We are proud to welcome James E. Wright II to the School as our latest addition to the faculty. Wright holds a Ph.D. from American University in the Department of Public Administration & Policy. He received his Masters in Public Policy at the Pepperdine School of Public Policy and his bachelors of science in Public Policy, Planning and Management from the University of Southern California. His recent work includes "The Trayvon Martin Effect: Estimating the effect of the Trayvon Martin shooting on reading performance scores using the synthetic control method" published in Cogent Social Sciences. His interests include public management, social equity, public policy analysis, and criminal justice policy.

FSU earns No. 26 ranking in “Best Colleges”

In the U.S. News & World Report’s “Best Colleges 2019” guidebook, FSU moves up seven spots to No. 26 among national public universities.

The rankings are based on graduation and retention rates; peer and high school counselor assessment; faculty resources; student excellence; financial resources; graduation rate performance; and alumni giving. Among all national universities, including private universities, FSU ranked 70th, up from 81st last year. FSU ranked 1st in Florida and 28th nationally for public affairs programs; 5th in the Southeast [behind UGA (6), GA State (18), Duke (18) and UNC Chapel Hill (23)].

The greatest obstacle to discovery is not ignorance—it is the illusion of knowledge.

Daniel J. Boorstin (1914-2004), Historian and writer
Internship Opportunities

Whether you are seeking an internship to fulfill the degree requirement or to gain more experience for non-course credit or personal ambition, students can take advantage of many internship opportunities in the Tallahassee area.

One of the most popular opportunities is offered by the State through the Legislative Intern Program. Their mission is “to provide college graduates and graduate students with an opportunity to gain first-hand knowledge of the legislative process and to participate in the work of the legislative branch of state government.” The internship takes place between October through May. Applicants who are accepted receive a rate of pay of approximately $13.00/hour or a tuition or stipend benefit. For more information, email Lucy Ciccone, Staff Director, at intern-program@myfloridahouse.gov or access their online brochure at:


To gain experience with local government, Leon County offers internships through VolunteerLeon year-round in the fall, spring, and summer semesters in many areas such as public administration, legislative work, community and media relations, and human resources. VolunteerLeon can also connect you with many nonprofit organizations.

Additional information, including deadlines, can be found at: http://cms.leoncountyfl.gov/Home/Departments/Office-of-Human-Services-and-Community-Partnership/Volunteer-Services/Volunteer-Services/Find-A-Volunteer-Opportunity/Volunteer-for-Leon-County-Government/Leon-County-Internship-Program

You can also contact Kay Pelt-Walker at 850-606-1970 or Pelt-WalkerK@LeonCountyFL.gov for details.

For those who would like to gain experience at the national level or to explore federal careers, the federal government offers internships with many of their agencies through their Internship Programs. Details can be found through the Office of Personnel Management at:

https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/hiring-information/students-recent-graduates/#url=Overview

Students interested in obtaining an internship with nonprofits can work with organizations such as the Council on Culture and Arts (COCA) and The Children’s Campaign. One of the internships at COCA is with the grants program. In this role, the intern(s) will gain experience in national, regional, and local grants research; assist in tracking and recording grant applications; and aid in their current economic impact study.

For more information, email info@tallahasseearts.org or visit https://coca.tallahasseearts.org/about-coca/join-our-team

The Children’s Campaign offers The Apprenticeship Center (TAC). Their goal is “to bridge the gap between academic learning and workforce development while providing college students with the opportunity to learn the value and importance of civic engagement.” Students who have interned with the Campaign worked in various teams and projects including public policy and legislation. Visit http://iamforkids.org/tac/
How MPA Students Can Have an Edge

Here is a summary of activities I recall from my experience at an agency headquarters. Many of these activities would be occurring at the same time:

- Implementing recent legislation;
- Updating regulations or non-regulatory guidance documents;
- Answering Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and non-FOIA requests;
- Developing training programs for field offices;
- Working with in-house IT staff or contractors to maintain or upgrade computer systems;
- Updating briefing books so officials can present the latest program information to stakeholders;
- Preparing testimony for Congress and responding to inquiries;
- Managing projects (there is a huge demand for project management expertise as well as for managing contractors);
- Monitoring the agency’s website and social media presence;
- Responding to findings from oversight organizations, the press, stakeholders and legislative committees;
- Responding to citizen inquiries or complaints;
- Participating in meetings with coworkers, management, persons assigned to special projects, field personnel, staff from other agencies, contractors, etc.;
- Reviewing program performance metrics related to programs;
- Preparing decision documents to go up the chain of command and commenting on proposed decision documents from other staff; and,
- Reviewing personnel issues such as how much telework is permitted.

