

WICHITA.EDU/HWS

HUGO WALL SCHOOL
of PUBLIC AFFAIRS

2015-16
ANNUAL REPORT

INSTRUCTION » RESEARCH » COMMUNITY SERVICE



DIRECTOR'S » NOTE

DEAR FRIENDS OF THE HUGO WALL SCHOOL:

As the new director, I am excited to have the privilege to serve the Hugo Wall School of Public Affairs in the capacity of building on the historical strengths of “advancing excellence in public service through integrated instruction, research and community service.” Professionally, I cannot think of a better educational model to prepare students for public service careers than one which blends the traditional academic values of teaching, research and service. Personally, it brings me great joy to spend this phase of my career providing leadership in community service through applied research and training.

We start a new academic year with good news: our Master of Public Administration program was successfully reaccredited by the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs and Administration (NASPAA). This acknowledges that our degree program conforms with the gold standard of public service education. Having served on the Executive Council of NASPAA, I can personally attest to the rigor of this peer review process. The faculty, staff, university officers, alums and constituents all deserve a hearty congratulations and thank you for your contributions throughout the process.

This annual report covers the activities of Hugo Wall School including the Master of Public Administration program, Public Policy and Management Center, Environmental Finance Center and Kansas Public Finance Center. Within it reveals that our faculty, staff and students continue to perform at the highest levels of professionalism for the advancement of the public good through teaching, research and community service.

Samuel L. Brown
» director



FAREWELL TO DR. SNYDER

Nancy McCarthy Snyder joined the Hugo Wall School of Public Affairs faculty in 1977 and served as Wichita State University’s director of institutional research from 1998-2000, associate vice president for Academic Affairs and Research from 2004-2007 and director of the Hugo Wall School from 2010-2016.

An economist by background, she was an accomplished researcher and professor when she took the helm as eighth director of the Hugo Wall School.

Her predecessors include professors Hugo Wall, Richard Zody, Glenn Fisher, John Bardo, Marjorie Taylor, Joe Pisciotte, H. Edward Flentje and John Wong.

As chief visionary, Snyder engaged community leaders to create collaborative relationships to advance the School’s mission of integrating academic teaching, research and service.

A specialist in state and local government finance and social welfare policy, her research focused on the financing and effectiveness of education and human services, particularly issues of contracting and the privatization of child welfare in Kansas.

Under her dynamic leadership, the School quadrupled the amount of contract and grant funded research, successfully carried out a name change (from the Hugo Wall School of Urban and Public Affairs) and launched the Public Policy and Management Center (formerly known as the Center for Urban Studies). Snyder also spearheaded an exhaustive reaccreditation process.

After nearly four decades at the Hugo Wall School, she passes the baton to Dr. Sam Brown to continue to propel the mission forward in our community and worldwide. The entire Wichita State community is thankful for her profound contributions.

INSTRUCTION



MASTER of PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

The Master of Public Administration degree provides instruction in public management, public finance and public policy that equips students with the knowledge needed to take on leadership roles in public and nonprofit organizations. Graduates serve as city managers, nonprofit executives, program managers, finance directors, budget analysts, management analysts and planners.

Faculty members have significant professional experience in state and local government and nonprofits. They also engage in research relevant to organizations in Kansas - bringing fresh perspectives on public management to the classroom.



GRADUATE CERTIFICATES

Four graduate certificates offer advanced study designed to stimulate critical examination and application of theory, concepts and best practices:

- City and County Management
- Nonprofit Management
- Economic Development
- Public Finance



CONTINUING EDUCATION

From one-day workshops to multi-year programs, the Hugo Wall School offers public and nonprofit employees ways to advance their careers, gain skills and expand their professional networks.

The MiniMPA: Executive Development in Public Administration is an intensive 16-week training series taught by faculty and area practitioners. Participants gain core public administration management knowledge to improve their ability to deal with complex challenges and to lead a workforce toward innovative solutions.

We also offer professional development opportunities for:

- City/county managers
- County clerks
- Municipal clerks
- Finance officers
- Nonprofit executives

STUDENT PROJECT HIGHLIGHT

» HISTORIC FAIRMOUNT NEIGHBORHOOD

As part of our Community Networks course, student Adrienne McAlpine (MPA '17), participated in community conversations and planning in the historic Fairmount neighborhood just south of campus. The aim is to create healthy neighborhoods through increased activity, engagement and student achievement.

