

School of Public Policy and Administration

NEWSLETTER

April 2023 – Volume 11, Issue 10

Congratulations to SPPA students Milena and Udoka on their new roles!



Milena Basciano

"The School of Public Policy and Administration welcomed me with endless support, opportunities and open arms.

The school opened doors to the [Ontario Legislature Internship Program](#), and I'm thrilled for my next journey.

The process is competitive, but our events, such as the Professional Development

Workshops prepared me for my interview and resume building. I will never forget the four years I spent as part of such an incredible family, and you won't either. Put yourself out there, be involved and engaged in your York University experience, and watch your future unfold."



Udoka Achilike

Udoka became an SPPA student in the BPA specialized honours program, policy analysis stream, in the summer of 2021. Prior to joining the program, Udoka completed his Diploma in Mechanical Engineering in his home country of Nigeria, before migrating to Canada.

He exemplified commitment to academic excellence and professionalism, in pursuit of

completing the program; this also led to Udoka being the inaugural recipient of the [Lorne Foster Award in Public Policy](#), for his commitment to his studies and his contribution to social justice via his work with Advocacy Peel. He was also selected as a successful applicant for SPPA's Practicum in Public Administration course [PPAS 4995](#). It was in this course that Udoka was assigned to the Treasury Board Secretariat on a four month practicum placement. Upon completion of the course, Udoka was offered a contract to work with the Treasury Board Secretariat as an Information/Policy analyst effective April 17, 2023.

Congratulations to Milena and Udoka – SPPA wishes you every success and looks forward to your continued engagement with the School!

Congratulations to MPPAL students Israa and Elizabeth on their new careers!



Israa Izzeddin

MPPAL Class of 2023
Business Analyst
Ministry of Children, Community
and Social Services MCCSS

I initially enrolled in the MPPAL program with the primary objective of acquiring skills related to policy analysis. However, I have found the program to be much more comprehensive than I initially anticipated. MPPAL is truly an interdisciplinary graduate program that covers a wide range of topics relevant to public administration and policy.

One such course, Program Evaluation, sparked my interest in policy and process, and led me to my **current Business Analysis career at the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS)**. Through this course, I gained a more comprehensive view of public policies, and I learned how to evaluate the impact on the various programs it directly affects. This experience enabled me to see the bigger picture behind the policies and understand how they interact with the real world. Enrolling in the MPPAL program has proven to be a transformative experience for my career path. It has been instrumental in shaping my career trajectory, and I am grateful for the opportunity to have taken part in this program.



Elizabeth Robertson

MPPAL Class of 2023
Policy/Program Analyst
the Ministry of Children, Community
and Social Services MCCSS

I am humbled and grateful to have landed **the Policy/Program Analyst position at the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services**. My education and professional experiences have played a significant role in my journey. In particular, I owe a great deal to the Master of Public Policy and Administration Leadership (MPPAL) CO-OP program, without which I would not be in this position today. During my MPPAL program, I gained invaluable public policy insights, which equipped me with the skills and knowledge to conduct multi-disciplinary research and evaluation approaches. My education has also taught me the importance of collaboration, teamwork, and a commitment to serving the public.

Without the skills and knowledge I have gained through my MPPAL program, I would not have been able to secure this position as a Policy/Program Analyst. As I embark on this new career chapter, I remain committed to using my education and experiences to serve Ontarians.

SPPA wishes you the very best!

Congratulations to SPPA Director, Professor Naomi Couto on her Teaching Award!



The Canadian Association of Programs in Public Administration (CAPPA) and the Institute of Public Administration in Canada (IPAC) are pleased to announce the winner of the 2023 Pierre DeCelles Award is Professor Naomi Couto, former Graduate Program Director, Master of Public Policy, Administration and Law (MPPAL) Program, School of Public Policy & Administration, at York University.

