



## President's Message

Dear Fellow Public Administrator:

As I write, I am experiencing some of the heat and humidity of another Delaware summer, reflecting on our recent activities as an organization, and thinking about ways to sustain the momentum we have regained over the past two years. This spring, DAPA had a large presence at the national ASPA conference in terms of the number of DAPA members participating. We also enjoyed a very satisfying afternoon at a Blue Rocks game at the start of May. Both of these are the subjects of articles elsewhere in this issue.

As we move to consolidate our recent gains in membership and activity and build on them over the next few months, I have a few items on my agenda, and I would love to get DAPA members' comments and suggestions (especially, but not only, if you are interesting in volunteering to work on any of them). So here is a quick list of some of the things the DAPA Council is working on right now.



- As always, we're working to continue building our membership base. If you have recently (or even not so recently) let your membership lapse, consider renewing it now, before I have to start nagging you. (I'm only partly kidding here: ask my wife or my students. I'm a terrible nag. Spare yourself this misery, and just renew now!) Also think about who, among your friends and co-workers, might benefit from joining.
- The Program Committee is working up some great activities for the fall and winter and will happily accept ideas for more great events, especially, but not only, if you want to help out. Fall plans include a career-development brown-bag session, a tour of recent planning and development sites in Newark, and – based on the general agreement that last year's worked out beautifully – another joint annual dinner with the Delaware Chapter of the American Planning Association. We're especially looking for suggestions for activities we could do below the C&D Canal. (If you come up with something, I know the rest of the Council will be relieved to have an alternative to my idea for a behind-the-scenes tour of the State Fair next July!)
- The Communications Committee has, of course, delivered this outstanding newsletter once again, and I am sure Martha would welcome contributions of articles for future issues, and any other ideas or contributions you care to offer for content or media.
- Treasurer Martin Wollaston and I will be working over the next few months to get our federal tax exemption straightened out. This is one of those unglamorous, but necessary, housekeeping activities. I'll spare you the details here and just note that if you have experience in preparing IRS applications for tax-exempt status and are willing to help out, we'd love to hear from you.
- Also in the unglamorous-but-useful department, **Kathy Wian, Mark Deshon, Corinne O'Connor**, and I will be working over the summer to get our organizational documents, including meeting agendas and minutes,

and schedules of upcoming Council meetings up on the DAPA website.

In the meantime, note that the DAPA Council will be meeting on Thursday mornings July 28 and August 25, at 10:30 a.m. in the Newark Municipal Building. Please feel free to join us in person or by telephone conference. If you have questions, comments, or suggestions but can't make it to meetings, please don't hesitate to call or drop a line to me or another Council member at any time. The organization exists for the sole purpose of serving its members.

- Last but definitely not least, 'tis the season for award nominations. If you think that you or a student you know would be a worthy candidate for the DAPA Outstanding Public Service Award, check out the eligibility and nomination information on our website at [www.dapanet.org/studentaward.html](http://www.dapanet.org/studentaward.html). The deadline for nominations is September 30.

Jonathan Justice, PhD  
President

## Report from Baltimore

Along with a number of other present and past Delawareans—however, I won't even try to name them all lest I forget one, because we made such a good showing—I participated in ASPA's national conference in Baltimore this past March 11-15. I may be biased, because I like ASPA and I like Baltimore, but I thought it was a great conference. The conference was well attended, included a number of good sessions, and had a generally happy vibe this year. This may have been due in part to the nice weather, but it was probably also related to the fact that in 2010 ASPA had its first annual net membership increase in 10 years, with membership up by three percent to around 8,000 members. That's still well below the peak of long ago, but at least we have movement in the right direction now! For those of us who have been members for a long time, this, as they say, is *big*.



**Dan Rich, University Professor of Public Policy at the University of Delaware, chats with DAPA member and UD colleague Jeff Raffel after Rich's closing plenary session presentation on the effect of the financial crisis.**

Because it was a big and busy conference, I can only offer my own narrow view. I did have the pleasure of attending a couple of sessions involving current Delawareans or UD alumni, even though I had to miss more than I was able to attend. Because of my persistent inability to be in more than one place at a time, I had to miss presentations by any number of Delawareans, however, so please don't take it personally if I missed you. (And please participate in next March's conference in Las Vegas and the 2013 conference in

New Orleans, so I can see you there.)

