Major News

The Glenn School now has a Bachelor of Arts in Public Affairs

Giving  Man's gift covers student’s academic cost for the first year in new public affairs major

Advising  Glenn School’s Seligman and Yocco use ‘forensic public finance’ to help Ohio forecast revenue

Learning  John Glenn Learning Community’s trip to D.C. was part policy, part service and all fun
Letter from the director
Glenn School Director Dr. Charles Wise talks about events in and around the school.

New undergraduate major
Come this fall, the Glenn School will change forever when the first class of undergraduates arrives.

Giving
Mike Howard has given a donation to the school that will cover the academic cost of an undergraduate’s first year at the Glenn School.

More than 100 runners and walkers joined together to honor an American hero and raise funds to support leadership programming at the Glenn School.

Glenn School profile
After two master’s degrees, several study-abroad trips and multiple internships in Russia, Eileen Kunkler graduated this Spring with two master degrees — one in Slavic and East European Studies and another in Public Policy and Management.

Faculty news
Dr. Stephanie Moulton, assistant professor at the Glenn School, and the Ohio Housing Finance Agency won a 2010 Engagement Impact Grant from Ohio State’s Office of Outreach & Engagement.

Dr. Alexander C. Heckman, visiting assistant professor at the Glenn School, takes a look at Minnesota’s procurement practices for the Pew Center on the States.

Dr. Jason Seligman and master’s student Dane Yocco are working with the Ohio Office of Budget and Management and the Department of Taxation to analyze local, national and global events that could affect the state’s tax base and revenue.

JGSPA in D.C.
The students in the John Glenn Learning Community spent Memorial Day weekend in one of the most fitting sites possible — Washington, D.C.

A group of second- and first-year graduate students took a career networking trip to the nation’s capital.

Anita McBride, a prominent White House staffer for three presidents spoke at the first event of the John Glenn/WISH spring policy salons.

Congratulations
John Wolfe named Glenn School’s Outstanding Public Service Award winner.

Two Learning Community members named Outstanding First-Year Students by the Ohio Union.

Alumni and friends
Welcome to the latest edition of Public Address. On behalf of the John Glenn School of Public Affairs, I am pleased to inform you of the progress the faculty, staff and students in the Glenn School are making in developing the School into one of the country’s leading schools of public affairs. Articles include updates on everything from alumni activities, to faculty research, to development of new academic programs.

The School is extremely proud to announce its newest addition to academic excellence, the Bachelors of Arts major in Public Affairs. Faculty and staff have devoted hours of time and effort to create and provide this interdisciplinary major for undergraduates interested in public affairs. For the first time at The Ohio State University, undergraduates will have the opportunity to pursue study leading to a career in public affairs and to develop their skills in citizenship and leadership. In addition, we extend our appreciation to Glenn School alumnus Mike Howard, who has graciously donated scholarship funds to aid new undergraduate students enrolling in the program.

Of course the new Public Affairs major is not the first or only Glenn School program serving OSU undergraduates. Our Learning Community students spent Memorial Day weekend in Washington, D.C. to enhance what they had learned in class and to see public policymaking in action on Capitol Hill. Note also in this issue is a story of two Learning Community students who were recognized by The Ohio State University as Outstanding First Year Students. Along with alumni updates, you will read of a graduating student who has already experienced the value of obtaining two masters degrees – one in Slavic and East European Studies and the other in Public Administration through the Glenn School’s Dual Degree program. The Glenn School’s dual degree programs continue to expand to provide new interdisciplinary opportunities for students.

Glenn School faculty continue to lend their expertise to improve public policy and management in public, non-profit, and private organizations. Dr. Stephanie Moulton, along with fellow Ohio State colleagues, was selected as one of two OSU 2010 Engagement Impact Grant recipients. Her research will assist the Ohio Housing Finance Agency in identifying the relative effectiveness of online and telephone financial counseling interventions. Dr. Alexander Heckman, visiting professor, has been conducting research on procurement practices for the Pew Center on the States. His research reveals how two States have saved hundreds of millions of dollars by enhancing their procurement systems. Dr. Jason Seligman, along with masters student Dane Yocco, are assisting the Ohio Office of Budget and Management with “forensic public finance” to analyze local, national, and global events that can affect Ohio’s tax base and revenue.

I know you will enjoy this issue of Public Address, just as I did. Please contact us if you would like to learn more about the many programs and activities of the Glenn School.

Charles Wise, Ph.D.
Director
John Glenn School of Public Affairs
New major a first for the Glenn School and for Ohio State

For the first time in school history, undergraduates at the Ohio State University can now major in public affairs.

