Degrees of Change

New Bachelor of Science degree adds career opportunities

Glenn College’s
U.S. News Ranking
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Excellence in Public Service Award
Page 12
Glenn College rated in the top 25 best public affairs programs

The John Glenn College of Public Affairs is ranked best in Ohio and 25th nationally among the 272 Public Affairs graduate schools in the 2016 U.S. News & World Report rankings. “We’re proud to be a top 25 program,” said Dean Trevor Brown. “This ranking is a testament to the top flight faculty at the Glenn College and the world class professional education we provide to undergraduate, graduate and doctoral students.”

In addition, four of the Glenn College’s specialties have been placed among the ranks of the nation’s best. Public Management Administration is positioned at No. 14. Public Policy Analysis moved up four places to No. 16. The Public Finance and Budgeting specialty is No. 21. For the first time, the Glenn College’s specialty in Nonprofit Management has been ranked debuting at No. 17.

“The specialty rankings are a direct reflection of the emphasis the college places on a well-rounded policy and management education that prepares our students with the tools to make a real difference,” said Dr. Robert Greenbaum, Associate Dean for Curriculum at the Glenn College. “Employers continue to seek out our graduates.”

Ranked No. 29 in the last U.S. News rating cycle (2012), the Glenn College has catapulted up 17 points from its founding in 2007. Its current position makes it one of the highest ranked graduate programs at The Ohio State University.

The Glenn College is now head and shoulders above other public affairs programs in the State of Ohio, a full 20 spots above the next highest ranked program, the Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs at Cleveland State (No. 45). No other public affairs program in Ohio is ranked in the top 50 schools.

#1 Ranked best in Ohio by U.S. News & World Report. A full 20 spots above the next highest ranked Ohio program.

SEE ALL RANKINGS AT: grad-schools.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com
Groundbreaking study sheds light on effects of credit counseling

Professor Stephanie Moulton and Steven Roll, Ph.D., released the results of their groundbreaking study on the impact of financial counseling on consumer behavior at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C., in April.

The study examined the Sharpen Your Financial Focus initiative, launched by the National Foundation for Credit Counseling (NFCC) in 2013. The study found that Sharpen clients perform better on a variety of credit outcomes, most notably, showing improvement in levels of revolving debt and total debt, better money management and improved financial confidence as compared to a control group of consumers who did not receive the counseling.

“The scale and scope of the Sharpen initiative provide an unprecedented opportunity to shed light on the impact of credit counseling on the lives of consumers,” said Moulton, who served as the Principal Investigator for this study. “What these findings provide is robust reduction in debt and increase in total debt, better money management and improved financial confidence as compared to a control group of consumers who did not receive the counseling.

Moulton and Roll conducted a comparative evaluation, matching 6,994 Sharpen clients to a group of 6,005 similar non-counseled individuals. Outcomes for the two groups were measured on a quarterly basis from the quarter prior to counseling through six quarters post-counseling. When compared to those without counseling, Sharpen clients showed remarkable improvements in available liquid assets, levels of revolving debt and overall debt balances.

For example, during the 18 months following counseling, Sharpen clients reduced their total debt by nearly $6,000—a statistically significant reduction of $3,000 more than the comparison group. Sharpen participants whose total debt increased slightly during the same period. Also noteworthy, the ratio of available credit for counseled clients grew at a faster rate than the comparison group after the first post-counseling quarter and was 19 percent higher six quarters after counseling.

“Financial counseling and debt management have given me confidence and insight,” said Martha Souder, a NFCC member client. “These are lasting rewards that I will carry into the future. It feels great to finally be financially secure.”

Driven by these results, and with support from financial institutions, the NFCC is proceeding with additional innovations. In the next phase of Sharpen, there will be an eCoaching feature that leverages technology, helping clients stay on track to meet their financial goals through direct emails and texts.

Why is synergy the best policy?

