

**USC Price**

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



**IPPAM  
SCHOLARSHIP  
REPORT  
2018 ~ 2019**

**2019 American Society for  
Public Administration (ASPA)**

**Sponsored by**

**USC Price School ~ Dean's Matching Scholarship Award**

**&**

**IPPAM Alumni Fellowship Award**



# IPPAM Alumni Scholarship Report

2018 ~ 2019

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*\* The Republic of Kazakhstan adopted the Q spelling to Qazaqstan in 2017 in its switch from Cyrillic to Latin-based alphabet. (<http://en.Wikipedia.org/wiki/Kazakhstan>)*

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THANK YOU

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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 2019 ASPA Conference in Washington D.C., 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  
International Public Policy and Management Program  
Sol Price School of Public Policy  
University of Southern California

*Joanna C. Yu*

Director, Academic  
International Public Policy and Management Program  
Sol Price School of Public Policy  
University of Southern California

## About ASPA

March 8-12, 2019

Twenty-three IPPAM Students Sponsored by USC Price School ~ Dean's Matching Scholarship Award and IPPAM Alumni Fellowship.

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 2019 Conference in Washington D.C. showcased state-of-the-art practices utilized in modern public and nonprofit administration while exploring new approaches and opportunities for continued innovation.

The theme, *A Call for Action: Advancing Public Service*, embraces the evolution of the public sector, development of new skills, practices and traditions while solidifying time-proven approaches.



**Milad Abdulla**  
— Reflections on ASPA

The opportunity to attend the 2019 ASPA conference in Washington DC was truly an experience of a lifetime. For myself, the opportunity to participate in the ASPA conference allowed me to network with some of the most inspirational, empathetic and impactful people in the Public Policy sector and create life-long memories exploring Washington DC with my fellow IPPAM classmates. I mainly attended lectures focused on immigration and border security and federalism as well as elections and intergovernmental relations, cultivating leadership and accountability standards- this allowed me to gain new perspectives which I hope to take with me as I continue to work towards my graduate degree and bolster my knowledge of immigration policy and its implementation across sectors. The chance to attend these inspired and optimistic panel discussions while sitting in the heart of the United States government was especially empowering and inspirational. The IPPAM program has, in such a short amount of time, given me so many life-long and relevant experiences as I chase my dream of pursuing an advanced degree in public policy and international administration, a goal steamed from my commitment of working towards progressive social justice and policy negotiation among the United States and the Middle East. The chance to be in attendance at the 2019 ASPA conference allowed me to realize that my post-graduation goals are genuinely within reach. Attending panel discussions that featured such invested researchers was inspirational - public policy aims to shift society and individual behaviors, invoking change and shedding light on issues that can transform the world while addressing our societies pressing needs. Thank you, sincerely, for making this enriching experience possible.



## Adylbek Abdykalikov

### — Reflections on ASPA

*Adylbek Abdykalikov has a bachelor's degree in International Relations. He has work experience in various positions at the Ministry of Transport and Communication of Qazaqstan, including the Department of International Cooperation and Department of Transit and Logistics. Prior to his studies at USC, Mr. Abdykalikov worked at the Civil Aviation Committee where he was responsible for the policy development and implementation of the Transportation and Civil Aviation.*

I have attended several regional conferences on public policy for my previous work, but I have never participated in a global conference with an emphasis on Northern American, and particularly US experiences and practices. That is why I was extremely excited about the chance to attend the 2019 ASPA Conference in Washington DC.

As a civil servant and a young professional, it was incredibly valuable to participate in such a prestigious conference and to get firsthand knowledge and practices from leading experts, politicians, practitioners, and researchers in the field of public administration.

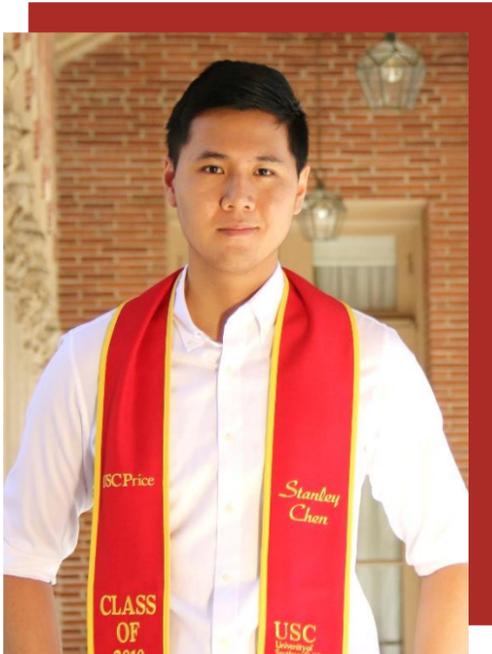
The IPPAM cohort had great opportunities to participate in different panel sessions in various sectors. We were especially happy to support the presentation of our peers Rebecca and Ruslan on Land Reform in South Africa at the Section on African Public Administration (SAPA).

