

USC Price

Sol Price School of Public Policy
*International Public Policy
and Management Program*



IPPAM SCHOLARSHIP REPORT 2017 - 2018

2018 American Society for
Public Administration (ASPA)

Sponsored by USC Price School - Dean's Scholarship Award
&

IPPAM California State Capital Visit
Sponsored by IPPAM Alumni Fellowship Award



IPPAM Alumni Scholarship Report
2017 - 2018
Table of Contents

Message from Dr. Joyce Mann and Dr. Joanna Yu — 2

About ASPA and the Conference — 3

About California State Capital Visit — 4

Reflections

 Nurlan Adaliyev — 5

 Oskeyeva Bakhytzhan — 6

 Tuncay Serdaroglu — 7

 Qiao Wu — 8

Photos — 9

THANK YOU

Your generous gift makes it possible for us to participate in the conference.
We greatly appreciate your continued support and the powerful impact it
has on IPPAM students.

Message from Dr. Joyce Mann and Dr. Joanna Yu

Thank you for your generous donation to the International Public Policy and Management Program. It means so much to us, and because of you, we can provide growth-enriching opportunities for our students. Their attendance at the 2018 ASPA Conference in Denver, Colorado, allowed them to gain so much knowledge and awareness of government topics that enhanced their careers critically, advanced their professional development, expanded their professional network, increased their awareness of the challenges government faces on all levels, and awakened their interest in searching for collaborative, innovative solutions to society's pressing needs.

We are so lucky to have you as a donor. Thank you for investing in our program and our students. Your generous gift will continue to go to good use. We will update you throughout the year with program announcements and special events.

Sincerely Yours,

Joyce Mann

Director, International Education Programs
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Joanna C. Yu

Director, Academic
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About ASPA

March 9-13, 2018

Seven IPPAM Students Sponsored by USC Price School - Dean's Scholarship Award

The American Society for Public Administration is the largest and most prominent professional association for public administration. It is dedicated to advancing the art, science, teaching and practice of public and non-profit administration. ASPA's four core values are Accountability and Performance, Professionalism, Ethics and Social Equity.

Since 1939, ASPA has been the nation's most respected society representing all forums in the public service arena. It is an advocate for greater effectiveness in government - agents of goodwill and professionalism - publishers of democratic journalism at its very best - purveyors of progressive theory and practice and providers of global citizenship. ASPA leaders believe that by embracing new ideas, addressing key public service issues and promoting change at both the local and international levels, the association can enhance the quality of lives worldwide.

In order to remain prepared and current on the evolving changes and innovations, the ASPA 2018 Conference in Denver, Colorado showcased state-of-the-art practices utilized in modern public and nonprofit administration while exploring new approaches and opportunities for continued innovation.

The theme, *Mission Focused and Service First - Creating Innovative Solutions*, embraces the evolution of the public sector, development of new skills, practices and traditions while solidifying time-proven approaches.

About California State Capital Visit

– Understanding Policymaking at the State Level

March 14-15, 2018

21 IPPAM Students Sponsored by IPPAM Alumni Fellowship Award

During Spring Break, the IPPAM Program took IPPAM students to visit the USC Price Sacramento Office and the State Capitol Building to introduce them to the state legislative policymaking process. The site visit consisted of two days of activities, which included:

- Meeting with three state legislators and a legislative staff member.
- Visiting the California League of Cities to meet with the legislative representative to hear about their legislative priorities.
- Visiting a regulatory agency to understand their role (California Air Resources Board).
- Visiting USC Price Sacramento Center and meeting with Emeritus Prof. Chester Newland and staff during a 2-hour lecture and Q&A, followed by lunch with the professor and staff.
- Visiting Deloitte and speaking with managers in their governmental practices unit to learn about the work that they do for government agencies and to explore career paths with students interested in working in consulting firms.



Nurlan Adaliyev

— Reflections on ASPA and California State Capital Visit

During spring break, several students and faculty of USC Sol Price School of Public Policy attended the 79th annual conference of American Society for Public Administration (ASPA) – 2018, held in Denver, Colorado (March 9-13, 2018).