That’s not Buckeye bravado or hyperbole. Clark and Professor Neal Hooker are the only people in the nation to oversee a public affairs unit with experts in food policy. It provides “a space and a place for the hard conversations about food,” Clark says, adding that Glenn College students have the advantage of dedicated discourse surrounding the roles of nonprofits, government and citizens in addressing food insecurity.

“If we think policy plays a role in who eats what, where and why, then we need to be training our students to change the world through public service,” she says. “How can you claim to train students on important issues, yet one of them isn’t food?”

Part of that training includes a course dedicated to the national food-supply system. Clark focuses on the prevailing issues of health, obesity, novel crops, sustainability, food advertising and corporate consolidation. With this unique-to-Ohio State curriculum, graduates could land in any number of places to address food insecurity, whether serving with a local food council articulating the community’s voice, leading a farm-to-school initiative or advising a member of Congress.

The overarching principle is civic agriculture — a rebirth of how people see themselves within the food system. It’s a trend that runs counter to large-scale agriculture. It’s the new vernacular instead of the overworked institutional racism and more.

Clark says part of her work involves examining how retailers that accept SNAP benefits have been placed on already-overburdened families. Sometimes limit their hours. This can be a barrier, especially for people working multiple jobs, who might turn to fast food or gas stations for meals. It’s yet another burden placed on already-overburdened families.

As Clark sees it, remedies come in fits and starts. In predominantly African American communities, stores selling fresh produce and other healthful options sometimes limit their hours. This can be a barrier, especially for people working multiple jobs, who might turn to fast food or gas stations for meals. It’s yet another burden placed on already-overburdened families.

Clark serves as a member of Congress. When we identify civil rights abuses, as a member of Congress, we come together and make sure it stops. So what does that look like for food?” she asks. “If all we do is buy and sell food, we’re never accountable for how it works. We can’t give up our responsibility.”

Story by Marisa Proulx for the Ohio State Alumni Association
MA student Cathy Becker attends Paris climate conference

S enate Bill 310, which put a two-year freeze on Ohio’s renewable and energy-efficiency standards, became the catalyst that eventually led Glenn College MA student Cathy Becker to the U.N. Climate Change Conference in Paris as a member of the Sierra Club delegation.

Becker, the public relations coordinator at the Mershon Center, was able to attend the Climate Change Conference where the Paris Agreement was negotiated on reducing greenhouse gasses emissions mitigation, adaptation, and finance starting in the year 2020 while studying for her MA degree.

“Although I did not have a badge for the actual climate negotiations, Sierra Club members got daily reports from Fred Heute, lead volunteer for the Federal and International Climate Campaign,” said Becker.

Because of this, most of the delegates were free to attend civil society events, actions, meetings, festivals, and other events occurring daily throughout Paris.

“There was no way to attend everything – you had to choose. But no matter what you picked, it would be good,” said Becker.

Throughout the two weeks were events on trade, unions, jobs, and climate, emphasizing that while addressing climate change through renewable energy creates jobs, bad trade deals destroy both jobs and climate. The culmination was a general assembly at the Climate Action Zone on “Capitalism and Climate” featuring Naomi Klein.

“During this, I learned, while climate agreements are not legally binding, Klein said, trade deals such as NAFTA and the TPP are not only binding but would allow corporations to sue to overturn laws protecting the climate that hurt their profits,” said Becker. Along with this, a two-day International Rights of Nature Tribunal explored the rights of nature as a legal concept and how they might be defended in a series of cases against violators of those rights. Cases included climate crimes against nature such as fossil fuels, deforestation, and water use, financing of nature, including carbon trading and REDD and Agribusiness and GMOs.

Another event Becker was able to attend was the People’s Climate Summit and Global Village of Alternatives, a two-day festival in the Montreuil suburb of Paris.

“When I first walked in I was greeted by a large wooden tree with hundreds of ribbons in all colors hanging from its branches,” said Becker. “The idea was to write something close to your heart that you did not want to lose to climate disruption on a blank ribbon and then tie it somewhere on the tree.”

