

Master of Public Administration Newsletter

Spring 2018, Issue 2



Director's Update

Spring 2018, we celebrated the success of our students with the first annual MPA Celebrating Students Event. The purpose of the event is to highlight our current students and their hard work. Shane St.



Onge, Colleen Piluso, and Alyssa Probst were awarded the MPA Program's Public Service Awards for their commitment to the public sector through their expertise in nonprofit administration, public policy, and law. Keynote speaker Dayna Swanson, the Statewide Director for Senator Tester and MPA alumnae, reminded graduating students that our call to action is to continue our commitment to public service. All students and alumni were invited to this event and we invite each of you to attend next year!

Sara Rinfret, MPA Director



MPA Celebrating Students Event Keynote Speaker, Dayna Swanson.

Online MPA Program ranked as the 18th most affordable in the nation for 2017.

New! PA Certificate

See last page for more information. Applications are now being accepted and on a rolling basis. [Apply](#) today.

Spread the word! Recruit for the UM MPA program!

MPA Program by the Numbers



Enrollment

Over 70 students are currently enrolled in the UM MPA Program.

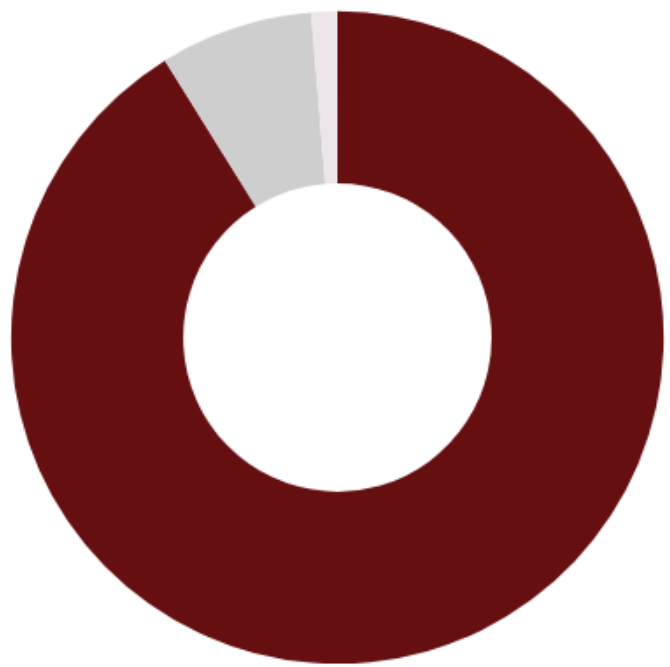


1 out of 6

students are enrolled in the joint JD/MPA Program with the Alexander Blewett School of Law



Number of students graduating this spring and summer.



● In State ● Out of State ● International

1% International
8% Out of State
91% In State



Alumni Corner



Kali Wicks is the Senior Manager for Government Relations at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Montana. Born and raised in Ledger, Montana, Kali has always had a passion for knowledge, education, and public policy. She attended Gonzaga University and has her BA in Political Science with a minor in Public Relations and an MA in Communication and Leadership. While working for the State of Montana in 2011, Kali decided to pursue her MPA degree. Obtaining an MPA degree at UM allowed Kali to gain valuable skills that directly related to her career goals and aspirations. In addition, she was able to complete the program online while working full-time. Because of the UM MPA program, Kali increased her knowledge of strategic planning, public budgeting and finance, organizational theory, and administrative law. As the Senior Manager for Government Relations at BCBSMT, Kali is responsible for policy analysis and development, implementation of state laws, and enriching relationships with state agencies and legislators.

Student Spotlight



Sally Kintner is an MPA program student, graduating Spring 2018. Sally works as the Volunteer Program Manager at Yosemite National Park. Previously, Sally was a volunteer in the Peace Corps and worked in the Bongo, Ethiopia headquarters, helping to train new volunteers and develop new sites to send future volunteers. Sally states that, “the MPA program has been directly relevant to my current position with the National Park Service.” Sally’s position requires that she track and keep records on thousands of volunteers. In addition, she is responsible for helping to coordinate volunteer stewardship and large-scale events such as Yosemite Facelift. Sally affirms that many of the courses she has taken have been immediately useful to her in her day-to-day duties. Sally credits the MPA program with helping her to understand where she fits into the bigger picture regarding her current position with the National Park Service and the federal government.

Two MPA Students Receive Prestigious Internship

Katie Wilkins and Shane St. Onge were chosen to participate in the inaugural eight-week summer Baucus Institute Student Leaders Program. The program selected five students to serve as interns in the Washington, D.C. offices of Montana’s congressional delegation. Wilkins and St. Onge were chosen for the esteemed internship because each has a strong commitment to public service and interest in the political process. Wilkins and St. Onge are very excited for the opportunity and are looking forward to learning more about the positive change that can occur through public policy and public-sector work.



Stay Connected

- [Become a mentor](#)
- [Join us on LinkedIn](#)

UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

The fully online **Certificate in Public Administration** provides a bridge for public service employees to gain skills, knowledge, and training by completing a short set of classes such as public administration, human resource management, budgeting, and organization theory. These classes are critical for understanding public organizations, and enhance the performance of public workers and the valuable services government agencies perform for our society.

CATAPULT YOUR CAREER TO THE NEXT LEVEL

Rolling Admission (fall, spring, or summer)

Complete on your own time
through online course delivery

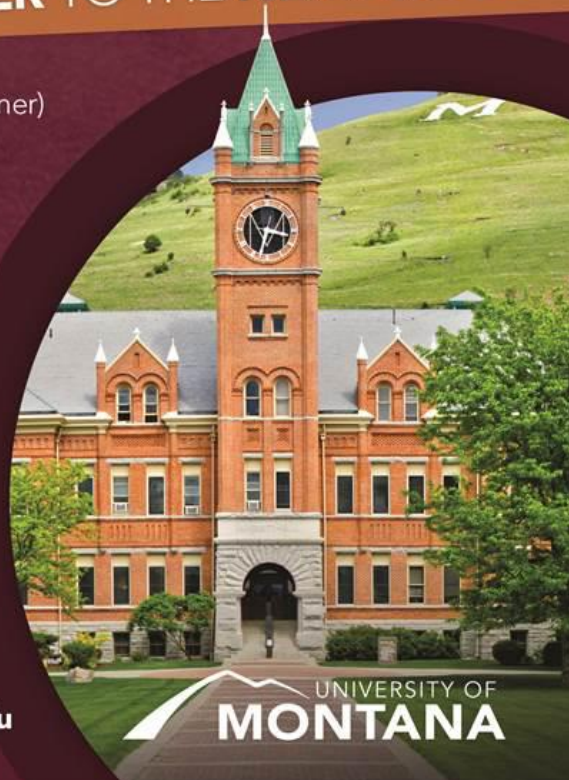
Coursework taught by full-time
public administration faculty

Affordable & Flexible

12 Credits (4 classes)

APPLY TODAY:
umt.edu/grad/Apply

For more information contact
Dr. Rinfret: sara.rinfret@umontana.edu



UNIVERSITY OF
MONTANA