The main theme of the conference was “Mission Focused and Service First: Creative Innovative Solutions” that reflected all current issues of public administration leaders of the world – inclusion, technology, ethics, military service, climate, public health and etc. These year’s conference gathered more than 1200 participants to explore new trends and share new researches and findings within discipline.

The conference was organized by different sectors with the variety of presenters on different topics and it took a while to perfectly manage our time and visit the most brilliant presentations. Following advice of our mentors, each student picked up the most relevant topic he or she was interested in.

One of the memorable session on Saturday was discussion of the article about “Government’s Growing Role in Providing Resilience to Cyber Threats” by the professor of California State University, San Bernardino, professor Tony Coulson. The meeting perfectly moderated by the President of International Institute of Administrative Sciences Dr. Geert Bouckaert.

The most impressive lecture on Saturday was “Lessons Learned for How to Change the World” provided by the former senior admirals and generals who told their life experience and lessons about leadership skills.

All of us had unique opportunities for networking, at the conference receptions, and the evening event held at the Aquarium of Denver. We met with professors and professionals from US, Europe, Singapore, China, Japan, Turkey and other countries, who kindly shared their experiences and ideas about current and the future of public policy. We enjoyed the meeting and discussed current trends in civil services with the Chairman of the Steering Committee Regional Hub of Civil Service in Astana, former head of President Administration and Government Chairman Alikhan Baimenov with Kazakhstan’s delegation. It was a pleasure to meet with USC professor Chester Newland who brought his brilliant expertise and knowledge by advising the implementation of some governmental reforms of relatively young country of Kazakhstan.

It was exciting to meet with him again at USC Sol Price School office, during March 14-15, Sacramento. Continuing our trip, we visited California State Capitol and one of the most recognized consulting company in the world, Deloitte. Our USC Alumni working in Deloitte shared their unique experiences and provided the most important key factors in their work. It was interesting to learn some reflections of how they used the knowledge gained from program evaluation courses at USC Price.

In conclusion, the most memorable experience from these trips were spending time with IPPAMers where we developed a close and personal relationships when we shared what we learned at the conferences and our different life experiences. All of us are grateful to our faculty, dean and alumni for this opportunity to have this wonderful and educational visit.



Nurlan Adaliyev

Alikhan Baimenov



Oskeyeva Bakhytzhan

— Reflections on California State Capital Visit

IPPAM students visited the California State Capital in Sacramento during March 14 - 15, 2018. During this trip, students were able to learn more about the past, present, and the future of California lawmaking process.

On Thursday March 14 Prof. Frank Zerunyan gave the IPPAM cohort a lecture on “US Government, California State Government, and Policymaking”. After the lecture, students met with state legislators including State Senator Ben Allen (California State Senator, District 26), Anthony Porantino (California State Senator, District 25), and Assembly Member Matt Harper (former Mayor of Huntington Beach) and others.

IPPAM students broadened their knowledge by learning about the democratic system and by visiting the California State Capitol Building where the building serves as both a museum and the state’s working seat of government. During the curated tour, students learned about California’s rich history and witnessed the lawmaking process.

I was immensely impressed when I visited the two California legislative chambers: the Assembly and the Senate. It is important to mention that IPPAM cohort had the opportunity to attend one of the hearings of the Senate chamber and to see the meeting in progress. The chambers are designed like a theater with the floor as the "stage" and the students overseeing the workings of government from the gallery. The gallery is an architectural feature that symbolically reflects the democratic process, enabling the public to observe their elected officials in action.

IPPAM cohort also visited the California League of Cities. The League of California Cities is an association of California city officials who work together to enhance their knowledge and skills, exchange information, and combine resources so that they may influence policy decisions that affect cities in California. During that visit, students listened to the presentation about the work that has been done by the League of California Cities and its mission and vision to protect and expand local government authority by advocating for the common interests of cities before the Legislature, the courts, and at the ballot box. The League also supports the work of cities by providing education opportunities for elected and appointed city officials throughout the state.