At one of the meeting, we enjoyed USC Price Dean Knott's lecture and panel discussion which he led on public administration and democracy. We were also especially thrilled about the meeting with ASPA President and USC Alumna Dr. Jane Pisano.

I enjoyed this opportunity to expose myself into the professional atmosphere of the conference where I could learn the trends and visions on public administration issues. Moreover, we've got essential takeaways not only from attending the conference but also from the visits to the World Bank, the US Congress, and the Department of Homeland Security arranged by Professor Kaki and Professor Zerunyan.

I want to express my gratitude to the USC Price Dean's Matching Scholarship, The IPPAM Alumni Fellowship, and the IPPAM program for such a valuable opportunity to attend the conference, meet professionals and practitioners and visit so many exciting and important places. It was a great immersive experience for me as a graduate student. I enjoyed very much visiting Washington DC and attending the Conference together with my friends and group mates.

*\* Please see footnote on page 2*



## Stanley Chien-Yu Chen — Reflections on ASPA

At the American Society in Public Administration (ASPA) Conference in Washington DC, I learned what is currently happening in other countries, and how do they face and solve it. I attended several sessions at ASPA that discussed corruption in various aspects ~ within governmental bodies, non- governmental organizations, and daily actions that are categorized as corruption or hidden corruption, as well as anti-corruption strategies. I learned something new and something that I know already but from a different perspective which I could add to my public administration knowledge.

On this trip to Washington DC, I learned the challenges that I have and a glimpse to the challenges that I will face in my near future. The ASPA conference provided an excellent opportunity for me and my classmates to participate in where all the policy experts exchange ideas and give recommendations to government officials for their communities to progress into better places.



## Hanbing Dong (Charles)

### — Reflections on ASPA

*Charles earned a bachelor degree from UCLA major in Mathematics and Economics from 2011 to 2015. After graduation, Charles worked in China Telecom Americas Corporation for two and a half years. Held position in regional sales manager, mobile department. 2015-2018. He is studying in USC graduate school major in International Public Policy and Management expecting to graduate in 2019.*

The America Society for Public Administration (ASPA) conference starts on Friday, Mar. 8 and end at Mar. 12. Over 20 IPPAM students attend the conference located in Washington D.C. this year. Over 40 different countries participate in the discussion, and the topic is international and diversity.

The most impressive session for me is the Global Public Administration Plenary and International Assembly which presented by Ambassador Christopher Hill. He is the chief advisor to the chancellor for global engagement and professor of the practice in diplomacy at the University of Denver. Before serving in academia, Hill was a career diplomat nominated by three presidents and four-time ambassador in Iraq, Korea, Poland and the Republic of Macedonia. At the beginning of the meeting, Hill directly talked about the government's public administration outcome in the last few years. He said the U.S. government and society do a great job and excellent resources on public administration and the U.S. government is ready to have something to offer to the world.

Next, Hill mainly talked about the importance of maintaining relationships with relevant countries, specifically with China and North Korea. He believed the trade war was unnecessary, albeit admittedly China plays a severe role with defense power. China's society has changed the U.S. in many ways. Thus the two countries should have more communication instead of war. For the North Korea nuclear weapon issue, Hill has his own opinion. North Korea's rockets and missiles activities aim at making its potentially hostile forces geographically reachable. It is undoubtedly a threat to other countries in this nuclear-free era. The nuclear weapon is no longer necessary for national defense purposes, and North Korea will have a better future without it. After the panel discussion, I learned a lot from the different views of the different countries. My thinking gets improved by determining diverse opinions.

After three days of meetings, the IPPAM cohort is fortunate to have site visits at the World Bank and the Department of Homeland Security on the 4<sup>th</sup> day. Students learned the history of the World Bank and learned how they invest the project and how they evaluate the project. As a non-profit, the World Bank has its own goals in different stages, such as eliminating poverty and reduce pollution. On the site visit to the Department of Homeland Security, students learned the structure of the department, and we have a Q/A session. On the last day, we visit the White House and Congress. Prior to this year's ASPA, I visited Washington D.C. four times, but never have the opportunity to get into these two places. I immensely appreciate that IPPAM provides these opportunities for us.

All in all, it is a very unforgettable trip for me.



## Murphy Meng-Hui Hsu — Reflections on ASPA

*Meng-Hui Hsu (Murphy) was born in Taipei, Taiwan and moved to San Francisco Bay Area for his high school education. He graduated from the University of California, Davis with a Bachelor's degree in Managerial Economics/Business in 2015. After graduating, his first job was in Mega International Commercial Bank as a Project Manager mainly dealt with commercial real estate lending and syndication loans for nearly a year and a half. Afterward, he joined Cathay Bank as a Credit Analyst focusing on the financial analysis.*

*Murphy is particularly interested in the fields of finance and economics; therefore, he hopes to work for The Ministry of Finance or Economic Affairs of the Republic of China (Taiwan) shortly after graduating from IPPAM.*

It was such a precious opportunity and enjoyable experience for me to join the 80th ASPA Conference in Washington, D.C. this year. The conference had the presenters from around the world, and they were presenting various types of topics including public finance, infrastructure, social equity, public service, and global public administration. I attended the sessions of “Network Governance in China and the United States” and “The Globalization and Politicization of Migration: Balancing Domestic and International Challenges.” It was an excellent opportunity to learn from those presenters’ theses and to see how they conducted their research. At the same time, we also knew about the hot topics and the most current situation about public policy. I believe that these presentations would be excellent examples for us to do our researches in the future.

