

# School of Public Policy and Administration

## NEWSLETTER

December 2023 – Volume 11 , Issue 20

**Best Wishes for a Happy and Healthy Holiday Season!!**



**Dear SPPA community,**

**Thank you for your support and engagement with the School. We wish you a beautiful holiday break and a very happy New Year!**

**Please note that the University and the SPPA Office will be closed as of Friday, December 22, 2023, and will re-open on Wednesday, January 3, 2024.**

# Professional Development Workshop on Résumé Writing a Huge Success!

Thank you to all of the students, invited guests, and organizers for always making these workshops a fantastic experience for all.



Guest Speaker, [Gurvir Bains](#)



Don't forget to [RSVP](#) for Workshop #2 on Interview Skills, January 25, 2024.  
Come and meet professionals who can help perfect your skills!

## MPPAL Merchandise

Your Graduate Student Association of Public Policy, Administration and Law (GSAPPAL) is excited to reveal MPPAL merchandise for sale!

Show off your #MPPAL Pride with some cozy sweaters.

To learn more about the items and to place your orders, kindly fill out the MachForm.

[MPPAL Merchandise Order 2023-2024 \(yorku.ca\)](https://yorku.ca/mppal-merchandise-order-2023-2024)

Once you complete the form, you will receive an emailed copy of your submission.

**There is a minimum order that must be placed with the Bookstore by December 31st, so please order now!**

Payment will only be collected if we reach the minimum order and after the Bookstore confirms the purchase. Once the minimum order is reached, the GSAPPAL team will be in touch regarding payment instructions and amounts.

As this is a program specific custom order, the Bookstore currently estimates 6 weeks processing time to have the items ordered and delivered.

**\$40/each**



Items from Left to Right: Black Quarter-Zip Sweater, Maroon Quarter-Zip Sweater, Red Hoodie, Black Hoodie

## Congratulations to SPPA student Hafeza Khan – the 2023 winner of the Paul Cantor Award



SPPA student Hafeza Khan is the 2023 recipient of the Paul Cantor Award! The Paul Cantor Award recognizes the academic achievement of a student who has completed a minimum of 48 credits in public policy and administration with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 6.00. Hafeza is a third-year student completing a Specialized Honours Bachelor of Public Administration degree, with a focus on Management. Hafeza demonstrates a strong commitment to academic excellence throughout her studies and has been an active member of the SPPA community.

She has served in the Public Policy and Administration Student Association (PPASA) as the Director of Marketing from 2021-2022, and as the Director of Professional Communications from 2022-present. Hafeza also works in the Office of the Dean of the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies where she designs and delivers programs and services for students.

**SPPA congratulates Hafeza and thanks her for her active engagement with the School!  
We encourage all students that meet the criteria below to think about applying next year.**

### **Paul Cantor Award**

- **Value:** \$4000
- **Number of Awards:** 1/year

Awarded to a student who has completed 48 credits, has a minimum cumulative grade point average of 6.00 (B) and focused their studies in the areas of public policy and administration. Recipient must be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident or protected person, be an Ontario resident and demonstrate financial need. Paul Cantor has been a long serving member of the York University Board of Governors since 1998 and has extensive experience in the Toronto Business community.

To apply for this award, please fill out the current [Student Financial Profile](#)  
And find more information on all Scholarships, Awards and Bursaries [here!](#)

## SPPA alumna Amanda Doobay returns to Ministry of Transportation



On December 4, 2023, Amanda Doobay will be commencing a secondment opportunity at the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) as Director, Safety Program Development Branch in the Transportation Safety Division, in many respects where her public service career began.

Amanda is a seasoned director with a 23-year career in the Ontario Public Service (OPS). Prior to her appointment to MTO she was the Director of Corrections Policy, Planning and Service Delivery Branch within the Operational Support Division of the Ministry of the Solicitor General where she played a crucial role in providing critical leadership, integrating specialized services and expertise in areas such as operational policy development, IT sustainment, service delivery operations, information management, and continuity of operations planning.

She has been a driving force in successfully implementing key policies and business application enhancements supporting the correctional services roadmap, and her leadership has greatly impacted many achievements across Corrections. Amanda has been a valued leader and contributor at key governance tables within Corrections and is known for her highly collaborative and solutions-focused approach.

