Enrollment:

The School of Public Affairs welcomes 128 new graduate students this spring semester, representing a 34.7% increase in new graduate students from last spring’s entering class. Among these students are 50 participants in the Scaffolded Apprenticeship Model (SAM) Cohort, of the School Building Leader certificate program. Of the remaining new graduates, 41 are enrolled as traditional MPA students, 19 are in a new cohort of United Way Senior Fellows, 13 are enrolled in the Higher Education Administration program, and 5 are registered as non-degree students. Total SPA graduate enrollment for Spring 2006 is 694 students. Ethnicity data for the 584 graduate students reporting ethnicity is as follows: 50.3% White (non-Hispanic); 21.6% Black; 13% Hispanic/Latino; 7.9% Asian/Pacific Islander; .2% Native American/Alaskan; 6% Other, and .6% choose not to respond. SPA’s graduate student population is comprised of 69.5% women and 30.5% men.

The School of Public Affairs has 135 undergraduate majors enrolled as of this spring. The BS Real Estate and Metropolitan Development Program enrolled 92 students, and the BS Public Affairs program enrolled 43 students. Ethnicity data for the 101/134 SPA undergraduate students reporting ethnicity is as follows: 39.6% White (non-Hispanic); 22.8% Black; 21.8% Hispanic/Latino; 10.9% Asian/Pacific Islander; and 4.9% Other. SPA’s undergraduate student population is comprised of 50% women and 50% men.

Total SPA Spring 2006 enrollment equals 829 students.

SPA Centers and Special Programs:

Center for Innovation and Leadership in Government

The Center for Innovation and Leadership in Government (CILG) hosts a series of events throughout the year. These include several policy breakfasts that are open to faculty, students, and the general public. The final three for this academic year are listed below:

“Taming the Budget Guzzlers: Pensions, Medicaid and Debt Service.” Speakers will be Diana Fortuna, president of Citizens Budget Commission, State Comptroller Alan Hevesi, Jeffrey Sommer, Executive Director of State Financial Control Board, and EJ. McMahon, Manhattan Institute. Thursday, March 30, 8 to 10 am in the Newman Conference Center, 151 East 25 St., 7th floor.

“Agenda for New York State: Competitive Elections and Non-partisan Redistricting,” speakers TBA. The event which is cosponsored with the Citizens Union will be held in the Newman Conference Center, 151 East 25th Street, on Friday, April 28 from 8:30 am to 1 pm. RSVP by phone to 646-660-6851 or by email to spa_conferences@baruch.cuny.edu

“Term Limits: Analyzed and Debated,” speakers TBA. This roundtable which is also co-sponsored with the Citizens Union takes place on Thursday, May 11 on the 14th floor of the Vertical Campus, 55 Lexington Avenue, from 8 am to 11 am. RSVP by phone to 646-660-6851 or by email to spa_conferences@baruch.cuny.edu
Center on Equality, Pluralism and Policy

Ackerman Lecture Series:
On Wednesday, April 5, the Lillie and Nathan Ackerman Lecture Series on Equality and Justice in America presents, “Religion and the Law: the Virtue of Tolerance.” Speakers will include Prof. Marci Hamilton and Chaplain James Yee. Reception, 5 pm, Program, 6 to 8 pm. RSVP to 646-660-6851, or by email to spa_conferences@baruch.cuny.edu

SPA Office of Executive Programs
SPA’s Office of Executive Programs draws on the expertise of faculty and community partners to develop leadership, programs for public and nonprofit organizations. The program works primarily with umbrella organizations having large institutional membership rosters. Currently underway are programs with the Health and Hospitals Corporation (HHC), HHC’s Generations + Network (Harlem, Lincoln, Metropolitan and Morrisania Hospitals), the Hispanic Federation, the Partnership for After School Education, and the United Way of New York City.

New York Census Research Data Center
The New York Census Research Data Center will officially become the newest center at Baruch when it formally opens in May. The Center is a collaborative effort of Baruch, Columbia, Cornell, CUNY, the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, Fordham, National Bureau of Economic Research, NYU, Pace, Princeton, Russell Sage Foundation, Rutgers, the University at Albany-SUNY, Stony Brook University, Yale, and the Census Bureau’s Center for Economic Studies. Only eight other such facilities operate nationwide.