After the ASPA Conference, our group was lucky and honored to visit several places such as the World Bank, the Department of Homeland Security Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, the White House, the Cannon House Office, and the United States Capitol. Professor Frank Zerunyan and IPPAM office have nicely arranged these activities for us to meet with people working in these institutions. Interacting with these people and visiting these institutions were the best ways to understand the objectives, functions, and operating procedures of these organizations.

Next year in 2020, the 81st ASPA Conference will be held in Anaheim, Orange County, California, where the students from USC Sol Price School of Public Policy have the geographic advantage to attend. Hopefully, all students and alumni can join and support this great conference next year.



## Timur Issabekov — Reflections on ASPA

*Timur Issabekov is a public servant at the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Qazaqstan. He holds two academics degrees – a jurisprudence from Al -Farabi Kazakh National University, and a Financial Management from L.N. Gumilyov Eurasian National University. Timur decided to pursue a degree in Public Policy to better equip his role as a public servant in Qazaqstan.*

On March 2019 I attended the 80th Annual American Society for Public Administration (ASPA) Conference, the largest and most well-known professional association for public administration.

80th Annual conference theme, A Call for Action: Advancing Public Service, was aimed at generating actionable ideas to help services across four critical areas: infrastructure, public finance, public service, and social equity.

This conference was my first time attending and attending it with my classmates and professors in the IPPAM program was an unforgettable and unique experience. Our host city was Washington, D.C. the epicenter of the United States public service and nonprofit administration fields and we all learned a lot from being here.

I arrived in Washington on March 8 and met with my classmates to attend Section on African Public Administration at George Washington University. We had the opportunity to support our IPPAM 21 student presentation by Rebecca Lin and Ruslan Kamash centered around Land Reform in South Africa. During the ASPA conference, we have a great chance to listen, Jack Knott, dean of the Sol Price School of Public Policy at the University of Southern California, lecture on the origins of the field of public policy and the importance of public administration in democracy today.

Over the course of the weekend, I attended several seminars related to a broad range of public administration topics. Many highly regarded academic institutions and scholars and dedicated civil servants participated in this conference. I learnt that even The United States of America is the most developed country in the world, although many potential problems are appearing, and those dedicated professors doing research and propose their solution to governance that prevent those issues. Also, I joined several welcome receptions, taking place at the historic Mayflower Hotel, where we had the opportunity to network with colleagues and friends, enjoy entertainment and celebrate the 80th anniversary of ASPA.

The Conference also gave me the chance to travel to a new city and explore a different environment. I am grateful to Professors Rym Kaki and Frank Zerunyan that have arranged unique site visits. It was an exciting and informative experience.

During every seminar I attended or conversation I had, I learned something new that I could add to my knowledge and found this conference as a welcoming place to forge new professional and personal relationships. I believe that attending the 2019 ASPA Conference helped improve my academic performance because it provided me with new ideas that I will apply during my future career, and make my contribution to the development and prosperity of the future of my country.

I express my gratitude to the IPPAM staff for giving me the incredible opportunity to be a part of this important event.

*\* Please see footnote on page 2*



## Ruslan Kamash

### — Reflections on ASPA

*Ruslan Kamash was born in the Semey region, Qazaqstan. After graduating from Al-Farabi Qazaq National University, he worked as a civil servant for local government for ten years. He was responsible for implementing the State's internal policy, including the handling of state and municipal programs, activities coordination of non-governmental, youth and religious organizations in the local and republican levels.*

*In 2015 he received the Bolashak Presidential Scholarship offered by the Qazaqstani government to study abroad. Ruslan decided to pursue the Master's degree in International Public Policy at USC to improve his skills and knowledge at this area and to be a better public servant upon his return to Qazaqstan.*

Taking part at the ASPA-2019 conference, the American Society for Public Administration, was a great pleasure and honour for me. Firstly, the annual conference program was held this year in Washington D.C., the capital of the US, and it celebrated its 80th anniversary. Moreover, I went there not only as a listener; I was one of the presenters from our IPPAM program. Thanks to our program authorities and our Sol Price School Associate Professor Rym Kaki, my classmate Rebecca Lin and I were fortunate to give a speech about "South Africa's Land Redistribution Governance: Policy Lessons" under the African Development Governance section in front of the ASPA participants. It was a unique and unforgettable experience for me which enriched my self-confidence and enhanced my knowledge about the African continent.