This fall, the John Glenn School of Public Affairs will launch a Bachelor of Arts degree program aimed at undergraduates with a passion for public service. The degree will draw on the courses, faculty and resources of 18 schools and departments in addition to the Glenn School.

Public affairs is “one of the fastest-growing interdisciplinary fields” nationwide, said Trevor Brown, professor and associate director for academic affairs at the Glenn School.

With the academic resources, internship opportunities and professional connections the school already offers its graduate students, “we’re confident we can be a leader in the field of public-affairs education,” he said.

The undergraduate program was inspired by the lifelong commitment to public service of the school’s namesake, former U.S. senator and astronaut John Glenn.

The program grew out of “a real belief that young people form their intent toward public service early in their life,” said Brown. “And the sooner you can educate people about their own responsibilities for civic life and their role in governing, the more likely they are to engage in public service.”

The Glenn School currently offers several graduate-level degree programs including the Master of Public Administration, the in-career Master of Arts in Public Affairs, a doctoral program and eight dual master’s degree programs with other Ohio State departments. The Bachelor of Arts in Public Affairs will be the school’s first undergraduate degree program.

Undergraduates currently take part in the Glenn School’s Learning Community, NEW Leadership Ohio, the John Glenn Civic Leadership Council and the Washington Academic Internship Program.

“I think it will be pretty popular,” Undergraduate Programs Coordinator Chris Adams said of the new degree. The residential Learning Community for first-year students tripled in size between 2008 and 2009 — a sign that young people seem to be increasingly interested in public service, he said.

“The program will pull some students who have been politically active, some students who are interested in policy, some students who are interested in leadership,” he said. The academic program will be about helping students see the issues that interest them through a policy lens.

“You might volunteer at a soup kitchen, but why are there soup kitchens?” he said.

Program structure

The undergraduate degree will cover nine courses worth 45 credit hours, plus an additional 25 credit hours in a specialization track or an approved minor in another department.

Students will take five foundation courses giving them a background in public policy formulation, civic engagement, economics and government finance, followed by two classes in management and analysis. Two final courses take students through public-sector decision-making and an analytical paper.

Glenn School faculty will teach seven of the core major courses. The others will be offered through the economics and political science departments. Once the curriculum is established, doctoral students at the Glenn School also might have opportunities to teach sections of certain courses.
Initially, students will be able to pursue specialization tracks in urban policy and management, community organization and civic engagement, and nonprofit management. More tracks will be added over time. Students also can minor in communications, public policy, criminology, political science, sociology, economics, public health and several other areas in place of the tracks.

Enrollment in the fall likely will be small as word spreads about the new program, Brown said. The school anticipates about 10 students declaring the major in its first year, growing to 40 or more in each class during the next few years.

“It will be a change in the sense that there would be more people here,” Brown said, but the nature of the Glenn School’s activities “would not be fundamentally different” with the new major.

“It’s the same knowledge, just in a different format,” he said. “It’s a natural extension of the things that we do.”

Glenn School leaders see the new degree interfacing well with existing activities. The school’s alumni will have additional opportunities to get involved with mentoring students and provide career and internship connections. The degree also will link to existing undergraduate programs — particularly the Washington Academic Internship Program, which awards 15 credit hours that can count toward the major.

Next steps

The Glenn School’s current undergraduate programs provide an easy mechanism to get the word out about the major to students interested in public affairs, but the school already is starting to promote the degree through other avenues.

Even with their growing popularity at many universities, public-affairs programs aren’t as widely known as the more traditional political science, economics and business fields. Fortunately, the Glenn School is used to reaching out to students unfamiliar with its programs.

“We find that with our prospective graduate students — not necessarily knowing that an MPA is out there,” said Adams.

Adams already has been in contact with the Office of Admissions to make sure students can declare an early intention to study public affairs when they apply to Ohio State. He’s also making sure information about the major is available through the admissions office, and that the major can be part of the university’s exploration program for undecided students.

Staff at the Glenn School also are preparing for the host of additional administrative duties that come along with an undergraduate major. Unlike graduate programs, for which the Graduate School handles many of these tasks, undergraduate programs are managed primarily at the department level.

Adams has been in touch with other departments to see how they handle things like adding and dropping classes, determining academic eligibility, figuring transfer credits, tracking graduation requirements, and helping students find jobs and internships.

“The challenge is going to be being ready for this stuff on day one when we won’t necessarily need it on day one,” he said.

For now, the school plans to handle the additional work with its current staff, but additional staff may be needed as the program grows.

Despite the challenges ahead, Adams said the major will be a great addition to the Glenn School’s offerings.