One of Becker’s favorite events was the Earth to Paris conference.

“The lineup was pretty amazing,” said Becker. “Jane Goodall, spoke about forest and ocean degradation and conservation, Bill McKibben and Emma Ruby Sachs, spoke on the climate and environment movement, Anthony Lake spoke on the effects of climate change on children and lastly, Secretary of State John Kerry was interviewed.”

After her time spent among other activists, students, business leaders, lawmakers, indigenous groups and faith organizations, she said she now sees that the world is ready for climate action.

Wellness Council embraces healthy options

Walking into Page Hall one will occasionally find something not usually associated with the study of public affairs— a regulation size basketball hoop set up in the lobby. The Glenn College’s Wellness Council placed it there as just one of their initiatives to advocate for wellness.

The Glenn College’s wellness efforts were sparked when Glenn College Human Resources Manager Andrea Garringer attended a meeting where Bernadette Melnyk, Ohio State’s first associate vice president for Health Promotion and Chief Wellness Officer, introduced Buckeye Wellness. Buckeye Wellness was created by Melnyk to strengthen the university’s emphasis on wellness. Buckeye Wellness is a health and wellness initiative that aims to carry out the strategic plan of the university’s wellness goals through offering solutions for a healthy life.

During the meeting, Melnyk charged HR leaders with the task of creating a culture of wellness within their units. To effectively complete this task, the Glenn College Wellness Council was created. The Wellness Council is comprised of Glenn faculty, staff and student employees who are appointed by the dean for a limited term of service. “All Glenn College employees are encouraged to participate in the wellness council’s meetings and activities as well as provide feedback and suggestions for continued wellness efforts in the college,” said Brittany Miller, staff assistant to Administration and Operations.

Miller was one of only eight recipients of the 2015 Buckeye Wellness Innovator Award. Buckeye Wellness Innovators are university faculty and staff who have a special interest in facilitating an innovative culture and environment of wellness in their unit.

“The Glenn College Wellness Council was created not only to carry out university-wide wellness initiatives,” said Miller. “But to also develop ways to encourage and enable wellness throughout the college.” The goal of the council is to establish a college-wide culture of health awareness. This is achieved by informing the college of health and wellness research, resources and initiatives, providing wellness resources and opportunities throughout Page Hall and establishing a general acceptance and “norm” of wellness so people do not feel uncomfortable engaging in wellness practice.

The Wellness Council meets between once or twice per month to discuss ways to improve the well-being of the college. These strategies include events, newsletters, and building renovations. A visible product of the Wellness Council’s efforts has been the recently upgraded kitchen on the 2nd floor, along with the addition of a Nursing Mother’s Room and several standing desk areas throughout the college.

The kitchen was redesigned to create a more desirable place to gather and engage in social wellness as well as provide students, faculty, staff and visitors a convenient way to store and heat healthy meals from home. “We now have a place to chat over lunch, gather to review important materials and refuel,” said Miller. “This space encourages social wellness as well as physical wellness with standing lunch tables, live plants, natural sunlight, and exercise bands available for any passersby to use and enjoy.”

The Nursing Mother’s Room furthers the college’s wellness as well as diversity and inclusion efforts. It offers a serene and private space for nursing mothers to breastfeed or pump and store milk so that they can attend work and class in Page Hall while caring for their own health and their child’s. Another tangible product of the Wellness Council is the addition of building-wide standing desks. Individual standing desks are available to faculty, staff, and students, along with the use of the standing conference table on the third floor. “These standing options have received great feedback and use by both college employees and students,” said Miller.
Beginning autumn semester 2016, the John Glenn College of Public Affairs will have two undergraduate public affairs degrees, a revised Bachelor of Art’s with a new name — Public Management, Leadership, and Policy — and a brand new Bachelor of Science in Public Policy Analysis.*

“The key reason for the creation is to better serve two kinds of students,” said Dr. Joshua Hawley, who was the Undergraduate Studies chair when the new degree was being developed. “We noticed a perennial divide between students who felt comfortable with advanced economic classes and those who didn’t. Those students who wanted to talk about analysis and those who wanted to talk about civic engagement and public management.”