While in Sacramento, IPPAM Students also gained notable knowledge by visiting The California Air Resources Board (CARB). The CARB is responsible for protecting the public from the harmful effects of air pollution and to develop and implement programs to fight climate change. From requirements for clean cars and fuels to adopting innovative solutions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, California has pioneered a range of effective approaches that have set the standard for effective air and climate programs for the nation, and the world.



Tuncay Serdaroglu

— Reflections on California State Capital Visit

The IPPAM program and faculty brought students to the California State Capital in Sacramento in order to fully understanding and witness the magnitude of policymaking process.

On March 14th, our day starts with the introduction lecture of US Government, California State Government, and policymaking provided by the Prof. Frank V. Zerunyan at the California State Capitol. We learned that separation of power in government ensures checks and balances represents the main institutions of the democracy at both federal and state levels. In addition to the fruitful lecture, IPPAM cohort had the opportunity to meet with California State Assemblyman Matt Harper, and California State Senators Ben Allen and Anthony Portantino. It was a golden opportunity for us to raise questions to them and learn the processes and challenges of legislative, executive, judicial and local government structure from a policy maker's point of view. They also honored our dinner reception where we carried out informal negotiation exercises.

We were all impressed by the architecture of the building having toured around the California State Capitol. Although the operation of the system is the same as Colorado State Capitol in Denver, British conventions of the Commons and the Lords can be observed here notably in green and red colors of Assembly and Senate.

Our agency visit to California Air Resource Board and League of California Cities were particularly worthwhile. Our cohort learned the process of how laws are turned into regulations and how advocacy mechanisms work with policymaking.

On March 15th, we went to USC Price Sacramento Center where we felt ourselves at home. There, we met with Mr. Chester Newland, who is experienced, courteous, and very willing to share. It was really impressive that he defined public administration and policymaking as a disciplined culture to search for reasonable and human dignity where its roots go back to the classical theory of rule of law and theatre at the times of big philosophes Plato and Aristotle.

All in all, visit to Sacramento was exceptionally beneficial that we learned a great deal of policymaking in many respects in the US and California. The amount of information and knowledge that we absorbed was like taking one semester of study within only a few days.



Qiao Wu

— Reflections on ASPA Conference

Seven IPPAM students, sponsored by the USC Price School - Dean's Scholarship Award, attended the 79th annual conference of American Society for Public Administration (ASPA) during the spring break 2018. The conference this year, held from March 9 – 13, reflected the focus on mission, service and innovation of the public administration industry. During the 5-day-conference, scholars and administrators all around the world gathered in Denver, Colorado, the mountainous West, sharing ideas and presenting studies related to public administration issues.

Keeping with the theme of Mission Focused and Service First: Creating Innovative Solutions, 10 session tracks provided academics and practitioners platforms of discussion and networking. IPPAM students, an international cohort including nationalities of China, Japan, Kazakhstan, and Turkey, participated the sessions highlighting the issues in different countries as well as collaborated international topics.

“Chinese scholars from top ranking universities both inside and outside the country came with their recent studies. Their passion about applying newest methodologies and insights into the reformation of China are very inspiring to me. In terms of empirical study methods, I realized the importance of keeping myself updated, and perhaps I will attend further workshops to learn more.” Said Qiao, current Chinese IPPAM student.

Receptions held by ASPA organizers and Sol Price School of Public Policy served as a great platform for networking, where IPPAM students met with many successful scholars and alumni, including the incoming ASPA president Jane Pisano, professor and former dean of Sol Price School, and Jack Knott, dean of Sol Price School.

IPPAM Students also gained notably by exploring the city of Denver. Earlier in the semester, a smart city policy evaluation project was done by the cohort, and Denver was one of the target cities. After seeing the smart and eco-friendly transportation system (though still under construction), students enhanced their knowledge learnt from classes.

ASPA conferences have been, and will continuously be great opportunities for students in Sol Price School to blend with researchers as well as decision makers, and to be updated with the latest topics in the industry. Next year, 2019, ASPA will be held in Washington D.C. Hopefully more current students and alumni can enjoy the conference as attendees.

ASPA Conference in Denver, Colorado



California State Capital Visit