I got to Baltimore just in time to participate in a Best Practices Workshop led by DAPA member and 2010 UD MPA alumna **Danielle Reeves**. Danielle's session on the role of diverse faith-based and community-based organizations in disaster preparedness and response generated a lively discussion in the room. I know some of the folks who participated, and they are genuinely experts in this area, unlike me. All of them seemed to think a lot of Danielle's work. (Must have been that great UD MPA training shining through, of course!)

Another UD MPA alumnus, Marlon Brown, presented a discussion circle session on The Changing Reality of Cross-Border Governance in North America. Marlon, who is now at Albion College in Michigan, is working on a fascinating project with colleagues Iván Pelcastre of the University of Birmingham (UK) and François Séguin of the University of Quebec at Montreal. They are studying three border-spanning "communities"—Detroit, Mich., and Windsor, Ontario; Québec and New England; and San Diego and Tijuana—as part of a larger project called Envision North America ([envisionna.wordpress.com](http://envisionna.wordpress.com)).

—by Jonathan Justice

DAPA Public Service Reader

photos by DAPA member John McNutt

[www.dapanet.org/reader](http://www.dapanet.org/reader)

## Jerome Lewis Honored by Common Cause Delaware

*IPA director shares evening spotlight with former U.S. Representative and former Delaware Gov. Mike Castle*

On June 13, 2011, Common Cause honored two long-time Delaware public servants—DAPA member Dr. **Jerome R. Lewis** and The Honorable Michael N. Castle—at its annual Good Government Awards dinner. The evening program took place at the Christiana Hilton in Newark, Del. Lewis received the Public Service Achievement Award, and Castle garnered the Russell Peterson Lifetime Achievement Award.



The Public Service Achievement Award honors individuals who “by force of imagination, initiative, and perseverance have made outstanding contributions to the public interest in the areas of government performance and integrity.”

Introducing Lewis was DAPA member Dr. **Jeffrey A. Raffel**, Charles P. Messick Professor of Public Administration in the School of Public Policy & Administration and president of Common Cause Delaware.



“Jerome Lewis has built several institutions in our state which have supported these Common Cause values of public participation and serving the common good and public administration more generally,” Raffel said. “For those of you not familiar with academic jargon, public administration refers to the organization and implementation of government policies and programs.”

Raffel added, “Jerome Lewis is ‘Dr. Public Administration’ in Delaware, an entrepreneurial builder of an alphabet soup of public administration institutions, a man who knows how to get things done, who leads and supports the institutions he helped to create, and an educator of the highest order, mentor to hundreds of students, public officials, and faculty, including *me*.”

Widely recognized for his contributions to the policy, planning and management needs of various partners throughout the state, Lewis joined the University faculty in 1969 and, four years later, founded the Institute for Public Administration, a research and public service center that has impacted public policy throughout the state and region for more than four decades.

Raffel said of Lewis, “Under Dr. Lewis’s leadership, IPA has forged a strong track record of engaging graduate and undergraduate students in research and technical assistance projects on topics in fields such as water

resources, transportation, education, women’s leadership, conflict resolution, planning and economic development, and democracy—that is, just about every issue critical to Delaware in the last four decades.”



Lewis was honored for creating the Legislative Fellows Program, a flagship internship began in 1982 that links the research needs of the state legislature with University of Delaware students, who work directly with legislators on complex public policy issues.

Among the hundreds of students who have participated in this 30-year-old program, as well as other IPA programs, are many who have gone on to distinguish themselves in elected or appointed office in federal, state, and local governments and in the private sector.

In attendance were many of the current Legislative Fellows, several of Lewis’s colleagues from IPA and the School of Public Policy & Administration, and College of Arts & Sciences Dean George Watson.

Lewis was recognized for 40 years of public service by both the Delaware House and Senate in 2009. In 2004 he was one of the first two recipients of the Ratledge Family Award for Delaware Public Service, which recognizes the contributions of UD community members who exemplify excellence in public service to Delaware’s citizens. In 1998 he received the National Association of School of Public Affairs & Administration’s Elmer B. Staats Public Service Career Award. This award recognizes faculty who inspire students to pursue public service careers and encourage student interest and participation.

Castle, who was introduced by the Delaware Chamber of Commerce’s John Taylor, was honored for his career of service to Delawareans as an elected official—as Deputy Attorney General, state legislator, Lieutenant Governor, two-term Governor, and nine-term member of the U.S. House of Representatives.

The \$100-a-plate dinner supported the Common Cause Educational Foundation.

