



2009-2010

Master of Public Administration Annual Report



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MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM



DR. MICHAEL O. ADAMS

DIRECTOR OF THE MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM

Greetings!

The 2009-2010 academic year was a period of continued “Excellence in Achievement,” the Barbara Jordan – Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs Master of Public Administration (MPA) Program.

We continued to develop several MPA programs, including the Dual MPA/Juris Doctorate Program with the Thurgood Marshall School of Law and the MPA E-Governance Center.

Significant progress was achieved in our effort to secure accreditation from the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration (NASPAA). The following report is a summary of the activities and success of the faculty and students of the MPA Program.

We are looking forward to even more success during the 2010-2011 academic year. We welcome your suggestions and support.

With kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael O. Adams". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dr. Michael O. Adams
Director of the MPA Program

BACKGROUND

Texas Southern University is a state-supported institution of higher education established by the Fiftieth Texas Legislature on March 3, 1947, under the provisions of Senate Bill 140. This legislation authorized the University to offer programs in a number of areas including pharmacy, dentistry, arts and sciences, journalism, education, literature, law, medicine, and other professional courses. A subsequent enabling act and other legislation stipulated that these courses shall be equivalent to those offered at other institutions of this type supported by the State of Texas and that upon demand by qualified applicants and upon meeting the stipulations of the Act, the University shall, at all times, offer educational opportunities equal to and comparable with those offered by other institutions of its type supported by the State of Texas.

In 1973, the Sixty-Third Texas Legislature designated Texas Southern University a special purpose institution of higher education in urban programming. The following year, in 1974, the Coordinating Board of the Texas College and University System approved the establishment of a School of Public Affairs which was authorized to offer the Master of Public Administration degree. This new program helped the University fulfill its role as a special purpose institution.

The Master of Public Administration Program has a rich history of excellence since its inception. In 1975, the program received a \$100,000 grant from the Ford Foundation of New York. The School of Public Affairs continued to excel with the establishment of the first academic chair at Texas Southern University in the name of Dr. Ralph J. Bunche. Along with this establishment was a journal, which the inaugural volume, in 1976, included the writings of Herbert A. Simon, Dwight Waldo, Donald C. Stone, Jeffalyn Johnson, E. Paul Mwaluko, and Lerone Bennett, Jr. Additionally, the Texas Southern University MPA Program has a long associated involvement with NASPAA, where the founding dean of the program, Dr. Walter McCoy, was elected to serve on the Executive Council of NASPAA in 1977. Dr. Walter McCoy had a close working relationship with Dwight Waldo concerning matters of Public Administration. Because of this working relationship, Dwight Waldo served as a consultant to the establishment of the MPA Program. Additionally, Dr. McCoy received the first COMPA award for outstanding Public Administrator. The MPA Program has produced six Presidential Management Interns/Fellows since its inception.

PROGRAM MISSION

The MPA Program has as its purpose the preparation of professionals for immediate upward mobility in professional careers in public sectors or for graduate study where the nature of the profession requires the master's degree as the entry criterion. Its greatest single asset lies in its potential to alleviate the shortage of professionally educated persons, especially those from minority groups, in local, state, national and international public service.

The program is designed to prepare professionals to resolve the increasingly complex problems of managing urban growth. It is intended to respond to the increasing importance of planning and management as major instruments in improving and developing solutions to problems of cities and metropolitan regions. The program seeks to give students a balance inventory of conceptual, quantitative and professional skills.

To this end, the program’s curricular objectives are to:

1. Educate students on analytical approaches to decision-making in the managerial sciences.
2. Provide students with problem solving skills and analytical competencies that are relevant to management positions.
3. Emphasize knowledge of the workings of governmental and non-governmental organizations.
4. Develop the student’s ability to make use of academic research.
5. Provide a foundation in computer and information technology.
6. Sharpen writing and oral communication skills.
7. Emphasize knowledge of basic management processes and techniques.

NASPAA ACCREDITATION

“The process demonstrably emphasizes public values; reaffirms mission-based accreditation to ensure a wide range approaches to preparing students for professional public service... Limiting the missions of accredited MPA programs to such efforts would greatly limit the market for and the utility of the MPA degree. Indeed, this would be a long way from education for “public service”; rather, in this respect, the report proposes education for American government. The world seeks leadership in public administration education, and NASPAA has the experience and wisdom to lead.”