Many faculty, staff and students have been involved in the project, which is part of the Community Engagement Initiative grant from the Kansas Health Foundation designed to support resident-led efforts to improve health.



COMMUNITY SERVICE

The School's community service activities are completed by three centers: Public Policy and Management Center, Environmental Finance Center and Kansas Public Finance. The work of these three service centers complements the research activity of the School to expand and disseminate knowledge in the areas of public management, public policy, environmental finance and public finance that engages communities to solve problems in ways that serve the public good.

The Centers engage state and local governments and nonprofit organizations through professional development, applied research and technical assistance/consultation.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

- Education and support for professional associations
- Conference administration
- Facilitation
- Specialized/customized training

APPLIED RESEARCH:

- Survey development
- Cost-benefit analysis
- Financial impact studies
- Program evaluation

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE/CONSULTATION:

- Community engagement
- Financial analysis
- Program evaluation
- Strategic planning
- Organizational analysis
- Organizational development
- Utility assessments



COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

» ADVANCING WATER CAREERS

Hugo Wall School's Environmental Finance Center, through a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency, created a classroom module and summer internship program for high school students to increase knowledge and stimulate interest in water and wastewater careers. Two advanced biology classes from El Dorado High School participated in hands-on learning sessions and tours of the water and wastewater treatment plants. As a result, one student completed an internship with the city's Public Utilities Department. This pilot school-community partnership will inform the rest of the project, which includes an additional seven high schools and four internships.

» TESTIMONIAL:

KURT BOOKOUT

» DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC UTILITIES, CITY OF EL DORADO

"The Work in Water project has brought about an awareness in not only career opportunities for bright students in our community, but also a focus on the importance of water and wastewater infrastructure for all communities. I believe our industry has been searching for innovative ways to recruit the next generation into protecting the environment we live in, and Work in Water has the potential for accomplishing this."

» CITY OF WICHITA FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Public Policy and Management Center assisted the City of Wichita Fire Department with a deployment study to address non-emergent medical calls that account for a significant increase and proportion in the number of responses by the fire department. The PPMC conducted national research and provided examples of alternatives used by other communities to address non-emergent medical calls and policy considerations. Stakeholder groups were engaged both internally and through an advisory group that included policy makers, public safety agencies and the healthcare industry. As a result of the research, the Wichita Fire Department is implementing a pilot deployment project based on the findings.

RESEARCH

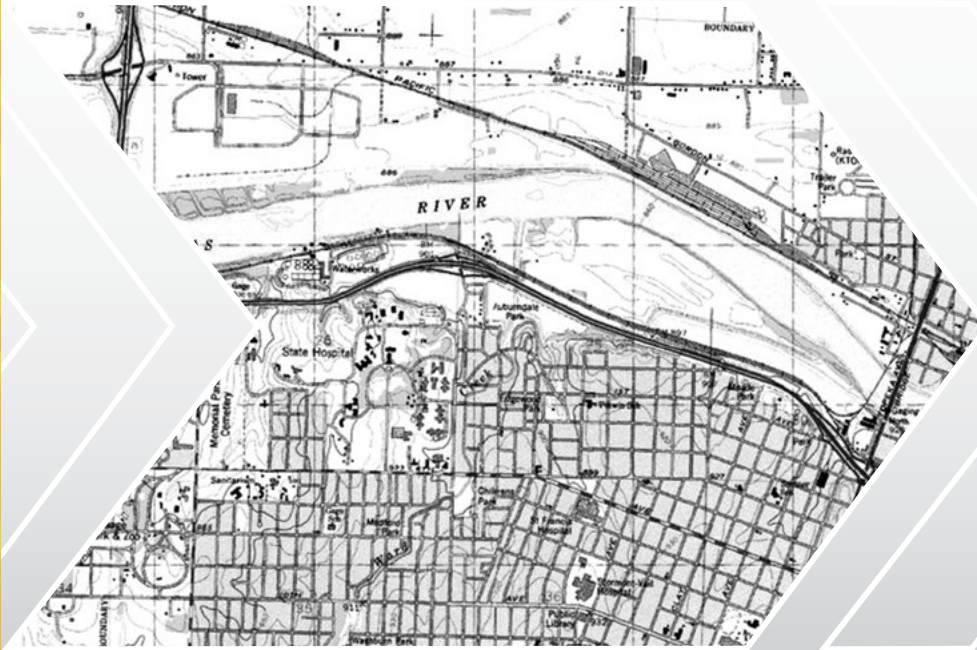
Faculty and staff of the Hugo Wall School are actively engaged in the creation and application of knowledge in fields of public and nonprofit management, public finance and public policy. Faculty conduct academic research and publish their findings in a number of outlets. They also work with the three Centers to produce applied research, professional consultation and technical assistance for state and local governments and nonprofit organizations.