Furthermore, during those five days, all the IPPAM students attended several significant panels related to different public policy areas. I want notably to emphasize the Astana Civil Service Hub (ACSH) Session, where many presenters from various countries gave speeches, shared their ideas and experiences. Likewise, the presentation by the professor Pan Suk Kim, (Yonsei University, South Korea) about the Global Trends and benchmarking in Civil Service was excellent and exciting, which boosted my knowledge more in the international public service. It was a fruitful and useful section for us where the speakers explained about public administration structure of different states and shared their rich experiences in public service. On Sunday, March 10, we attended the Elliot Richardson Lecture, along with other professional speakers, our Dean of the Sol Price School of Public Policy, Jack Knott delivered a lecture.

*\* Please see footnote on page 2*

The ASPA conference in Washington functioned as an excellent platform for networking for many of us, where we networked with many successful scholars and public servants from different countries. Notably, an unforgettable impression made upon me was the time when we met with the former national president of ASPA, Dr. Chester A. Newland, and the current ASPA president, Jane Pisano, where they shared their in-depth knowledge and experiences with us.

Besides the participation at the conference, the IPPAM students also managed to have time to explore the beautiful capital during those five days. I was excessively impressed when we visited the World Bank, the Department of Homeland Security's Office of Civil Rights/Liberties, and the well-known White House which were arranged by our greatly respected professors Dr. Rym Kaki, Frank Zerunyan, and the IPPAM program. In the World Bank and Homeland Security's Office we learned how these public offices worked effectively. The experts working there shared their unique experiences and made us familiar with the primary principles in their routine practice. At first glance, the White House seemed an ordinary building, but at the same time, it was the most powerful one making an immense impression on everybody, where we learned the internal structure of the building and some profound historical events that occurred there.

In conclusion, attending the 80th annual ASPA conference served as a scientific platform with an enormous theoretical and empirical experience and allowed us to gain in-depth knowledge of public administration expanding our professional networking at all levels around the world.

Therefore, I want to express my gratitude and big thanks to the IPPAM donors for giving us such a huge chance to visit the ASPA conference. Due to this opportunity, we were fortunate to attend the lectures of the highly educated and experienced professionals from different countries which enhanced our knowledge of public policy to a new level.

*\* Please see footnote on page 2*



## Katie Hye Won Kim

— Reflections on ASPA

*Hye Won Kim is a public officer for the Korean Government and was born and raised in Gyeonggi Province, Republic of Korea. She holds a bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering from the Yonsei University in Korea. After graduation, Ms. Kim passed the Higher Civil Servant Examination and began working for the Korean Ministry of Trade, Industry, and Energy (MOTIE), which is in charge of regulating and promoting trade, industry and energy in Korea.*

First and foremost, I was grateful to have the opportunity to attend the annual conference of the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA) this year in Washington D.C., which is the most significant and most famous professional association for public administration. As I expected, ASPA was the venue for academic exchanges involving professors, researchers, and students, and this conference helped me identify leading issues and research trends in the U.S. administration. During the conference, I attended several workshops related to different areas of public policy. SAPA, Section on African Public Administration was one of the most impressive seminars because our IPPAM 21 students Rebecca Lin and Ruslan Kamash gave the presentation about 'South Africa's Post-Apartheid Persistent Land Ownership Inequality Trends.' They provided South Africa's land ownership's problems, causal determinants, CAM analysis and proposals and I was very proud of them. In addition to IPPAM's presentation, I also learned from this SAPA seminar that Africa, rich in resources such as rare earth metals, is considering seriously about the Fourth Industrial Revolution. The presentation, 'What will government look like in 2040?' also impressed me. The panel discussed the future of the government in 2040, including 'AI,' 'Worker Changes,' 'Data Use and Analysis,' and 'whether the change will begin at the local or federal level.' According to the seminar, citizen services needs to be personalized and customized based on lifecycle events. Also, if there are many volunteers in the government, then they would get a better understanding of the government. This seminar inspired me on the direction and how the government should transform. I hope that many IPPAM students will be able to attend ASPA and receive advantageous resources in the future. The experience of visiting this conference will help me much personally, academically, and my career.



## Rebecca Lin

### — Reflections on ASPA

*Rebecca Lin is a global citizen having lived in multiple countries on four continents and was active in immersing herself in the communities in which she settled. She worked for HSBC Bank both in the London Headquarter and in Taipei. During her time in London, Ms. Lin reported to the HSBC Group Chairman and the Group Company Secretary and provided support to the HSBC Holdings Board of Directors. In Taipei, she moved into the HR unit where she served as an Organization Development Manager.*

*She graduated from the University of Pretoria in South Africa with a Bachelor's degree and Master's degree in Business. Rebecca was the IPPAM 21 Student Senate President with a strong sense of wanting to be of service to her fellow classmates and to the program in helping to enhance opportunities to more actively involve IPPAM with other programs in the school.*

"We in this room, through a variety of different backgrounds, contain that passion for public services and the energy is contagious," says Paul Danczyk, the incoming American Society for Public Administration (ASPA) President and USC Price Director of Executive Education in Sacramento, in remarks at ASPA 2019. This quote describes my ordinary but extraordinary journey into public policy. I come from banking and have met people from a variety of different backgrounds, but we all have the same passion and vision, and I have indeed inspired by the whole trip to the ASPA 2019 Annual Conference in Washington DC.