-Jeffrey A. Raffel, University of Delaware
Journal of Public Affairs Education

“Looking Forward: A Response to ASPA Task Force Report on Educating for Excellence in the MPA”

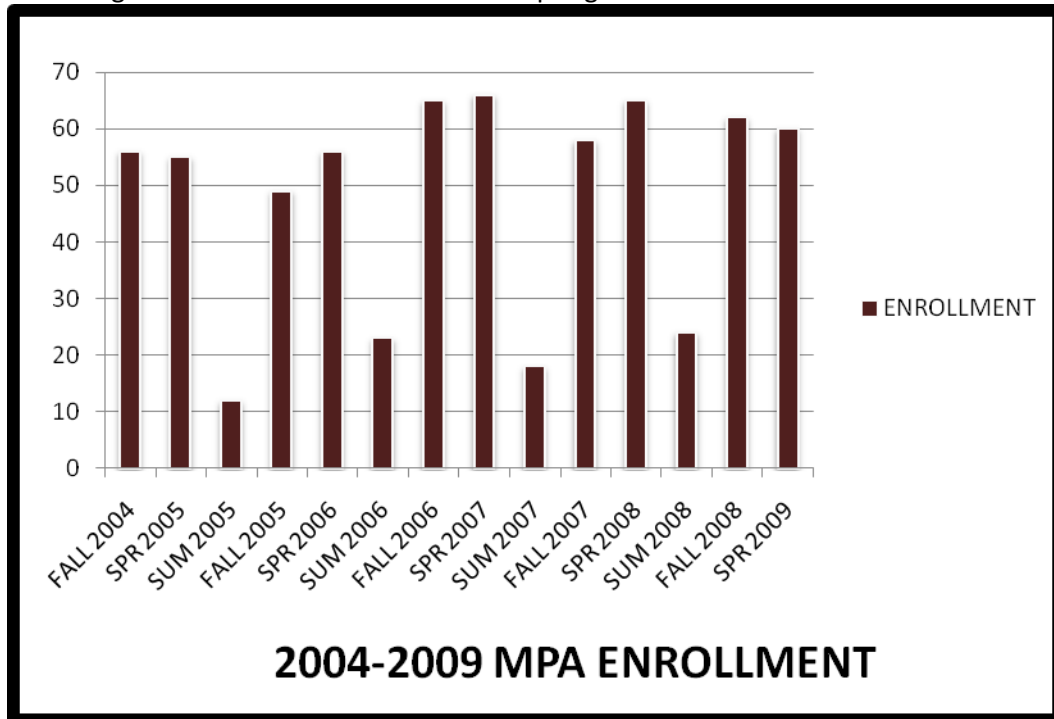
The Master of Public Administration program is currently seeking accreditation from the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration. Upon receipt of the NASPAA accreditation, the MPA program at Texas Southern University will be the only MPA program accredited in the Houston Metropolitan area.

In August 2007, the MPA Program submitted a self-study for program accreditation to NASPAA. In March 2008, the MPA program underwent a Site Team Visit. The main objective of this site team was to evaluate information indicated in the self-study report and determine whether the MPA Program was compliant with NASPAA standards accreditation should be granted.

The National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration (NASPAA), founded in 1970 and incorporated in 1977, serves as a national and international resource for the promotion of excellence in education and training for public service. Its institutional membership includes more than 260 U.S. and Non- U.S. university programs in public affairs, public policy, public administration, and public management.

ENROLLMENT DATA

MPA Program Enrollment Data: Fall 2004 – Spring 2009



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The general requirements for the Master of Public Administration are:

1. Completion of 48 credit hours, 24 of which will be core courses. In addition to the core requirements, students are required to take 12 hours in specialization courses and take a one semester full-time internship worth 6 credit hours. The remaining 6 hours may be satisfied by electives.
2. A degree plan should be prepared during the first semester of graduate work. Each student will consult with his or her academic advisor to prepare the degree plan. This plan should be drawn up and submitted to the Graduate School for approval no later than the beginning of the second semester in residence.
3. Satisfactory performance on the comprehensive examination. The comprehensive examination will be administered on scheduled days during the months of March and October. A student is eligible to take the exam if he or she has: a) earned a 3.0 graduate GPA in Public Administration courses and a cumulative GPA of 3.0; b) completed all core course requirements; c) no outstanding incompletes; and d) filed a degree plan.
4. Fulfillment of general graduation requirements as outlined by the Graduate School.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Core Courses (24 Hours)

PAD 500	Public Administration Theories and Practice
PAD 502	Research Methods in Public Administration
PAD 503	Quantitative Methods I
PAD 504	Quantitative Methods II
PAD 507	Seminars in Organizational Theory
PAD 509	Computer Applications in Public Administration
PAD 631	Government Budgeting and Financial Management
PAD 640	Public Personnel Administration: Theory and Practice

Specialization Courses (12 Hours)

Students must take 12 hours of coursework in one of the following specialization areas: public policy, human resources, or international and development administration.