RESEARCH PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

» EFFECTS OF ABANDONED HOUSING

Hugo Wall School's Public Policy and Management Center assisted the City of Topeka's Department of Neighborhood Relations to conduct research on the impact of abandoned housing.

The study explored the effect that abandoned housing has on the property value of comparable homes, adjacent homes and those within the same city block. Public safety was also studied to analyze police and fire response on blocks with abandoned housing versus those without. Stakeholders were engaged to qualify the effects of blight on neighborhood members. The City of Topeka uses the results of our research to inform local and state policy conversations related to blight and abandoned housing mitigation.



» DRUG COURT PROGRAM EVALUATION

Dr. Melissa Walker worked with a team of graduate students to document the drug court process in Reno County. The drug court, an alternative to incarceration that involves drug treatment, intensive supervision and regular court appearances, began in 2012 with funding from the Bureau of Justice Administration in the U.S. Department of Justice.

The evaluation team interviewed substance abuse treatment providers, community corrections staff and court officials. During the year-long evaluation, our team analyzed court hearing observations and data obtained from the Kansas Department of Corrections. The county drug court manager plans to use the evaluation as a tool to increase project outcomes.



» GROCERY SALES TAX RESEARCH

The Kansas Public Finance Center at Hugo Wall School conducted research about the effects of the state sales tax on groceries. Commissioned by KC Healthy Kids, a nonprofit children's health advocacy group, the study received substantial national media attention including by NBC News. Findings were also discussed in state legislative working sessions.

Drs. Kenneth Kriz and Arwiphawee Srithongrung completed a series of four white papers which concluded: the burden of the grocery sales tax falls most heavily on lower-income households; rural food stores are negatively impacted; shoppers cross the state line to buy groceries and replacing the grocery tax with increased income tax would have a positive economic effect on the state's revenue.



» TESTIMONIAL:

BETH LOW-SMITH
» VICE PRESIDENT,
POLICY KC HEALTHY KIDS

"Research by the Hugo Wall School provided us key evidence to make a powerful case for changing the state sales tax on food. Their findings helped educate and persuade legislators, advocates and the media, allowing us to quickly move the needle on this issue. Moreover, they were easy to work with, assisting in identifying research strategies best suited to our needs and responding quickly as those needs evolved."

CENTERS



PUBLIC POLICY AND MANAGEMENT CENTER (PPMC)

» WICHITA.EDU/HUGOWALL/PPMC

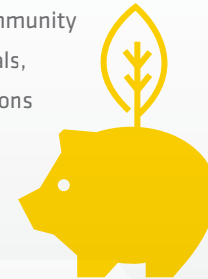
The Public Policy and Management Center works with state and local governments and nonprofit organizations to address issues impacting citizens, communities and states. The PPMC assists in meeting the challenges of local governance and improving service delivery through applied research, professional development, community engagement and technical assistance/consultation to create and apply knowledge and to expand the reach of community service on behalf of the public.



ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE CENTER (EFC)

» WICHITA.EDU/HUGOWALL/EFC

Professional training, technical assistance and applied research are provided through a collaborative approach with partner organizations to meet the challenges of community environmental issues. The EFC serves elected officials, state and local governments, community organizations and professional associations in Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska and Iowa on topics such as water system sustainability, energy conservation, asset management and financial capacity.



KANSAS PUBLIC FINANCE CENTER (KPFC)

» WICHITA.EDU/HUGOWALL/KPFC

The Kansas Public Finance Center develops and implements public strategies that promote economic vitality in Kansas and advances the study and practice of public finance. This is achieved by conducting and applying scholarly research, advising public and private policymakers, providing assistance on financial policies and practices and organizing conferences and professional development workshops.