“We’re excited about the program,” he said. “It’s the next logical step. We have this great program, we have Senator Glenn, we’re located in the state capital. It makes sense to offer something like this.”
Paying his way through college working in a rock ‘n’ roll band didn’t leave Mike Howard (BS ’72, MA ’83) with much free time to participate in the activities Ohio State had to offer. Now he hopes his gift of a year’s tuition for a deserving student in the Glenn School’s new Bachelor of Arts in Public Affairs major will allow that student the opportunities he missed.

“Mike’s gift is truly wonderful,” said Jodi Bopp, the Glenn School’s director of philanthropy. “Not only will it provide much needed financial aid to one of our first undergraduate students, but it also shows support for the new undergraduate program. A lot of Glenn School faculty and staff worked tirelessly to create the undergraduate program, and Mike’s gift feels like a reward for all that hard work,” she said.

His gift will cover a complete year of academic cost for one student. “Jodi told me they were starting a new academic program and I thought it would be a good thing to do the first year to get people interested and involved in the school,” he said.

Howard worked for many years at the Ohio Auditor of State’s office and as a CPA for a private firm before retiring. He had thought about donating to Ohio State but it wasn’t until 15 years ago when a development officer asked him about giving that he made his first donation. “No one had asked before then,” he said.

Howard donates to Ohio State and the Glenn School not just because he received both his BS in Accounting in 1972 and his MA in Public Policy and Management in 1983 from Ohio State but also because he has a deep appreciation for professionalism in government. “I think government is important, even though many people today think government is a problem. I think it’s a countervailing force to other types of powers and it needs to be as professional as possible, which is what the Glenn School is all about,” he said.

“The only thing I did was work and come to school,” Howard said about his days in college playing guitar and bass in a rock ‘n’ roll band at the Sarene Lounge. “We played 71 straight weeks including Christmas the first time around, the second time around they gave us Christmas off,” he said. “I like to give people more opportunities to do things than I was able to do (at college).”

“I wanted to do it while I was alive,” Howard said about giving to the Glenn School. “I wanted to see things happening.”

See a video of Mike Howard at: glenn.osu.edu/howard

Marine ROTC sponsors 2nd Mendoza Memorial 5k

More than 100 runners and walkers joined together outside Page Hall on Memorial Day weekend to honor an American hero and raise funds to support leadership programming at the John Glenn School of Public Affairs.

The 2nd Annual Major Ray Mendoza Memorial 5k Run/Walk was sponsored by the Ohio State ROTC program. This year, Joseph Jaskowiak led a team of student volunteers who registered racers, mapped out a course on the sidewalks of Ohio State, and awarded prizes in several categories.

Race entrance fees support the Ray Mendoza Leadership Initiative at the Glenn School. The race honors Major Ray Mendoza, U.S. Marine Corps, who was killed in Iraq in 2005. The Glenn School has three scholarships named in Major Mendoza’s honor. Major Mendoza was a former OSU wrestler and friend of Glenn School graduate Michael DiSabato, MPA ’94, who first brought Major Mendoza’s story to the Glenn School’s attention.

“Working with the ROTC cadets and midshipmen is a real treat,” says Glenn School Philanthropy Director Jodi Bopp. “They work hard pulling the race together and are selfless with their time and energy. We’re grateful to them for sponsoring the race a second year and look forward to another one next Memorial Day.”

To contribute to the Mendoza initiative at the Glenn School, go to: glenn.osu.edu/news/mendoza_run
Dual-degree program leads to experience working abroad

After two master’s degrees, several study-abroad trips and multiple internships in Russia; Eileen Kunkler graduated this spring with two master’s degrees in Slavic and East European Studies and another in Public Policy and Management. Eileen completed the dual-degree program between the John Glenn School of Public Affairs and the Center for Slavic and East European Studies. As a recent graduate and new alumnae, Eileen will be entering the job market with experience working abroad, two master degrees, and a background in languages that include Russian, Uzbek and Italian.

Eileen started at The Ohio State University as an undergraduate student interested in international studies. She entered the Slavic and East European Studies graduate program to continue her interest in pursuing an international career with the Foreign Service, government agency, or a non-governmental organization. Eileen later combined her interest in Eastern Europe with a background in public affairs by pursuing the dual-degree program. The established dual-degree program provides students with a background in policy, public sector economics, management, data analysis, Eastern European culture, history, and languages. As a recent graduate of both programs, Eileen highly recommends pursuing a dual degree to future students with similar interests. Her advice to new dual-degree students? “Get an internship and having language skills is a benefit."

The shared interest in Eastern Europe extends beyond the dual-degree program for both the John Glenn School and the Center for Slavic and East European Studies program. The John Glenn School has strong connections to Ukraine as a result of the Parliamentary Development Project. Dr. Charles Wise, founding director of the Parliamentary Development Project which is considered the longest-running sustained effort to promote legislative development in the world. The Parliamentary Development Project includes more than a dozen people in Kiev working directly with Ukraine’s legislature.