Professor Couto is a long-time instructor at both the undergraduate and graduate levels at the School of Public Policy and Administration at York University, with a record of excellence and innovation in the classroom. Her contribution to the quality of education as Graduate Program Director and now as Director has been outstanding, encompassing expanding course offerings, establishing a new program in municipal government, nurturing student and alumni associations, establishing links with public sector organizations, and mentoring individual students.

Thank you to the members of the Award Jury for their time and service to the public administration community.

Thank you also to the students, faculty, and community members who took the time to nominate talented professors of public administration, management, and policy. We encourage you to participate in next year's DeCelles Award process, and look for the call for nominations in Spring 2024. <https://cappa.ca/en/what-we-do/pierre-decelles-award/>

IPAC and CAPPA's Pierre De Celles Award recognizes the outstanding skill, accomplishment and commitment of an exceptionally creative and effective teacher. Pierre De Celles was Director General of École nationale d'administration publique (ÉNAP), and was known as a gifted teacher.

GSAPPAL Elections

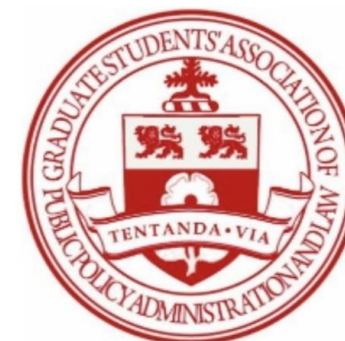
Monday, June 5, 2023, at 6:30pm

Positions for 2023-2024 include:

- President
- Vice-President
- Treasurer
- Director of Communications
- Social Convener
- Director of Outreach
- Secretary



To access the form, please visit [GSAPPAL 2023-2024 elections form](#) or scan the QR code.



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2023 SPPA AWARDS

Nomination Deadline is Monday, May 4, 2023

The **Undergraduate Student Award** acknowledges exceptional contributions made by one current student or recent undergraduate student to the activities and programs of the School.

The **Graduate Student Award** acknowledges exceptional contributions made by one current student or recent graduate student to the activities and programs of the School.

The **Alumni Recognition Award** acknowledges exceptional contributions made by one alumnus/alumna to the activities and programs of the School, as well as to the mentoring of its students and new professionals.

The **Foster – Greene Award for Excellence in Public Policy, Administration and Law** recognizes an alumnus/alumna of the MPPAL program whose work has demonstrably and significantly advanced social justice, human rights, ethics and good governance in congruence with the MPPAL program's founding principles. The Award recipient will normally have min. 10 years of work experience in the broader public/NGO sector.

The **Emerging Leader Award** recognizes a current student or recent alumnus/alumna of the School who is an emerging leader within the broader public sector (including the non-profit sector) and represents the ideals, values and abilities of sound, responsible and engaging public policy and administration in congruence with the School's vision to promote Good Governance. The Award recipient will normally have 5-8 years of work experience in the broader public sector.

The **Practicum Honouree Award** recognizes individuals who have made exceptional efforts to provide practicum opportunities for the School's fourth-year students.

The 2022 award winners were honoured at the SPPA Awards Ceremony with the keynote address delivered by Orelie Di Mavindi, York MPPAL Alumna. For further details about the 2022 awards celebration, please click [here](#).

Nominations for the above awards are invited from faculty, staff, individual students and alumni, as well as associations of students, alumni, and friends of the School. Nominations require a one-page statement of the accomplishments of the individual as well as a copy of the nominee's resume.

Please forward materials, or questions, to Professor Naomi Couto, Director, School of Public Policy and Administration via email to: naomi@yorku.ca



Call for Nominations: LA&PS Writing and Digital Composition Prize

Fall/Winter 2022 LA&PS Writing Prizes

Every Course Director teaching in the Faculty of LA&PS is eligible to submit a text-based paper written in any style (except creative writing) from each course they have taught in LA&PS between May 2022 and April 2023. The competition closing date is **June 12, 2023**.

Further details about the contest along with the competition entry form can be found on our website: <https://www.yorku.ca/laps/student-awards/writing-prize/>.