To perform day-to-day government work requires strong skills and program knowledge. Employees need to have: analytical, writing, and oral presentation, computing, and interpersonal skills.

- Writing: students should immerse themselves in actual government documents such as bills, laws, regulations, agency websites, budget documents, Inspector General reports, General Accountability Office reports, strategic plans, management analyses, and Congressional testimony. The point is not to master the content of these documents, but to develop the skills to read, understand, comment on, revise, and edit complex documents.

- Oral: students should practice difficult real-life situations dealing with a performance or disciplinary problem and dealing with the press, stakeholders, legislative oversight bodies or an unhappy boss. Practice giving briefings, training sessions, and leading a group. They should practice dealing with hostile, disruptive people and people who take meetings off on a tangent. Learn to think quickly under pressure.

- Legal landscape: students should have an understanding of the legal environment work. They should be able to track pending legislation and research existing laws, regulations and policies. They should review what prohibited personnel practices may apply. They should study freedom of information requirements, and privacy requirements. They should learn about responsibilities for maintaining records and ethical rules.

- Computing: Managing computers is probably an equal or greater challenge than managing people. As non-IT workers, students need the skills to navigate multiple (sometimes clunky) in-house systems. And observe security protocols.

- Research and Management Analysis: students may be asked to participate in a research project or to evaluate the research of others.

Adapted from an article in the *PA Times* by John Pearson, MPA, who had a long career in the federal government as an analyst.
Joe Cresse Lecture to Feature FSU President John Thrasher as Speaker

This October, the College of Social Sciences & Public Policy and the Askew School will host its 11th Annual Joe Cresse Ethics in Government Lecture Series with guest speaker FSU President John Thrasher.

John Thrasher became the 15th president of Florida State University in November 2014 following a successful career as a state legislator, businessman, lawyer and lobbyist. As president, Thrasher has focused his efforts on elevating Florida State’s reputation as a preeminent research institution. He has presided over a $1 billion fundraising campaign, advanced the university’s academic and research mission, championed diversity and inclusion, and welcomed the best and brightest students in the university’s history.

He previously served as general counsel for the Florida Medical Association and was a partner in the Southern Strategy Group, one of the largest governmental relations firms in the Southeast. During his political career, Thrasher served on a local school board, in the Florida House of Representatives, including a term as Speaker of the House, and in the Florida Senate. He was chair of FSU’s Board of Trustees from 2001 to 2005.

Thrasher earned a bachelor’s degree in business and a law degree with honors, both from Florida State. A U.S. Army veteran, he received the Army Commendation Medal and was awarded two Bronze stars for his service in Vietnam. He and his wife, Jean, have three children and eight grandchildren.

The lecture will take place on October 25th, 2018 at 3:00pm in the FSU Law School rotunda followed by refreshments. Preceding this will be a five-person panel at 10:15am in Bellamy Room 150. See you there!
Dear New Graduate Students:

Welcome to the Askew School community! We would like to congratulate you on your admission to the School and wish you the best of luck in your graduate studies. You will find that you have joined a community of diverse and talented students who are passionate about making a difference and promoting positive social change. Your educational journey at the School will provide you with invaluable skills and opportunities while challenging you to reach your full potential.

PAGA is just one of the many resources available to help you make the most of your time here. PAGA exists to enhance the educational experiences of MPA and Ph.D. students by fostering communication among professionals, alumni, practitioners, faculty and students while providing services that assist student development both educationally and personally.

From mentorship to tailgates, PAGA offers fun and creative opportunities to grow your involvement with FSU and the community. All Askew School students are welcome to participate in our events. We strongly advocate inclusion and acceptance no matter your gender, age, race, nationality, political beliefs, etc., and are committed to providing an environment where everyone feels safe, welcome, and respected. If you have any event ideas or requests, do not hesitate to reach out.

