In honor of Professor James Richardson’s 40-year commitment to the success of the LSU Public Administration Institute, the LSU Foundation, along with the E. J. Ourso College of Business and PAI, recently created the James A. Richardson Endowed Fund. The endowment will be used for general support of PAI and the MPA students and will fund activities like student attendance at professional development conferences and faculty research support.

Richardson has spent more than 40 years at LSU and helped to found the institute after it was reorganized in 1973. He has also been a longtime figure on Louisiana’s Revenue Estimating Conference, a panel that determines the revenue outlook for future fiscal years and includes the governor, speaker of the House of Representatives, and president of the Senate. He has counseled numerous governors over the years and has played a major role in revenue policy and tax reform initiatives throughout the state’s recent history.

The endowment will be formally announced at the PAI Student Association (PAISA) Day Celebration on April 7. Students, alumni, and supporters of PAI can contribute to the fund through the LSU Foundation by completing the following:

Go to [lsufoundation.org/richardson](http://lsufoundation.org/richardson)

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**Save the Date!**

**PAISA Day 2017 Will be Held Friday**

APRIL 7
PAI and PAISA hosted the annual Master of Public Administration Honors Banquet last December in the Business Education Complex Rotunda.

Erin Monroe Wesley, special counsel for Governor John Bel Edwards, served as the keynote speaker for the event. The evening honored December graduates of the institute, four of whom were named to Pi Alpha Alpha for earning a 3.75 overall GPA or higher. Last year’s PAISA President Karie Holton and Vice President Danny Bosch also welcomed newly elected 2017 PAISA officers, who began their terms in January.

We Moved!

PAI’s office has moved to the third floor of the E. J. Ourso College Business Education Complex Rotunda, directly above its former location. Mail correspondence can now be directed to:

Business Education Complex | Suite 3000 | Nicholson Drive Extension | Baton Rouge, LA 70803

The institute may still be reached by phone at 225-578-6743 or by fax at 225-578-9078.
**Student News**

**PAI Welcomes 2016 Incoming Students**

PAI welcomed 44 new students to the MPA program for the 2016-2017 year. As part of their introduction to the program, students attended an orientation session followed by a reception held on August 11, 2016.

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**MPA Students Represent PAI at Recent Conferences**

LSU MPA students recently traveled to two public administration conferences to represent the institute and present their research projects. Daniel Bosch and Karen Holton traveled to George Mason University and Indiana University, respectively, to participate in the third annual Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration Student Simulation Competition on Food Security. They were just two of more than 350 graduate students from around the world competing at eight regional sites.

In October, Bosch also traveled to Raleigh, North Carolina for the Southeastern Conference for Public Administration to present his research on social media use during the aftermath of disasters as a means of coordinating relief efforts and rescue. Bosch used the August 2016 Louisiana flood events as a case study for his research and was a finalist for the conference’s 2016 Robert Kline Award for best master’s student conference paper.

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**December 2016 Graduates**

Sheantel Baker
Christopher Emmett Brown
Joseph Dominick
Jaime Estave
Melissa Lightfoot
Gavin Robert
Aaron Schwindt
Heather Shaw
Precious Wallace Moye

‘Denotes Pi Alpha Alpha inductee'
LSU MPA Graduates Taking the Lead in Higher Education

After serving as deputy undersecretary for the US Department of Education, LSU MPA alumna Kim Hunter Reed (’95) has recently taken a position as executive director of the Colorado State Department of Higher Education. Prior to her service in the Obama Administration, Reed was chief of staff at the Louisiana Board of Regents.

She joins fellow LSU MPA alums across the nation who have taken leading roles in higher education. Eric Monday (’05) is currently serving as the executive vice president of finance and administration at the University of Kentucky. He was appointed to this position in December 2012. Prior to this appointment, he served as the vice chancellor for finance and administrative services at LSU, managing 1,200 employees, a budget authority of more than $125 million, and building and sustaining the institution’s more than $800 million annual budget.

In Chicago, Jason Rex Tolliver (’04) is currently serving as the interim vice chancellor for Student Affairs at the University of Illinois at Chicago. He assumed that role in September 2016 in addition to his duties as the associate vice chancellor and director of Campus Auxiliary Services.

LSU MPA graduates have traditionally been sought as candidates for positions in higher education administration. Many alums currently serve in various administrative roles for the LSU System, as well as the other three public university systems in the state. Of the graduates from 2014 to 2016, more than 20% pursued careers in the field.

MPA Alumnus Paul Battaglio Named new PAR Editor

The American Society for Public Administration recently announced the selection of LSU MPA alumnus Paul Battaglio (’00) of the University of Texas at Dallas and Jeremy Hall of the University of Central Florida as the next editors-in-chief of Public Administration Review (PAR), a leading professional journal in public administration research, theory, and practice. PAR is also one of the highest ranking journals in public policy and administration.

