

The ICMA Student Chapter at Virginia Tech had an active and productive year. Master of Public Administration students and Certificate in Local Government Management students were key targets for inclusion in the Virginia Tech Student Chapter. The chapter is strong with increased student enrollment.

The Chapter selected and appointed the following officers: Marcus White, Co-President and Brian Sprouse, Co-President.

Students attended courses through various sites within the Commonwealth of Virginia that allowed the Chapter to utilize technology to connect for Chapter Activities. The chapter continued to host Lunch and Learn webinars throughout the academic year. These webinars included leaders in local government that provided a wealth of information on various topics in local government.

The first session was held on September 27 and featured Jerry Cox. Mr. Cox, a native of Hillsville, Virginia, is a proud alumnus of Virginia Tech, having earned a bachelor's degree in Public Administration in 1974 and a master's degree in Urban Affairs in 1978. Mr. Cox had an extensive career in local government management in North Carolina, and he served as city manager for several municipalities in the state. Mr. Cox officially retired in 2008, but he continues to remain involved as a consultant for local governments and nonprofit agencies in Charlotte and Mount Airy, North Carolina. Mr. Cox shared information on lessons learned during his career, advice for new students and those working in local government and the value of internships. He has mentored a number of VT MPA students and is a generous donor and creator of the Jerry Cox Scholarship. The second sessions was held on November 16 and featured Charles Hartgrove. Charles was recently appointed as Chief Deputy Commissioner of Taxation for the Commonwealth of Virginia. Previous he served Deputy City Manager in for The City of Lynchburg and as the Town Manager of Ashland, Virginia for over thirteen years. He also previously served as the Town Manager for the Virginia communities of Middleburg and Gate City. Mr. Hargrove spoke on his path and experiences from serving in small towns to his position at The City of Lynchburg. The final session was held on January 25 featuring Matt Hankins. Matt currently serves as Assistant Town Manager & Community Development Director in Rocky Mount as well as The Chief Executive Officer of the Harvester Performance Center. Matt provided an excellent presentation on the background of the success and economic impact of the Harvester Performance Center in Rocky Mount.

Under the guidance of Stephanie Davis, the Virginia Tech chapter actively recruited new students enrolled in the Certificate in Local Government Management and Master of Public Administration programs. The chapter membership remained steady with 50 members. The ICMA Student Chapter continued to offer free ICMA student membership to students. This provided access to valuable resources and learning and networking opportunities. In addition, members were encouraged to register with the Alliance for Innovation.

On behalf of the Virginia Tech ICMA Student Chapter, we look forward to continued success of the organization.

Marcus White, Co-President



**Virginia Tech**

**Student Chapter**

***"To create excellence in local governance by developing and fostering professional local government management."***

Brian Sprouse, Co-President  
Stephanie Davis, Faculty Advisor