Fall/Winter 2022 LA&PS Digital Composition Prizes

The LA&PS Digital Composition Prizes are open to digital submissions of all sorts produced by students in first to fourth-year LA&PS courses. Every Course Director in LA&PS is eligible to submit a digital assignment from each course they have taught in LA&PS between May 2021 and April 2022. The competition closing date is **June 19, 2023**. Further details about the contest (including eligibility criteria and the competition entry form) can be found on our

website: <https://www.yorku.ca/laps/student-awards/digital-composition-prize/>.

For any questions regarding either award, please contact jons@yorku.ca.

Do you have a passion for public policy, politics and making change happen?

[Join us for Wonk Prom on April 27! Celebrate the past and future of our newly-merged Institute!](#)

The Leadership Lab and Brookfield Institute invite you to attend the 7th annual Wonk Prom at OneEleven in Toronto. Join friends (19+) from across the country for a night of networking, music and celebration. Wonk Prom begins when the Public Policy Forum's (PPF) Testimonial Dinner ends - extending the biggest party in Canadian public policy and politics.

This year we're celebrating the past and future of the [Brookfield Institute and the Leadership Lab as the two orgs officially merge and launch our new name!](#)

Not attending the PPF Summit? Not a problem! Wonk Prom is open to any and all political and policy wonks and change-makers. Dress code is cocktail attire.

[Get your ticket now](#) and spread the word with your network on social media! And be sure to follow [@WonkProm](#) on Twitter for updates.

The Institute for Social Research presents its 2023 Spring Seminar Series with courses on research design and qualitative research methods, from May 5th through May 16th, 2023.

This Seminar Series starts with a one-and-a-half-day workshop discussing the wide range of applications of narrative analysis. One particular and very popular method of textual interpretation in qualitative research, discourse analysis, is fully discussed in the second session of this series. These more qualitative research courses are followed by two courses that rely to a greater extent on computer applications.

These courses provide a hands-on approach to help researchers develop practical skills. They attract an interesting mix of graduate students, researchers from government and NGOs, faculty, and university staff. In our teaching we strive to provide a successful introduction to each topic, while offering new insights for more experienced researchers.

Please note the following short courses offered by the Institute for Social Research this Spring, here is the link:

<https://www.yorku.ca/research/isr/spring-seminar-series-2023>

These courses will be held remotely via Zoom; meeting access TBA.

Student Opportunities:

[Research Assistant - Social Science Research on Artificial Intelligence \(Summer 2023\)](#)

May-August 2023, with a possibility of continuing on for the academic year.

Professors Jonathan Obar, Ian Stedman, and Pirathayini Srikantha are seeking a Research Assistant to assist on social science research about artificial intelligence (AI) during the 2023 summer term. The project has a particular emphasis on the organization of ethical data sets, as well as AI governance. **To be eligible**, you must be currently enrolled as a PhD or Osgoode Hall student at York University. All applicants must possess strong grades, exemplary organizational skills, and be proficient in social science research and writing.

[Research Intern - Higher Education Quality Control of Ontario](#)

HEQCO is seeking skilled postsecondary students or recent graduates to join its small and dynamic research team. We will help you develop knowledge and skills that will be useful for your career success and provide you the opportunity to familiarize yourself with the current landscape of public policy research in Ontario's postsecondary sector. You will bring enthusiasm, curiosity and a new and diverse perspective to our organization. As a research intern, you will be involved in several activities. You will collaborate with HEQCO colleagues on research projects where you will be exposed to a variety of research methods in public policy. Your work will be guided by a HEQCO senior researcher who will assist in developing your skills and knowledge; additional opportunities for informal mentorship and networking with staff will also be available during your internship. There will also be opportunities for professional development.

Events and Conferences:

[2023 Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences](#)

May 27 to June 2, 2023 | Toronto

York University will host the 2023 Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, in partnership with the [Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences](#). Congress is the largest academic gathering in Canada, and one of the largest in the world. The event in 2023 will be the 92nd annual edition, bringing together 67 academic associations from humanities and social sciences disciplines, including literature, history, theatre, film studies, education, music, sociology, geography, social work and more.