Amanda is an alumna of the 2015 Governor General's Canadian Leadership Conference and is a GTA Regional Ontario Co-Chair for the conference, focusing on curating leadership development programming on diversity and inclusion. Amanda has a Master of Public Administration from Queen's University and a Specialized Honours Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Public Policy and Administration from York University.

**The School of Public Policy and Administration is very appreciative of Amanda's exceptional support to the [Practicum in Public Administration Course](#), as a guest speaker for other courses and a mentor to students. We wish her continued success!**

## Professor James Simeon addresses colleagues at Clare Hall Law Dinner during his sabbatical



Photos of Professor James Simeon and colleagues at the [Clare Hall](#) Law Dinner where he was invited to speak on the **Canadian and British Perspectives on Human Rights**. The dinner was held Friday, November 24th. Those in attendance were Clare Hall law graduate students, Life Members, and Fellows.

For his Sabbatical Leave, Professor James C. Simeon, will be at the University of Cambridge, where he is a Life Member at Clare Hall and a Non-Resident Member at King's College. For the Lent and Easter Terms he will be affiliated with the Lauterpacht Centre for International Law as a Visiting Researcher. He will be researching and writing a book that will examine the interrelationships between and among war, terrorism, and asylum and primarily from the perspective of international law.

**Register Now - the course is filling up fast!**

## **AP PPAS 2195 3.0 Section M - Professional Skills and Communication**

**Course Directors: Asare Kester-Akrofi and Fausto Natarelli**

**Winter 2024: Lectures will be held on Wednesdays 7:00-10:00pm**

**(Catalogue #: T96T01)**

### **Course Description:**

Professional and communication skills are important skills for success. In this course you will learn key professional and communication skills essential in the workplace as well as in leadership specifically. There will be an emphasis on the government and broader public sector, however, many of the concepts and approaches are equally applicable to the not-for-profit and private sectors. The course will help to facilitate your understanding of the workplace and to best position you for success. Students will develop the key skills by leveraging course readings and lectures focusing on research and best practices, role play, workshops and simulation exercises and the use of self-awareness inventories.



**Asare Kester-Akrofi** has worked for the City of Toronto over the past four years in various leadership capacities, currently in the role of Manager, Strategic Initiatives, Office of the Deputy City Manager, Infrastructure & Development Services. Previously, Asare worked in the role of A/Manager, Program & Strategic Support within the Office of the Deputy City Manager, Corporate Services where he ensured strategic prioritization, coordination, and decision-making processes are clear and effective. This included supporting transition activities for the next term of Council, organizational change management, procurement, communications, corporate prioritization, Council and Committee preparations, strategic coordination across the City, intergovernmental relationships, and issues management. Asare also worked in Municipal Licensing and Standards (MLS) division as Program Manager and in early 2022, he moved into the role of Senior Change Management Consultant in the Policy, Planning, Finance and Administration (PPFA) division leading the change management development and implementation of the Confronting Anti-Black Racism Framework of Enduring Action for IDS Staff.



**Fausto Natarelli** has had a distinguished public service career in varied roles in provincial, regional and municipal agencies in Ontario. During his tenure at the Ministry of Transportation, he held many progressively responsible roles culminating in the role of Director for the Windsor Border Initiatives file - a once in a generation, vitally important, multi-billion-dollar infrastructure initiative. Subsequently, Fausto joined Metrolinx and led the development and pre-procurement planning for the \$1.4 B Hurontario LRT project as director. Fausto concluded his public service career as director with the York Region Rapid Transit Corporation leading the further development and preliminary engineering of the Yonge Subway Extension - also a multi-billion-dollar infrastructure initiative. In recognition of his exceptional career, Fausto is a two-time recipient (individual and as a member of a team) of Ontario's premier public service recognition, the Amethyst Award as well as the IPAC/Deloitte National Leadership Award (Bronze). In recognition of his outstanding support to York University students and the school community, Fausto is the inaugural recipient of the York University School of Public Policy Alumnus of the Year Award acknowledging his accomplishments in public administration, assistance to the school, and mentoring students.

