

# The MPA Messenger

Master of Public Administration, University of Alaska Anchorage

Spring 1999



**Summer**



## Performance Measurement Class

Drs. Naomi and Gerald Caiden will present three one-unit classes Summer 1999. Section I will review the recent developments in performance measures. Section II will involve practical applications and III will examine use of performance measures in auditing and budgeting. Students can take individual classes or all three. They will be all day classes meeting Thursday and Friday - June 24-25; July 8-9; and July 15-16. The Caidens are both internationally known scholars with extensive experience consulting for the United Nations, the World Bank, the US General Accounting Offices, as well as various countries around the world. There will also be a half-day workshop available for those who can't make the classes. For more information contact Public Administration Department chair Dr. Steven Aufrecht at 786-1908 or [afsea@uaa.alaska.edu](mailto:afsea@uaa.alaska.edu).

## MPA Cooperation between Juneau and Anchorage

A new era of cooperation between University of Alaska Southeast (UAS) and University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) begins as Jonathan Anderson and Steven Aufrecht, new chairs of the public administration programs in Juneau and Anchorage respectively, have joined forces to provide better access to public administration education in the state of Alaska. The two programs have established a list of areas where they can work cooperatively. They are currently coordinating course numbers and course titles to make it easier for students who take courses in both programs. The two programs have agreed to add Elmendorf AFB to the list of military bases receiving UAS' satellite course offerings. Aufrecht predicts that, "We can maximize opportunities for students through sharing faculty and taking advantage of new communication technology."

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## Alumni News

### Hope Surveys Arctic Shipwrecks



Preparing for helicopter ride to the Polar Star.

**Michele Hope's** (1987) was one of the more exciting stories of how our alumni spent their summer vacations. In the last two weeks of August Michele was searching for shipwrecks under the Arctic Ocean. Actually Michele was at work, as the team archeologist for Project

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## Faculty Activities

**Greg Protasel's** "State Revenues and the State Budget: Self-Inflicted Problems?" will be published this year in Clive S. Thomas, (ed.) Alaska Public Policy Issues: Background and Perspectives in May 1999. He also presented a paper on "The Impact of Local Government on the Development of the Russian North: Problems and Prospects," at the 38th Annual Meeting, Remote Regions/Northern Development Sessions, Western Regional Science Association, Ojai. Dr. Protasel's also one the speakers in a series of informal seminars by UAA faculty members who are exploring The Evolution of Complex Systems. His topic is "Managing Complexity" and will be given April 23, 1999 10:30-11:45 at the Campus Center 105. He is also the first MPA faculty member to set up a website, check it out at:

<http://nero.scob.uaa.alaska.edu/~afgjp>

**Sharman Haley** is currently co-authoring with anthropologist Taylor Brelford a paper on cross-cultural issues in village administration, which she presented at the Western Regional Science Association meeting in Ojai California in late February. She completed a report for the Environmental Protection Agency and Alaska Native Health Board evaluating five demonstration grant projects concerning rural sanitation systems operations and maintenance. She has recently submitted a paper "Estimating Worker Satisfaction Bonus: An Application of the Random Utility Model" to the Journal of Labor Economics. The paper pioneers an econometric method to empirically estimate the value of non-pecuniary job attributes for crew in two Cook Inlet salmon fisheries.

**Steven Aufrecht** conducted a 16-hour Ethics workshop for the Municipality of Anchorage in March and will conduct a one-day workshop on ethics for Leadership, Anchorage in April.

His paper, "Missing: Native American Governance in Public Administration Literature" was accepted for publication in the forthcoming

edition of American Review of Public Administration. The abstract follows:

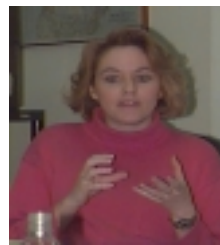
### **Abstract: "Missing: Native American Governance in Public Administration Literature"**

**By Dr Steven Aufrecht**

Native American tribes have a unique status in American law, and Native organizations increasingly assert their rights in a variety of areas from adoption to fishing to gambling. State, local, and federal officials must work with these groups to work out the inevitable conflicts that arise. Yet the public administration literature almost completely ignores the topic of Native American governance. This article begins by documenting that absence, speculates on why the topic is missing, then goes on to identify five reasons that the topic should be included: to assist US public administrators; to serve Native American constituents; to assist Native American administrators; to ensure that research on Natives is done ethically; and to enrich public administration theory. Finally, the author argues for adopting a culturally sensitive approach using examples from education and public administration of how this might be done.

## Student News

**Sheri Baxter** recently returned from a day of interviews for the Presidential Management Internship program. This prestigious program seeks the best MPA graduates from around the country for a two-year internship in the Federal government. *\*\*Late breaking news, Sheri is now a finalist.\*\**



**Karl Thoennes** has moved to Long Prairie, Minnesota to take the position of court administrator for Todd County, Minnesota. He's completing his last class in the program via audio conference.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### CAPSTONE PRESENTATIONS

PLACE:: **BEB 211**

DATE & TIME:: **APRIL 23, 1999, 9:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.**

In their final course of the PADM program, students must locate public sector clients and study and analyze an issue or problem the client identifies. This is their presentation on the conclusion of their work. If you would like to attend contact Dr Sharman Haley at 786-7741.

