PA Reporter
Spring-Summer 2008

City of Spokane Addresses Global Warming and Oil Depletion

Mayor Mary Verner has appointed a Task Force on Sustainability to develop a strategic plan for actions that the City of Spokane can take to reduce its reliance on oil, to prepare for climate change, and to reduce its contributions to global warming. Introduced to the public at the April 7th City Council meeting, the task force has begun to work on developing a strategic plan that will address ways that the City of Spokane can alter its internal operations and policies to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases and consumption of energy. It is operating under the terms of a $75,000 grant from Washington State’s Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development.

Professor Luton, Director of EWU’s MPA Program is a member of that task force. The chair of the task force is Roger Woodworth, Vice President of Sustainable Energy Solutions at Avista. Other members include people who work for Washington State in offices related to growth management, economic development, and the environment; stakeholders from the realty profession, architects, and environmental non-profit groups; and other higher education professionals.

The Task Force has included among the values that will guide their actions being open and transparent, thoughtful and balanced, diversified and collaborative. As they position the City of Spokane to lead by example, they expect to recommend actions that build partnerships, bridge economy and environment, and emphasize local sourcing (e.g., of fuels).

In taking this step the City of Spokane is joining hundreds of other cities worldwide who also are expressing concern about and/or taking initiatives to address global warming. Other Pacific and Inland Northwest cities engaged in similar efforts include: in Washington—Seattle, Olympia, Bellingham, Burien, Edmonds, LaConner, Oak Harbor, and Vancouver; in Oregon—Portland, Eugene, Corvallis, and Ashland; and in Idaho—Boise.

Among the actions often taken by local governments engaged in addressing global warming and sustainability are: altering internal operations and policies, setting targets for reducing emissions of greenhouse gases, establishing a system of accountability for meeting those targets, and using consistent measures for evaluating their progress.

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**Faculty Updates**

**Dr. Larry Luton**  
Dr. Larry Luton is serving on Mayor Mary Verner’s Task Force on Sustainability and Energy Security. Luton is also working on Spokane County’s selection committee for the Design Build and Operate contract for a new Wastewater Treatment Plant. In that role he spent time in April and May touring other similar plants and meeting with the companies competing for the contract.

Luton was awarded one of ten 2008 EWU Faculty Awards for Research Excellence.

The dialogue that Luton initiated in July 2007 in the journal *Administration & Society* about the quality of empiricist research in the field of public administration has continued. At this point seven other public administration scholars have engaged in the dispute. Luton’s latest contribution to the discussion was published in the April 2008 issue.

Luton will also present a paper on “Knowledge Claims in Public Administration” at the Public Administration Theory Network Conference at the end of May in Richmond, Virginia.

**Dr. Terry Novak**  
After his third back operation in two years, Professor Terry Novak is still going strong! He continues to be active in the classroom as well as the community. In addition to his course load at EWU Riverpoint, Dr. Novak, joined by Professor Robert Zinke, will be starting a cycle of three certificate courses for the Master of Social Work cohorts in Vancouver and Yakima. He will be teaching courses in personnel management and budgeting.

Dr. Novak’s continuing community contribution is the role of Treasurer of Friends of the Falls. This small environmental group has pulled together almost $1,000,000 in planning and construction funds for the whitewater facility to be built at the confluence of Hangman Creek and the Spokane River. They are also working on the city Park Board to accept the plan for the “Great Gorge Park” downriver from the Monroe Street Bridge.

**Dr. Robert Zinke**  
Dr. Zinke is preparing a paper for the Public Administration Theory Network (PAT-Net) Annual Conference, that he will present in Richmond, VA, at the end of May. The title of this paper is: ‘Shifting Orders and Changing Margins: Public Administration in a Time of Cosmological Shift’. In addition to the paper writing, he recently conducted a one-day workshop on ‘Religion and Public Policy’ at St. John’s Cathedral, in Spokane. Finally he has been working with the Medical Reserve Corps of Spokane County to help them find funding for their on-going activities.