**Register Now** – 4<sup>th</sup> year level – one of a kind course!



**AP PPAS 4190 3.0 Section M: Ethics and the Public Service**

**Professor Garrett MacSweeney**

Winter 2024: Thursdays at 7:00pm

**(Catalogue #: B07Z01)**

**Read all about Prof. MacSweeney [here!](#)**

**Course Description:**

This course analyzes the basic ideas that underlie ethical principles and values in the public sector in democratic countries, with emphasis on Canada. The course examines ethics standards and current events in politics and the public service, situating these standards within the broader principles of ethical management, policy making, and public administration. Ethical government is important to our democracy, and it is therefore crucial for students of politics and policy to be able to understand what rules of ethical conduct exist, how those rules are administered and/or enforced, and to be able to think critically about how those rules might be improved. This course introduces students to important concepts, including critical and ethical decision and policy making; corruption; conflicts of interest; lobbying and lobbyist registration; whistleblowing in the public sector; patronage and conventions of public service neutrality and loyalty.



## Register Now - Public Sector Budget Process



**AP PPAS 3524 3.0 (cross-listed to AP ADMS 3524 3.0) Section O**

**Course Director: Robert Siddall FCPA, FCA**

**Winter 2024: Tuesdays 7:00-10:00pm**

**Catalogue #: H23F01 (AP PPAS) or N76T01 (AP ADMS)**

**This is a Blended course - Some classes will be held on Zoom and others will be in HNES 031**

[This is a required course for the BPA Honours and the BPA \(Specialized Honours\) Management and Policy Analysis Steams.](#)

Robert Siddall's career has spanned over 40 years of senior management experience, covering a wide range of strategic and financial functions, in both the private and public sectors. For example, he has held the position of Provincial Controller with the Province of Ontario and has been the Chief Financial Officer for both Waterfront Toronto and Metrolinx. He was also a founding member of the Canadian Chapter of Accounting for Sustainability (A4S). He is currently a member of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Canada, CPA Canada's Business Sustainability Advisory Board and PSAB's Public Sector Accounting Discussion Group.

Robert continues to bring his passion to teaching, mentoring, sustainability, climate change, natural capital and diversity and inclusion: all issues he believes will continue to be critical to future generations of Canadians.

### **Course Description:**

This course examines the key issues and context of the budget process and the increasing importance of oversight, transparency and accountability in the public sector in Canada. It assesses current approaches to budget policy, fiscal management and accountability frameworks. Prerequisites: AP/ECON 1000 3.00, AP/ECON 1010 3.00, AP/ADMS 2500 3.00 (or AP/ADMS 1500 3.00 or AP/ADMS 1550 3.00). Course credit exclusions: None.

**Prerequisite Enforcement:** The three prerequisite courses are all required courses for the BPA Honours and Specialized Honours degrees (all streams) and must be completed before ADMS 3524. Students in other programs who have completed two courses in introductory economics and the one course in introductory accounting or have equivalent work experience and would like to know whether they meet the prerequisite requirements should contact the course coordinator, Professor Joanne Magee [imagee@yorku.ca](mailto:imagee@yorku.ca)

## Student Opportunities:

### [Council of the Federation Youth Internship – Canada’s Premiers](#)

**Application Deadline is February 22, 2024**

The Council of the Federation Secretariat is now hiring for the 2024-2025 Youth Internship Program! Based in Ottawa, this 14-month internship begins in May 2024 and offers you a full-time, paid opportunity to work in Canadian intergovernmental relations. Applicants must be aged 25 or younger, have graduated from an undergraduate or graduate program at a recognized university, and be legally able to work in Canada. Additionally, applicants must demonstrate an interest in Canadian politics and federalism and be able to communicate effectively in both English and French.

### [GLBL 3581 6.0 - South Korea: The Politics of Youth and Old Age – Professor Thomas Klassen](#)

**Application Deadline is Friday, January 12, 2024**

In the first week of the course, taking place at York University’s Keele campus, students will learn about the history and politics of modern Korea, from the start of the 20<sup>th</sup> century to the present. Following this week of intensive learning, students will travel to Seoul, the capital of South Korea and the home of half the nation’s population. In Seoul, learning is composed primarily of guided experiential opportunities, including visits to museums, universities, and cultural and historical sites including palaces and temples.

### [ThinkSwiss Research Scholarship 2024 – ThinkSwiss](#)

**Application Deadline is Sunday, December 31, 2023**

The ThinkSwiss program provides scholarships for Canadian students in all fields interested in doing research in Switzerland as visiting students for two to three months. This program is designed for students who are enrolled at a U.S. or Canadian university and who have completed their sophomore year. The scholarship is open to students from all fields if they have an acceptance letter from a professor at a Swiss university for a research stay in their group.