The revised BA and new BS degree will provide more opportunities for current students, as well as appealing to incoming freshmen to the college. “The two names [of the degrees] being more descriptive will help attract both incoming freshmen and those already on campus,” said Chris Adams, assistant director of Admissions and Student Services.

When asked, at a curriculum meeting with Glenn College students, why revisions were made to the B.A. degree, curriculum committee members, who had worked for a year on the program changes reassured the students the changes are beneficial and said employers were surveyed by the Glenn College and career market trends were analyzed while making these adjustments to the curriculum.

“(The new name) is also to serve the workforce, so when you go out into the world it will be more descriptive of the coursework put together for your degree,” said Dr. Caroline Wagner, associate professor at the Glenn College. “The new degree title is also now more descriptive of what the degree entails, as well as the types of people the college hopes to produce.”

“We [the college] hope we’re creating citizens, leaders, managers and analysts, but at the root, we’re hoping you go out and change the world,” said Hawley.

With the new title, the B.A. degree comes with new requirements, including a course in management, a choice of finance courses and an opportunity to take additional public affairs courses. These changes will start in the fall 2016 semester.

While both degrees highlight policy, management, and analysis, the new B.S. degree in Public Policy Analysis places an emphasis on the analytical side of policy.

“This is not a common degree at most colleges,” said Hawley. “It’s designed to give students an edge who want to work in policy analysis.”

Because of the analytical emphasis, general education requirements for this degree are slightly different from the college’s B.A. program. Students wishing to pursue the B.S. will be required to take calculus, an added science with a lab, and higher level statistics. This ensures students are prepared for the higher, more quantitative courses that stress statistics and economics. Core classes for this degree are also new. Students will be required to take public policy evaluation, along with an upper division methods course, which will be selected with the assistance of their advisor. One last change is this degree does not require any political science courses.

“How does the BA differ from the BS degree?” “They are both really good degrees,” said Hawley. “If you want to go into nonprofit management or government service in a leadership role, the BA is for you. If you want to work in an analysis role right out of college, the BS is for you. One is not better than the other, they are both designed to meet the career goals of our students.”

*Pending approval of the Ohio Department of Higher Education

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New major, new opportunities

2008 Charles Wise, the director of the Glenn School, forms a committee to research the development of a undergraduate degree

2010 Bachelor of Arts degree is approved.

Glenn College creates advisory office for undergraduates

100 students enroll in the major

2011 First incoming class

2012 Four students graduate at winter commencement

2014 14 students graduate at spring commencement

Specializations increase from three to six

2016 330 students in the major

70 students graduate at spring commencement

Bachelor of Art degree changes name to Public Management, Leadership, and Policy

New Bachelor of Science in Public Policy Analysis
Katie Vinopal joined the Glenn College this summer as an assistant professor. She recently earned a Ph.D. from American University.

You originally received a B.S. in Mathematics from Xavier University in Cincinnati. What inspired you to go into Public Policy? Over the course of getting my Mathematics degree, I came to think of it as a tool kit to be applied to other subjects I was interested in. At Xavier I had taken some courses and been involved with organizations that triggered my interest in policy design and research. After graduation, I applied for jobs in the field and ended up working as a research assistant at the Urban Institute—a think tank in Washington DC—for over two years. There I learned how to conduct social science research, and helped on projects relating to issues, policies, and systems impacting low-income individuals and families. Given my math background, I especially took to the quantitative side of research.