—by Mark Deshon

photos by Mark Deshon



## Member Spotlight: Jonathan Kirch

DAPA Council member **Jonathan Kirch** encompasses most all aspects of what it's like to be a Delaware public servant. He is the Government Relations Director for the American Heart Association in Delaware and the City of Philadelphia. As a registered lobbyist, he works to help change laws and policies to benefit the health of all Delaware residents. Jonathan was also elected and served as the Chair of the Delaware Healthy Eating and Active Living Coalition, a statewide partnership of more than 200 people and 70 organizations. Some of the main projects he has worked on include successful campaigns to raise cigarette taxes and preserve funding for tobacco use-prevention programs, as well as successfully lobbying for calorie menu labeling in the City of Philadelphia's restaurants. On any given day he may be lobbying in City Hall in the morning and leading a coalition strategy meeting in the afternoon. Rarely is one day just like another, and that is why he loves his line of work.



Kirch grew up in the Pike Creek area of New Castle County. He graduated from Christiana High School in 2001 and went on to earn a bachelor's degree in Leadership and Consumer Economics from the University of Delaware. He then completed his Master of Public Administration degree from at University of Delaware, concentrating in Organizational Leadership. Jonathan's first job was helping out his dad at their family-owned auto parts business in Penns Grove, N.J. Throughout high school and college, Jonathan worked on call floors at two major credit card companies and also worked a summer at JP Morgan Chase.

During graduate school, the Legislative Fellows Program was transformative and helped him find his calling. While working as a Legislative Fellow, he was inspired to become a lobbyist. He was given the opportunity to try his hand at actually assuming the role of a lobbyist during his final year at Delaware. Jonathan admits that he has always been interested in politics. "This was the primary topic of conversation at [our] dinner table growing up," Kirch says. "My dad participated in local party politics, and I tagged along."

Since taking his current position, Kirch's proudest accomplishments include working on restaurant calorie labeling, because in doing so he was able to become an issue expert for his organization. His participation in this policy area extended from the local level in Philadelphia to leading a state-level campaign in Delaware, all the way to Capitol Hill. He says he was counting votes and lobbying City Council members in the Caucus Room just minutes before urging the sponsor to call the vote that resulted in Philadelphia becoming one of the first places in the country to make calorie labeling the law.

Kirch also participated in the negotiations and writing of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. He participated in discussions with the national lobbyists and Senate negotiators on this issue, the results of which were ultimately incorporated into the law passed by Congress in 2010. He has also helped lead a small team of advocates in Delaware to introduce and advance a calorie-labeling bill in the Delaware General Assembly but ultimately abandoned the effort, as it had become redundant after Congress passed its law. He says that it was very exciting to be involved at so many levels on an issue that ultimately has the potential to be very helpful to people across the country. For Kirch, to know that he helped make that change happen is very satisfying.

—by Corinne O'Connor

photo courtesy of Jonathan Kirch

## UD School of Public Policy & Administration Alumni Event and Scholarship Fundraiser

The evening of Wednesday, March 23, was wet and stormy, but inside Catherine Rooney's on Main Street in Newark a spectacular event was just beginning. University of Delaware's newly named School of Public Policy & Administration (SPPA) held an alumni event to celebrate the school's 50th anniversary, as well as raise much needed money for the SPPA Scholarship Fund.

A planning committee, which included several DAPA members, spent months preparing to create a unique, successful event. The committee decided to hold the event in Newark to bring alumni home to the University and the School. The decision was made to provide a variety of ways to raise money at the event in order to help exceptional students in this time of economic hardship. There were 28 items collected for a silent and live auction, as well as 19 items up for raffle and a 50/50 drawing. Forty-four generous sponsors donated items for the auctions and raffles. The big-ticket items were auctioned off live, which included lunch at the Capitol Building in Washington, D.C., with Delaware's U.S. Senators Chris Coons and Tom Carper as well as Congressman John Carney. Other items auctioned off included everything from Phillies tickets to a private concert at one's home with Danilo Yanich (SPPA associate professor and guitarist with the band Sviraj), to a basket of homemade wine donated by the Coons family. The raffle items mainly included gift certificates to many Main Street and Newark area businesses.



Catherine Rooney's generously donated its entire second floor for the event, including an endless amount of appetizers and finger foods. The beautiful upstairs was packed with over 120 alumni and SPPA staff and faculty, who were excited to celebrate the school and its students—past and present. After the first of four musical acts played, opening remarks were given by School Director and DAPA member Dr. **Maria Aristigueta** and Dr. George Watson, Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences. This was followed by a current

student's perspective, given by DAPA member **Corinne O'Connor**, on how important the scholarship fund is to SPPA students and how much it is appreciated when the school's alumni community gives back to students who are following in their footsteps. Then a special Alumni Recognition award was given to Nemours Health and Prevention Services' Gwen Angalet, who is also the past-president of the Alumni Board. Welcome remarks were then concluded by Mike Doherty, President of the Alumni Association.



