luce, ’10 (EMPA), has started a new job as Dakota County’s Supervisor of the County’s Communities for a Lifetime Aging Initiative in Minnesota.

Sisi Zheng, ’10 (EMPA), currently facilitates a local NGO leaders network based in Hangzhou, China. She also facilitates a national volunteer-based grassroots NGO of 700 members.

Karen Hubbard ’07 (MBA/EMPA) of the Defense Comptroller Program (DCP) is currently serving with the U.S. Security Cooperation Mission in Iraq (OSC-1). She sent along this briefing about their mission as of February 2012. [http://www.state.gov/s/dmr/remarks/2012/183598.htm]

Gilford Sun-On Law, ’07 MA-PA, is now the Press Secretary to the Chief Secretary for Administration in the Hong Kong Government.

Kunhui Cai (Charles), ’07 (MA-PA) is home, working for the Xiamen Government in China on energy conservation.

As graduation approaches in a month, it’s always an exciting yet bittersweet time for us here in Executive Education. We are thrilled to add to the ranks of our alumni, but always a little sad to see students return home. That is why staying connected to us and each other is so important. I wish you continued success in all your endeavors and look forward to hearing from you in the future!

With best wishes,
Twelve Executive Education students were honored at a graduation celebration held at the Schine Student Center in December. These graduates earned either an Executive MPA or a Certificate of Advanced Study in Public Administration and hail from Egypt, India, Philippines, Russia and the United States.

Two students were selected to represent their colleagues and offered a perspective of their Maxwell experience. Janetta Akhilgova, of Russia, remarked how she learned as much from her colleagues in classes as from faculty members. She also reminisced about the array of courses, the challenges and rewards of group work as well as knowledge gained and lessons learned. Amy Kremenek, from the Syracuse area, recalled the Athenian Oath that graces the first floor of Maxwell Hall: “we will transmit this city not only not less, but greater, better and more beautiful than it was transmitted to us.” She encouraged her fellow graduates will take this oath back to their own countries as world citizens.

Public Administration Professor Larry Schroeder was the feature speaker of the evening. Because of the Executive Education students’ rich and varied experiences, he appreciates their perspective, which sometimes challenges theoretical assumptions. He reflected that graduation was not an end nor a beginning, but a continuation- where graduates now have a much better understanding of public policy analysis issues, public management and human capital perspectives.

Fellow students, friends, family, faculty and Executive Education staff were on hand to congratulate all on a job well done.