More specifically, why did you decide to focus some of your research in social inequality and poverty? Income inequality in the U.S. is the highest it has been in decades, and wealth inequality is even higher. The poverty rate—a separate but related issue—also remains high. It is increasingly hard for Americans born in disadvantaged circumstances to be upwardly mobile. These issues have implications for how we think about class content. Students can expect to build on knowledge from other classes, learn the theory and politics behind policy design decisions, and develop skills for better evaluating and writing about policy. I hope students leave class feeling motivated to continue learning and working to change the world for the better.

What are you especially interested in hearing from a student’s perspective? Part of what is fun and exciting about learning public policy is its relevance to everyday life. Students bring different experiences and perspectives that will help us all think more holistically about class content. Students can expect to build on knowledge from other classes, learn the theory and politics behind policy design decisions, and develop skills for better evaluating and writing about policy. I hope students leave class feeling motivated to continue learning and working to change the world for the better.

Is there any current research you are particularly excited about? I’m particularly excited about a paper examining how children’s experience of income inequality shapes their social and emotional development.

Launched in May 2015, the $10 Million Dollar Turn Your Passion Into Policy Campaign has raised $4.6 Million. The campaign is focused on supporting scholarships that help the Glenn College attract some of the brightest future leaders, but also support them by lessening the amount of student debt with which they will graduate.

To learn more about giving opportunities through the “Turn Your Passion Into Policy” development campaign, please go to glenn.osu.edu/support or contact Whitney Abraham by email at abraham.185@osu.edu or call her at 614-292-8758.

Tommy Bowles earns first John and Annie Glenn Scholarship

Incoming Public Affairs major Tommy Bowles was awarded the first John and Annie Glenn Undergraduate Scholarship for demonstrating a commitment to public service. The Glenns endowed the scholarship so it can cover the cost of tuition, room and board, and book fees for four years for an undergraduate student in public affairs.

Bowles, of Westlake, Ohio, will receive $55,300 over four years to attend The Ohio State University. He was selected from among seven finalists based on his academic credentials and the content of his application materials.

“I wish it were possible for every student to have a full-ride experience at Ohio State,” said Sen. Glenn. “Annie and I have established this scholarship fund and wish it could be many times the size it is.”

“The Glens have made this gift in the hope that some bright, committed, high school kid from Ohio can go to college like they did and pursue a life of public service without the burden of crushing debt,” said Trevor Brown, dean of the Glenn College. “Their gift is the cornerstone of the “Turn Your Passion Into Policy” Scholarship Campaign.”

Bowles accepted the scholarship in April during the Glenn College Board of Advisor’s meeting, where he and his family met Sen. John Glenn and Annie Glenn, as well as their daughter Lynn Glenn.

“We know he will be an exceptional Glenn College student and look forward to his many contributions to our community and Glenn family,” said Whitney Abraham, the Glenn College’s development director.

Bowles graduated from Westlake High School where he was a four-year member of both the Varsity track and wrestling teams was involved in student council, SADD, Leadership Challenge and Company D Show Choir.

John M. Horack joins Ohio State as inaugural Neil Armstrong Chair in Aerospace Policy

Dr. John M. Horack will hold a joint appointment with the Glenn College and the College of Engineering as the inaugural Neil Armstrong Chair in Aerospace Policy.

“John’s arrival as the Armstrong Chair will expand and energize Ohio State’s activity in aerospace engineering and policy,” said Dean Trevor Brown. “He will play a critical integrating role in connecting the aerospace engineering expertise in the College of Engineering with the policy expertise of the Glenn College.”

Horack’s professional experience in aerospace innovation and leadership dates back to 1987. He currently serves as the vice president of the International Astronautical Federation, was vice president for research at the University of Alabama in Huntsville, achieved the level of senior executive service at NASA’s Marshall Space Flight Center, and most recently served as vice president of Teledyne Brown Engineering’s Space Systems group. At TBE he had responsibility for overseeing all government and commercial space programs, including science, International Space Station payload operations, test support, flight hardware, launch vehicle and component development, and Earth imaging.