In Spring 2023, York's Keele and Glendon campuses will host to over 8,000 scholars, graduate students and practitioners. York's academic convenor for Congress 2023 will be Dr. Andrea Davis, associate professor in the Department of Humanities, Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies. Recently, Dr. Davis served as special advisor on the Faculty's [Anti-Black Racism Strategy](#), a position developed by the Dean's Office as part of the Faculty's comprehensive response to combatting anti-Black racism. [Click here to see the announcement.](#)

[11th Annual CAPPa Conference: Standing up to the Wave](#) Come out and support SPPA Professor Ian Stedman!

June 21-23, 2023, York University

The annual CAPPa Conference brings together scholars and students sharing an interest in public administration, public policy, and public management to consider new developments affecting teaching, research, and practice. Presenters share work in varying stages with audiences who engage in lively conversation and provide constructive feedback. Plenary sessions highlight key issues of interest to the public administration and policy community.

Our 2023 conference theme of 'Standing up to the Wave' highlights key issues and opportunities facing the study, teaching, and practice of public administration, with a mix of individual researcher presentations, panels and plenary sessions. This year's conference will also be anchored by presentations and a workshop that focus directly on opening up new discussions about the future of public sector ethics and accountability in Canada.

Details on Registration and Conference fees can be found on the CAPPa website: <https://cappa.ca/en/>

Please [click here to register](#) and [click here](#) for proposal submissions.

If you have any questions, please contact:

•Dr. Ian Stedman, CAPPa Conference Co-Chair, istedman@yorku.ca

Job Opportunities:

Manager, Government and Regulatory Affairs — Questrade Financial Group

Working with the Head of Government & Regulatory Affairs in the Strategy and Capital markets team, the Manager, Government and Regulatory Affairs will support the development and implementation of the organization's provincial and federal government and regulatory affairs strategies related to key business priorities across QFG's lines of business including Questrade, Questrade Wealth Management, Zolo, ThinkInsure, and Community Trust Company. This role will also promote executive and corporate thought leadership through digital content and media channels, while supporting business development and government engagement efforts.

[Director, Housing Secretariat — City of Hamilton](#)

The Director, Housing Secretariat provides action-oriented oversight, strategic leadership, and expert advice and to the implementation of the City's Housing Sustainability and Investment Roadmap, a "whole of Hamilton" and corporate-wide approach to addressing the current housing crisis. A newly launched initiative approved by Council and designed to integrate, align, and sequence affordable housing efforts underway and planned across city divisions in all city departments and with community partners, you will be responsible to develop and implement an annual program of work that includes internal actions and identified community priorities. You would serve as an action-oriented change champion for affordable housing in the City of Hamilton, with a primary focus on transitioning plans and strategies into concrete deliverables and tangible outcomes.

[Senior Manager, Strategic Policy — The Financial Services Regulatory Authority of Ontario \(FSRA\)](#)

The Senior Manager leads a team that is responsible for both foundational elements of FSRA's strategic direction (such as their strategic framework, business planning cycle, and process for evaluating complex and novel issues) and policy leadership on topics or workstreams that don't fit neatly into a single sector they regulate. Some of your key responsibilities in this role might include: the planning, design, development, and delivery of the FSRA strategic transformational initiatives; the development and execution of the strategic and business planning processes; and the development and oversight of plans, policies, rule-making, guidance and other tools and related programs and services.

[Director of Policy, Research and Advocacy — Amnesty International Canada](#)

As Director of Policy, Research and Advocacy, you will provide strategic leadership, innovation, and vision for Amnesty International Canada (English Sections)'s domestic and international human rights priorities. This position collaborates across the organization to build innovative, intersectional, and effective strategies and campaigns, research, analysis and advocacy in alignment with Amnesty International's new 2022-2030 strategic priorities: Refugees, Migrants and People on the move; Indigenous People's rights and Environmental Justice; Racial Justice; Gender Justice; and Crisis response.

