



Newsletter

Making links between research and practice in the cultural policy sector by Monica Gattinger

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I am currently on sabbatical here at the Master's of Public Policy Program from my home institution in Ottawa. While here, I have the luxury of focusing on my research and the privilege of working in a different (and welcoming!) academic environment. I am working on two research projects, the first examining democratic legitimacy in Canada-United States policy relations, and the second, on which this text focuses, on comparative provincial cultural policy.

With Professor Diane Saint-Pierre (INRS, Université de Québec), I am co-directing a study team of nineteen researchers from eleven universities examining the origin and evolution of provincial and territorial cultural policy in Canada. This is the first study of its kind and is culminating in the publication of a co-edited volume by myself and Professor Saint-Pierre in 2008. The research is eliciting considerable interest from researchers, policy-makers and practitioners and we have been approached to make presentations, consult and contribute to the cultural policy community at the federal, provincial and municipal levels of government. Among these contributions is a project with the federal Department of Canadian Heritage to develop provincial cultural policy timelines for *Culturescope*, the department's cultural research portal (www.culturescope.ca). The timelines, showing key milestones in cultural policy development in each of the provinces, will complement *Culturescope's* existing timelines of Canadian federal and American cultural policy. The Department anticipates the timelines will make an important contribution to the cultural policy research community, as well as to provincial and territorial governments, many of which are keen to learn about their counterparts' approaches, experiences and best practices.

SFU's Centre for Expertise on Culture and Communities (CECC) is also very interested in the project and has commissioned me to write a paper on best practices in intergovernmental coordination for cultural infrastructure development. The chief audiences for the paper are cultural policy-makers and practitioners at all levels of government, and the CECC plans to organize roundtables to discuss the paper with a view to improving multilevel coordination in infrastructure development.

Monica Gattinger is an Associate Professor in the School of Political Studies at the University of Ottawa. During Fall 2007, she is a visiting professor in MPP.

Professor Gattinger presented findings from the pan-Canadian study at the CECC's on November 2nd 2007.

Inside this issue:

Making links Between research and practice in the cultural policy sector	1
Time for Canada to Step up on Pakistan	2
MPP Capstone pro- jects: Thinking about the world	2
Career in Public Policy	3
Coop at VANOC	3
Congratulations	3
Public Policy class of 2007	4



Editor: Dominique M. Gross
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Time for Canada to Step Up on Pakistan by Doug McArthur

With the return of former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, it seems possible that the next step in Pakistan's history could be somewhat free and fair Parliamentary elections early in 2008, something that has not happened for a long time. If so Bhutto's party, the PPP, will almost certainly win and Bhutto will become Prime Minister. She and Musharraf, the current military dictator, see this coming and are working on a deal that would let him remain as President. Bhutto is demanding that safe havens in Pakistan for the Taliban and al Qaeda be closed. Musharraf and the army resist such measures. This could ultimately lead to an internal crisis in the government, with the army and its intelligence services having to be tamed to avoid another coup.

Canada, the U.S and the West will have to decide whether to side with Bhutto or the military. While the choice may appear to be between democrats and dictators, it will also be about how to fight the war on terror and how to stabilize Pakistan. It appears that power sharing something akin to that in Chile after the end of the military dictatorship is needed to bring stability. But that cannot include continued support for Taliban bases in Pakistan if the war on terror is to be won. In many respects this will depend on the western world, and the support it provides to Bhutto.

Canada, given the contribution and sacrifices it has made in Afghanistan, and the killing of its soldiers by Pakistani based Taliban insur-

gents, has a claim to a say in all of this. So far, Canada has not taken a clear stand. Democratic traditions and values and our determination to fight the Taliban and al Qaeda must anchor Canada's position. It must actively support the arrangement proposed by Bhutto, and make itself felt as a party to the western guarantee needed to secure it.



MPP Capstone projects: Thinking about the world by Kennedy Stewart

As any MPP graduate will tell you, our program's final capstone thesis project is exactly what it describes: a crowning achievement. Since 2005 MPP students have produced over 60 capstone projects, the results of which have been published and won local and national awards. Capstone authors have advised organizations, have had their recommendations adopted and been hired as a direct result of their efforts.

Capstone projects have three stages. In the first, students explore a policy

problem relevant to them and a particular policy community. In the second, students conduct original research to explore why the problem occurs. Finally, students design and evaluate policy options to make final recommendations. Policy experts and stakeholders are consulted throughout the process which concludes with an oral defense to a distinguished panel and audience.

A number of graduates have seen their work recognized by publishing their capstone results in the

Vancouver Sun and elsewhere and the best capstone efforts have been recognized by annual awards: the CAPP (Canadian Association of Programs in Public Administration) Award for outstanding Public Policy work and the MPP Award for outstanding Capstone Project.

In 2007, Lara Peters won CAPP's National Student and Thought Leadership Awards.

Who knows, join MPP and work hard and maybe your capstone will be the next national award winner!