Public Policy

PAD 620	The Policy Making Process
PAD 621	Social Researches and Social Policy
PAD 622	Science, Technology and Public Policy
PAD 623	Public Policy Analytical Methods
PAD 624	Issues on Aging

Human Resources

PAD 641	Human Resources and Organizational Planning
PAD 642	Labor Relations and Collective Bargaining
PAD 705	Topical Seminar
Elective	

International and Developmental Administration

PAD 660	Introductions to International Development
PAD 661	Selected Topics in Comparative International Development
PAD 662	Comparative Public Administration Developing Nations
PAD 663	Seminars on Developing Societies

Electives (6 Hours)

PAD 501	Leadership and Decision Making
PAD 506	Program Evaluations
PAD 508	Administrative Regulations
PAD 630	Public Financial Management
PAD 633	Managerial Finance: Analytical Methods
PAD 650	Intergovernmental Relations
PAD 651	Urban Administrative Systems
PAD 652	Human Services Administration

Electives in other departments may be counted toward the 6 required hours given the approval of the student's faculty advisor and program coordinator. Common MPA elective areas include business administration, urban planning and environmental policy, law and transportation management.

Internship (6 Hours)

PAD 700 Internship in Public Administration

Upon completion of twenty-four (24) semester hours of graduate-course work, a student will be eligible to enroll in the internship program. The internship provides an opportunity for students to gain field experience in the public sector field.

The primary goals of the internship are:

1. To provide students an opportunity to test and expand classroom learning under the guidance and teaching of a practitioner supervisor.
2. To demonstrate how knowledge affects problem-solving, interpersonal interactions, communications, and task achievement.
3. To provide those without administrative/management experience a practical working introduction to the profession.
4. To expose students to the organizational culture of an employing agency as it interacts with its total environment - economic, social, political, and technological subsystems.
5. To enhance personal and professional development through interpersonal relations with individuals who are achievers in their careers.

MPA/JD DUAL DEGREE PROGRAM INITIATIVE

The Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs (BJ-ML SPA) offers a Dual Master of Public Administration (MPA)/Juris Doctorate Degree (JD) Program in coordination and partnership with the Thurgood Marshall School of Law at Texas Southern University. The program allows graduate students to combine advanced public administration education with legal training.

The program is intended for students who want to obtain mastery of the administrative and legal aspects of public administration in the public, private and non-profit sectors in order to enhance or expand their career options.

The program allows students to complete the requirements for the two degrees in four years instead of five years, if pursued separately.

ADMISSION PROCEDURES

The MPA/JD Dual Degree Program is open to holders of baccalaureate degrees from accredited colleges or universities.

Applicants to the program must meet the entrance requirements and follow the application procedures administered by the Texas Southern University Graduate School (www.tsu.edu), the BJ-ML SPA MPA Program and the Thurgood Marshall School of Law (www.tsu.edu/academics/law).

Dual Degree Program participants will have to satisfy the same admission requirements as applicants for the stand-alone Master of Public Administration (MPA) and Juris Doctorate (JD) programs. Admission to the Dual Degree Program shall be open to all MPA and law students who are academically eligible under the TSU Graduate School, MPA Program and Thurgood Marshall School of Law Rules.

MPA students wishing to enroll in the Dual Degree Program must petition the MPA Program Director. Such petition shall state why the student wishes to enroll in the program and include a proposed plan for completing all course work and other requirements within four (4) years. Students who have not submitted this petition will not be considered Dual Degree candidates.

Although students may apply for either the MPA or JD program at any time during their course of study, **students must be admitted to both programs before completing either program.**

Continuation in the Dual Degree Program shall be dependent upon the student's satisfactory academic progress in each of the dual fields. Incomplete work or other evidence of unsatisfactory academic progress may lead to a decision by the MPA Program Director to reduce the student's workload directed towards the law degree. Continued unsatisfactory progress may result in dismissal from the Dual Degree Program.

DUAL DEGREE MPA REQUIREMENTS

Students enrolled in the Dual Degree Program must successfully complete the substantive twenty-four (24) hours Core MPA curriculum and nine (9) hours in one of the three Specialization Areas - Public Policy, Human Resources or International and Development Administration.