We hope that you will get involved and encourage you to reach outside of your comfort zone during your time at the School. A few things to think about:

- **Meet your fellow classmates!** PAGA will be hosting social events throughout the semester. We hope you will join us and take advantage of this opportunity to engage with members of the Askew School community outside of the classroom setting. Join our Facebook group to stay up to date on all our events! [https://www.facebook.com/groups/FSUPAGA](https://www.facebook.com/groups/FSUPAGA)
- **Become a PAGA officer!** PAGA holds elections for all positions during the spring semester. To express interest or for more information regarding officer positions contact Hunter Hill at hh17c@my.fsu.edu.
- **Get involved in the community!** Tallahassee is an exciting and diverse community with countless opportunities for involvement no matter your interests!

If you have any questions about the program, classes, professors, social life at FSU, or if you just need help transitioning to Tallahassee, do not hesitate to contact us at the addresses below. We look forward to meeting you and once again, welcome!

Sincerely,

**Hunter Hill**, President, hh17c@my.fsu.edu
**Anthony Roden**, Vice President/FCCMA/ICMA Chair, asr13f@my.fsu.edu
**Brandon McCaffery**, Social Chair, bam14e@my.fsu.edu
**Emily Keeney**, Treasurer, ek17d@my.fsu.edu
**Lauren Lange**, Policy Chair, ln113@my.fsu.edu
**Amanda Anderson**, Secretary/Communications, ala12c@my.fsu.edu
**Jack Porter**, Development Chair, jnp11b@my.fsu.edu
**Kristina Le Blanc**, Community/Campus Relations, knl07c@my.fsu.edu
Meet Mohamed Berray

Mohamed Berray is the Social Sciences Librarian for Political Science, Public Administration & Policy, International Affairs, and the Coordinator for Government Information at Florida State University (FSU). He joined FSU from Penn State University. Berray earned his MLIS from The University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and his MA in Political Science & International Law from the American University in Cairo. He is a former Fulbright Scholar, and an ILEAD (International Librarians Enhancing Access and Development) Fellow.

Mohamed joined FSU in 2015, and since then, has worked with the Askew School to develop collections, provide instruction, and academic and research support to both faculty and graduate students in the Askew School. Mohamed has made it a must duty to meet with all incoming students in the School, and to orient them to use of library resources and services.

During his time with us, Mohamed has supported faculty applications for the FSU Libraries’ Bradley research grants, and has ensured that collections and services are comprehensive to meet the needs of our faculty and students.

As a discipline, we rely heavily on the availability and use of government information. Mohamed manages FSU’s depositary collections and services for United States Federal, United Nations, and the State of Florida publications. Mohamed has transitioned FSU’s Government Documents from print to primarily electronic. FSU now collects 97% of all electronically available US Government publications, and a 100% of electronically available State of Florida publications that align with course curricula at FSU. These resources are curated on the Libraries Government information site: https://www.lib.fsu.edu/governmentdocs/Spotlight, and through physical displays in the Scholars Commons space.

In 2017, FSU was awarded the American Library Association Documents to the People Award, a first for FSU since we gained depository status in 1941.

Giving his disciplinary background in our career paths, Mohamed will continue to be instrumental in advising faculty about the scope and sequence for placement of information literacy concepts across the study of public administration and policy.

His passion working with stu-
Congratulations to Summer MPA Graduates!

Joanna Ayla
Melissa Brown
Catherine Nicole Johnson
Piotr Krzystek
Jennifer Sears
Samantha Sicard

Mentors Needed

To help students explore career options, the School is establishing a network of alumni mentors. It is valuable for students to be able to talk with professionals across the different public administration fields and hear about the types of work that you do, how to get a job in the field, professional life, and lessons learned. If you are willing to meet with young scholars over coffee, or would be interested in doing a talk about your career to the Public Administration Graduate Association, please contact Jack Porter at jnp11b@my.fsu.edu

Wherever you are, be all there.
Faculty Updates

Gary VanLandingham

Dr. VanLandingham presented “Evidence-Based Governance — Toward a Broader Theory of Performance Management” at the 2018 American Society for Public Administration conference (with Dr. Danny Fay), at Denver, CO; “Communicating Benefit-Cost Analysis to Policymakers” at the 2018 Society for Benefit-Cost Analysis conference, Washington, DC; and “Using Meta-Analysis and Research Clearinghouses in Evaluation Studies” at the 2018 Southeast Evaluation Society conference, Tallahassee, FL. He also received the National Legislative Program Evaluation Society’s ‘Outstanding Achievement Award’ in September. NLPES is a staff section of the National Conference of State Legislatures.

