



School of  
Public Policy

## ALUMNI CHAPTER

### April 2009 Bulletin

The Chapter hosted a very successful Signature Event on Friday, March 27 with more than 100 alumni, students, faculty and staff in attendance. Keynote Speaker, The Honorable Tom Davis, discussed ***A House Divided: Challenges Facing the Obama Administration*** to a packed audience. Thank you to all who attended and donated to the event's success.

The Chapter will continue to build on its successes by hosting another Meet the Authors Event on Monday, April 27, in room 244 at 5:30 PM. The next Chapter meeting will be on Thursday, May 14, in the Dean's Conference Room at 7:00 PM. Further details are listed below. We'd love to have you join us. Help us to increase the equity of your degree.

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## News and Activities

### GMU Ranked #1 in Research Expenditures

- For the first time ever, George Mason University was ranked, by the National Science Foundation, as the number one program in its field for federal and total research expenditures.
- SPP accounts for over 2/3 of the total expenditures reported.

### Mason takes over Six Flags

Saturday, April 25, 2009 ~ 5:00pm - 10:00pm

Six Flags America, MD ([Directions](#))

Mason has an exclusive use of Six Flags, America in Maryland April 25, 2009. The exclusive night begins at 5PM. You must be a Mason student, staff, faculty, alumnus, family or friend to attend and to get the special pricing! *Note: Tickets purchased are valid for entry into the park all day, but to remain past 5pm you must have a special wrist band (which you get with your purchase).*

[RSVP Here](#) for the Promo Code.

## Meet the Authors Event

Monday, April 27, 2009 ~ 5:30 – 7:00 pm, Arlington Original Building, Room 244

- The Chapter will host another Meet the Authors event that will highlight SPP professor Dr. Jack Goldstone's book, *Why Europe? The Rise of the West in World History 1500-1850*.
- Accompanying Dr. Goldstone will be Stanford University professor Dr. Paul Ehrlich who will be presenting his book, *The Dominant Animal: Human Evolution and the Environment* [www.dominantanimal.org](http://www.dominantanimal.org) with Island Press, Inc.

## Join the Mason Alumni Association at the 2009 Virginia Gold Cup

This exciting event has been a spring tradition for the Mason Alumni Association for several years. Gold Cup entertainment starts at 10:30AM with our hospitality tent opening at 11:00AM.

The Mason Alumni hospitality tent is positioned on the South Railside of the track at #216.

Car passes will give you access to the Gold Cup and are available in limited quantity through the Alumni Association. Cost is \$70 and is valid for one vehicle with up to six passengers. Once on the grounds, admission to the hospitality tent is free to alumni and their guests.

May 2, 2009 ~ 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Great Meadow (South Side #216), The Plains, VA

[RSVP Here](#)

## Alumni Chapter Meeting

Thursday, May 14 ~ 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 semester, awards, and the Chapter's upcoming elections. As always, wine and cheese will be served!

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## 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. Please write to [sppalum@gmu.edu](mailto: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](mailto: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 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, <http://www.linkedin.com/e/gis/119573/1C1AA66C85F0>. Reconnect with former classmates and network!
- SPP's Director of Communications Jocelyn Rappaport ([jrappapo@gmu.edu](mailto: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.

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## 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**, Alumni/Faculty Liaison Officer

**Duane Bradshaw**, Associate Director for Career Development and Alumni Relations

**Jocelyn Rappaport**, Director, Communications

**Carol Swigart**, GMU Alumni Association Liaison

**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](mailto:sppalum@gmu.edu).**