» **THE HUGO WALL SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

ADVANCES EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC SERVICE THROUGH INTEGRATED **INSTRUCTION, RESEARCH AND COMMUNITY SERVICE.**

FACULTY



» **MARK A. GLASER, PH.D.**
professor

Dr. Glaser's research encourages actions on the part of public agencies consistent with public interest and citizen commitment to community wellbeing. He is the lead author of a research paper presented at the 8th Sino-US International Conference for Public Administration in Beijing, China. Glaser is involved in citizen survey research to guide strategic public investment decisions in Bel Aire, Kan. He is also assisting WSU President John Bardo in drafting a white paper that articulates the logic behind the Wichita State's Innovation Campus. In addition, Glaser is involved in a community development survey of the Fairmount neighborhood sponsored as part of the Shocker Neighborhood Coalition, sponsored in part by the Kansas Health Foundation.



» **KENNETH A. KRIZ, PH.D.**
*Kansas Regents Distinguished Professor
director, Kansas Public Finance Center*

Dr. Kriz published two co-authored academic journal articles: "Debt Burden and Perceived Sovereign Default Risk: Evidence from Credit Default Swaps" in *Public Finance and Management* and "The Effect of Board Composition on Public Sector Pension Funding" in the *Journal of Public Budgeting, Accounting, and Financial Management*. He received the prestigious Jesse Burkhead Award from the Association for Budgeting and Financial Management for his article "The Two Worlds of Municipal Bonds: Are Lower Rated Bonds Punished More by Financial Crisis?" in *Public Budgeting and Finance*. In addition, Kriz completed work on four research projects and continued his appointment on the Board of Trustees for the City of Wichita Police and Fire Retirement System.



» **SAMUEL L. BROWN, PH.D.**
*professor
director, Hugo Wall School of Public Affairs*

Dr. Brown joined the Hugo Wall School in July 2016 as director and professor. His primary research involves studying social, economic and health disparities. His current research efforts include developing theoretical frameworks and practical guidance to further understand how American institutions continue fostering current barriers in achieving the democratic ideal of social, economic and political equality for all. Brown's most recent publication on the issue of inclusion of diverse student populations appears in the fall 2015 edition of the peer-reviewed *Journal of Public Affairs Education*.



» **ARWIPHAWEE SRITHONGRUNG, D.P.A.**
associate professor

Dr. Srithongrung presented two research projects, "Allocative Efficiency across Service Functions: Are V.O. Key Criteria Fruitful?" and "Local Governments' Optimal Tax Level: How High is Too High" at national and international academic conferences; both are under review by leading public administration journals. She completed "Sales Tax Rate Differentials and Cross Border Shopping in Kansas," part of a series of four white papers on the effects of Kansas' taxation of grocery sales. The research received regional and national attention and was discussed in state legislative working sessions. Srithongrung provided expert advice regarding state government budgets and supplementary spending to the Volcker Alliance, a non-partisan public policy organization; her contribution appears in their report *Best Practices in State Budget Transparency*.



» **SAMUEL J. YEAGER, PH.D.**
professor

Dr. Yeager compiled an *Index of the Municipal Finance Journal* published on one of that journal's websites. He sits on the editorial boards of numerous journals including: *Public Administration Quarterly*; *International Journal of Public Administration*; *Public Budgeting, Accounting & Financial Management*; *Journal of Health and Human Resources Administration* and *International Journal of Organization Theory and Behavior*. Yeager serves as a reviewer for the *American Review of Public Administration*. He has completed 18 reviews for these journals. In addition to his duties as graduate coordinator for the Hugo Wall School, he serves on the Wichita State University Faculty Senate and its Scholarship and Student Aid Committee.



» **MELISSA A. WALKER, PH.D.**
associate professor

Dr. Walker was part of an interdisciplinary effort across WSU departments to establish a graduate certificate in Museum Studies. She will teach a course on nonprofit fundraising and financial management. Walker also directed a group of graduate assistants in a ridership study for Wichita Transit, presenting a final report to Transit officials. Working with Criminal Justice faculty, she conducted a training session to help Sedgwick County crime prevention and liquor tax grantees learn how to measure the results of juvenile crime prevention and substance abuse treatment programs. In addition, she coordinated preparation of our self-study for Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA) in order to receive reaccreditation.