I had the privilege to present my PPD571 project on South Africa's Land Redistribution Governance: Policy Lessons, with my team member Ruslan, at the SAPA Roundtable at the George Washington University the first morning of our Washington DC trip. South Africa is where I call home, and I was impressed to hear lots of research invested in Africa. I was proud to stand up there and share with my audience on how effective governance can make the country better.

In the following days, I attended the ASPA workshops which focus on governance challenges in public services and globalization and migration. During these sessions, I could see how passionate the presenters were about their researches, and we were able to interact with the presenters directly which I preferred much more than reading research papers! Moreover, I have learned so much from them! I also appreciate having the opportunities to speak with Jane Pisano who was the former dean of USC Price School and the current ASPA President and our current dean Jack Knott.

We have been fortunate that ASPA was held in Washington DC this year. IPPAM office arrange for us to visit the White House, the Department of Homeland Security - Office of Civil Rights & Civil Liberties, Congressional visits to Congressmen Ted Lieu and Brad Sherman's office, and a tour at the US Capitol Building where I was so amazed! The World Bank was also one of the places we had visited. I loved the office and was inspired by the presentation at the World Bank, and I want to go to work there and do more for the world.

Apart from the above, I got to see Washington DC. I will always remember the different parts of the city because our Uber drivers took different routes every morning. I will not forget the magnificent Georgian cuisine at the IPPAM Reception at Supra where I was able to network with my cohort. I also visited the Lincoln Memorial and many museums and my walks in the city where I immersed myself in the city to feel the vibe. There are many many things I will remember on this trip. This trip to ASPA was a remarkable journey to my ordinary but extraordinary life. THANK YOU IPPAM! I am proud to be part of the family.



## Paul Bo-Sen Shao

— Reflections on ASPA

It was an honor to be part of the twenty-four IPPAM students that the USC Price Dean's Matching Scholarship and IPPAM Alumni Fellowship that sponsored to attend the 80th annual conference of American Society for Public Administration (ASPA) during the spring break of 2019.

This year's conference reflected the focus on Public Service, Global Public Administration & Public Finance, Infrastructure and Social Equity. Scholars and administrators from different parts of the country gathered in Washington D.C. at the Mayflower Hotel to share their research and ideas related to public policy and policy-making issues.

The workshop that I enjoyed the most was our two IPPAM students, Rebecca Lin, and Ruslan Kamash, presenting at the SAPA (Section on African Public Administration) on the topic "Land Reform in South Africa." It was a great achievement that they were able to establish their presence at the conference and shared their research. I was very proud since it was a great achievement for my classmates and IPPAM.

The other panels at the conference were constructive as well. Many workshops provided scholars opportunities to present their works and to brainstorm for innovative ideas. The collaborations between experts were precious because observations from different dimensions were valuable for deeper understandings and further studies. Although some of the presenters came to the meeting only with their proposals, their research got significantly enriched after the discussions.

Attending the ASPA as a graduate student, I was excited to have an opportunity to gain experience from various scholars. The research skills including developing a topic, brainstorming the issue, specifying the model, and processing research, were carefully learned and brought back from the conference by the IPPAM students.

IPPAM students also gained notably by exploring the capital of the United States. We visited the White House, the Capitol, the Congress, the Department of Homeland Security, and the World Bank, thanks to the arrangement by Professor Frank Zerunyan, Rym Kaki, and the IPPAM program.

These visits provided IPPAM students not only a precious opportunity for sightseeing but also an inspiration for career planning. Next year in 2020, ASPA will be near IPPAMer's hometown in Anaheim. Hopefully, more current students and alumni can enjoy the conference as attendees.



## Yao Wei

### — Reflections on ASPA

*Yao Wei Graduated from Harbin Institute of Technology in 2014. She worked for the financial department of Huawei Technologies Company in Shenzhen, China and in London, UK before joining IPPAM in 2018.*

The 80th annual conference of American Society for Public Administration (ASPA) held during the spring break 2019 from March 8 – 12 in Washington DC, aiming to offer advanced public service in four areas including *infrastructure, public finance, public service, and social equity*.

During the 5-day ASPA conference, scholars and administrators from all around the world shared their ideas and presented the cutting-edge study results in public administration issues. Keeping with the theme of A Call for Action: Advancing Public Service, more than 20 workshops were provided by a meaningful way to gain the latest knowledge and cultivate lasting connections in specialized areas. IPPAM students, an international cohort including China, Taiwan, Korea, Qazaqstan, South Africa, and Turkey, attended the sessions and addressed the issues in different fields, where they were interested. With Professor Kaki's help, IPPAM students got an opportunity to visit South Africa sessions and gain a more comprehensive understanding of the current situation and development plan. To be more specific, the South Africa sessions addressed the importance of developing accountability systems for public financial governance based on the practical lessons from 10 African countries. Meanwhile, the presenter also emphasized the positive impact of investing in human capital in the future. For IPPAM students, it is a precious chance to discuss the real issue with the experts and combine the empirical study with practice.