[Infection Prevention and Control Specialist - Treasury Board Secretariat, Toronto](#)

Are you a highly motivated, innovative, and collaborative professional with solid experience in infection prevention and control and excellent relationship management skills? If so, consider applying to this exciting opportunity in the Centre for Public Sector Labour Relations and Compensation in the Treasury Board Secretariat.

[Indigenous Rights Program Coordinator — KAIROS](#)

The Indigenous Rights Program Coordinator is the lead staff position for Indigenous rights advocacy and is responsible for KAIROS research, policy, education, and program initiatives related to Indigenous rights. They work with Indigenous Peoples to see the realization of rights, and the advancement of reconciliation. This position is largely focused on engaging people in Canada in Indigenous rights, and works with the Global Partnerships Team, also focused on Indigenous rights globally, as well as with the KAIROS Blanket Exercise Team.

[Senior Advisor, Energy Transition, Strategic Policy - Ontario Energy Board](#)

Reporting to the Manager of Energy Transition, the Senior Advisor is responsible for leading work related to energy transition planning, supporting the efficient integration of electric vehicles, and sector partnerships. This work involves developing policy options and recommendations by engaging with industry stakeholders and carrying out research and analysis. It also includes providing subject matter expertise and thought leadership to assist executive leadership in achieving the OEB's objectives.

[Senior Advisor, Innovation, Strategic Policy — Ontario Energy Board](#)

Reporting to the Manager of Innovation, the Senior Advisor is responsible for leading work related to facilitating innovation that supports the energy transition and increasing consumer choice through dynamic pricing initiatives. This work involves leading quantitative policy research and analysis to develop policy options and recommendations. It also involves engaging with industry stakeholders and providing subject matter expertise and thought leadership to assist executive leadership in achieving the OEB's objectives.

[Senior Planner Policy & Research — City of Toronto](#)

Reporting to the Manager and/or Project Manager in the Policy Unit in the Strategic Initiatives, Policy & Analysis section, the Senior Planner leads and coordinates complex planning, policy and research assignments and initiatives in the City Planning Division. The emphasis for this position will be on environmental policy and implementation including research and initiatives related to provincial policy, climate mitigation and adaptation, implementation of the Toronto Green Standard, and associated development review.

[Consultant: Addressing gender and corruption in Africa through social norms — Transparency International](#)

Transparency International (TI) Canada seeks a consultant or a team of consultants to develop and deliver an assessment and programming methodology on social norms relating to gender and corruption in support of the Inclusive Service Delivery Africa project running through March 2026. Through this project, TI aims to improve access to education and healthcare services for women, girls and other groups at risk of discrimination in Africa by addressing corruption-related barriers. The project is implemented in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Ghana, Madagascar, Rwanda and Zimbabwe in partnership with TI Canada and the TI Global Thematic Network Initiative (GTNI) on Health.

[International Human Rights Program Coordinator – University of Toronto](#)

The International Human Rights Program (IHRP) at the University of Toronto Faculty of Law enhances the legal protection of existing and emerging international human rights obligations and builds the capacity of current and future advocates to effectively use international human rights law by providing experiential learning opportunities for students and legal expertise to civil society. Working under the direction of the Director of the IHRP, the Coordinator will support all aspects of the IHRP in accordance with program needs. Major duties will include coordinating student volunteer programs and summer abroad internships; supporting IHRP advocacy projects and outreach initiatives; organizing events; communications, including social media and website. The incumbent will be required to keep up with current topics in international human rights law and developing and maintaining strong working relationships with all levels of stakeholders.

[Director, School of Public Policy - University of Calgary](#)

Dr. Edward McCauley, President and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Calgary has struck an advisory committee chaired by Interim Provost and Vice-President (Academic) Dr. Penny Werthner, inviting applications from outstanding scholars and leaders for the position of Director, School of Public Policy at the University of Calgary.