Horack is also a widely published scientist in the field of gamma ray bursts, having authored or co-authored more than 100 papers and conference presentations.
FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler receives Glenn College’s Excellence in Public Service Award

Tom Wheeler, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, received the John Glenn College of Public Affairs’ Excellence in Public Service Award at a reception in Washington, D.C. For more than 20 years, this award has been given annually to individuals with an outstanding tradition of service in the public interest.

Chairman Wheeler is a graduate of Ohio State’s Fisher College of Business and is the 31st Chairman of the FCC. As chairman of one of the world’s most powerful regulatory agencies, he has taken steps to spur competition and innovation in telecommunications, cable and broadband service. He is also a champion of Ohio State students. Glenn College BA alum Regina Black served as an intern in his office when he was first appointed chairman and four OSU law students (one of whom is a PA dual degree student) currently serve in his office.

New Homeland Security offers internship initiative

The Ohio Department of Public Safety through Ohio Homeland Security is partnering with the John Glenn College of Public Affairs to start a new internship program aimed at harnessing college students’ innovative ideas and analytical skills to contribute to a safer Ohio.

Dr. Leonard Haynes joins Glenn College’s Washington Academic Internship Program

The Glenn College is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Leonard Haynes as a distinguished adjunct professor for the Glenn College’s Washington Academic Internship Program.

“Dr. Haynes is a Swiss Army Knife of D.C.: expertise and experience, academic distinction, and classroom excellence,” said Dr. Trevor Brown, dean of the John Glenn College of Public Affairs. “He is also a champion of Ohio State students. Glenn College BA alum Regina Black served as an intern in his office when he was first appointed chairman and four OSU law students (one of whom is a PA dual degree student) currently serve in his office.”

Recently retired as the senior director of Institutional Services in the Office of Postsecondary Education at the U.S. Department of Education, Haynes has been an active supporter of WAIP. His office has hosted interns; he has been a mentor to WAIP fellows and found internships across Washington for others.

Dr. Leonard Haynes joins Glenn College’s Washington Academic Internship Program

Paolo DeMaria named State Superintendent of Public Instruction

In a unanimous vote, the State Board of Education of Ohio selected Paolo DeMaria, MPA ’96, to be the State Superintendent of Public Instruction to lead the Ohio Department of Education.

DeMaria most recently served as principal consultant for Education First Consulting, LLC. Previously, he served as executive vice chancellor at the Ohio Board of Regents and associate superintendent for School Options and Finance at the Ohio Department of Education. DeMaria served as director of the Office of Budget and Management for Governor George Voinovich and chief policy advisor for Governor Bob Taft.

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NEW HOMELAND SECURITY OFFERS INTERNSHIP INITIATIVE

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The Ohio Department of Public Safety has agreed to annually employ interns specializing in Cyber Security Analytical, Information Security, Infrastructure Protection; as well as a track in public-private sector administrative program development.

“This internship will provide students with a hands-on experience in one of the most critical public safety functions – homeland security,” said Dean Trevor Brown. “We’re excited to partner with Public Safety to create this opportunity for Glenn College students.”

The first students to take part in the program are Hannah Diewald, a senior majoring in Public Affairs with an Urban Policy & Management specialization, and David Myerholtz, a junior with double major in Public Affairs and City and Regional Planning.

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1979
Kim Toussaint, MA, is the new director of the Office of Responsible Research Practices at The Ohio State University.

Xiboa Li, Ph.D., is a tenured faculty member in the School of Economics and Management at Tsinghua University in Beijing.

1985
Rafi Eshett, MPA, is now the chief of Non-Institutional Policy in the Bureau of Health Plan Policy, Ohio Department of Medicaid.

