This year, 2004, marks two special occasions: this spring will be the 50th year that Baruch has been awarding the MPA degree and this fall marks the 10th Anniversary of the School of Public Affairs’ establishment. To recognize these events, SPA has declared 2004 as its 50/10 Year and has planned a series of special events involving alumni, students, current and former faculty and colleagues in the academic and public sectors. Many of the special events are described in the sections below. In addition, the School’s 50/10 Committee is working to choose a special 50/10 accessory that will be worn by graduates during the commencement ceremony on June 1, 2004.

Public Affairs Week
To provide its graduate students with a broader understanding of the public affairs field and to build a sense of “community” among its students, the School of Public Affairs is experimenting with a new course format for an entire week this spring. The program, called Public Affairs Week, will be held April 19 through 22 and will replace the normal class schedule with a series of discussion programs on topics of current relevance and featuring prominent speakers. The major themes this year are: Education, Health care, Partnerships for Change, and Fiscal Reform. Students are required to attend the program on the evening they usually have scheduled classes. All students are encouraged to attend all of the four sessions.

SPA Centers & Special Programs
Center for Educational Leadership
Carnegie Corporation High School Leadership Development Project: The Carnegie Corporation of New York has awarded Prof. Liz Gewirtzman $460,000 pilot funding to design an instructional leadership preparatory curriculum and pedagogy that focuses on high schools and high school reform for national dissemination. Phase II, the implementation and field-testing phase, will start in September, 2004.

Partnership with NYC Leadership Academy: The NYC Leadership Academy has been charged by the New York City Department of Employment with both developing the next generation of educational leaders (principals, superintendents, etc) and providing in-service training for existing instructional leaders for the New York City Public School System. The Academy selected the School of Public Affairs to serve as one of its academic partners and its first class of 36 new principals are now are enrolled in the School Administration and Supervision (SAS) certification program.

Center for Innovation and Leadership in Government
Peter F. Vallone Lectureship on Government and Politics in NYC: A number of prominent New York City business leaders have established an annual program of lectures on government and politics named after the former Speaker of the City Council Peter F. Vallone. The series began this year with four evening talks by Peter F. Vallone exploring important questions related to the proper balance between government and politics. The first two lectures were delivered in the Fall 2003 semester. Topics covered during these lectures were the role and construct of American government and the influence of the media on government and politics.

Archive on Municipal Finance and Leadership: The School of Public Affairs announced the first annual research competition on the impact of New York City’s fiscal crisis of the mid 1970s. A key source of information is the School’s Archive on Municipal Finance and Leadership, that preserves original materials covering the NYC fiscal crisis of the 1970s. The Center for Innovation and Leadership in Government is conducting a two-tiered competition for research papers based, in whole or part, on this archive material. Tier I papers must be written by Ph.D. candidates, faculty members, or senior researchers; the winning paper will be
awarded $5,000. Tier II papers are still being submitted. These papers may be must be written by undergraduate or graduate students and the winning paper will be awarded $1,500.

**Policy Breakfast Series:** SPA held two Policy Breakfasts in the fall, one on recycling and solid waste management and one on voting reform. A final policy breakfast is scheduled for April 28, 2004 and will feature Police Commissioner Raymond W. Kelly leading a discussion concerning the latest security threats, overall crime and other issues facing New Yorkers and our police department.

**Special Symposium: Covering the Uninsured; A Challenge for New York:** On February 5, 2004, leaders from academia, government, medicine and advocacy spent a half day addressing the issues associated with covering the uninsured. The symposium focused on a major report from the Institute of Medicine’s Committee on the Consequences of Uninsurance, Co-chaired by Prof. Shoshanna Sofaer. Prof. Sofaer’s committee reported that 18,000 deaths per year are attributable to a lack of health insurance. The nation’s 43 million uninsured produce an annual societal cost of $130 billion, compared to the estimated $34-69 billion cost of insuring this population. Prof. David Birdsell concluded the symposium with a presentation suggesting marketing strategies for those who seek to influence the policy debate in favor of covering the uninsured.