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

» PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK – MAY 2016

For the second year, we celebrated the nationwide Public Service Recognition Week in May 2016.

- Campus and community leaders joined us for breakfast with WSU President John Bardo and Dr. Marché Fleming-Randle, Assistant to the President for Diversity, to shine a light on diversity of thought
- Nearly 150 guests joined us for a reception to honor the contributions of outgoing director Nancy McCarthy Snyder
- A Community Engagement Summit in Fairmount Park showcased progress of the Shocker Neighborhood Coalition. Gregg Marshall, WSU head men's basketball coach, served as a motivational speaker

- To thank dedicated public servants and reach tomorrow's leaders, we handed out donuts at Wichita State, Sedgwick County and the City of Wichita
- Members from the Hugo Wall Society, our student organization, spoke about public service careers with fifth graders at a local magnet elementary school
- We used social media to highlight the accomplishments of our graduates
- Along with 200 other volunteers, we participated in Wu's Big Event to improve our community, including the Fairmount neighborhood
- We co-sponsored a bicycle rodeo at Fairmount Park to offer free helmets and activities to area families as part of the Shocker Neighborhood Coalition



EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

» HUGO WALL DAY – SEPTEMBER 2016

Hugo Wall Day is an annual daylong event attended by alumni, local government and nonprofit professionals and elected officials. The professional development and networking event celebrates the contribution and professionalism of public service.

In September 2015, more than 130 partners, alumni and friends from across the region joined us to learn about innovation in public service through interactive dialogue and research dissemination.

- WSU President John Bardo showed how university-based innovation can reshape a regional economy

- Karen Thoreson of the Alliance for Innovation, an organization that promotes creative local government solutions, shared four trends that should be on the public sector's radar

- Dennis Schoenebeck, outgoing CEO of Greater Wichita YMCA, discussed the innovative leadership strategies he used to create one of the largest and most effective YMCAs in the country

Guests especially loved our photobooth with WuShock, Wichita State's endearing mascot, and tagging their photos on Facebook to share the Shocker pride.

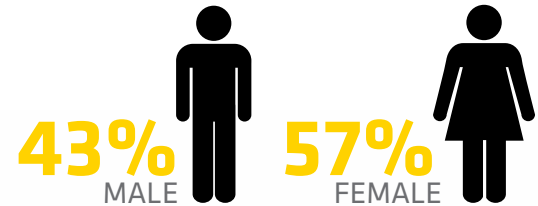


HUGO WALL SCHOOL

» 2015-16 STATISTICS

» **63** STUDENTS

» **14** GRADUATES



WHITE | 57%

AFRICAN-AMERICAN | 14%

ASIAN, AMERICAN INDIAN
MULTI-RACIAL | 22%

OTHER | 7%

PROVIDED → **14,450**
CONTACT HOURS
OF PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT TO
1,677 PUBLIC SERVICE
LEADERS

