PROGRAM

Welcoming Remarks
Jeffrey D. Straussman
Dean, Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy

Keynote Speaker
Barbara VanEpps

Departmental Awards and Recognition
R. Karl Rethemeyer
Chair, Department of Public Administration & Policy

David Rousseau
Chair, Department of Political Science

Reception
Immediately Following Ceremony
Page Hall Courtyard
Catered by Chartwells
(Rain Location Milne 200)

Department of Political Science

Awards

Distinguished Doctoral Dissertation Award
Yong-Hoo Sohn
“A Political Theory of Responsibility”

Honorable Mention
Laura Gonzalez-Murphy
“Change and Continuity in Mexico’s Immigration Policy: How Civil Society Organizations Influence the Policy Process”

Outstanding Adjunct Instructor
Laura Gonzalez-Murphy

Outstanding Teaching Assistant
Marcus Schulzke

Outstanding Graduate Student Service
Patrick Smith

DISSERTATION TITLES

Morris Bidjerano, “Collaboration as Paradox: The Case of the Patuxent River, MD Nutrient Control Strategy”

Ting-Wei Chiang, “Organizational Learning and Nursing Home Quality of Care in the State of New York”

Laura Gonzalez-Murphy, “Change and Continuity in Mexico’s Immigration Policy: How Civil Society Organizations Influence the Policy Process”

Ahmet Guler, “Explaining Torture and its Reduction in a Police Department: A View from Below”

Natalie Helbig, “Thinking Beyond Performance Indicators: A Holistic Study of Organizational Information Use to Improve Performance”

Moses Kamya, “Developing an Enterprise Systems Appropriation Model for the Public Sector: A Case Study of Implementing Payroll System Replacement (PayServ) at the New York State Office of the State Comptroller”

Nai-Ling Kuo, “Fiscal Decentralization in Taiwan: A Case Study of the Centrally Allotted Tax Revenue Program and Local Financial Accountability”


Talin Saroukhian, “What Happens When Uganda is SAPped! Have Uganda’s Structural Adjustment Policies Increased Women’s Poverty?”

Christopher Sarver, “Multinational Firm Strategy and the Nationalization of Copper in Chile and Zambia: The Experience of Five Companies”

Yong-Hoo Sohn, “A Political Theory of Responsibility”

The following students have been offered membership in Pi Alpha Alpha, National Honor Society for Public Affairs & Administration:

**Master of Arts in Public Affairs & Policy**
- Paul Buchbinder
- Sarah Imboden
- Edward Moynihan

**Master of Arts in Public Administration**
- Carmen Brick
- Paola Cantarelli
- Se-hoon Cha
- Jason Cozza
- Catherine Kramer
- Julia Lee
- Yeong Jo Lim
- Henrik Metzlaff
- Nam Gie Park
- Youn Jin Park
- Chantal Pinard
- Qin Qin
- Anna Raup-Kounovsky
- Heather Senecal
- Rebecca Slaughter
- Marshall Vitale

*About our Keynote Speaker*

Barbara VanEpps joined the staff of the New York State Conference of Mayors in 2006 as Director of Intergovernmental Finance, and was promoted to Deputy Director in 2008. NYCOM is currently celebrating its 100th year as the statewide association representing and serving city and village governments in New York. As Deputy Director, Barbara assists in the overall administration of the association, is responsible for all areas of municipal finance, and coordinates NYCOM’s legislative advocacy efforts. Key among her many accomplishments with the Conference of Mayors was authoring “Connecting the Dots: A Blueprint for Revitalizing Our Communities and Our State,” and developing NYCOM’s highly successful public advocacy website, “StopTheTaxShift.org.” She has also been integral in strengthening NYCOM’s presence at the State Capitol and its relationship with its largest city members.

Prior to her employment at NYCOM, Barbara served in the New York State Division of Budget as a Principal Budget Examiner. During her 13 year tenure at the Division of Budget she worked primarily on local government issues and programs, including municipal taxes, distressed cities, public sector compensation and benefits, and the AIM Program. She has extensive knowledge of government issues, including municipal finance, State mandates and State aid.

Barbara holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Binghamton and a Masters of Public Administration from the Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy, University at Albany.

**Department of Public Administration & Policy Awards**

**Distinguished Doctoral Dissertation Award**
- Natalie Helbig
  “Thinking Beyond Performance Indicators: A Holistic Study of Organizational Information Use to Improve Performance”

**Excellence in Graduate Student Teaching Award**
- Niyousha Hosseinichimeh

**Excellence in a Masters Essay**
- Amanda Lester
  “The Struggle to Achieve Educational Equity: The Impact of Within-District Resource Allocation in Urban Schools in an Era of Equity Litigation”

**Outstanding Student Leadership Award**
- Heather Senecal
  Jonathan Shepard

**Outstanding Internship Supervisor**
- Shelagh Dorn
  New York State Intelligence Center

**Outstanding Internship Site**
- New York State Office of Homeland Security

**Outstanding Internship Winners**
- Karyn Andrade
- Megan Dollery
- Megan Tangjerd
Doctor of Philosophy in Political Science
Laura Gonzalez-Murphy
Ji Yong Lee
Robert Mauro
Brian Nussbaum
Ersan Ozkan
Talin Saroukhanian
Christopher Sarver
Yong-Hoo Sohn
Darius Watson

Master of Arts in Public Affairs & Policy
Nurjan Ahmedova
Arielle Bernstein
Jennifer Cole
Christopher Coll
Emily Dattilio
Sarah Imboden
Amanda Lester
Brian Ludwiczak
Edward Moynihan
Shannon Scotece
Catriona Stevenson

Master of Public Administration
Wanda Abad
Tarkey Alhozaimy
Ian Anderson
Katherine Anderson
Susan Appé
Zhanmur Ashigali
Courtney Asker
Halil Bagci
David Belsky
Martin Bonventre
Paul Buchbinder
Carmen Brick
Matthew Burns
Kristin Butler
Paola Cantarelli
Michael Cassidy
Se-hoon Cha
Thomas Cooper
Lindsay Coughtry
Jason Cozza
Jacob Crawford
Michael D’Allaird
Michael DeStefano
Patricia Diedrich
Megan Dollery
Tanya Dugal
Todd Engwer
Racquel Eustache
Robert Franchini
Charles Hallenbeck
Bryan Haynes
Caitlin Hickin
Abiyeuwa Ighodaro
Ji hun Kim
Jin Sub Kim
Sun Woo Kim
Sungsu Kim
Catherine Kramer
Angela Rose Lauria-Gunnink
Jang Ho Lee
Joo Hyung Lee
Julia Lee
Cynthia Leveille
Haibo Li
Yeong Jo Lim
Yiwen Lu
Kathryn Mammen
Alice McGrath
Jessica McKee
Henrik Metzlaff
Koichiro Nakamichi
Nam Gie Park
Youn Jin Park
Christina Phillips
Chantal Pinard
Lauren Putney
Qin Qin
Anna Raup-Kounovsky
Alexander Rias
Jennifer Roman
Sara Romero
Heather Senecal
Jonathan Shepard
Rebecca Slaughter

Graduate Certificate in Public Sector Management
Eduard Aghayan
Paul Brömmer
Benjamin Carroll
Steven Chriest
Aaron Greenberg
Craig Haynes
Ahmed Khalil
Debra Schimpf
Daniel Stayner
Jonathon Steiner
Wayne Walker

Graduate Certificate in Women & Public Policy
Natalia Redmon
Fei Wang

Certificate of Advanced Study
Richard Cate