

Egemen Bagis, MPA '96, was recently appointed State Minister and named chief negotiator for Turkey's accession talks with the European Union.

David Kelly, XMPA '94, was promoted to Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration at the Department of Transportation.

Vanessa Gibson, MPA '09, was recently elected to the New York State Assembly representing the 77th Assembly District.

Gary Bagley, XMPA '05, Executive Director, New York Cares won the top 2009 New York Times Nonprofit Excellence Award for "Overall Management Excellence". The judges cited New York Cares strength in financial management, communications, human resources, use of technology, and new program development. Last year's award was given to **Diane Arneth**, XMPA '01, Executive Director of Community Health Action of Staten Island, who also won the top award for "Overall Management Excellence". Congratulations to both excellent managers!

Michelle J. DePass, MPA '99, was recently nominated by the Obama administration for the position of Assistant Administrator for International Affairs at the Environmental Protection Agency.

Jane Ransom, Baruch XMPA '96, was appointed President and Chief Executive Officer of the Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania (GSHPA). GSHPA serves 37,000 girl scouts across a 30-county area of central and northeast Pennsylvania.

Clare Pistey, MSED '09, was recently appointed University Director of Recruitment for the City University of New York.

Mark Benerofe, MSED/SAS '05, was named President of CampGroup LLC. He has held the position of VP, Business Development and served on the Board of Managers for the past 4 years, and will continue the company mission to strengthen and improve summer camps for future generations.

Pamela S. Ferner, MSED '97, was appointed Executive Vice President of National Initiatives for the NYC Leadership Academy.

Andrew Cox, MSED '09, was appointed Assistant Registrar at Baruch. Andrew entered the HEA program shortly after his undergraduate studies and interned in Baruch's Office of Student Affairs while a student in the HEA program.

Debra Schwartzman, MPA '05, was promoted from Program Manager of Operations to Deputy Director of External Partnerships Public Relations & Planning with the New York City Department of Education, Office of Youth Development & School Community Services

Laura Premer, MPA '06, was promoted from Program Manager to Assistant Director of the Research and Resource Center at the Office of School & Youth Development.

Jeremy Block, MPA '07, a Program Officer with the Institute of International Education-Fulbright Middle East Initiative, has published a book entitled *Embracing the Occupiers; Conversations with the Future Leaders of Afghanistan and Iraq*.

Anna De Santis, XMPA '08, has received a Social Work Image Award from the National Association of Social Workers.

Sona Piccioli, current MPA, has accepted a paid internship by the Office of the State Deputy Comptroller for the City of New York, which offers exciting opportunities to graduate students interested in public policy and financial and economic analysis. She will be working on detail-oriented projects involving New York City fiscal oversight, the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, and the impact of the global financial crisis on state and city finances.

Amanda Herbster Neczypor, MSED '06, was admitted to the Higher and Postsecondary Education (Ed.D.) program at New York University for the fall 2009 semester. Amanda is the second HEA graduate to be admitted to NYU's program for fall 2009. She is currently a Special Assistant in the Office of the Provost at NYU.

Yvonne Erazo, MSED '08, was accepted into the Professional Diploma program in School Psychology at Fordham University. She will begin her studies in fall 2009. The program prepares students to work as practicing school psychologists and leads to NYS certification.

Jeremy Graham, MSED '08, will be pursuing a Ph.D. in Urban Education at the CUNY Graduate Center.

Shawn O'Riley, MSED '08, was admitted to the Higher and Postsecondary Education (Ed.D.) program at New York University for the fall 2009 semester. Shawn is currently the Director of Continuing Education at Adelphi University.

Rachel Fester, MEd '06, is completing her doctoral dissertation in the Higher Education Administration program at the University of Pennsylvania.

Rex Nobles, MEd '05, will be graduating with his Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration from the University of South Carolina in August 2009.

Shadia Sachedina, MEd '06, began her studies in the Ph.D. program in Higher and Postsecondary Education at New York University in the fall of 2008. She is the Assistant Director of Student Life at Baruch.

John Lee, MEd '08, is currently a full-time student in the Ph.D. program in Educational Leadership at the University of Southern California.

Ivy Peltz, MEd '05, was accepted into the Ph.D. program in Higher Education Administration at NYU's Steinhardt School of Culture, Education and Human Development.