1993
Tony Mastracci, MPA, works as a program manager for the Community Foundation of Utah.

1995
Dan Johnson, MPA, is now president and CEO of Forward Thinking Wealth Management, LLC.

1998
Henry Zheng, Ph.D., is now the assistant vice provost for institutional research at Lehigh University.

2003
Xiboa Li, Ph.D., is a tenured faculty member in the School of Economics and Management at Tsinghua University in Beijing.

2007
Christopher Vlahos, MA, is the senior consultant, Higher Education Practice at Marks & Lundy, Inc.

2009
Michelle Ball, MA, is the director of marketing and communications for the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences at The Ohio State University.

2010
Rachel Elam, MPA, is the market development lead at Facebook.

2013
Estera Piroso Escobar, MPA, is the national director for Staff Recruitment and Training at International Friends.

2014
Carrie Almasi, MPA, is now the senior impact director at United Way of Central Ohio.

2016
Nichole Britt, MPA, is working at the Columbus Metropolitan Library as a Ready to Read program specialist.

Maria Petroski, WAFP, is now a policy manager at Homeland Security Network, OCIO, Department of Homeland Security.

Dana Textoris, NEW Leadership, is now the executive consultant of Client Engagement at Grants Plus.

Dorian Wingard, MPA, is now the chief executive and Consultant at Midwest Strategies, LLC.

Kevin Griffith, MPA, is a research assistant with the U.S. Department of Veteran’s Affairs.

Sara Kilpatrick, MPA, is now the executive director at Ohio Conference AAUP.

Joshua Kramer, WAFP, works as an associate in the Federal Advocacy Practice at LNE Group, a government affairs firm in Washington, D.C.

Tara Britton, MPA, is the national director for Staff Recruitment and Training at International Friends.

Ben Peyton, MA, is working as a budget management specialist for the City of Columbus.

Gretchen Turner, MA, is the Education Abroad Program Manager for the OSU, Office of International Affairs.

2015
Brandi Braun, MPA, is working as a communications and development officer for the City of Columbus.

2016
Natasha Ewing, MPA, is a management analyst at the Ohio Department of Education.

Allison Hoyle, MPA, is now program manager at Reading Partners in New York City.

Nathaniel Thomas, MA, is a project manager with The Ohio State University Facilities Operations and Development.

Victoria Parsons, BA, is working in Medical Policy/Federal Relations at Blue Cross Blue Shield Association and in the MPA program at The George Washington University.

2014
Ben Phillips, MPA, is the budget chief for the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities.

Eric Petro, MPA, has joined the Ohio Department of Education as an education program specialist.

2015
Neal Townsend, MPA, is the financial manager at State of Ohio - Department of Developmental Disabilities.

Ben Weisbuch, MA, accepted a position with Franklin County working as a senior performance analyst.

Kelsey Ellingsen, MPA, is a legislative aide for Columbus Councilwoman Elizabeth Brown.

Maria Petrakis, WAFP, is now the chief executive of Medicaid.

Tony Mastracci, MPA, has accepted a position with The Ohio State University.

2016
Michelle Ball, MA, is now the director of marketing and communications for the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences at The Ohio State University.

2012
Melanie Cheng, MPA, is now an Immigration Services Officer for the U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services.

Courtney Shenk, MA, has joined the OSU Department of Engineering as an associate director of development.

Carrie Almasi, MPA, is now the senior impact director at United Way of Central Ohio.

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MANDELA WASHINGTON FELLOWSHIP AT THE GLENN COLLEGE

Twenty-five young professionals from across Africa spent six weeks at a Public Management Institute at Ohio State organized by the Glenn College and the Center for African Studies. The Mandela Washington Fellowship is the flagship program of the U.S. Department of State’s Young African Leaders Initiative. Fellows are young leaders from Sub-Saharan Africa who have established records of accomplishment in promoting innovation and positive change in their communities. Dr. Robert Greenbaum served as the academic director and Glenn College doctoral student Rudy Hightower was academic co-director for the institute which focused on public management and five subthemes: health, business and entrepreneurship, agriculture, education, and democracy and governance.