This summer will also include the first Glenn School study-abroad trip to Ukraine, led by Dr. Trevor Brown. While abroad, students get to experience the history and culture of Ukraine while engaging in public policy.

The Center for Slavic and East European Studies program also provides numerous opportunities for students to study or experience Eastern Europe through a Master’s Degree in Slavic and East European Studies, various programs and events, and several opportunities that help prepare students for an international career. Students interested in working abroad had the opportunity this past May to attend the 3rd Annual International Careers Week. The week of events included guest speakers and informational sessions ranging from jobs with the federal government, to international nonprofit organizations and international education careers.

Eileen, who completed several internships, including one with the Department of State at the Moscow Embassy credits Lance Erickson, the assistant director of the Center for Slavic and East European Studies for suggesting she consider the opportunity. "Kunkler commented. Providing students with the opportunity to integrate their studies with internships and activities through resources and services from both programs is one of the many benefits of a dual-degree partnership.

In addition to the dual-degree program with the Center for Slavic and East European Studies, the John Glenn School has other established partnerships with Ohio State departments including: Moritz College of Law, Fisher College of Business, College of Social Work, College of Public Health, Knowlton School of Architecture, School of Environment and Natural Resources, the Department of Agricultural, Environmental and Development Economics and a joint degree with the Department of Art Education. Several additional programs are expected to be included during the 2010-2011 academic year.

To learn more about the Glenn School’s dual-degree program, please go to: glenn.osu.edu/prospective/dual/dual.html
To learn more about the Center for Slavic and East European Studies program, please go to: slaviccenter.osu.edu
Faculty News

Moulton wins $50,000 grant for affordable housing project

A program developed by Dr. Stephanie Moulton, assistant professor at the John Glenn School of Public Affairs, and the Ohio Housing Finance Agency has won a 2010 Engagement Impact Grant from Ohio State’s Office of Outreach and Engagement.

The $50,000 grant will help the program build on the Ohio Housing Finance Agency’s successful affordable mortgage program and educational services for home buyers by developing and adding an interactive online financial planning module and providing phone-based financial counseling services for homeowners during the first year after their home purchases.

The project will also include an innovative random-assignment research design that will allow for the identification of the relative effectiveness of online and telephone financial counseling interventions. According to Moulton, “This type of evaluation is one of a kind. Previous evaluations of this kind are not based on random-assignment to different types of counseling interventions, so it is difficult to tell if the observed effects are due to selection — individuals who choose to go to one type of counseling are also more motivated to make timely mortgage payments — or if the effects are truly a result of the intervention. By employing random assignment, we will be able to identify the relative effectiveness of the various interventions.” The grant money will also help provide additional resources towards the development and evaluation of financial literacy interventions.

Procurement practices studied for Pew Center on the States

State purchasers for Minnesota and Virginia have learned the power of leveraged buying to get the most for their dollars for everything from cell phones to bridges. These two states have saved hundreds of millions of dollars by enhancing their procurement systems. But what did they do and what best practices could other states employ?

That was the question the Pew Center on the States asked Dr. Trevor Brown, associate director for Academic Affairs and Research at the John Glenn School of Public Affairs, to answer. Along with Dr. Alexander C. Heckman, visiting assistant professor at the Glenn School, and Dr. Sergio Fernandez, assistant professor of Public Affairs at Indiana University’s School of Public and Environmental Affairs, they analyzed each state’s purchasing practices and approach to procurement reform.

Dr. Heckman took the lead on the Minnesota case study. “We keyed in on things that would have a positive impact for other states,” Heckman said about the four months he spent researching and analyzing Minnesota’s procurement practices.

Heckman found that while small purchases remain at the discretion of individual agencies, a centralized procurement strategy has given Minnesota the ability to pursue strategic sourcing and enterprise of contracting and proactive negotiation with vendors, all of which has helped to drive prices of goods down, while improving quality.

Minnesota has been particularly innovative and sophisticated in its use of enterprise agreements and cooperative purchasing. Centralizing purchasing also has given the state the ability to pool the purchasing power of its state agencies and local governments to get better deals from suppliers.

“Their whole approach is projected to save the state about $200 million over the last three years,” Heckman said.
Glenn School’s Seligman and Yocco use ‘forensic public finance’ to help Ohio forecast revenue

In Europe, shaky national finances have prompted a $600 billion bailout. In the United States, job growth looks to be making a slow comeback. So what does that mean for Ohio?

Professor Jason Seligman and master’s student Dane Yocco of the John Glenn School of Public Affairs are trying to help the state figure that out.

