

## Summer 2017

---

During the past year or so, the NKU MPA program has experienced a few changes in terms of space and faculty. Thankfully, in the most recent { [ ] c@, , ^φ^ •^^} æ} { à^! [ ~] [ •ãã^ â^ç^[[ ] { ^} • ã c@•^ æ^æ, making the future look even brighter for faculty, students, and alumni. Here are a few highlights:

The Founders Hall renovation is ahead of schedule, and the 5th floor is shaping up to be a great space for the MPA program and others in the Department of Political Science, Criminal Justice, and Organizational Leadership. The plan is for the renovated Founders Hall to open in 2018, along with the new Health Innovation Center, which is connected to it.

Our department has hired a new chairperson . Dr. Karen Miller. She will start in this new role on July 1, bringing a collaborative leadership style and much experience with multidisciplinary units on university campuses.

Dr. Shamima Ahmed, who has served as our department chair exceptionally well for the past eight years, will return to teach full time in the MPA program.

The MPA program has received approval to hire a new tenure-track professor, and we will begin the search process in the near future.

## Contact Us

Missy Gish, MPA  
Coordinator  
[gishm@nku.edu](mailto:gishm@nku.edu) /  
859-572-5326  
LA 125  
Highland Heights,  
Ky. 41099

---

## Donate

Make an online donation to the **MPA Foundation** or the **MPA Diversity Scholarship** [here](#).

---

## Connect

[Visit Our Website](#)

Please take a few minutes to read more about recent developments in the MPA program in this newsletter and forward it to colleagues, friends and family who may be interested in the program.

Thanks for your continued support, and have a great summer!

Dr. Julie Olberding, MPA Director

[olberdingj@nku.edu](mailto:olberdingj@nku.edu)

(859) 572-1953

Founders Hall renovation, plaza side

Founders Hall with the new Health  
Innovation Center, Kenton Drive side

What's New in the MPA Program?

**NKU undergrad students now have a more direct pathway to**

required credit hours from 39 to 30 for the degree. This will save students time and money, thus making an MPA degree more appealing and manageable.

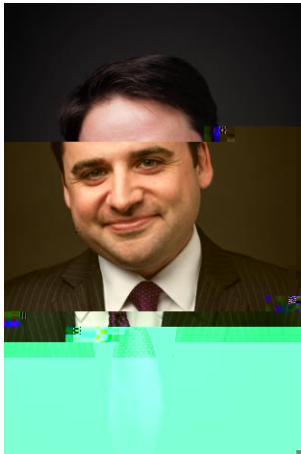
To emphasize, the core courses for the MPA are the same as they have been for many years (9 courses, 27 credit hours). But we have organized them into an intermediate core (3 courses, 9 hours) and advanced core (6 & 18 & 18). In the form of these three courses at the undergraduate level for years; they were numbered at the 300- and 400-level.

We will keep you posted on this programmatic change and its impact on interest in the MPA degree and, ultimately, applications and enrollment.

## MPA Events

### MPA Awards Banquet

#### Ryan Adcock accepts award and provides lessons on public leadership

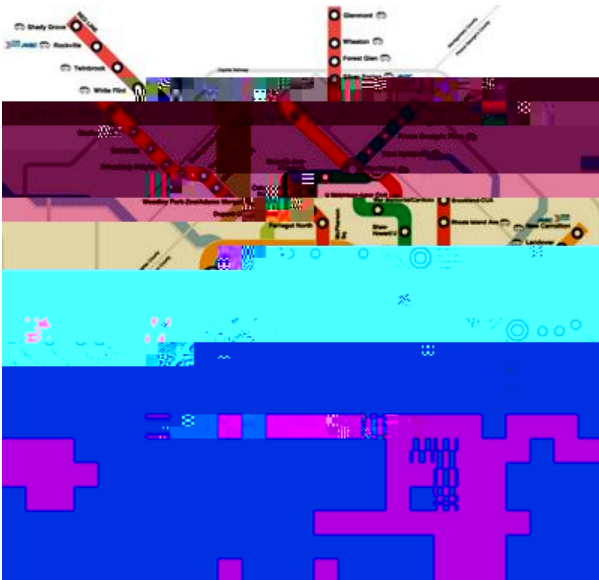


T. Ryan Adcock MPA A, was honored with the 2017 Distinguished MPA Alumnus Award. During the past few years, Ryan has helped launch and now leads Cradle Cincinnati, a collaborative aimed at reducing the high infant-mortality rate in Hamilton County.

