

**Department of Public Administration**  
**Annual Report**  
**Academic Year 2006 – 2007**

The year 2006-2007 has been one of change, expansion and challenge to the Department of Public Administration. Major events have occurred in administrative, programmatic and human resource arenas. Each of these issues will be addressed in this report.

The year began with the introduction of a new academic option in the Masters of Public Administration Program. The Criminal Justice option provides an opportunity for student to develop a comprehensive understanding of the theoretical aspects of the field , while enhancing their administrative and management skills for leadership and management positions in the criminal justice field. This new program has developed well and has thus far accepted 10 graduate students.

The Faith Based Leadership grant, administered by Dr. Moore, was refunded in the autumn of 2006 for another year. This program continues to provided administrative training to members of the clergy and religious communities and continues to receive very positive feedback from participants, evaluators and surrounding communities. Dr. Moore also continues to develop the not for profit concentration within our Master's Program and speaks at the annual conferences on the topic of school district budgeting in NJ.

The Department was back close to full staff with the return of two of its senior faculty members, Dr. Lederman and Dr. Laudicina, both of who were on sick leave during the Spring 2006 semester. Dr. Lederman remains very active in governmental and nonprofit activities, and serves on the Property Tax Reform Steering Committee of the Regional Planning Association. She also continues to serve as an officer of New Jersey Future, the NJ Chapter of the International Women's Forum and New Jersey Appleseed.

Our programs in health services administration continued to expand this year. In addition to our masters' concentrations in health administration and nursing/health administration our newest offering in the health arena, the health services administration/ long- term care administration concentration, ended its fourth year of operation with great success. More than twenty- five students are currently enrolled in this program and we had twelve graduates this year. The MSN/MPA also continues to flourish, with 23 students enrolled this year, while the general health service administration active enrollment continues to grow. Dr. Ault continues to serve as Project Director of a

community health assessment of the city of Bloomfield that was successfully concluded this year. The twelve- month research effort resulted in a long- term community health plan for the city and was a joint effort of the city government, local human service organizations, the religious communities and local colleges.

Dr. Donovan has served as the Director of the MPA program. Dr. Donovan continued to be very active in the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration, making presentations at several regional meetings of that group, serving on planning committees for meetings of NASPAA and acting as an editor for the International Journal of Public Administration. The NASPAA contacts Dr. Donovan has developed should be very useful to the Department as it enters its self-study year to prepare for NASPAA reaccreditation.

The general MPA program continues to grow and our faculty members continue their participation in state and local government activities. Dr. Erickson, for example, is a member of the township committee in Highland Park and is active in the planning activities of that Middlesex County community

Several major challenges face the Department in the forthcoming year. Among these are the preparation of the NASPAA self-study report and the development of a strategic plan for all programs of the Department. These two activities will require extensive faculty and staff involvement and, undoubtedly, financial support from the University. Additionally, a decision will have to be made next year regarding the permanent staffing of the long term care sequence within the Master's program. Finally, efforts to design new joint master's programs with other related departments will continue and, hopefully reach fruition in the forthcoming year.