Daniel Fay


In addition to teaching, Dr. Fay’s research focuses on public policy and public management. His most recent publication in Public Integrity examines how the privatization of municipal services influences the adoption of ethics codes for city employees. Fay along with his coauthor Staci Zavattaro at the University of Central Florida, continues to work on a book manuscript that studies the branding of neighborhoods across the U.S. If you would like to discuss your neighborhood (either in Tallahassee or elsewhere) please send him an email (dfay@fsu.edu).

David Berlan


Tian Tang

Dr. Tang’s research focuses on energy policy, technology policy, and smart cities. She recently published ”Explaining technological change in the US wind industry: Energy policies, technological learning, and collaboration” in Energy Policy.

Richard Feiock

Dr. Feiock, along with Dr. Namhoon Ki received a $43,000 research grant award from the Bill Hinkley Center for Solid and Hazardous Waste Management to support their research on “Learning through Messages: Promoting Recycling of Florida through Reducing Contamination Rates.” Dr. Feiock also organized a workshop on Local and Regional Governance, Collaboration, and Policy Instrument
Faculty Updates, cont.


James Bowman

Dr. Bowman’s “Wearables in the Workplace: An Analysis of Ethical Issues,” in R. Sims & S. Bias (Eds.), Human Resources Management Issues, Challenges, and Trends (Charlotte, NC: Information Age Publishing) will appear this fall.

He is working on a new edition of his co-authored textbook, Human Resource Management in Public Service (SAGE, 6e). His Public Service Ethics (Routledge, 2e) was released this past summer.

Frances Berry

Professor Frances Berry teaches public policy, PAD5050 Profession of PA, and the Action Report. Her areas of research are state and local policy, innovation and diffusion, strategic management, and social entrepreneurship. Her most recent co-authored article was an early-release published in May 2018 entitled “Management Innovation and Policy Diffusion through Leadership Transfer Networks: An Agent Network Diffusion Mode” in the Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory. She is working on a variety of papers with doctoral students or recent graduates, including papers on medical marijuana policy, social entrepreneurship, social enterprise and co-production, the impact of courts on the diffusion of same-sex marriage laws, an assessment of innovation and diffusion research in Korea, China and the U.S.; and is beginning work on a book currently entitled Zen and Management: How Managers Incorporate Buddhist Practices into the Workplace. Dr. Berry is on sabbatical Fall 2018 and Spring 2019.

APA CORNER

Here are basic citations everyone should know how to do. Note that correct use of italics and punctuation counts (!).

An entire book.


A chapter in an edited book.


A journal article.

Giving to the Askew School

We get it. People go into public service because they want to make the world a better place rather than to become a billionaire. However, we also know that alumni giving can make a huge difference in areas such as the number of graduate assistantships we can offer to our exceptional students, the types of networking and professional development events that the Public Administration Graduate Association can hold, and the level of financial aid we can give to students attending professional conferences.

If you would like to give back to the School, there are many options for doing so, including a one-time gift, an annual gift, or a bequest. Just remember to list one of the applicable fund codes when making your gift:

- Askew School of Public Administration and Policy - F04806;
- Reubin O’D. Askew Educational Endowment Fund - F07214;
- Augustus B. Turnbull, III Memorial Fellowship Fund in Public Administration - F04779.

A gift in any amount makes a difference and is greatly appreciated. (And if you did happen to become a billionaire public servant who is wondering what to do with a spare million, we can help you with that!).

CALL FOR STORIES

Readers are invited to submit stories by November 15, 2018 for the next newsletter. Consider short essays, quotations, alumni spotlights, and general news of interest to the PA community. Review this issue for the types of articles that may be useful. Please send materials to Christina Havlicek at cmh10e@fsu.edu.

True or false: “This sentence is false.”

If a man tries to fail and succeeds, which did he do?