Fifteen (15) credit hours of successfully completed course work from the law school will be accepted for application towards completion of the MPA Degree. (A student must have earned a grade of 2.0 or better for the course to be accepted for credit towards completion of the MPA degree.)

The course schedules for the Dual Program must be approved by the program advisor in each area and each school will establish the procedures for such approvals.

A student must also:

1. Maintain a 2.0 cumulative GPA in the JD portion of the program.
2. Successfully complete the writing and optional oral defense requirements of the JD portion of the program.
3. Register for all required law school courses on a full-time basis and in the sequence established by the Law School faculty. (Concurrent enrollment in the courses of either school is permitted only after the completion of the first year JD curriculum.)
4. Complete all the requirements for the MPA portion of the dual program within four (4) years of the initial enrollment in the program.
5. Complete all the requirements for the JD portion of the dual degree within four (4) years of the initial enrollment in the program.

Comply with the academic regulations of each school, including those related to the minimum GPA and scholastic discipline. (The computation of the cumulative GPA in each program (JD and MPA) is based on all the courses that would be taken into consideration to award each degree.)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Dr. Eugene Barrington and Dr. Michael O. Adams updated the MPA course inventory in the Human Resources Specialization with the following:
 - Creation of Human Resources and Employee Benefits (PAD 643)
 - Creation of Special Topics in Human Resource Management (PAD 644)
 - Creation of Capstone Evaluation Seminar (PAD 710)
- The MPA Faculty is developing an Emergency Management and Homeland Security Administration specialization track.
- Hired Dr. Ponmile Olonilua, an expert on Emergency Management, who was awarded a summer fellowship and is certified in Emergency Management and Evacuation.
- Dr. Michael O. Adams was chosen as an “Academic Fellow” with The Foundation for the Defense of Democracies (FDD), a non-partisan policy institute headquartered in Washington, D.C. and traveled to Tel Aviv, Israel at the beginning of June 2008 for an intensive course in terrorism studies, and in particular, how democracies can defeat the worldwide terrorist threat.
- Professor Carroll Robinson is involved in Emergency Management as a Co-Principal Investigator for the Texas Southern University Homeland Security National Transportation Security of Excellence.



Australia.



- Dr. Michael O. Adams and MPA Alumni Linda D. Smith presented a research paper entitled, “Changing the Face of Public Affairs: A Look at How Social Networking is Impacting the Business of the Public Sector,” at Texas Southern University during Research Week 2009 and at the Western Social Science Association Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- “Migration, Immigration and the Politics of Livable Space: Immigration and Local Housing Issues in the United States,” a paper by Dr. Michael O. Adams was presented at the Australian and New Zealand American Studies Association in Sydney, Australia.
- The MPA/JD Degree Program Initiative, led by Dr. Michael O. Adams and Professor Carroll Robinson resulted in the joint admission of MPA students: Quonna Coleman, Camille Foster and approximately five or more law students. A MPA/JD Dual Degree forum was also held for interested MPA and law students.

- Dr. Zuberi Mwamba has annually participated in the Tanzania Study Abroad Program where International and Comparative Public Administration were emphasized. MPA Students, Linda Smith, Wendy Green and Sonja Ross were participants in the study abroad program.
- Dr. Michael O. Adams presented his paper entitled, “E-Government and Those Left behind: An Analysis of Potential Marginalization Caused by the Government’s use of Technology” at the Teaching & Learning Conference, in San Juan Puerto Rico.
- The MPA Program, in collaboration with the Green Collaborative, hosted Earth Day 2009 and conducted a special showing of “An Inconvenient Truth,” which was followed by a panel discussion.
- Dr. Michael O. Adams presented his paper entitled, “New Public Management and Information Technology and the 21st Century” at the International Conference on Applied Business and Economics Conference at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, in Thessaloniki, Greece.
- The Master of Public Administration program, led by Director Dr. Michael O. Adams, will soon implement an Online Executive MPA Program in the Barbara Jordan – Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs. The purpose of the Online Executive MPA Program will focus on human resources, public policy, emergency management, and non-profit management and administration.
- Dr. Eugene Barrington and Dr. Zuberi Mwamba attended the 30th Convention of Southern Conference on African American Studies, Inc. in Charlotte, North Carolina, where they served as facilitators of a roundtable discussion of Barbara Jordan and Mickey Leland.
- Dr. Michael O. Adams was chosen as the 2008 Research Scholar of the Year in the Texas Southern University Barbara Jordan – Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs for his outstanding accomplishments in research.
- With research contributions by Dr. Michael O. Adams, Professor Carroll Robinson and MPA Alumni Linda D. Smith, the MPA E-Governance Center was established to promote a partnership among the Texas Southern University community and local, state and federal governments and focus on the intersections between the public sector and the use of information and technology in society by individuals, organizations and government. The center received the support of Dr. Alvin J. Schexnider, President of Schexnider and Associates, LLC.
- Dr. Michael O. Adams, along with Prairie View A & M University Professor Gbolahan S. Osho co-authored the book entitled, “Public Administration (Kendall Hunt).”
- “The Politics and Political Implications of Oil and Gas Exploration in Africa: An Analysis of American Oil Corporations in Nigeria,” written by Dr. Michael O. Adams, was published in the *International Business and Economics Research Journal*.