At the banquet, Ryan gave an informative and interesting presentation on leadership in the public arena. He discussed leading for collective impact to achieve a shared outcome . such as reducing the infant-mortality rate . or following a leader . if they

One key lesson is that people only open a map . or follow a leader . if they

Another lesson is that useful maps are simplified versions of immense amounts of data. As an example, Ryan shared a map of the Washington D.C. rail transit system (see below). It includes information on the four main lines, train stops with neighborhood or street identifiers, and a few noteworthy buildings and landmarks. It does not include every road, building, and landmark in the region.



Relating this lesson to Cradle Cincinnati, more than 50 factors have been linked to infant mortality including age, marital status, income, family history of preterm birth, infection, nutrition, sleep practices, tobacco use, alcohol use, air pollution, and so on. But Ryan and other Cradle leaders decided to focus on three factors (with symbols) . . . at least 18 months between a birth and the next conception (a clock), no smoking during pregnancy (a crossed-out cigarette), and safe sleep for babies in terms of being alone in a crib and on their back (a crib).



W^ @]^ ^ @e@ %\_ { aq̄ \* +à^ R^ aq̄ aq̄ [ @! C!a| ^ |a^! • ã  
successful in r^a^q̄ \* @ %^• q̄ aq̄ } .+A • @ • a^a, @aq̄@ { [ { • aq̄ a

Congratulations to the Spring 2017 MPA graduates! Pictured here are (from left to right): Dr. Shamima Ahmed (faculty), Michael Bloemer, Zachary Dorion, Kiaya Lynn, Charles Powell, David Lumsden, Kyle Dorriere, Elizabeth Ruwe, Kathleen Kennedy, Elissa Dixon-Bates, and Dr. Julie Olberding (faculty). Graduates not

pictured are: Fitzgerald Chibamu, Shawn Freeman, Jenny Heizman, and Niki Marengo.

Fall 2017 Commencement for MPA students will be on Saturday, December 16 at BB&T Arena. Mark your calendars to celebrate with us!

### **MPA Graduation Celebration / Summer Party**

The annual MPA Summer Party was held on Thursday, June 8 at Dr.

**Elishia Chamberlain**

**Daniel Meloy** (MPA 2002) was awarded the Achievement in Innovation for his work on the Colerain Township-Quick Response Team (QRT). Through the QRT, Meloy coordinated officers, firefighters/EMTs and addiction service professionals to the homes of overdose patients. From January 2015 and September 2016, more than 250 follow-ups were made to overdose patients with 79 percent of these patients in recovery, and there has been an overall drop in overdoses.



considerations in areas such as zoning, road safety, addiction, crime and economic development.

**David Lumsden** reviewed research in the field of local economic development and examined methods currently utilized in Hamilton County (Cincinnati). In addition, he studied economic development programs in two other metropolitan counties in Ohio . Franklin (Columbus) and Cuyahoga (Cleveland) . and identified those that may be appropriate for Hamilton County.

**Niki Marengo** partnered with the Hamilton Urban Garden Systems (HUGS), a gardening, health and nutritional organization of Hamilton, Ohio. In particular, Niki developed a plan for recruitment, management and retention. She also created an attractive and informative brochure to help specifically with volunteer recruitment.