## Events and Conferences:

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### [Learning Skills Workshops – Student Community and Leadership Development](#)

We offer online and in-person workshops to help you learn all the skills you need to achieve your academic goals. Our workshops are open to York University students from all programs and years and are designed to help you learn how to manage your time, study and learn more effectively, keep up with readings and course work, and get the most out of your studies.

### [Professional Development Workshop II – Public Policy and Administration Student Association](#)

**Thursday, January 25, 2024 – 6:00 to 9:00pm – 305 Founders College, York University**

A continuation of PDW I, PDW II teaches tips and tricks that will allow you to excel in job interviews. You will also have the chance to implement key practices through mock interviews. Free professional headshots will be available at this event as well.

### [19<sup>th</sup> Annual IPAC Leadership Summit – Institute of Public Administration of Canada](#)

**March 7, 2024 – 10:00am to 5:00pm, Virtual Conference**

IPACs National Leadership Conference aims to provide leaders, practitioners, and academics working in public sector environments with the opportunity to connect with leading experts who successfully tackled disruption and change.

## [Senior Communications Advisor – Atomic Energy of Canada Limited](#)

The two Senior Communications Advisors will focus on different portfolios at AECL. The first will report to the Manager of Indigenous Relations and help AECL build and strengthen meaningful relationships with Indigenous nations and communities, government departments, local municipalities, and other stakeholders. The second will report to the Director of Communications and Government Reporting and be responsible for a range of strategic communications and government reporting tasks.

## [Manager, Policy and Governance – Ontario College of Teachers](#)

To manage the Policy and Governance Unit and provide research, policy and legislative support to the College and its governing Council and Committees. An experienced professional with a legal or public administration background, you will bring strong communication, interpersonal and planning skills to lead a team of policy and governance professionals.

## [Senior Manager, Program Development, Strategy and Innovation – Cuso International](#)

Cuso International are looking for a Senior Manager, PDSI to lead a team of 2-4 thematic experts and program development advisors, to grow Cuso International's programming and impact in its three strategic areas: gender and social inclusion, economic resilience, and climate action. The Senior Manager will play a leadership role in coordinating internal teams developing programs which align with Cuso International's new strategic plan.

## [Senior Planner – Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, OPS](#)

The Planning and Growth Division - Planning Policy Branch with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing is seeking a Senior Planner with expertise in land use planning and strong policy development skills. The Senior Planner will work in a team to provide project leadership and policy expertise in the development of policies, legislation, and operational guidelines. The Planning Policy Branch is responsible for providing leadership and innovation in provincial land use planning through legislative, regulatory, and policy tools to support an efficient planning system and promote the development of complete communities.

## [Technical Co-op Program – Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission](#)

We're looking for 3rd and 4th year Engineering and Science students at the top of their game who are collaborative, results driven, and committed to lifelong learning to help us reach our goal of being the best nuclear regulator in the world. This 12- to 16-month co-op will give you the chance to gain experience in areas like Nuclear Cycle and Facilities, Power Reactor Licensing and Compliance, Accelerators and Class II Facilities, and even participate in an inspection.

## [Technical Specialist – Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission](#)

As a Specialist working in the Reactor Behaviour Division (RBD), you will work collaboratively as part of a highly technical team to support the CNSC's mandate by providing regulatory leadership and expertise in the fields of deterministic safety analysis (DSA), severe accident analysis, and accident management.

## [Information and Privacy Commissioner – Legislative Assembly of British Columbia](#)

The Information and Privacy Commissioner is a non-partisan, independent statutory officer of the Legislature who provides oversight and enforcement of BC's freedom of information, privacy, and personal information protection laws. The Commissioner is also designated as the Registrar of Lobbyists.

## [Amended, Program Specialist – Ministry of Labor, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, OPS](#)

A one-of-a-kind opportunity is available for someone wanting to make a difference by reducing gender-based pay discrimination. The Pay Equity Office is seeking a Program Specialist to support women's economic advancement by researching, educating and informing about pay equity and the gender wage gap. Responsibilities will include conducting research and analysis on a wide range of issues relating to pay equity and the gender wage gap, building and maintaining stakeholder relations, identifying trends and developments, and preparing reports, briefing materials, and other documents.