Using what Seligman calls “forensic public finance,” he and Yocco work with the Ohio Office of Budget and Management (OBM) and the Department of Taxation to analyze local, national and global events that could affect the state’s tax base and revenue. They also pick apart the sometimes-murky methodology of professional financial forecasters like Global Insight and Moody’s Investors Service to determine how relevant their predictions are for Ohio.

“Dane and I are like sleuths,” said Seligman, who teaches public finance and budgeting at the Glenn School. “We go in and try to figure out where the plugs are.”

With the help of Cindy Holodnak, the Glenn School’s associate director for outreach and engagement, Seligman met last year with Tax Commissioner Richard Levin and OBM assistant director David Ellis to discuss a possible partnership.

“I think we all left the room knowing more about each other, but without necessarily any plan for work,” he said.

By late last fall, as economic and job news continued to look bad for Ohio, the parties decided to make a plan. Seligman approached second-year MPA student Yocco about helping out.

The primary task for the Glenn School researchers is to help document, replicate and innovate Ohio’s current revenue forecasting techniques.

“We want to look at where Ohio derives their tax base, and the evolution of that over time, especially with regard to what’s happening in Ohio,” said Yocco.

Part of that job is breaking down current forecasts from the state and international firms like Global Insight, finding weaknesses and supplementing the predictions with data gathered by the state. “We also look at old forecasts and try and discover the salience of components within those, both in the timeframe they existed and going forward,” said Seligman.

Another part is anticipating the effect of current and future events on Ohio’s economy. For example, if national economic indicators show growth in the manufacturing sector, should Ohio — with its manufacturing-heavy economy — see a comparable level of growth, more growth, or even less? And what will happen to Ohio’s revenue when federal stimulus money is no longer available?

Seligman describes the work arrangement as an “active dialogue” between him and Yocco and their state government colleagues. There are specific things the researchers are asked to examine, but they also are free to incorporate new data and creative approaches.

“We’re sort of sitting in on a jazz band,” said Seligman. “We’re not a solo act, and we know the rhythm and the meter and the structure of what’s happening.”

“We get to improvise for a few measures, then we go back to the main theme,” added Yocco.

In addition to providing a valuable service to the state, Seligman emphasizes the professional development opportunities such a partnership can offer students like Yocco. For his part, Yocco said the work has been fun and “much more gratifying than I would have imagined.”

“I came into this project with very little economics background or explicit interest,” he admitted. “It’s really driven me toward a different idea of where I want to be going in my career.” Specifically, he said, he’s considering pursuing more research-based jobs and possibly a doctorate down the road.

“It’s also very gratifying to be in a position where I think we can inform and inspire discussion,” he said.

Yocco graduates in June, but Seligman is actively planning for the continuation of the project, which is funded this year by Ohio State with help from the Glenn School. A summer seminar program is in the works that will bring state financial workers to the Glenn School for talks about research, documenting data and managing Ohio’s budget in coming years.

He also hopes to involve more graduate students — at least one master’s and one doctoral student — in the future, and encourage new Glenn School faculty members to participate in this and similar projects.

“It’s my sincerest hope that this partnership continues,” he said.
The students in the John Glenn Learning Community spent Memorial Day weekend in one of the most fitting sites possible — Washington, D.C. Thirty-seven first-year students, along with Glenn School Coordinator of Undergraduate Programs Chris Adams, Visiting Assistant Professor Don Stenta, and Residence Hall Director Doug Eck, departed for the nation’s capital. Each year, the Learning Community experience concludes with a trip to Washington. “This trip is really the culmination of a year’s worth of outstanding work by the students,” said Adams. “They spend the whole year learning about policy, participating in community service projects, and assuming leadership positions on campus. Now they get to visit Washington, see policy in action, and meet leaders in public service. It makes for a great end to the year.”

This year’s trip was equal parts education, policy, service, and fun. Once in D.C., the students started by meeting with Glenn School alumnus Sen. Sherrod Brown, who talked about life as an elected official, shared favorite stories from his years in the Senate, and provided some tips for aspiring public servants. The students were then treated to a pleasant surprise, as Sen. Brown took them on a tour of the Senate floor. Following the session with the senator, the students took the full tour of the U.S. Capitol and then spent the afternoon at the Newseum, an interactive museum that focuses on the First Amendment and the evolution of news media. Continuing with the theme of professional development, students later had the opportunity to meet a number of Glenn School alumni and other professionals working in the D.C. area as part of a career-planning panel. Organizations represented on the panel included the U.S. Agency for International Development, the U.S. Government Accountability Office, the Charles Group, a government relations firm, and the Battered Women’s Justice Project, a nonprofit organization.

