SPOD
ASPA SECTION ON PROFESSIONAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

A Message from the Chair

I hope my message finds all of you healthy and happy. I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation for all our board and section members. The ASPA Section on Professional and Organizational Development (SPOD) could not be successful without your support and dedication.

I am delighted to let you know that we will continue to award three student scholarships to cover participation at the 2023 ASPA Conference. In addition to the three student scholarships, the SPOD board decided to also present three inaugural awards at the 2023 ASPA Conference: 1) Service to SPOD Award; 2) 2022 Best Public Administration Quarterly article; and 3) 2022 Best Reviewer for Public Administration Quarterly. Keep an eye on our call for nominations for all these awards and make sure you nominate someone or self-nominate for all these recognitions. We will announce the winners before the 2023 ASPA National Conference.

The SPOD board also discussed and decided to sponsor a Founder's Fellow this year. I hope this initiative will continue in the future.

I encourage you to become actively involved in the section's activities and to share with us your wonderful accomplishments. Make sure you follow us on Twitter (@SpodAspa), Facebook (facebook.com/spodaspaorg) and LinkedIn (https://www.linkedin.com/in/spod). I would like to invite you to take a moment and read through this newsletter about highlights of our chapter's activities. A special thank you goes to Lauren Loyless for all her commitment and effort in putting this newsletter together.

Happy holidays and best wishes for the New Year!

Gina Scutelnicu, Ph.D.
Chair, ASPA Section for Professional and Organizational Development
Associate Professor & Chair
Public Administration Department
Pace University

Member Recognition

Thanh (Minnie) Hoang
Three Minute Thesis Competition - Best Innovative Research

Congratulations to Minnie for bringing home the Three Minute Thesis award on her research "Where are We When the Communities Look for Us? Social Network Analysis of #TwitterFoodBank Case Study" presented at the 2022 Association of Voluntary Action Scholars (ARNOVA) conference!

Announcement Board

In February 2022, the Section on Professional and Organizational Development (SPOD) conducted a membership survey. The survey was distributed to the membership of the national chapter of ASPA. We aimed to learn about SPOD's general membership structure, member leadership activities, and future programming preferences. Twenty-four members completed the survey. The survey's findings are listed below:

- **87.5% of the respondents were current members, 6.25% were past members, and 6.25% were interested in membership**
- **Only 28.5% of the respondents said they were involved in SPOD activities and leadership**
- **61.5% of the respondents said that they were interested in being contacted with leadership opportunities**

Members stated that they wanted to see SPOD grow its membership and increase its social media activity. They added that they would like to see events with community agents, post-COVID transitions, and activities that promote diversity, inclusivity, and professional growth.

We are in the process of developing professional development programs and scholarships by using the survey's insightful findings.

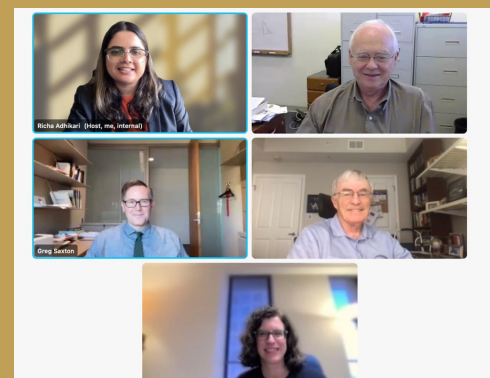*Thank you to everyone for your insightful contributions to this organization's growth.*

Member Recognition

Richa Adhikari

Congratulations on a successful dissertation defense!

Richa's dissertation is a mixed-methods study of the use of social media platforms by arts and culture nonprofit organizations in the United States for fundraising, stakeholder engagement, and other organizational outcomes. She conducted three levels of analysis: a cross-sectional examination of the relationship between social media analytics and individual donations to organizations, an inductive, message-level analysis of the messaging of nonprofits, and qualitative interviews with communication managers.

