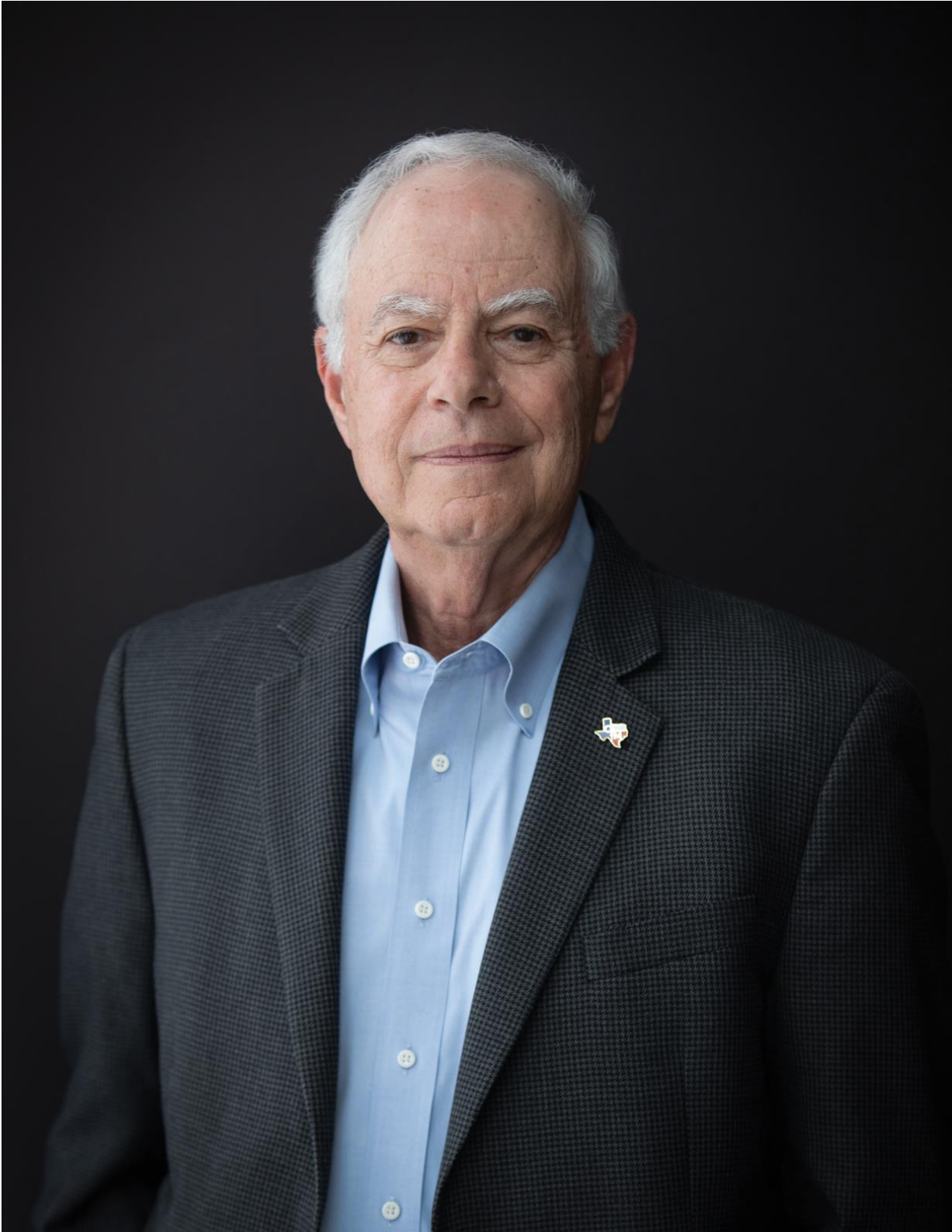


Academic Award in Memory of Stephen B. Sweeney



Dr. Howard R. Balanoff

Professor & Director, The William P. Hobby Center for Public Service, Texas State University

Established in the name of the longtime director of the University of Pennsylvania's Fels Institute of Government, this award is presented to an academic leader or academic institution that has made a significant contribution to the formal education of students pursuing careers in local government.

In a career spanning nearly half a century, Dr. Howard Balanoff has contributed to the formal education of future local government professionals by teaching public policy and administration and related courses at the undergraduate and graduate levels at Texas State University, establishing the Texas Certified Public Manager (CPM) program, founding and advising an ICMA student chapter, and teaching and managing the university's MPA internship program. As a professor he has not only taught in the classroom, but also has developed and taught several courses that have been delivered in online and hybrid formats.

In the words of ICMA member Terrell Blodget, emeritus holder of an endowed faculty position at the LBJ School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin and a long-time associate of Dr. Balanoff's at both ICMA and the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA), "Dr. Balanoff has rendered outstanding leadership in educating young men and women to receive their master of public administration, and also in his statewide leadership in the Certified Public Manager program."

The Texas Certified Public Manager program was one of Dr. Balanoff's major accomplishments on behalf of the public management profession. After starting it in 1995, he continued to serve as its director while the program graduated more than 1,900 public sector employees—typically early and mid-career local government managers, small town city managers, and city managers and assistants to mid-size and large cities. The program has eight locations at five universities delivering year-round education through the CPM program. To help support the CPM program, Dr. Balanoff was instrumental in obtaining a \$1 million endowment from former Texas Lieutenant Governor William P. Hobby's Foundation in Houston, Texas.

Dr. Balanoff started the ICMA Student Chapter at Texas State University and serves as its faculty advisor. He also started the university's chapter of Pi Alpha Alpha, the global honor society for public affairs and administration, and serves as that chapter's faculty advisor. He has been instrumental in assisting the director of Texas State's MPA program in establishing and supporting the implementation of the ICMA Management in Residence program in collaboration with the Texas City Management Association (TCMA).

In 2016, Dr. Balanoff took over the teaching and management of Texas State University's MPA Internship Program, connecting MPA students with local governments in Central Texas and providing supervision and mentorship for MPA students enrolled in an internship course.

Over the years, Dr. Balanoff has provided significant service to national, regional, state, and local organizations. He served on TCMA's Professional Development Committee, on the board

of the National Certified Public Manager Consortium, and as chair of the National CPM Consortium and ASPA Section for Public Management Practice.

As a veteran of the U.S. Air Force, he continues to serve as an advisor and mentor for undergraduate and graduate public administration students who are veterans. And he has developed and promoted international public administration exchange programs for Texas State University faculty and students. Students and faculty from France, Lithuania, Latvia, Mexico, and other countries have come to the Texas State campus to take classes, provide guest lectures, and engage in collaborative research.

As one of the most influential educational leaders in public administration, Dr. Balanoff has received numerous awards, the most prestigious of which was his 2011 election as a Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration. In recognition of his teaching service, he was named the recipient of the Terrell Blodgett Teaching Award from TCMA and received the Outstanding Educator of the Year Award from the CenTex (Central Texas) chapter of ASPA. In recognition of his service to ASPA, he was the recipient of the Paul Van Riper and Donald Stone Awards, the two highest service awards given by that organization. And for his service to the profession at the international level, he was honored with the prestigious ASPA Boorsma Award for Outstanding Service to the International Public Administration Community.

Through teaching, mentoring, and service, Dr. Balanoff has contributed to the education and careers of hundreds of emerging local government management professionals.