Department Welcomes Visiting Scholar

Dr. Taekyu Wang has accepted a position as a visiting assistant professor within the Department of Political Science for the 2014/2015 and 2015/2016 academic years.

A native of South Korea, Dr. Wang received his MPA from Chung-Ang University in 2006 and his Ph.D. from Florida State University in 2013, where he specialized in organizational behavior. He is the 2012 recipient of the Public Performance and Management Section Award from the American Society for Public Administration and both the 2011 and 2012 recipient of the society’s Asian Junior Scholar Paper Competition. Prior to coming to Indiana University South Bend, he was a postdoctoral researcher at the Center for Disaster Risk Policy.

During his doctoral studies, Dr. Wang completed a dissertation entitled “The Impact of the Hollow State on Organizational Practices and Individual Attitudes in the Federal Government” that looked at the impact of the decentralization of public service delivery on the work-related attitudes of civil servants. Currently he is working on research into the relationship between performance management and accountability within the public sector.

McDonald to Serve as IASPA President

The Indiana Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration (IASPA) has voted to appoint Dr. Bruce McDonald as its next president. Dr. McDonald will serve a two year term. Prior to his appointment, Dr. McDonald served as the chapters treasurer from 2013-2014 and its secretary from 2012-2013.

The mission of IASPA is to advance the field of public administration throughout the state and to develop an improved public service. Since taking over as president, Dr. McDonald has worked to revitalize the chapter by establishing an affiliation with the Journal of Public and Nonprofit Affairs, which has led to a special issue of the journal that focuses on research by Hoosiers in public administration and public affairs. He has also created a monthly eNewsletter that relays information about state and local issues to chapter membership, as well as providing information about employment and internship opportunities. More information about the chapter and Dr. McDonald’s role can be found at: www.inaspa.org.
Karakatsanis Re-Elected As President

Neovi Karakatsanis was re-elected President of the Modern Greek Studies Association (MGSA) on October 25, 2014. Dedicated to the promotion of Modern Greek Studies in the United States and Canada, the MGSA is interdisciplinary in orientation, seeking to stimulate the discovery and diffusion of knowledge about the language, literature, arts, history, politics, economy, and society of modern Greece, Cyprus, and the Greek diaspora. Its membership consists primarily of academics, students, and professional scholars, many of whom reside in various parts of the world, including Greece.

The MGSA’s activities are extensive. The Association convenes a biennial Symposium, which has steadily grown in size, reputation, scholarly range, and international participation. Recent Symposia have featured an Awards Ceremony at which various MGSA Prizes, including the Edmund Keeley Book Prize, the Elizabeth Constantinides Memorial Translation Prize, the Victor Papacosma Graduate Student Essay Prize, and others, are awarded. The MGSA’s publication activities include the most reputable periodical in the field, the Journal of Modern Greek Studies, published by The Johns Hopkins University Press, a Bulletin distributed electronically to its membership, and a number of significant volumes on Greek history and literature. The MGSA also serves as an information and communications center for all persons seriously interested in the study of modern Greece, Cyprus, and the Greek diaspora through its website and its listserv MGSA-L.

Professor Karakatsanis has been a member of the Association since the late 1990s, having been elected to serve on its Executive Board for four terms. She has served as an officer of the Association in several positions, including that of Secretary, Treasurer and past President. She will serve as the Association’s President from 2014-2017.

Do you have news that you would like to share with the students and alumni from the Department of Political Science?

Whether you are finishing law school, getting married, or getting a promotion, we would love to hear about it and share it with the rest of the department.

You may submit your class and alumni notes for the Spring 2015 newsletter to:

MPAInfo@iusb.edu
MPA Program Receives Reaccreditation

The Master of Public Affairs (MPA) program at Indiana University South Bend has been awarded reaccreditation from the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA). Accreditation by NASPAA places the MPA program among the top in the country. The renewal extends the program’s accreditation through the 2019-2020 academic year.

NASPAA accreditation is the global standard in public service education. Less than 300 program across 14 countries have receive the distinction. The accreditation process is a rigorous, multi-year endeavor that requires programs to thoroughly review its mission, structure, and curriculum, as well as to develop an ongoing assessment plan of MPA student success.

Throughout the process, the Department of Political Science established a new mission statement for the program, the first of the program since the program was moved to the department. The new statement clarifies the intent of the program and its role within the community. It also provided the opportunity to revise the program to better fit the needs of current students and public organizations throughout the South Bend area. By instituting the assessment plan, the MPA program will be better able to monitor student success and program, helping them to become better qualified for their careers.

Accreditation by NASPAA also brings national attention to the program as the distinction is recognized by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation. More information on NASPAA and its accreditation process can be found at: www.NASPAA.org.

Faculty Publications and Presentations

Elizabeth A. Bennion

Faculty Publications and Presentations, Continued

Sungkyu Jang

Neovi Karakatsanis

Bruce D. McDonald, III

James M. Smith

Tae Kyu Wang