## [Senior Policy Analyst – Ontario Chamber of Commerce](#)

The position will be responsible for leading a range of major policy files as the Social Policy Lead, with a focus on health, economic reconciliation, and housing. The Senior Policy Analyst will lead the OCC's Health Policy Council, author papers, find consensus on thorny issues, and engage in sophisticated research, analysis, stakeholder engagements, project management, and public-facing presentations.

## [Senior Policy Analyst - Gender-Based Analysis Plus \(GBA+\) - Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada](#)

Utilizing a gender-based lens, the Senior Policy Analyst will focus on the implementation and utilization of Pauktuutit's Inuit-specific GBA+ Framework, as well as utilize a culturally-specific, gender-based lens to review public policy and further Pauktuutit's mandates and initiatives that support Inuit women. Ideal candidates are responsible for utilizing a culturally specific, gender-based lens to conduct analysis and prepare written documents and recommendations for policy development and implementation.

## [National MMIWG Secretariat Policy Analyst - Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada](#)

The Policy Analyst is critical to the implementation of the core goals of the MMIWG Secretariat and creation of an Inuit Women's network that will strengthen partnerships and build the capacity of the Inuit women sector utilizing a gender-based analysis plus.

## [Policy and Advocacy Lead - Alliance for Healthier Communities](#)

The Policy and Advocacy Lead reports to the CEO and works in lock step with all teams to advance Alliance's strategic objectives. This position is responsible for supporting the CEO on high-priority matters relating to the policy direction and strategic initiatives of the Alliance. This includes participating in meetings, identifying actions, and executing the work which will involve a combination of hands-on support, collaborating across teams, managing linkages across the organization as well as liaising with members and provincial partners.

## [Senior Director, Policy - Ontario HIV Treatment Network](#)

The Senior Director will manage a multi-disciplinary team and work closely with other OHTN programs (i.e. data collection and analyses, impact-focused research). The Senior Director also supports and mentors the directors and senior leads of other OHTN teams. The Senior Director will ensure that evidence and data gathered through the OHTN's data and research programs are shared with the health care system and services, and used to inform policy and practice to drive change.

## [Summer Student Inventory – Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission](#)

We are looking for students to fill positions across our organization. Depending on what you are studying, you might be working in areas like Communications, Human Resources, IT, Finance, Security, Research, Policy, Licensing and Compliance, Environmental Assessment, even in our lab! Supporting directors, managers and officers in the development and execution of special initiatives and projects. Research, collection and analysis of data related to the objectives and activities of the Commission.

## [Senior Lead, Policy – QUEST Canada](#)

The Senior Lead, Policy will report to the Director of Operations. The role of Senior Lead, Policy is to lead and deliver the energy transition policy enablement program, foundational to QUEST Canada achieving its mission by facilitating critical knowledge-sharing platforms and assisting and engaging organizations to ideate and collaborate on policy solutions that enable greater local action. The candidate will be responsible for overseeing the implementation of the program, ensuring its alignment with the organization's mission and goals, and leading the co-creation of policy solutions that support the organization's mission and Theory of Change goal.

## [Community Social Development Officer Project Director – The 519](#)

Reporting to the Executive Director, the Community social development officer-Project Director will lead The 519's project to consider the needs and experiences of 2SLGBTQ+ communities in the event of significant climate-related emergencies. The Community social development officer-Project Director will utilize a community strengths-based model that draws on the inherent resiliency of 2SLGBTQ+ communities. They will represent The 519 at conferences, community meetings, and other events and will work closely with a wide range of stakeholders and relevant community partners. This role will involve a significant amount of research, information tracking, report writing and resource development.

## [Senior Health Policy Analyst – Centre for Addiction and Mental Health](#)

Reporting to the Senior Manager of Strategic Initiatives at Shkaabe Makwa, the role of the Senior Health Policy Analyst is to lead policy development and analysis in cultural safety, reconciliation and anti-Indigenous racism in the health care sector. The role includes maintaining senior level relationships with government agencies affecting the health care of First Nations, Inuit and Métis.

## [Senior Analyst – Insurance – Investors for Paris Compliance](#)

We are seeking a senior analyst to expand our work into the Canadian property and casualty (P&C) insurance sector. We intend to surface this contradiction and hold select companies accountable for their practices. We also intend to insert ourselves into ongoing conversations with governments and regulators about socializing the climate risks to the industry to ensure that taxpayers are not being asked to bail out actors partly responsible for their own demise. The Senior Analyst will spearhead this work for I4PC while working collaboratively with the rest of the team.



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