

# Public Administration Program *Newsletter*

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VSU offers both the Master of Public Administration and the Doctor of Public Administration Programs and both can be completed on-line. An outstanding faculty serve the Public Administration program. In addition to holding a terminal degree in their field, many of the faculty members have practical management experience in public and non-governmental organizations.

### **Application Deadlines**

**DPA:** April 15 for Fall Admission

**MPA:** July 15 for Fall Admission, November 15 for Spring Admission, April 15 for Summer Admission

**To submit information to future newsletters,  
Please click [here](#)**





# Public Administration Faculty Highlights

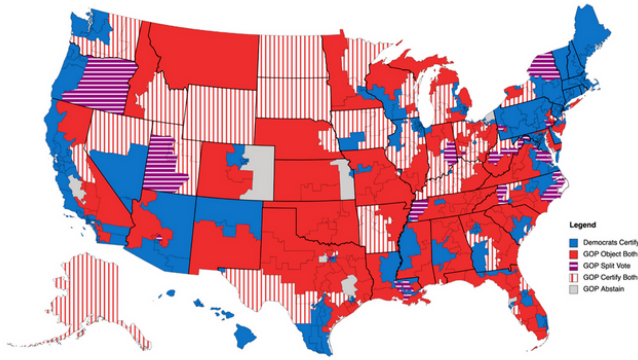


Figure 5. Vote outcome by congressional district.

## Drs. Kristina LaPlant, Keith Lee, and Dean James LaPlant

"Stopping the Steal and Selling the Big Lie: An Analysis of Tweets and Certification Votes Among House Republicans in the Wake of the 2020 Presidential Election", authored by Dr. Kristina LaPlant, Dr. Keith Lee, and Dean James LaPlant, was recently published in American Politics Research.

<https://journals.sagepub.com/eprint/BAX8DXJV3V2NRE7K3NTT/full>



## Dr. Huiting Qui

Dr. Huiting Qi presented her research at the annual conference of Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action (ARNOVA) in November 2023.

## Alumni Highlights



### **Dr. Branville G. Bard, Jr.** **(DPA, 2014)**

Dr. Branville G. Bard, Jr. serves as the vice president for public safety for all Johns Hopkins University and Johns Hopkins Medicine campuses and facilities worldwide, with the exception of the Applied Physics Laboratory.



Learn more about Dr. Branville G. Bard, Jr. [here](#)

### **Aaron Berg** **(MPA, 2021)**

Aaron M. Berg, December 2021 MPA Graduate, promoted to City of East Bethel, MN Community Development Director.

[www.ci.east-bethel.mn.us/](http://www.ci.east-bethel.mn.us/)

## Alumni Highlights



### **Nemiah Plant (MPA, 2022)**

Nemiah was hired as an Adjunct Professor of Political Science at Middle Georgia State University and will continue with federal career as an Inventory Management Specialist with the United States Department of Defense. Nemiah will begin teaching first course (Introduction to American Government) in Spring 2024.

### **Shari Johnson (MPA, 2022)**

Shari Johnson got accepted to Johnson University, Ph.D. Leadership Studies program in August 2023.

# Doctor of Public Administration (DPA) Highlights

## Alex Trembley

Alex Trembley was elected to the national council for the American Society of Public Administration in Jan 2024. It will be a 3-year term representing the Midwest and northwestern United States. He is joining VSU alumni Marlon Brown who represents a different district.



## Daaiyah Salaam

Daaiyah has been selected to serve as an author for PA TIMES Online in the year 2024. Here's a link to the website <https://patimes.org/>

Also their proposal was accepted, and they presented at the ASPA-GA 24th Annual Conference Oct 12-13, 2023 at Clayton State University. The presentation title was "Albany Works! Program: A Model of Restorative Justice and Community Resilience"

## Diana Adams

Diana Adams was appointed as Deputy Mayor of the City of West Melbourne in November 2023. She serves as the youngest elected official in the city's history, as well as the youngest elected official currently serving in Brevard County, FL.

# Doctor of Public Administration (DPA) Highlights

## Sara Hand

Sara Hand joined the University of Georgia Archway Partnership in Septemeber 2023 as the Colquitt County Archway Professional, a Public Service Faculty position. Learn more about the Archway Partnership at [archwaypartnership.uga.edu](https://archwaypartnership.uga.edu)



## Uriah Ward

Uriah Ward was elected Vice-Chair of the Saint Paul Public Schools Board of Education.

# Doctor of Public Administration (DPA) Highlights

## Congratulations to our Fall 2023 DPA Graduates!!

### **Dr. Brent Stephen Mayes**

Examining Church Volunteer Retention and  
Service Time through a Self-Determination Lens

Dr. Rebecca Lanning, Political Science

### **Dr. Blake Jamie Urbach**

The Tangelo Park Program: A Historical Case  
Study of the Program's First 25 Years Through the  
Lense of Social Capital Dr. James LaPlant,

Political Science

# Master of Public Administration (MPA) Highlights

## Congratulations to our Fall 2023 MPA Graduates!!

AUDREY J. ARONA

LEAH DANIELLE BECKFORD

AGUSTIN ELIAS BILLEYH

TIMOTHY DEWAYNE BROOKS

MONICA WOLFE BULLOCK

CHERYL LYNNETTE COOLEY

MARLIN DESHAWN EWINGS

LUCUS MILAM GARCIA-MYRICK

IRIS HECTOR

JESSICA LYNN HOMER

CHAQUITA LAWS

AUSTIN MICHAEL MCKAY

VEDA DEANNA MCNAIR

MELISSA TIMCHO MOORE

DOSMINE CHERYL PALMER-ALEXIS

KRISTEN NICOLE PENTON

ELIZABETH ROSE RIVERA

ERIC VANN ROSS, II

MICAH T. SMITH

ROBIN LEE SMITH

DARRYL VICTOR TALLEY, II

GUYLEE DANIEL WASHINGTON, JR

CHARLES THOMAS WHITING