“The selection of Battaglio and Hall is the culmination of a rigorous, competitive process that reflects the stature and reputation of ASPA’s flagship journal,” said ASPA President Susan Gooden. “It also reflects the expertise, creativity, and enthusiasm that Paul and Jeremy will bring to the position — skills that will enable them to build on the current editorial team’s successes and take PAR to even greater heights.”

“We are profoundly grateful to ASPA’s leadership for selecting our proposal,” Battaglio and Hall said. “The PAR editor-in-chief role brings with it great opportunity and responsibility. We will work tirelessly to build on the journal’s accomplishments in ways that will serve the field of public administration — both those who study and practice it — exceedingly well.”

Have a noteworthy accomplishment or new position? Connect with PAI and let us know!

pai@lsu.edu
Faculty News

Llorens Appointed to ASPA National Council

LSU Public Administration Institute Director and Associate Professor Jared Llorens was elected to a three-year term on the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA) National Council and will serve as a representative for District III. Llorens will be responsible for representing the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee.

The National Council is ASPA’s governing body and made up of officers, as well as three district representatives from the organization’s five regions. Each district representative serves a three-year term and is a liaison to ASPA chapters in his/her region and assigned section.

ASPA is the largest and most prominent professional association for public administration. It is dedicated to advancing the art, science, teaching, and practice of public and non-profit administration.

Richardson, Stakeholders Complete Study on State’s Tax Structure

Louisiana’s Task Force on Structural Changes in Budget and Tax Policy recently completed its report of recommended changes to the Louisiana Legislature. The task force was co-chaired by PAI Professor James Richardson and Louisiana Department of Revenue Secretary Kimberly Robinson, who was also the 2016 MPA Alumni of the Year. The group was established under House Concurrent Resolution 11 of the 2016 First Extraordinary Session and has been working since March 2016 to analyze Louisiana’s tax structure and fiscal policy. It met for the last time in January to review its final recommendations.

The report included recommendations for changes on sales tax, income tax, ad valorem taxes, and corporate tax. The report also included a historical analysis of Louisiana’s fiscal system and the policy decisions that led to today’s taxing structure. Richardson noted that the recommendations are made with the understanding that there are political realities in adopting changes to state fiscal policy and that meaningful changes must be made gradually.

The final, comprehensive report was submitted to the Legislature at the end of January, which was preceded by preliminary recommendations released by the task force in November. Consideration of the task force’s recommendations were a part of the Legislature’s special session in February, as well as the regular session that convenes in April.

Heidelberg Selected as Judge for NASPAA Competition

Assistant Professor Roy Heidelberg was recently selected as a judge for the third annual student simulation competition hosted by the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration. The contest allows students of public administration and policy to compete on teams at eight regional sites on a preselected topic of public interest. This year, students were required to present solutions on food security to mitigate world hunger. Current LSU MPA students Danny Bosch and Karie Holton competed at the George Mason University and Indiana University sites, respectively. Heidelberg teaches courses in public policy and decision making and is involved in the Western Political Science Association and the Public Administration Theory Network.

Caleo Creates new Seminar Course in Diversity

Assistant Professor Suzy Caleo recently created a course titled Managing Diversity in Public and Nonprofit Organizations. The class, offered for the first time in the fall 2016 semester, examines how organizations can harness the benefits of diversity while resolving the challenges that may impede its potential. Students meet each week to discuss a range of diversity-related issues and work with nonprofit organizations to create a diversity plan and offer recommendations.

Caleo teaches courses in research methods, organizational behavior, and diversity and has been with PAI since 2013.

Dragseth, Su Present at Nonprofit ARNOVA Conference

Assistant Professors Meghann Dragseth and Min Su attended the Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action (ARNOVA)’s 45th annual conference in Washington, D.C. in November 2016.

Dragseth presented papers at ARNOVA on international development, non-governmental organizations in Uganda and determinants of nonprofit giving among individuals, respectively. Prior to joining the institute, she gained extensive experience in nonprofit management and worked on both domestic and international projects. She teaches courses in nonprofit management and program evaluation.

Su presented a paper that examines the spending stabilization role of financial slack in nonprofit organizations. She will attend the Western Social Science Association’s annual conference in 2017 to present a paper on budgetary slack, fiscal transparency, and the municipal securities market. She will also serve as a discussant at the Applied Research in Public Finance conference hosted by Indiana University’s School of Public & Environmental Affairs in Bloomington, Indiana. Su teaches courses in public budgeting and research methods.

