WELCOME BACK AND WELCOME NEW STUDENTS!

Many of you who registered at Strahan instead of advance registering may have noticed the increased numbers and lines. MPA program registration increased by almost 30% from fall of 1988 and fall of 1989. The increase is exciting for the program, especially in light of the change in admission standards. Many of you will be in classes that are larger than normal. We hope you will bear with the program as we make the necessary adjustments for the increased enrollment. We are happy to have all of you with us.

CURRENT NEWS

The SWT Master of Public Administration received its seven year NASPAA accreditation in July of 1989. To those of you who assisted with the process by participating in interviews, many thanks from the faculty and program. The SWT program was the first in the state of Texas to receive full accreditation with no probationary period. The program is proud of that accomplishment and is actively pursuing the recommendations of the accreditation team for further improvement. It is five years before the next Self-Study year, and we are already preparing the program goals and objectives which should be met before that time. Those of you who entered the program in the fall of 1989 will be included in the assessment for the next accreditation review cycle.
Clearance for Graduation

MPA students are encouraged to make an appointment with the Graduate Adviser the semester prior to anticipated graduation to review the degree outline and avoid any complications in clearance for awarding of the degree.

Schedule of Classes

Current students know, and new students will soon discover, that the program often has to make last minute adjustments to the schedule of classes for the upcoming semester. These changes often occur after the Official Class Schedule is published. The changes may occur due to a change in faculty composition, adjustments for a class that does not make during the previous semester, adjustments for faculty who are granted leave for research, and a variety of other reasons that the best planning cannot prevent. The MPA program has updated schedules available in the office and posted outside the door. It is advisable to come by at least two weeks before the start of a new semester to obtain an updated schedule of classes. Since MPA classes are offered in three locations and the first class does not meet in many cases until after drop and add, a schedule update is vital to a smooth registration. If you have registered for a class that is changed or killed, the MPA office can complete an administrative course change for you, thereby eliminating the need to go through "drop and add."

MPA Office Hours

8:00 to 12:00 and 1:00 to 5:00 Monday through Friday, Fall and Spring Semesters
7:30 to 12:30 and 1:00 to 4:00 Monday through Friday, Summer Semesters

NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION

All new MPA graduate students should attend the New Student Orientation for the MPA program which will be held on Saturday, September 16, 1989 from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. in room 222 of the Evans Liberal Arts Building. Students who missed the spring New Student Orientation are also welcome as are other current students who may have questions. Members of the MPA Advisory Committee and program alumni will be present to assist with the orientation. The orientation is designed to assist you with a smooth transition through the program and curriculum. It is informal, and you will have an opportunity to ask current and former students, alumni and faculty any questions that you might have. Come dressed for fun and to enjoy the picnic after the orientation.
At the January, 1989, MPA Advisory Committee meeting, the Committee decided that it would be a great idea to have some type of fun social get together so that students in the program could get acquainted with each other and with alumni of the program. The MPA picnic is the result of that idea. We hope as many of you as possible will plan to attend and bring your spouse or a friend. Woody's will cater the bar-b-que. Tickets are on sale now. The last date to purchase tickets to the picnic is September 11, 1989, so that we can give Woody a final count. Faculty and members of the Advisory Committee selling tickets should return the receipts to the MPA office by September 11, 1989. Tickets are $4.25 per person. The cost of the ticket includes Bar-b-que brisket, baked beans, salad, bread, iced tea, sodas and condiments. If anyone wants to bring a pot luck dessert, we will welcome your contribution with hearty appetites. Those of you who have folding lawn chairs or blankets to sit on, please bring them. For those of you unfamiliar with Cape's Camp, it is located on the banks of the San Marcos river with a lovely area for swimming and volley ball. We are planning to have Volley Ball equipment available. Bring your swim suits and come prepared to have a good time, visit with old friends and meet new friends. Please pay by a check made out directly to Woody's. University OL policy prohibits faculty accepting and accounting for cash. Make sure that you bring your tickets to the bar-b-que. A rain site will be announced in classes.

EVENT: MPA Picnic for Current and New Students, Alumni, Faculty and Advisory Committee Members

TIME: 5:30 p.m.-9:00

PLACE: CAPES CAMP--SAN MARCOS

DATE: SEPTEMBER 16, 1989

Please Join Us