ENGAGED **HUNDREDS** OF
COMMUNITY MEMBERS THROUGH
CITIZEN CONVERSATIONS



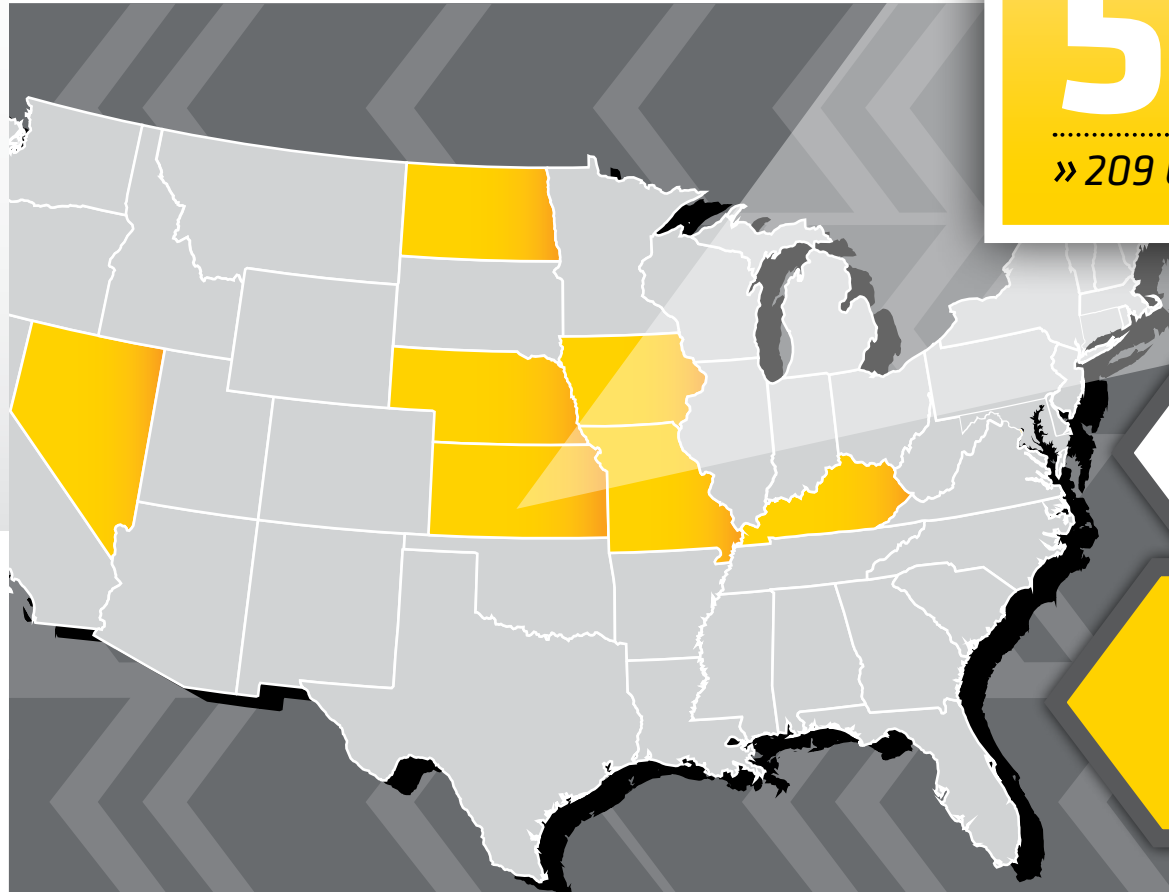
95% BELIEVE THE SCHOOL'S PROGRAMS WILL
BENEFIT THEIR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT,
ORGANIZATION OR COMMUNITY AND **93%**
WOULD RECOMMEND OUR SERVICES AND
PROGRAMS TO OTHERS

COMPLETED

70 APPLIED RESEARCH AND
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
PROJECTS

WE REACHED »

REPRESENTATIVES FROM
52 COUNTIES
REACHED
» 47 IN KANSAS
» 209 CITIES (198 IN KANSAS)



7 STATES REACHED
» IOWA, KANSAS, MISSOURI, NEBRASKA
NEVADA, NORTH DAKOTA AND KENTUCKY

3 COUNTRIES REACHED
» PORTUGAL, CHINA AND CANADA

ACCREDITATION

Following a year of intensive evaluation and goal-setting that involved faculty, students and alumni, our Master of Public Administration program has been reaccredited by the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA).

The evaluation process resulted in a number of improvements including an enhanced web presence and a diversity management plan. A team from NASPAA conducted a three-day campus visit and commended the Hugo Wall School for our applied learning opportunities and community connections.



CAREER PATHS

A Master of Public Administration degree from the Hugo Wall School opens doors to employment possibilities such as:

- City Manager
- Finance Director
- Budget Analyst
- Development Director
- City Clerk
- Management Analyst
- Public Works Director
- Policy Analyst
- Utility Director
- County Manager
- City Administrator
- Policy Analyst
- Program Coordinator
- Budget Director
- Risk Manager
- Contract Administrator
- Research Analyst
- Director of Philanthropy

»TESTIMONIAL:

JILL TINSLEY (MPA '04)
» DIRECTOR OF MARKETING
AND COMMUNICATIONS,
THE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL

"The Hugo Wall School gave me practical and applied knowledge that I've been able to use throughout my career in local government. Courses in public finance, human resources and government law, along with research opportunities, prepared me for the work I do today."

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