Both Dragseth and Su joined PAI in the fall of 2016.
Cornelius Troy Hall
President
Cornelius Troy Hall is a native of Baton Rouge and currently serves as a second-semester graduate assistant for the Public Administration Institute. He received his bachelor’s in history from Southern University in 2000 and his Juris Doctorate from the Southern University Law Center in 2012. His goals for PAISA are to: (1) increase the lines of communication with PAISA members, MPA students, and PAI faculty/support staff members; and (2) offer professional and social programs/opportunities designed to aid both PAISA members and MPA students. His academic interests are constitutional law and public policy.

Sawazi Daniel
Vice President
Daniel is a Baton Rouge native and second-semester graduate assistant for the LSU College of Science Office of Diversity & Inclusion. Molded by experience and a desire to help others, her professional interests include policy formation, diversity and inclusion, grantsmanship, and disaster management. Daniel holds a bachelor’s in psychology from Southern University.

Keane Bland
Treasurer & Parliamentarian
Bland is a native of Modesto, California and is a second-semester, full-time LSU MPA student. He is a graduate of California State University, Fresno, where he earned a bachelor’s in criminology with an emphasis in law enforcement. As an undergraduate, he was a member of several organizations and two professional fraternities. Bland’s future ambitions include becoming a public servant in the federal government.

Samone Poe
Secretary
Poe is a native of Greenville, Mississippi, and currently serves as a graduate assistant for the LSU College of Engineering’s Research Facilitation Office. She received her bachelor’s in English from Jackson State University in Mississippi. Immediately following graduation, she served as an intern for the Mississippi State Personnel Board. Poe’s academic interests are program management and economic development at the federal level.

Jordan Rubin
Chief of Staff
Rubin is a first-year, full-time MPA student and a native of Lafayette, Louisiana. He received a bachelor’s in government from Campbell University in North Carolina, as well as a bachelor’s in professional piloting with a minor in business from Texas A & M University — Central Texas. Jordan is an active-duty aviation and military intelligence officer currently on a two-year career sabbatical from the US Army for self-development. His academic interests are public management at the local, state, and federal levels and non-profit organizations.

Kent Battiste
Communications Officer
Battiste is a native of Baton Rouge with a bachelor’s in rehabilitation and disability studies from Southern University. He is in his second semester of the MPA program and works full-time as a financial aid counselor. Prior to his enrollment in the program, Battiste worked with the Louisiana Department of Children & Family Services’ Child Welfare Division, serving on numerous state and national boards. In his free time, Battiste enjoys cooking, traveling, advocating on foster care issues, and attending/watching sporting events.

Derek Buras
Programs Officer
Buras is a native of Slidell, Louisiana. He received his bachelor’s in economics from LSU in 2014 and is currently a second-semester MPA student with plans to potentially run for political office in the future. In his free time, Buras enjoys bowling, golf, poker, and playing computer games with his friends.
Current Full-Time PAI Faculty

Suzette Caleo  
Assistant Professor  
Texas Tiger Tournament/Greater Houston Alumni Association Developing Scholar Professorship  
PhD, New York University  
Teaching Interests: Organizational Behavior, Research Methods, Human Resource Management  
Research Interests: Organizational Justice, Workplace Diversity, Stereotyping and Discrimination

Meghann Dragseth  
Assistant Professor  
PhD, University of Oklahoma  
Teaching Interests: Nonprofit Management, Program Evaluation  
Research Interests: Nonprofit Management, Motivation, Nonprofit Giving in Disasters

Roy Lester Heidelberg  
Assistant Professor  
Kearny-Jolly College of Business Administration Endowed Professorship  
PhD, The Ohio State University  
Teaching Interests: Public Policy, Decision Making, and Modeling  
Research Interests: Accountability, Economic Development, Social Theory, Policy

Jared J. Llorens  
Director, Associate Professor  
Russell B. Long Professorship in the Public Administration Institute  
Director of Graduate Studies — MPA Program, Department of Public Administration Institute  
PhD, University of Georgia  
Teaching Interests: Human Resources Management, Program Evaluation, Research Methods, Quantitative Methods  
Research Interests: Human Resources Management, Public Sector Compensation, Research Methods, Public Policy

James A. Richardson  
Professor  
Harris J. and Marie P. Chustz College of Business Administration Endowed Professorship  
PhD, University of Michigan  
Teaching Interests: Public Finance, Economics of Taxation, Economic Analysis, Public Administration Colloquium  
Research Interests: Regional Economics, Energy Economics, State and Local Taxation, Forecasting, Public Policy

Min Su  
Assistant Professor  
PhD, Georgia State University  
PhD, Georgia Institute of Technology  
Teaching Interests: Public Finance, Public Budgeting, Research Methods  
Research Interests: Budgeting, Finance, Nonprofit Financing

Richard D. White  
Professor  
Ourso Distinguished Professor of Business and Dean  
PhD, Pennsylvania State University  
Research Interests: Ethics, Public Administration Theory, Human Resources Management