**Dr. Rosanne London**  
Dr. London is glad to be teaching another Research Applications class. The topic and students provide intellectual stimulus and challenges she very much enjoys. She also teaches political science at Gonzaga and when she is not busy teaching, prepping lecture presentations, and grading exams and papers; she keeps busy cooking with her husband and spending time in her sewing room putting together quilts for family and friends.

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**Graduates**

2007-2008 School Year

- Khalid Abuzaid
- Ivan Barraza
- Martha Lou Wheatley-Billeter
- Alice Buckles
- Justin Felker
- Jennifer Ferguson
- Spencer Grainger
- Stephen Grouke
- Kriscinda Hansen
- Amber Hedges
- Jami Henshaw
- Jennifer Hussey
- Jana Jaraysi
- Lynette Jordan
- Robert Ladd
- Marty Maley
- Molly Matthews
- Clifton Mehaffey
- Legan Morgan
- Pasert Moua
- Jennifer Nunez
- Leyna Odell
- Dawn Prentice
- Myosha Ratliff
- Kasey Schmidt
- Trina Scott
- Robin Silbernagel
- Levi Van Dyke
- Martha Wilson
- Wayne Wiltse
- Nicole Wright
- Kkaj Yang
- James Young
Continued from page 1: Global Warming and Oil Depletion

The important role of public administration in addressing sustainability and global warming is beginning to be recognized throughout the profession. PhD dissertations have been written on the subject. Journals as diverse as Administration & Society, Public Administration Review, Public Administration, Governing, Public Management, the Australian Journal of Public Administration, and Administrative Theory & Praxis have included articles and/or symposia on sustainability or global warming.

MPA Alumni Profile– Michele Vazquez

Michele Vazquez is the Regulatory Assistance Lead for the Governor’s Office of Regulatory Assistance. The Governor’s Office of Regulatory Assistance is a place where people go to understand how rules, regulations and government requirements apply to environmental permitting and business licensing. As Regulatory Assistance Lead, Michele provides assistance to businesses and individuals as they navigate complex state, local and federal environmental regulations.

Previous to her employment at the Office of Regulatory Assistance, Michele was a planning coordinator for the Department of Health dealing with issues of drinking water in Washington State. Michele also recalled fond memories of a summer spent teaching English to Turkish children on an island in the Marmara Sea.

Michele attended Eastern Washington University and received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Urban in Regional Planning (1990) and her Masters in Public Administration (2000). She recently completed coursework for a Doctoral Program in Leadership Studies at Gonzaga University and is currently working on her dissertation.

MPA Student Profile– Martha Lou Wheatley-Billeter

Martha Lou received her Bachelors degree in Theatre Science from Eastern Washington University in 1986. Before returning to school, she was active in the Spokane Civic Theatre and performed in numerous musicals and plays. Martha Lou is currently working to obtain a Masters in Public Administration while also working on her thesis for a Masters of Science in Communication Studies, with an emphasis on international and intercultural communication.

Martha Lou is currently employed as the Public Information and Communications Manager for Spokane County. She is responsible for the county’s media relations, publications, external website content, and community outreach. Additionally, she is an adjunct professor at Gonzaga University teaching Speech Communications.

Martha Lou is very active in the community. She has served on the Spokane Park Board since 2001, has been the Community Assembly Facilitator for Spokane’s Office of Neighborhood Services since 2004, and was appointed to Mayor Mary Verner’s Transition Team in 2007.

When asked what her future plans are, Martha Lou responded: “Well, after graduation I’d like to rediscover what life is like without homework… but I’m seriously considering pursuing a Doctorate in Organizational Leadership at Gonzaga University.”

During her free time Martha Lou enjoys spending time with her husband of 20 years, Steve.
### Summer and Fall Course Schedule

**Eastern Washington University**  
College of Business and Public Administration

#### Summer 2008

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Any Questions, Contact Larry Luton
lluton@mail.ewu.edu or 358-2274  
Summer and Fall Course Schedule