The next day began with a tour of the National Air and Space Museum where the highlight was, of course, seeing John Glenn’s Friendship Seven space capsule. The students also visited the National Holocaust Museum as a group, and then had free time to explore the sites in D.C. Popular destinations included the American History Museum, the National History Museum, and Ford’s Theatre. As dusk was setting in, the group reconvened at the Washington Monument for a night tour of the monuments, which included stops at the World War II Memorial, the Lincoln Memorial, the Koren War Memorial, the FDR Memorial, and the Jefferson Monument.

Sunday was a day for service and reflection. The day began with a group project at the Historic Congressional Cemetery. For this project, students worked in teams to raise more than 100 headstones that had been neglected for years, and provided some other landscaping and general upkeep to the historic site. The day also included a group dinner and attendance at the National Memorial Day concert on the west lawn of the Capitol building. The trip concluded on Memorial Day as the students carried a 30-by-50 foot American flag down Constitution Avenue, as part of the National Memorial Day Parade.

Overall, most students were quite pleased with the trip. Kelsey Gallagher, one of the active student leaders within the group, “loved the D.C. trip and thought that it was such a great way to end an incredible first year at Ohio State. Being able to see the place where policy happens after talking about it in meetings all year was such a great experience ... the D.C. trip made me really think about my future, and it made me excited for things to come — I definitely can’t wait for next year!” Kelsey echoes the sentiments of many of her peers, as a record number of this year’s Learning Community students have decided to live in Baker East residence hall again and participate in the program next year. In September, they will join with new freshmen, with hopes of making the 2010-2011 school year the best one yet for the John Glenn Learning Community.
Anita McBride, a prominent White House staffer for Republican presidents Ronald Reagan, George H.W. Bush and George W. Bush and one of the architects of the prestigious White House internship program, spoke to an assembly of interns at the first event of the John Glenn/WISH spring policy salons.

McBride, who grew up as the daughter of Italian immigrants in Bridgeport, Conn., discussed her own interest in public affairs, which was nurtured by a University of Connecticut study-abroad program and then by a Washington internship secured through American University’s Washington Semester program. She rose quickly in the Reagan administration, where she served as director of White House personnel. During George W. Bush’s second term, she was an assistant to the president and chief of staff to First Lady Laura Bush. In addition to her several White House assignments, McBride worked for the former U.S. Information Agency and was special advisor in the State Department’s Bureau of International Organizations. Although she no longer is a public official, she continues to devote significant time to public service as a member of the U.S.-Afghan Women’s Council, as chair of the J. William Fulbright U.S. Foreign Scholarship Board, and as executive in residence in the School of Public Affairs at American University.

McBride spoke to an assembly that included a delegation from the University of Connecticut and interns from other universities who live in WISH housing, as well as the eleven members of the spring 2010 class of Glenn Fellows. Members of the audience seemed particularly interested in her experience with presidential transitions and receptive to her message about the virtues of service through the Peace Corps or such international non-governmental organizations as CARE.
John Wolfe, chairman and chief executive officer of the Dispatch Printing Company, which publishes The Columbus Dispatch, was awarded the Outstanding Public Service Award from the Glenn School during this year’s annual Pre-Commencement ceremony. The award is given to a community leader who has shown long-standing and distinguished contributions to public service.

Wolfe serves as chairman of Wolfe Associates Inc., the philanthropic arm of his company, and Wolfe Enterprises Inc., a subsidiary with ownership interests in the Columbus Blue Jackets, and provides sponsorships of community activities.

He currently serves as a board member of Glenn School, the Wexner Center Foundation, the Columbus Downtown Development Corp., the Columbus Partnership and the Ohio Business Roundtable. He has held leadership positions in a number of many Columbus philanthropic endeavors, including co-chair of The Ohio State University’s “Affirm Thy Friendship” campaign, trustee for the COSI Building Development and Financial Resources Corp. and honorary chair of the Columbus Metropolitan Library’s 2007 Party of the Century.

Congratulations

John Wolfe named Glenn School’s Outstanding Public Service Award winner

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Ohio Union honors two John Glenn Learning Community members

There are more than 7,000 freshman students on the campus of The Ohio State University. Each year, the Ohio Union recognizes ten of them for exemplary leadership and service. In 2010, two of those ten students hail from the Glenn School. First-year students Tim Collins and Sally Patton, both members of the John Glenn Learning Community, were given the Outstanding First-Year Student Award. Nominated students are considered by a university-wide committee and decisions are based on the students’ contributions inside and outside of the classroom.