[Public Affairs and Corporate Communications Manager — Interac](#)

Interac has a job opening for a dynamic and experienced public affairs and communications professional. You'll be responsible for integrating public relations strategies with the government relations mandate and identifying new opportunities to reach target audiences. You will also promote executive and corporate thought leadership through digital content and channels, while supporting business development and government engagement efforts.

[Specialist, Policy and Government Relations, Social Prescribing — Canadian Red Cross](#)

The Specialist will work with the Senior Project Manager, and will effectively develop key insights and understandings around government activities, particularly at the federal level, with relevance to social prescribing. The candidate will develop a variety of materials to support government outreach and engagement activities, build relationship and engage strategically with key government stakeholders, and lead gathering and workshops to achieve the overall goal of advancing the awareness, knowledge and practice of social prescribing across Canada. This position will be an integral part of a project team, with guidance from the Senior Director, Canadian Institute for Social Prescribing and the Government Relations Office of the Canadian Red Cross.

[Policy Advisor — Office of the Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Ottawa](#)

The Office of the Minister for Environment and Climate Change is recruiting a Policy Advisor to advance the implementation of high priority files on climate change and nature. We seek a highly experienced and motivated professional who will advance strategic priorities and political objectives, and to provide high-level advice to the Minister on policy priorities. You will be working with a dynamic, highly-motivated team. You will provide advice to the Minister to ensure that our policies are effective, ambitious, and efficient.

[Manager, Social Planning and Research — Community Development Council Durham](#)

The Manager, Social Planning and Research will report to CDCD's Executive Director. The successful incumbent will be responsible for providing oversight and leading the coordination of daily operations of the Community Development Department. The Manager, Social Planning and Research will also be responsible for conducting research, analyzing policy and producing social reports in order to develop positions and recommend strategies on major social, employment and civic issues. The incumbent will also manage projects with a community development lens, work closely with stakeholders/funders and successfully complete various grant proposals and report writing.

[Manager, Issues Management and Government and Stakeholder Relations — College of Immigration and Citizenship Consultants \(CICC\)](#)

The College of Immigration and Citizenship Consultants is the regulatory body that licenses immigration and citizenship consultants to protect the public. The Manager, Issues Management and Stakeholder and Government Relations would lead and provide strategic issues management, stakeholder and government relations advice and guidance to the President & CEO, and COO. You will be a member of the department management team and will contribute to the direction and ongoing operational improvements of the department. Some of your key responsibilities might include: developing and leading the implementation of the College's corporate issues management policy, framework, processes, protocols and standards; and collaborating with the Director to identify and respond to immediate and potential public and policy issues that may be local, provincial, national or global in scale.

[VP, Government Relations — TELUS Health](#)

The Vice President, Government Relations will lead the company's engagement with various provincial governments with a goal of building positive momentum for the TELUS Health business. Reporting to the Chief Growth Officer, the VP will be tasked with developing and executing a best-in-class government relations strategy that demonstrates how the business fits within government policies and secures the necessary government support to grow, as a partner, policy maker and as a customer. The VP will have an opportunity to build out a new, small team while working closely with the VP, Communications, Public Relations & Media and the existing TELUS Government Relations team to manage all key external messaging from TELUS Health.

Training the next generation of municipal leaders in the heart of the GTA!

Make history as one of the first graduates of York University's new Markham Campus! The new municipal stream of the MPPAL program will equip you with the skills you need to excel and lead in the municipal sector. This addition will also enhance accessibility for employees of municipalities to the North, East and West of the Greater Toronto Area.



LEARN MORE

about the MPPAL program to jumpstart your career



Unique Program

1 of 2 programs in Canada



Learn While You Work

through evening and weekend courses



FUTURE STUDENTS

sign up to receive more information



Fully Accessible

for civil servants, and public and private sector employees



Small Class Sizes

to enhance community and engaged learning



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