### GRADUATION

Support our program graduates on the afternoon of May 9th at Sullivan Arena.

### ASPA SCHOLARSHIP IN HONOR OF JOHN STAFFORD

Applications are due May 15th. For more information contact Dr. Steve Aufrecht.

### INSPECTOR GENERAL/ASPA DINNER

The American Society for Public Administration invites everyone to attend the classic Russian play, Inspector General, on April 18th. Following the play there will be a short discussion. Make reservations by April 9th and get tickets for \$10, late tickets will be \$12. Call Pat at 786-4127.

### GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIP

June 1st is the deadline to apply for the PADM graduate assistantship for Fall 99. Interested students should contact Dr. Steve Aufrecht.

## Keep up with MPA News Electronically

Want all the hot news and information on upcoming events, job opportunities, or internships? Then subscribe to the MPA Mailserv. Simply send an email message to [mailserv@uaa.alaska.edu](mailto:mailserv@uaa.alaska.edu). The message should state "subscribe uaampa insert your email address here." We are currently updating our Website. The new URL link will be: <http://gaius.cbpp.uaa.alaska.edu/mpa/>



PADM 624 Students engaged in a group task.

Alumni News Continued from page 1

Jeremy on the US Coast Guard icebreaker Polar Star, along with scientists and students from NASA, Ames Research Center, and other Agencies. They undertook a survey of the Chukchi Sea off the coast of Barrow. The mission used an underwater remotely operated vehicle (RPV) developed by NASA and Santa Clara University using Mars Pathfinder technology to survey for wrecks from the 19th Century whaling industry. Coast Guard and Navy divers were used to verify shipwreck sites located with the RPV. For more information, check out the Project Jeremy website:

<http://quest.arc.nasa.gov/arctic>

Michele credits her MPA as a factor that helped prepare her for assignments like this one. Her MPA also contributed to her selection by the Minerals Management Service, where she serves as the Alaska Region Archeologist and Program Analyst, to participate in the 1998-99 class of Women's Executive Leadership Program in the Graduate School of the US Department of Agriculture. (She said to say that men are also allowed in the program!)



Mapping positions of shipwrecks using GPS.

Congratulations to 1998 MPA graduates **Lynn Wallis** and **Skeeter Bird**. Lynn was recently selected to serve as Executive Director of Alaska Nursing Association and her capstone project led to a seat on the Anchorage Budget Advisory Council. Skeeter accepted the position as Finance Officer for the Army National Guard.

**Allen Kemplen**, a 1985 graduate of the MPA program, was successful in his reelection bid for the Alaska State House.

## Summer 1999 Classes

**PADM 628 Administration of Financial Resources** – A core PADM course that covers five general topics: budgeting, policy-making, accounting, financing and managing.

**PADM 671 Performance Measures** – See page 1 for course details.

## Fall 1999 Classes

**PADM 601 PA in Contemporary Society** – Another core course, giving an overview of the field of PA and developing the analytical skills necessary for graduate study. Emphasis is on understanding the underlying issues – the role of government, power, decision making, ways of knowing, measurement, organizational structure, ethics/accountability –and learning to use theoretical models in actual situations.

**PADM 603 Management Analysis** – Develops basic management skills and introduces system theory, systems analysis, operations research, and management information systems. Emphasizes practical tasks of management planning and problem solving, and includes student projects focusing on real world management problems.

**PADM 606 Policymaking Process** – A core course that develops a general framework for analyzing policymaking. The class focuses on specific aspects of policy-making including the process of setting the policy agenda; the impact of the various stakeholders on the policy-making

process; the relationship between policy sciences and democracy; and finally, the role of citizens in the policymaking process.

**PADM 624 Human Resources Administration** – Develops skills in techniques of personnel administration and considers issues of human resources development in public organizations. Examines recruitment, selection, training, motivation, performance evaluation, and career development. Also analyzes current personnel issues such as pay equity and reductions in force.

**ECON 625 Economics & Public Policy** – Another core PADM course. It examines economics as both a determinant of public policy and as a tool of public administration. Topics include how markets allocate resources; role of government in a market economy; market failures; and problems of efficiency vs. equity.

**PADM 640 Alternative Dispute Resolution** – Reviews literature and principles of alternative dispute resolution. Focuses on negotiation and mediation as ways to resolve individual conflicts, group conflicts, and public disputes.

**PADM 671 Non-Profit Management**  
This course will review the issues facing non-profit agencies. Successful non-profit managers will present strategies they have used to overcome them. (This is 3 unit course - the fall schedule is incorrect.)

**Detailed schedule information is available at <http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/enroll/catalog.html> or by calling 786-1908.**

University of Alaska Anchorage  
College of Business & Public Policy  
Public Administration  
3211 Providence Drive  
Anchorage, Alaska 99508-8244

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