Sally Patton is a history major from Hudson, Ohio. During her first year on campus, Patton took advantage of all the opportunities available at Ohio State. She describes her experience with the John Glenn Learning Community as a “phenomenal experience [that] gave me the opportunity to meet others … interested in public policy and service … and allowed me to make friends and experiences I know I’ll hold for a lifetime.”

This year, she demonstrated leadership as an officer in her residence hall’s governing council and will serve as a resident advisor for the John Glenn Learning Community next fall. Earlier this spring, she organized a Glenn School team in the Columbus Relay for Life, raising more than $800 for cancer research.

Patton is a member of Ohio State’s history club and pre-education honorary, participated in a community service-based trip to Chicago and is an active volunteer with Habitat for Humanity in Columbus.

Tim Collins, a psychology major from Avon, Ohio was a very active member of the Learning Community during his freshman year, and credits it with enabling him to “find my niche and know that I was coming home to a safe and friendly environment, especially during my first quarter … the John Glenn Learning Community is filled with students of various majors, backgrounds, and involvement … all still connected by our passion for public policy and civic engagement.” Collins has made the most of his brief tenure at Ohio State. He is a fervent supporter of Ohio State’s athletic programs, and demonstrates this through his involvement in Block O, which lends boisterous support to all Ohio State sports teams. He also serves as a senator with the Undergraduate Student Government, works as a student assistant giving tours of the new Ohio Union, and was recently initiated into Sigma Phi Epsilon, a fraternity with a long history of service and community involvement at Ohio State.
African-American alumni meet for coffee and conversation

Inspired by the Ohio State University’s All Decades African-American Alumni Reunion, Dr. Charles Wise and Liz Shirey invited the Glenn School’s African-American alumni to Page Hall for coffee and conversation. Twenty-four alumni and their guests attended this first-time event where they learned about some of the monumental changes taking place at the school. “We wanted to hear from our African-American alumni. We recognize that it is through the achievements and feedback of our alumni that the value of a Glenn School education continues to increase,” said Shirey. “Our alumni are the school’s most valuable assets, and we remain committed to maintaining an open and honest dialogue with them now and in the future.”

Over coffee, the group discussed how the school has been continuing to improve the quality of the graduate school experience for minority students through mentorship programs and partnerships with other groups on campus. “I am eternally grateful for the education that I received at OSU, and will happily lend my services to the program which seems to be on a remarkable upward trajectory,” said Wayne Turnage, MPA ’82. Many of the alumni expressed a desire to serve on panels and focus groups and to help with fundraising and student recruitment efforts. Keena Smith, MPA ’98, challenged the group to move beyond this conversation, to stay connected to one another, and to take action in order to build a strong and engaged network of alumni ready to support the Glenn School in a variety of ways.

Everyone was energized and in high spirits by the end of the conversation and left the event with a renewed sense of purpose and passion for the Glenn School. In the days following the event, Smith sent an e-mail message to the group inviting them all to gather again for lunch, and she even suggested they create a group page on Facebook.

Kysten Palmore (MA/MSW ’06) and Eric Russell (MPA ’08)
Wayne Turnage (MPA ’82), Tamyika Koger (MA ’06)
Bill Willis, Jr. (MA ’80) and Dick Blackenberry (MA ’71)

To see more photos from the reunion, go to: glenn.osu.edu/news/reunion.html

Glenn School pioneer graduate

In 1949, Mr. Victor Miller graduated from The Ohio State University with an MS in Public Administration. Twenty years later, Dr. Clinton V. Oster, Sr. teamed with faculty colleagues to form the Division of Public Administration, which later became the School of Public Policy and Management and then the John Glenn School of Public Affairs. Before public administration was cool, Miller felt very strongly that he wanted to work in government services, which he did for his entire professional career. Piecing together courses from a variety of departments, Miller was able to create his very own master’s program that gave him the skills and knowledge necessary to succeed in the public sector.

In May, he and his wife Virginia paid a visit to Page Hall and brought along his diploma just to prove that he truly did graduate with degree in public administration.

We are looking for other Glenn School pioneer graduates. If you graduated from Ohio State before 1969 with a degree in public administration, or know of someone who did, please contact Liz Shirey at 614-292-8288, shirey.23@osu.edu, or 150B Page Hall, 1810 College Road, Columbus, OH 43210.
Sylvia Brown, MA/JD ’06, accepted a position serving as Gov. Ted Strickland’s deputy director of legislation and deputy legal counsel.

Callie Dendrinos, WAIP ’07, is currently enrolled at the University of Michigan Law School. She recently has been accepted to the prestigious Legal Aid Society of Cleveland’s 2010 summer associates program. As a summer associate, Callie will learn about the issues of poverty law through trainings on substantive law, public interest work, and basics of legal practice.