**Partnership with United Way of New York City**
On October 23rd, the United Way of New York City and the Clark Foundation held a conference in the Vertical Campus to announce a new executive development partnership between the School of Public Affairs and the UWNYC. The new program responds to the findings of a study conducted by Profs. Birdsell and Douglas Muzzio showing that 45 percent of the City's nonprofit executives expect to retire in the next five years. UWNYC President Lawrence Mandell and Clark Foundation Executive Director Charles Hamilton spoke at the conference. Baruch welcomed its first group of UWNYC Senior Fellows this spring and will launch the UWNYC Junior Fellows program in fall 04.

**U.S. Census Bureau Research Data Center**
The School is awaiting final approval from the US Census Bureau for the creation of a Research Data Center (RDC) in New York City. The RDC will be managed by a consortium of 13 leading university, research and financial institutions located in the NY metropolitan area. Neal Bennett will serve as the RDC’s executive director. The RDC It will be located in renovated space on the 8th floor of 135 East 22 St.

**Enrollments**
The School of Public Affairs enrolled 58 new graduate students in the spring 2004 semester, for a total of just over 600 graduate students. The new students contributed to growth in all of our programs with the exception of the MSEd/SAS cohort program and Executive MPA that only admit students for the fall semester. Thirty-six percent of the incoming class are minority students, seventy percent female, one percent international and fourteen percent are enrolled full-time. These numbers include the addition of a new six-credit executive program, the Senior Fellows Program, that is being given in partnership with the United Way of New York City. The hope is that the fourteen students currently taking this program will decide to pursue the MPA at Baruch.

The number of students admitted to the HEA program decreased for spring 2004 in comparison to spring 2003. The target for fall 2004 for this group is also lower than previous years. The growth potential for the program is great, but faculty and staff resources limit that growth. As soon as the resources are adjusted, this program will be able to recruit and admit more students.

SPA currently has 114 declared undergraduate majors and twice that many students in queue.
Career Development and Student Services
In fall 2003, the Office co-sponsored a day of panels with Idealist.org. The panels included Finding Work in a Tight Job Market: Informational Interviews and Personal Networks, Working in Healthcare Administration, and Should I Start a Nonprofit Organization? The discussions were well attended with between 25-80 participants per workshop. In March 2004, SPA had the largest turnout ever for our annual Government Career Fair with just under 250 in attendance. Twenty-two government agencies were there offering positions suitable for graduate students. This year Columbia and Princeton Universities joined this collaborative event. Three Recruiters were SPA Alumni. On March 24th, the SPA Alumni Association sponsored a panel on Women of Color in Nonprofits: Success and Succession. The panel held an alumni-sponsored event record of 110 participants (25 from SPA), with five prestigious panelists. The forum was shown on CUNY Cable TV. SPA’s Career Services Office now lists over 900 jobs each semester.

New Faculty
In academic year 2003-2004, following searches, SPA appointed three well-known New Yorkers with significant government and policy experience, as Distinguished Lecturers. Starting this spring semester they are added to the faculty roster of the School of Public Affairs and will be teaching.

Florence Frucher was appointed Distinguished Lecturer in health policy. She has most recently served as Chief Operating Officer of the Ryan Community Health Network/Center Care Health Plan, Inc. An expert on Medicaid Managed Care, she has previously worked on this issue at both the city and state levels. A graduate of Stanford University, with Masters degrees from Teachers College at Columbia and from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard, Frucher will be teaching PAF 9725, Health Program, Policy and Performance Evaluation.

Stephen DiBrienza was appointed Distinguished Lecturer in government. He was an elected member of the New York City Council from 1986 to 2001. He was a long-time chair of the General Welfare Committee and, as a senior member of the Higher Education Committee, he helped to secure increased support for the City University of New York. A graduate of Pace University and the Fordham University School of Law, DiBrienza will be teaching PUB1250, Public Administration in Modern Society, and PAF3301, Models of Service Delivery: Constituencies, Stakeholders, and the Policy.

In Spring 2004 SPA made two (substitute) additions to its full time faculty:

Helen (Nell) Scharff is teaching in the education administration program and working on the development program for training facilitators for the educational leadership development programs at the NYC Leadership Academy, Brooklyn and Baruch College.

Sarah Ryan is teaching PUB 1250 and is developing a new innovative curriculum for PUB 1250 and the College Now program.