Networking event held by Sol Price School of Public Policy and ASPA organizers is a unique chance for IPPAM students to meet many experts, scholars and alumni, including the ASPA president Jane Pisano, the incoming ASPA president Paul Danczyk, the winner of ASPA Public Integrity Award professor Terry Cooper, and Jack Knott, dean of Sol Price School.

IPPAM Students also took opportunities to explore Washington DC during the conference. With the help from Professor Frank V. Zerunyan and arrangement of IPPAM office, IPPAM students had the honor to visit the World Bank, Department of Homeland Security, and the White House. More importantly, the experts of the World Bank introduced the research trend and insights about future development.

ASPA conferences are great opportunities for students in Sol Price School to blend with researchers as well as policymakers. It is also an excellent chance for students to learn the latest ideas and research results. Next year, 2020, ASPA will be held in southern California. Hopefully, more IPPAM students and alumni can enjoy the lifetime experience.



## Adil Zhumadilov

### — Reflections on ASPA

*Adil Zhumadilov spent four years working as a chief specialist for the Department of Justice in Almaty, Qazaqstan. Mr. Zhumadilov received his first bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering and second bachelor's degree in Jurisprudence from Universities in Almaty, Qazaqstan. He is a recipient of the Bolashak Presidential Scholarship from the Kazakh Government, which provided him the opportunity to study abroad.*

With the help of the IPPAM ASPA Scholarship, I travelled to Washington DC for the ASPA Conference in March 2019. The conference was undoubtedly one of the premier conferences in public administration and public policy fields. I participated in many exciting sessions focusing on International and Comparative Administration (SICA), Public Law and Administration (SPLA), Public Performance and Management (SPPM). These sessions were especially interesting to me because there are no specific skill sets to be "public servant," apart from generic skills of analysis, management, writing, and other related talents. My take away from the sessions was that those who wish to be in the public service need to at least have basic analytical skills; and more importantly "people" skills: how to deal effectively with one's manager or colleagues and how to contribute effectively as a team player. The ASPA Conference has given me a chance to meet amazing professionals in the field and helped me comprehend how to use what I learned in my courses.

Moreover, I learned how to implement public policies in different situations, how to give recommendations to stakeholders and how to collaborate effectively. Additionally, I am very grateful for USC Price IPPAM for organizing visits to the World Bank, the Department of Homeland Security, the White House, the Capitol and the Supreme Court. It was an amazing and unforgettable trip.

*\* Please see footnote on page 2*



## Nurlan Adaliyev — Reflections on ASPA

*Nurlan Adaliyev was born in Karaganda region, Qazaqstan. In 2002 he graduated from Modern University for the Humanities in Russia and Kazakh-Russian University in Astana, Qazaqstan and awarded bachelor's degree in Law. In 2011 He received master's degree in law enforcement activity from Karagandy Academy of Ministry of Internal Affairs of Qazaqstan.*

*He has been serving as a law enforcement officer since 2002 and has experience from the police officer to chief deputy in law enforcement agency and for several times was awarded by the Ministry including medals for "Perfect Service" and "10 Years of Law Enforcement Service". In 2015, Mr. Adaliyev received the "Bolashak" Presidential Scholarship, and in 2017, he got accepted at Price School of Public Policy International Public Policy and Management Masters Degree Program.*

ASPA conference that held in Washington DC was a memorable event in our student years as previous. During the dconference, we enjoyed presentations of our peers and practitioners from the US and overseas. ASPA conference gathered more than 2000 people pensioned about their profession of public policy and public service. Our peers provided the most essential lecture about improvement in Africa, presented by Rebecca Lin and Ruslan Kamash.

During ASPA, we visited different lectures about current trends and concerns in developing artificial intelligence and cybersecurity in public policy.

While visiting Washington DC, we benefited from the area by visiting different sightseen such as the World Bank, the White House, and many others. Visiting the Embassy of Qazaqstan was fruitful. Meeting with the Ambassador and representatives was very exciting, and we received first-hand information about the current trends of our foreign policy and the development of civil service in Qazaqstan.

The most important things were about visiting all event with IPPAM 20 and 21 cohorts and spending time with the family. Attending ASPA conference is useful as an academic perspective and future career because ASPA offers unique opportunities for career and academic networking.

After graduating and coming back to work, we are going to use our knowledge in making and implementing policy. The confidence and expertise we received from the IPPAM program and conferences such as ASPA inspires us to become leaders in policy-making globally and most trending communities.