MPP CAPP Award for Outstanding Public Policy Work	MPP Award for Outstanding Capstone Project
2005 Ryan McFadden Wildland Urban Interfaces: Addressing the Challenges of Implementing FireSmart in the City of Calgary	2005 Liza Jimenez From NIMBY to YIMBY: Understanding Opposition to Special Needs Residential Facilities in Vancouver
2006 Mark Campbell How Can Aboriginal Boys be Helped to do Better in School?	2006 Sandra Nikolic Educating the Future: Raising the Quality of Primary Schooling in Bangladesh
2006 Alana McCabe Nutrition and Dining Out: Policy Options to Inform Choice	2006 Patricia MacIvor Increasing Trust in Vancouver's Municipal Government
2007 Lara Peters Parental Attitudes and School Choice: The Public/Private Distinction	2007 Eric Kimmel The Preservation of Wetland Ecological Goods and Services: An Evaluation of Land Conservation Techniques for the Lac La Biche Watershed, Alberta

Career in Public Policy by Rick Santos (MPP 2006)

When I took the job with Industry Canada, I did not know what to expect and I have been pleasantly surprised. I have been working to implement the Industrial and Regional Benefits Policy.

I work with prime contractors who win bids to supply equipment to the Department of National Defence. As part of the procurement process, each contractor is required to invest 100% of the contract value in an equivalent amount of economic activity in Canada.

Name: Rick Santos
Title: Industrial and Regional Benefits Officer, Aerospace, Defence and Marine Branch, Industry Canada
Location: Ottawa, Ontario
BA: Economics, SFU, 2004

Our job is to ensure that this is done in accordance with the Policy. My most recent project is DND's acquisition from Boeing of the C-17, which is a transport aircraft.

Along with writing briefing notes, decks

and correspondence letters, I have also been involved in contract writing and negotiations with prime contractors. I have also been involved in stakeholder consultations, trade shows and inter-departmental meetings. More related to my capstone, I have been asked to be a participant of a National Executive Committee that is studying Portuguese-Canadian educational attainment across Canada. It is exciting times for the Portuguese-Canadian community.

"Doug McArthur, Kim Fleming, Allison Dunnet-Holzer, Lyndsay Poaps and twelve members of the first year class actively participated in organizing a successful conference on October 21, 2007 on Vancouver's future, co-sponsored by MPP and Think City Vancouver. The first year students will be preparing briefing papers to assist follow-up discussions with civic leaders."

Coop at VANOC by Pete Wightman (MPP 2008)

The Vancouver Organizing Committee for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games (VANOC) faces unprecedented policy challenges as the region, province and country all gear-up for the international spotlight. When I began my position with VANOC's Transportation Advisory Committee, I never imagined the types of issues I would be involved in: from traffic demand analysis to accessible public transit to cost evaluations of additional left hand turn lanes. Policy analysis requires knowledge of several different facets of any problem. My chosen capstone topic addresses traffic

congestion on Greater Vancouver's Fraser River crossings, and my work at VANOC contributed to the skill pool from which I can draw.

I learned about the technical side of transportation provision, including infrastructure and operations. I learned about the current political climate in the region's transportation agencies, especially about the relationships between these agencies. And while my capstone has little to do with the Games, I know that my colleagues at VANOC (and partner government agencies) will lend their advice and support when asked.

I consider my experience at VANOC to

be a small personal legacy from the 2010 Games; I know that my capstone work will be enhanced because of it.

From Co-op to Capstone!



Congratulations

- ◆ Jon Kesselman has been awarded the **Canadian Economics Association's 2007 Doug Purvis Prize** for the UBC Press monograph, *Dimensions of Inequality in Canada*. His prize funds were donated to the SFU MPP graduate student scholarship fund.
- ◆ Kennedy Stewart has a new article "Write the Rules and Win: Understanding Citizen Participation Game Dynamics," *Public Administration Review Vol. 67(6)*.
- ◆ **2007 MPP CAPPA Prize & National Leadership Award:**
Lara Peters: Parental Attitudes and School Choice: The Public/Private Distinction.
- ◆ **2007 MPP Capstone Prize:**
Eric Kimmel: The Preservation of Wetland Ecological Goods and Services: An Evaluation of Land Conservation Techniques for the Lac La Biche Watershed, Alberta.

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The Master's in Public Policy is a two-year innovative graduate program that emphasizes the development of techniques to **undertake** and **manage** public **policy analysis** and planning.

The mandate of the program is to provide a professional graduate education that yields public policy analysts and managers who can **scrutinize** a problem, **interpret** and **analyze** relevant data, then **evaluate** alternative paths of action.

Graduates find employment in federal, provincial, and municipal governments, non-governmental organizations, crown corporations, and private-sector firms. The program offers expertise in labour markets, environment, social policy, trade policy, immigration, Canadian and international policy, First Nations research, land use, communications, and more.

MPP Class of 2007