- Dr. Ponmile Olonilua was chosen to serve as a panelist for the Natural Hazards Workshop, which focused on Planning for Disaster in Disadvantaged Communities at the Natural Hazards Center Institute of Behavioral Science for the University of Colorado at Boulder.
- Dr. Michael O. Adams and Professor Carroll Robinson were chosen as 2009 Advanced Placement (AP) Readers and attended the AP Reading in Daytona, Florida. Here the professors have an intensive collegial exchange, in which they can receive professional support and training.
- Dr. Michael O. Adams and graduate student, Sabria Lapps presented “Cloud Computing: Taking Historically Black Institutions to the Frontiers of Technology and Severing an Institutional Divide” and “E-Governance: The Digital Revolution and the Digital Divide, Who Participates in the Developing World” at Texas Southern University’s 2010 Research Week, held in April 2010.
- Professor Carroll G. Robinson presented “The Department of Homeland Security and Public Administration Theory: Insightful Concepts and Frameworks” at Texas Southern University’s 2010 Research Week, held in April 2010.
- Dr. Michael O. Adams was chosen to speak on the subject of minority public administrators at the American Political Science Association annual meeting on in Toronto, Canada, where political scientists from all fields of inquiry, regions, and occupational endeavors expand awareness and the understanding of politics.
- Kendrack Lewis, MPA Candidate, attended the 63rd New York State Political Science Association conference, where student scholars from across the country presented research in panel submissions and individually on topics related to political science and associated disciplines such as history, philosophy, sociology, psychology, gender studies, and economics.
- Dr. Michael O. Adams attended the World Academy of Science, Engineering and Technology, in Paris, France, where presented research on E-Governance, as he has been actively involved in the internationalization of Public Administration.
- The American Political Science Association selected Dr. Michael O. Adams to present research on minority recruitment and retention. The research, entitled, “Black Faculty Recruitment and Retention: The Impact of the Economic Crisis” was presented at the American Political Science Association Conference Toronto, Canada, September 2-6, 2009.
- Professor Carroll Robinson and Dr. Michael O. Adams published an op-ed in the Houston Chronicle on September 19, 2009, on the City of Houston developing a plan of action for withstanding economic downturns.
- Dr. Michael O. Adams, Professor of Political Science and Linda D. Smith, Master of Public Administration (MPA) Alumna and Adjunct Professor of Public Affairs in the Barbara Jordan – Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs recently published in the National Social Science Journal. The publication entitled “Changing the Face of Public Affairs: A Look at How Social Networking is Impacting the Business of the Public Sector,” focuses on the formulation of social networks as a new phenomenon and how these online communities have transformed not only the internet,



but the way organizations both public and private operate. Dr. Adams and Ms. Smith also presented the publication at the Western Social Science Association Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico, in 2009.

- Dr. Michael O. Adams, Professor

Carroll Robinson, Dr. Antoinette Spears Christophe, all Professors of Public Administration, along with MPA graduate student, Sabria Lapps, participated in the 68th Annual Midwest Political Science Association National Conference. The national conference, held in Chicago, Illinois, April 22-25, 2010, allowed participants from across the United States to present research for publication on various topics, bombarding the political science and public administration arenas. Drs. Adams, Christophe and Professor Robinson presented two papers. The first paper was entitled, “E-Governance: Facilitating Coordination in Disaster Management.” The second publication presented, titled, “Improving Disaster Mitigation and Recovery Effort Via Information Technology (IT) and E-Governance,” focused on the support of multi-level governments to disaster organizations and the linkage to e-government. Dr. Adams, along with MPA graduate student, Sabria Lapps also presented a paper at the national conference. The publication was titled, “Immigration and the United States Housing Market: A New Movement in the 21st Century” and concentrated on the context of contemporary migrant flows to the United States and new trends in urban environments.