*\* Please see footnote on page 2*



## Mitzi Salgado

### — Reflections on ASPA

*Mitzi Salgado has a lifelong understanding of immigration policy and border issues between the US and Mexico. Now earning her master's degree in International Public Policy and Management from the Sol Price School of Public Policy, she grew up on the border between the United States and Mexico. Mitzi became passionate about International Public Policy growing up watching the US and Mexico border evolve while crossing it daily during Mexico's turbulent times. Before attending USC, Mitzi worked in San Diego, CA implementing in-class and after-school programs for underserved, minority students from low-income communities. She then worked at the Institute of the Americas at the University of California San Diego helping international students learn about STEM.*

*She earned a bachelor's degree from the University of California, Riverside in Women Studies with a minor in Business Administration. When she was 19, she founded an organization focused on empowering diverse women into leadership positions. She is a strong advocate for education, equal rights, and gender equity. In 2015, Mitzi was recruited as a cast member of an independent docu-series advocating for immigration issues and women of color.*

*Mitzi is the founder of the first student-led International Public Policy and Planning experiential learning program at the University of Southern California. She is the Co-Chair of Price Latino Student Association and an associate Leadership Director of Partnership for Equitable Los Angeles. One of her missions in life is to close the inequality gaps for minority groups in the United States and improve relationships between the US and migrant sending countries around the world.*

I was very fortunate to attend ASPA and especially lucky that it took place in Washington, DC because I was able to experience first-hand public administration in the United States Capitol. Attending the conference was like being part of an intensive public administration course in graduate school. I got a chance to participate in workshops in subjects that I would not have otherwise exposed to if it weren't for the support of the USC Price Dean's Matching Scholarship, The IPPAM Alumni Fellowship, and the IPPAM program in allowing us to go to ASPA. For example, I got to attend a session on "Advancing Rule of Law in Post-Conflict Nations," "Developments in Countries: Navigating Governance Transition," "Fostering Effective and Accountable Governance in Africa," "Diversity in Research Context, Perspectives, and Methods." All of which were unique and incredibly relevant to the IPPAM program. I was able to gain a deeper understanding of the academic methodologies I learned in IPPAM, I learned about more methods to conduct analysis, the importance of data, and better ways to present data effectively.

Attending the ASPA conference impacted me so much that I never realized how powerful and the effect that the government had on its citizens. Now I pay more attention to what local governments release in the media and what kind of statutory laws are approved. Their decisions can impact me much more than what the federal government does daily. The ASPA conference opened my eyes to how local government was essential and as a constituent, how I had more power to create immediate change in my community.

Lastly, I got the opportunity to reconnect with my professors from the German University of Administrative Sciences after not seeing them for one year. The ASPA conference was an incredible opportunity for IPPAM students like me to connect, build a network and reestablish strong connections with professors who are now part of the greater IPPAM community. Currently, two professors in Germany support and value the IPPAM program because they got to meet my cohort which they networked with and got to know. I also got the opportunity to meet professors from around the world and from other universities from five different states! These connections are enormous to me and will benefit the IPPAM program because if our directors ever need to reach out to the faculty that I connected with, they will be able to count on me as an alumna to provide more resources to our program.

It is of great importance that we continue to have access to this incredible conference. Every time we attend, IPPAM is placing itself on an international platform. We are becoming more recognized, and it adds value to our program. Its opportunities like this that make the IPPAM program a one in a lifetime opportunity, all thanks to our supporters who believe in us to do great things after we graduate. Now I am confident that we be successful and that's because we have a group of supporters who believe in us and care about our excellence, starting with sending us to the most significant public administration conference in the United States. Thank you.



## Tuncay Serdaroglu

### — Reflections on ASPA

*Tuncay Serdaroglu was born in İzmir, Turkey and completed his B.S. and M.S degrees in Economics Department from Middle East Technical University in Ankara. He has been working for T.R. Presidency Strategy and Budget Administration as a planning specialist in the Economic Modelling and Strategic Research Unit. His specialization is on macroeconomic management with a particular emphasis on structural policy issues.*

*His primary responsibilities are determined by the field of the department including preparations of annual programs and long-term development plans, conducting applied policy analyses to support the government with evidence-based policy recommendations as well as representing in related foreign missions. Also, he also had served as the special assistant for the Economic Research Department of Vakıfbank, one of the leading financial institutions in Turkey, for more than a year.*

The 2019 ASPA Conference new theme "A Call For Action: Advancing Public Service" was held during 8-12 of March in Washington D.C. This call is for generating ideas to serve better in the fields of public finance, infrastructure, social equity and public service that pave the way for economic and social prosperity. The conference also had an international perspective by including the track global public administration.

Inconsistent with ASPA's bold mission, the conference bridged practitioners, the academic community, and also students from masters to Ph.D. that provides a venue for discussing, learning and enriching ideas in the most important topics of public policy and administration. Two things were remarkable in this year's conference. First, the depth and breadth of the conference expanded. Secondly, the organization invited more voice and representation to the developing nations that increased its global spanning as well as made it more inclusive. With these peculiarities, ASPA 2019 annual conference allows me to discover new areas of public policies, made me updated on the evolving changes and innovations in the government sector and enhanced my knowledge on the critical international issues of our time.

My first day started with the section on African public administration with the presenters Prof. Peter Haruna from Texas A&M University and Assoc. Prof. Rym Kaki from the University of Southern California elaborating how to foster effective and accountable governance in Africa. Amid a clamp of authoritarianism, corruption, and poverty, it was made clear that the path of meeting the development objectives and accelerating the convergence of African countries requires building professionalism, values, and meritocracy in governments as well as strengthening the quality of national education system to promote these values and strong institutions.