Announcement Board

2023 ANNUAL SPOD SCHOLARSHIP
Four $250 Awards +
one-year SPOD membership!

SPOD is now accepting nominations for the 2023 Annual SPOD Scholarship. The SPOD scholarships are designed to help facilitate learning to advance students' academic work and interests in finding solutions to public organizational challenges. The scholarships are also intended to introduce students to the work of SPOD and encourage their long-term involvement in the various activities and leadership of ASPA and the Section.

Priority will be given to applicants whose proposal for the 2023 ASPA conference has been accepted. For more information on qualifications, visit www.spod-aspa.net.

In order to nominate a graduate student for the SPOD scholarship, please send a letter of nomination by a faculty member (should mention the student's current GPA) and the student's CV to Dr. Gina Scutelnicu-Todoran, SPOD Chair, at gscutelnicu@pace.edu.

The deadline for sending nominations is February 17, 2023.

SPOD Leadership

GINA SCUTELNICU, PhD
Chair 2021-23
Associate Professor / Chair
Department of Public Administration
Pace University

ZEESHAN NOOR, PhD
Chair-Elect 2021-23
Postdoctoral Research Associate at the Lilly Family School of Philanthropy

LAUREN H. LOYLESS
Publication Chair 2021-24
Ph.D. Candidate
Public and Nonprofit Management at UTD
Social Scientist, USACE

RICHA ADHIKARI, PhD
Secretary 2021-24
Strategy Analyst, Clayton County Government

JOSIE GATTI SCHAFER, PhD
Program Chair 2021-24
Director / Senior Research Associate at the Center for Public Affairs Research
University of Nebraska at Omaha

Keesha Gill
Treasurer 2021-26
Regional Manager, Fairfax County Government

Articles in the Spotlight

A Qualitative Study of Pandemic-Induced Telework: Federal Workers Thrive, Working Parents Struggle

This study examines the forced transition to telework during the COVID-19 pandemic using qualitative data from two open surveys administered by the Federal News Network in 2020: in the first two months and, then, 10 months into the pandemic.

To read the article in full, click here.

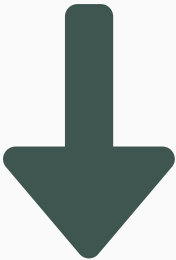**Westchester Children's Association (WCA) completes research report on digital access in the K-12 system**

WCA leads a Digital Access Workgroup of school districts, children's advocates, county departments, community organizations, and elected officials working together. In collaboration with Pace University, WCA has pivoted in response to the emerging needs of children who must now participate in long-term Remote Learning due to the pandemic and strives to provide more support to parents, guardians, and students alike. Now we are diving even deeper to address systematic barriers that broaden the Digital Divide and undermine equity in Digital Access to internet services, adequate computer devices, and training for parents to easily use online resources.

To read the full report, click here.

DIGITAL ACESS & REMOTE LEARNING

WESTCHESTER **CHILDREN'S** ASSOCIATION
Children's Champions · Since 1914

Stay up to date with our journal, Public Administration Quarterly.

On the market?

Your go-to portal for Academic jobs.

www.higheredjobs.com

Our initiative "SPOD Members on the Job Market" connects ASPA members in SPOD to potential employers, including academia, federal, state and local governments, nonprofits, and the private sector. If you are a member or willing to join, and looking for a position, please contact our Publication Chair, Lauren Loyless, at publication@spod-aspa.org.

We will post your information and make it available across all commonly used social media platforms. Your resume and profile will also be uploaded to our website. We look forward to working together to meet your career goals!

Happy Holidays

SPOD

ASPA SECTION ON PROFESSIONAL AND
ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Special thanks to:

Carol Rusaw | Immediate Past Chair
Phil Nufrio, Thanh (Minnie) Hoang, and Jasmine Platt | Board Members at Large

Connect with Spod

https://twitter.com/SpodAspa
https://www.linkedin.com/in/spod/
https://www.facebook.com/spodaspaorg
https://www.spod-aspa.net