



School of
Public Policy

ALUMNI CHAPTER

January 2009 Newsletter

In the fall of 2008, the Chapter has hosted a successful Meet the Authors event, presented a Distinguished Service Award, and had an Election Day Book Sale. The Chapter has also held a Post-Election Analysis Panel, a White House Christmas Tour, and a World Bank Brown Bag Lunch. **February 5th is the Chapter's next meeting at 7 pm, where members will discuss upcoming events in the spring of 2009.** We'd love to have you join us! Empirical research has shown individuals to be happier when they are part of something greater than themselves.

News and Activities

Princeton Review's Best Value Colleges Includes Mason

- The New York-based education services company features Mason on its list of America's 100 "Best Value" colleges for 2009. Mason is the only school in the Washington, DC, region to be selected. [MORE>](#)

Alumni Chapter Meeting

Thursday, February 5 ~ 7:00 pm

Arlington Original Building, Dean's Conference Room

Please plan to join us for this important meeting. We will discuss priorities for the new semester, awards, and the Chapter's Signature event. As always, wine and cheese will be served!

Homecoming 2009

February 8-14, Fairfax Campus

- Plan to join fellow alumni and the entire campus community for Homecoming 2009, February 8-14. Alumni Association highlights will be a reception for faculty/staff alumni, a beer-tasting event, and a VIP (Very Important Patriot) hospitality tent at the annual pre-game block party on Saturday, February 14. [HOMECOMING INFO>](#)

SPP Alumni Chapter Presidents' Day Book Sale

Monday, February 16 ~ 1:00 – 7:00 pm

- Come out and support the Chapter's Presidents' Day Book Sale that helps to fund two \$500 Distinguished Student Awards at our Annual Signature Event. The bargain sale will be held in room 244 on February 16 from 1:00-7:00 pm. Come out, mix, mingle and see what faculty and alumni have been reading.

SPP Alumni Chapter Annual Signature Event

Friday, March 27 ~ 6:00 – 8:30 pm

- The Alumni Chapter will be hosting its Annual Signature Event featuring Keynote Speaker, former Congressman and current GMU professor, Tom Davis (R-VA). Distinguished Student Awards will be presented at the event.
- Save the date! More details to come.

Trip to United Arab Emirates

April 3-12, 2009

- The Alumni Chapter will benefit from a tour provided by the Study Abroad Office to the United Arab Emirates: Dubai, Abu Dhabi, and GMU's Ras Al Khamah (RAK) Campus. The trip is open to all alumni and friends. For more information, contact: <http://www.gmupolicy.net/UAE/>

Volunteering and Other Contributions

- We have Chapter committees that need short-term assistance: Fundraising, Events, Membership/Recruitment and Awards. We especially need assistance with the Signature Event in the spring. Please write to sppalum@gmu.edu.
 - Would you like to sponsor a **Brown Bag Lunch** at your agency, non-profit or other corporation? All you need is a speaker, a simple presentation about what your organization is/does, and a meeting room. Students and alumni will provide their own lunches and lots of questions. It's a great chance to flatter a colleague or superior, and to help SPP at the same time! Please e-mail us at sppalum@gmu.edu.
 - SPP Career Services has worked with the Chapter to develop an **Alumni Ambassador** program. Alumni volunteers will attend Master's program Open Houses and other recruitment events, and will speak directly with prospective, incoming and current students about career opportunities related to their SPP program. Watch this space for more details.
 - As always, alumni contributions of cash, goods and services are greatly appreciated, and help to make the Chapter's activities (especially our Distinguished Student Awards) successful.
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Alumni News

- Have you moved or changed jobs? Don't forget to update your information in the GMU Alumni Directory, at <http://alumni.gmu.edu/alumnidir.html>.
- Join the School of Public Policy on LinkedIn, www.linkedin.com. Reconnect with former classmates and network!
- SPP's Director of Communications Jocelyn Rappaport (jrappapo@gmu.edu) is in search of inspiring alumni stories for SPP publications, and the Chapter wants to know about alumni who are excelling in life and career. If you're that fascinating person, or have a friend that is, please let us know.

Current Officers and GMU/SPP Liaisons

Adam Tabaka, ICP '07, President

Marko Frigelj, MPP '06, Vice President

Sarah Bonner, ICP '08, Secretary

Alison M. White, MPP '05, Treasurer

Delio Gianturco, Faculty Advisor

Duane Bradshaw, Associate Director, Career Development and Alumni Relations, SPP

Jocelyn Rappaport, Director, Communications, SPP

Andy Ackley, GMU Alumni Association

We welcome ideas, comments or questions about the Chapter and its activities as well as information about the good works of SPP alumni. Please write to sppalum@gmu.edu.