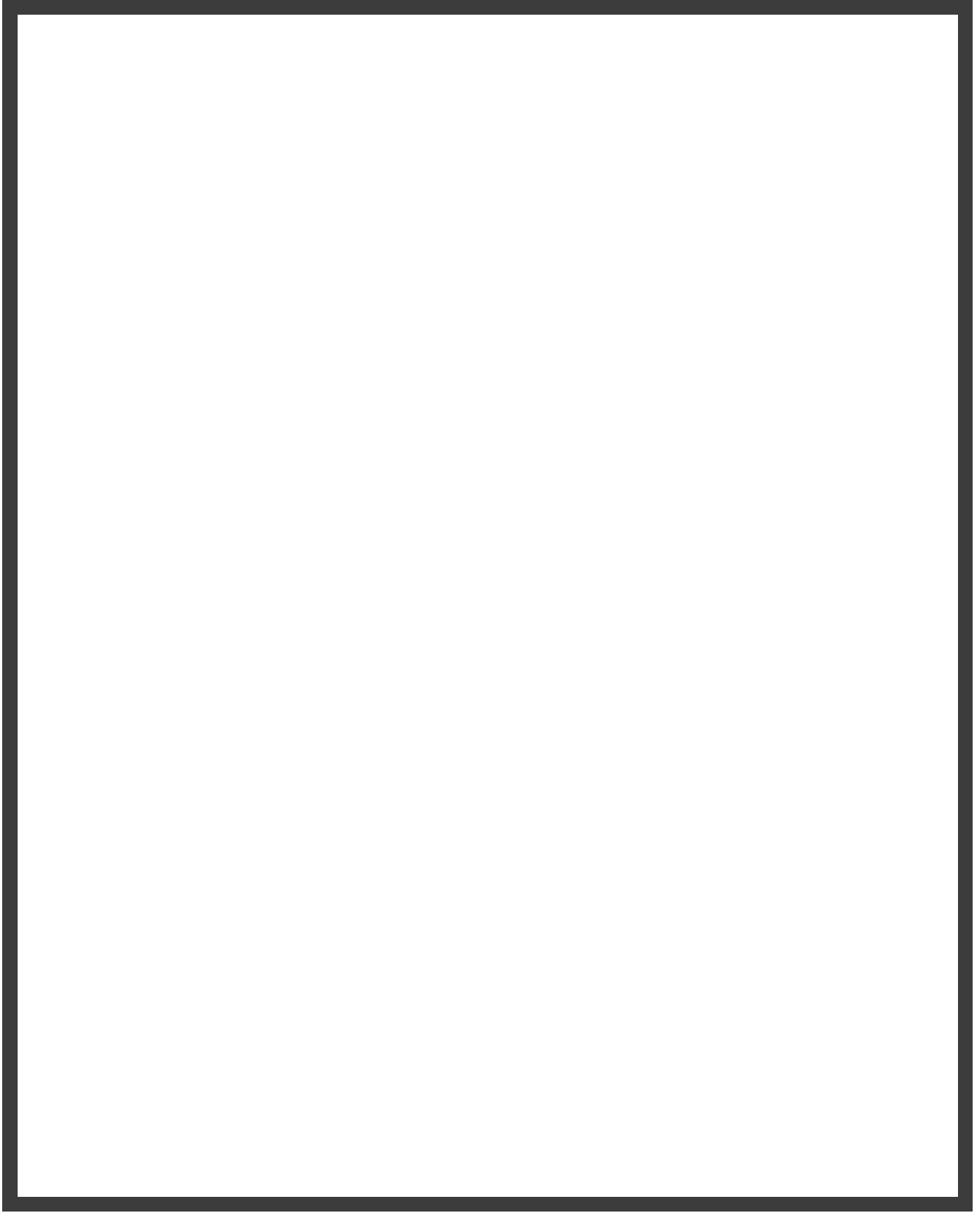
In addition, the Capstone class connects students with some of our Advisory Board members on activities to improve their resumes and enhance their interviewing skills. Many thanks to the following board

this semester:

- **David Elmer**, Village of Evandale, Ohio  
(pictured here);

- **T.J. White**, Center for Local Governments (pictured here);

- **Rolonda Smith**, Cincinnati Public Schools, Family and Community Services



move and this wonderful opportunity that has been afforded to me at my age."

New Jobs and Promotions