Julia Dorian, MA/ JD ’97, has officially been nominated as a candidate for judge of the 10th District Court of Appeals after having served as judge on the Franklin County Municipal Court for the past six years. You can find out more about her experience and what she hopes to accomplish by visiting her website at judgedorrian.com.

Michael Kinninger, MPA ’10, is currently working at the Ohio Department of Development as a community development analyst in the Housing and Community Partnerships office.

Marci Maynard, MPA ’97, and her husband Chuck, celebrated the birth of their third child, Colin Cole Maynard on March 20, 2010. He came into the world 22 inches long and weighing 9 lbs. 2 oz. According to mom, he is a very happy and healthy little boy.

Ryan Meadows, MA/ JD ’07, recently moved from director of admissions and student services for the John Glenn School of Public Affairs to a new position within Ohio State working as the special assistant to the senior vice president and senior project manager in the Office of Legal Affairs.

Jennifer Miller, MA ’08, currently is working as the conservation program coordinator at the Ohio Chapter of the Sierra Club. In this position, she serves as the primary contact for energy, transportation, and global climate change. She also is the contact for Miami, Northeast Ohio, and Western Lake Erie groups.

Maria Petrakis, WAIP ’04, recently joined the government relations consulting firm of The Charles Group, LLC as the legislative director after earning her J.D. from Thomas M. Cooley Law School. At the Charles Group, Maria focuses primarily on legislative affairs issues.

Thomas W. Rice, MA ’81, was the recipient of the 2010 John Glenn School of Public Affairs’ Outstanding Alumnus Award. Rice served 33 years with the Ohio State Highway Patrol in every position possible. After retirement, he served at the Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections, the Ohio Department of Youth Services and the City of Columbus. In 2002, he was appointed as the first federal security director, Transportation Security Administration, Department of Homeland Security for the Columbus Regional Airport Authority and the Rickenbacker International Airport. The Glenn School presents the Outstanding Alumnus/Award annually to an alumna/alumnus of the Master’s or Ph.D. program whose strong support of the school, its academic programs and its students is highly valued.
Eric Russell, MPA ’08, recently joined the board of directors for the Kaleidoscope Youth Center in Columbus. He currently serves as a member of the Finance and Nominating Committees. Kaleidoscope is the only youth service organization in Ohio solely dedicated to meeting the needs of youth ages 12 to 20 who are lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender, as well as those questioning their sexual orientation or gender identity. The mission of Kaleidoscope Youth Center is to work in partnership with young people in Central Ohio to create safe and empowering environments for LGBTQ youth.

Hope Sharett, MA/JD ’03, started her new job as the executive director of the Law and Leadership Institute (lawandleadership.org), in April. The Law and Leadership Institute is a statewide pipeline program that seeks to increase diversity in the legal profession by preparing underserved high school students for college and ultimately careers in the law.


Bill Shkurti, MA ’74, retired from his post as senior vice president for business and finance on March 30, 2010, after 21 years of guiding Ohio State’s fiscal and budgetary operations. Shkurti joined Ohio State in 1988 as the Enarson Executive in Residence in the School of Public Policy and Management after serving as director of the Ohio Office of Budget and Management for Gov. Richard Celeste. He was named university vice president for finance in 1990 and assumed additional responsibilities for business operations when he became senior vice president for business operations in 1998.

Kevin Webb, MA ’04, has recently been promoted to the position of director at the Mitsubishi Electric America Foundation (MEAF). In this position, Webb is responsible for guiding and implementing grant programs and company volunteer activities focused on MEAF’s mission of helping young people with disabilities maximize their potential and participation in society.

Dr. Jacqueline Schneider, MPA ’87, is the department chair of the Department of Criminal Justice Sciences at Illinois State University. Previously, she spent six years teaching and conducting research in England. Her work on stolen goods markets has been put forward as best practice in England and has attracted interest by policymakers in Chile.

Dr. Jeremy Wilson, Ph.D. ’02, has been asked to head up Michigan State University’s new Anti-Counterfeiting and Product Protection Program (A-CAPPP). This is the nation’s first comprehensive research and training program designed to address product counterfeiting — which the FBI has called “the crime of the 21st century.” The focus of A-CAPPP is to provide lessons to industry and government to help reduce counterfeiting and the negative impacts of counterfeiting. Wilson’s goal is to have A-CAPPP serve as an international hub for anti-counterfeiting.

Keep your classmates and JGSPA informed of your promotions, job changes, papers/articles/books written, lectures/seminars given, marriages, children, and any other personal or professional achievements you wish to share with us.

Please send your updates and pictures to:
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Columbus, OH 43210
shirey.23@osu.edu
Visitor's Guide

Why are these people running? See page 6.