My colleagues Rebecca Lin and Ruslan Kamash from IPPAM 21 cohort presented on the topic of Land Reform in South Africa at George Washington University followed by a panel discussion. We were ready there to support our colleagues. This session also included presentations about diverse policy areas that promote development efforts for African countries in the context of Africa's Agenda 2063. After that, I participated in the presidential panels including the role of artificial intelligence in transforming government and the outlook of the public sector in the future, which were the sessions of particular interest for me. The meeting about implementing policy in multiple contexts provided me the lessons learned in implementation from a variety of countries in different continents.

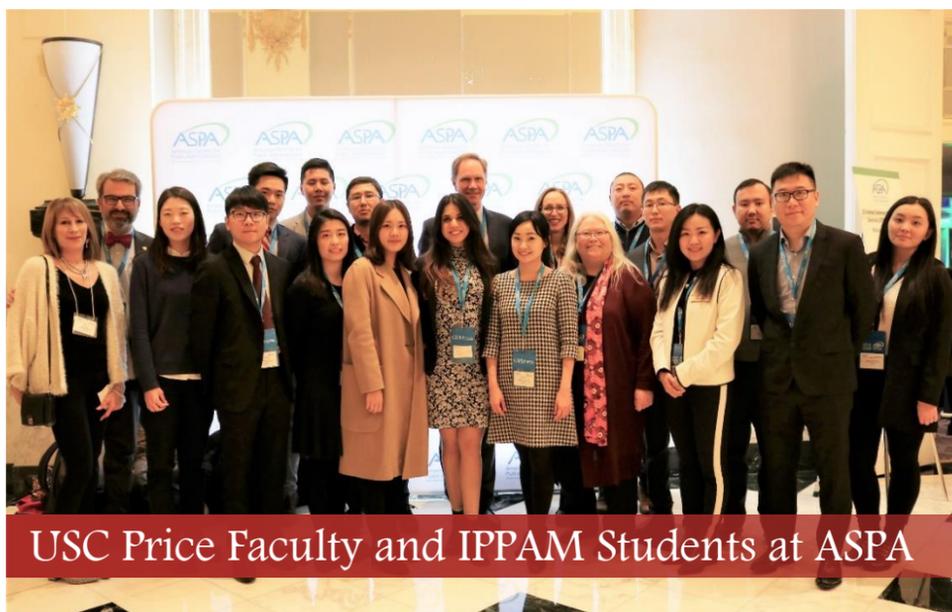
Our site visits were especially worthwhile, where we visited the World Bank headquarter and the Department of Homeland Securities Office of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties. The World Bank visit enhanced our horizon to experience international policy approach in practice about the most critical global issues of our time such as refugee crisis, conflicts, poverty, access to technology and jobs, and climate change. Our next site visit to the Department of Homeland Securities provided us a U.S. private view about the evolution of national security perception of the U.S. with its domestic and international repercussions.

Our tight program came to an end with an unforgettable site visit to the White House and the Congress, and we had an opportunity to hold a meeting with Congressman Ted Lieu in his office who is the current representative of Congressional 33<sup>rd</sup> District of California. In addition, we met with Hon. Brad Sherman who is foreign policy fellow at U.S. House of Representatives 30<sup>th</sup> District of California.

I must say that we were fortunate to have this year's conference in Washington D.C., a vibrant city of public policy and governance, where one can feel genuinely in the capital of the country with its spectacular architecture, landmarks, and monuments that all reflect the nation's historical roots of its cultural and administrative heritage.

Last but not least, we the IPPAM'ers would like to thank our esteemed program administrators and distinguished faculty for their diligent efforts and communications to organize individual sections and site visits for us to help advance our professional development. Our special thanks and gratitude go to our respected donators who provided us with this golden opportunity to stay at the cutting edge of public policy and administration.

# ASPA Conference in Washington D.C.



USC Price Faculty and IPPAM Students at ASPA



Congressman Ted Lieu and IPPAM Students



Ms. Sombo M. Chunda and IPPAM Student



IPPAM Students Visiting the World Bank



IPPAM Students at Department of Homeland Security



IPPAM Students at Department of Homeland Security



IPPAM Students at ASPA, Washington D.C.



Dr. Mann, Dr. Marina Tse, and Prof. Zerunyan

## ASPA Conference in Washington D.C.



ASPA President-Elect Paul Danczyk and IPPAM Students



ASPA President Jane Pisano and Dr. Mann



IPPAM Student Presenting “Land Reform in South Africa”  
At 2019 SAPA – Section on African Public Administration



IPPAM Student Presenting “Land Reform in South Africa”  
At 2019 SAPA – Section on African Public Administration



USC Price Dean Jack Knott at 2019 ASPA



IPPAM Students Greeting ASPA President Jane Pisano



Dr. Chester Newland, Dr. Mann, and IPPAM Students



IPPAM Students Visiting Qazaqstan Embassy in D.C.