The Nonprofit Group
The President of the Hispanic Federation, Lillian Rodriguez-Lopez, and independent marketing consultant Harvey Hirsch were the featured speakers at the February 16 forum, “Using Marketing and Communications to Meet Nonprofit Goals,” an event sponsored by The Nonprofit Group.

On March 23 The Nonprofit Group held a workshop entitled, “Reflections on Philanthropy.” Featured speakers were: Hildy Simmons, Independent Philanthropic Consultant and former head of the Global Foundations Group at J.P. Morgan Private Bank; and Mark Bodden, Vice President/Director, Rudin Foundations.

The Nonprofit Group sponsors Consulting Day on April 6. Consultants will be available to meet with nonprofit professionals to discuss the variety challenges they face. The event will be held in the Vertical Campus building, 55 Lexington Avenue, 14th floor, from 9:00 am–4:00 pm.

On April 27 The Nonprofit Group sponsors a forum on, “Social Ventures for Nonprofit Organizations.” William Grinker, President of Seedco Financial Services will speak and be joined by additional speakers, TBA. The event will be held in Room 301 of 135 East 22nd St. from 4:00–6:00 pm. For more information or to RSVP, contact Aditi Aggarwal nonprofit_workshops@baruch.cuny.edu.

The final event of the spring planned by The Nonprofit Group is, “Turning Around Your Organization,” with a May date, speakers and location to be announced in April.

Peter F. Vallone Lectureship on Government and Politics in NYC
Former City Council Speaker Peter Vallone, Sr. will give an address entitled, “Good Government versus Good Politics,” on Monday, April 3 from 5:00–7:00 pm at the Newman Conference Center, 151 East 25th St. Room 750. RSVP to sarah_ryan@baruch.cuny.edu
Public Affairs Week

Public Affairs Week is a unique opportunity for SPA students. From March 27-30 evening classes are redirected so that students and faculty can join together to hear major policy analysts and policy makers discuss critical issues confronting American society. Public Affairs Week embodies and invigorates the School’s commitment to providing multiple fora in which research and practice inform public affairs. This year’s panels will consider the following issues:

- March 28, “Disaster Preparedness, Response and Recovery,” with Rear Admiral Marsha Evans and Joseph F. Bruno
- March 29, “The Politics of Poverty and Inequality,” with Peter Edelman and Lawrence M. Mead

SPA Faculty Seminar

The Faculty Research Seminar provides an opportunity for SPA and faculty from across the country to present and discuss research in progress. It has met weekly throughout the academic year. Twelve SPA faculty have presented papers, and we invited 6 speakers from other schools to present as well. The topics reflect the intellectual diversity of the faculty and have included studies of labor markets and household decisions, medical and health insurance decision-making, race and ethnicity, analytic methods, education reform, communication and leadership, the impacts of 9/11, and New York City politics. If you would like to be added to the mailing list or suggest a seminar topic, please contact Professor Karl Kronebusch at karl_kronebusch@baruch.cuny.edu

Highlights of External Support:

The School of Public Affairs received a grant of $75,000 from the Schoolhouse Foundation to conduct research regarding the design of small schools. The Principal Investigator for this project is former SPA Dean and Professor Stan Altman.

Distinguished Lecturer and Director of The Nonprofit Group, James Krauskopf, is pleased to announce an $82,500 grant from the Annie E. Casey Foundation, to support work with New York City to integrate child care programs from the Human Resources Administration into the Administration for Children’s Services.

The Survey Research Unit, directed by Associate Professor Gregg Van Ryzin, has received a 5th year renewal of a grant from the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to fund the New York City Community Health Survey. The award is for $500,000.

Faculty Searches:

Several new faculty searches are well underway. It is expected that both the search for a Communications specialist and the search for Educational Administration specialist will be completed by early April. The search for an Organizational and Management Studies specialist should produce an offer before the end of the semester. Finally, SPA is searching for a senior demographer on one of the University’s new demography cluster lines.

Dean Search:

The search for the Dean of the School of Public Affairs has come to a successful conclusion. David S. Birdsell, the Interim Dean of SPA, will be appointed as the School’s fourth dean.