Just after 7:15 p.m., the live auction began, and the crowd went wild. The most suspenseful of the live auction items was when a group of MPA students engaged in a bidding war against Dr. Dan Rich, University Professor of Public Policy, for a week stay at the Bethany Beach vacation home donated by DAPA Council member **Jonathan Kirch**. Dr. Rich won the week's stay in Bethany. For the rest of the night, items were auctioned off live, raffle and silent-auction winners were announced, and one lucky attendee won more than \$100 in the 50/50 drawing.

The following day, SPPA's Al Frankel announced that the school had blown its goal of \$5,000 out of the water! When he finished counting all that had been given to the Scholarship Fund, it totaled just under \$10,000. Those who attended the event are still taking about how much fun they had and how they cannot wait for next year's Alumni Event and Scholarship Fundraiser.

—by Corinne O'Connor

photos by Kevin Quinlan, courtesy of the University of Delaware



## Bike-to-Work Celebration in Newark



On Friday, May 20, at 7:30 a.m. the rain gave way long enough to bring together more than 20 cyclists to celebrate a National Bike-to-Work Day event organized by the Newark Bicycle Committee and hosted by the University of Delaware Cycling Club on the Trabant Center patio. Each year in May nationwide, Bike-to-Work Day is part of National Bike Month.

University of Delaware provost Tom Apple greeted everyone on behalf of the University. "To see the benefits of cycling,

one just has to look at the crowd here today," Apple said. "Everyone here is very fit! Overall, I hope that we can get more energy and focus on making this whole area more bike-friendly. It is my hope that we can convince our politicians to make all of our roads more bike-friendly."

Delaware's then-Acting Secretary of Transportation Cleon L. Cauley, Jr., addressed the participants by assuring them that "DelDOT is committed to continuing our efforts to make Delaware more bicycle-friendly."

Cauley explained why alternative transportation is an important aspect of Delaware's transportation system. "First, we do it to save lives," Cauley said. "Last year, there were 158 car-bicycle accidents, 90 of which were in New Castle County. Three of those crashes were fatal. Twenty-one percent of those crashes involved children younger than 15 years old. Ninety-six percent of bike-car accidents result in an injury. Most of us can remember at least one news story within the past year of a person on a bike who was struck by a car and killed." Having cited these statistics, Cauley added, "Like most of you, I find those numbers unacceptable."



Cauley drew applause for DelDOT's efforts on behalf of bicyclists.

Newark Mayor Vance A. Funk III spoke of the recent "go-ahead" on plans for the Pomeroy Trail in Newark. "This is a very exciting week for us," he said. "For four years, we've been working on the Pomeroy Trail. The trail came about because Senator Thomas Carper gave us more than \$5 million to build it. Finally this week, we're sending out the bid package," Mayor Funk said. "Hopefully, we will award the contract in late June and we will finally see it built."

The Pomeroy Trail is a planned bike/pedestrian right of way that will be built on the abandoned rail bed of the Pomeroy Rail Line. This is significant for the University of Delaware community because the two-mile-long

Pomeroy Trail will connect the popular Hall Trail near South Chapel Street to White Clay Creek State Park north of Newark.



Despite the damp conditions, the Bike-to-Work Day event was deemed a success by Newark Bicycle Committee chair Jeff Riegner.

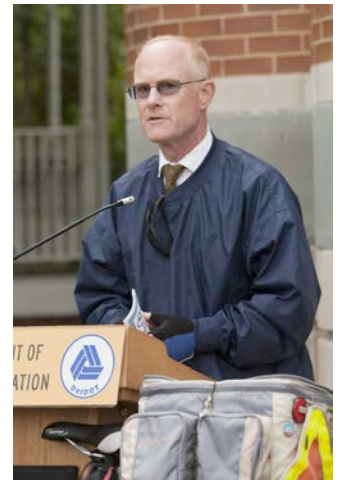
“The Newark Bicycle Committee was thrilled to see such great turnout,” said Riegner. “As word spreads about the convenience of cycling in Newark and the benefits it can have for one’s health, the environment, and the community, this event is poised to really take off. Newark will soon be ready to take the next step to ‘Bicycle Friendly Community’ silver certification,” he added.

In 2010 the League of American Bicyclists honored Newark as a bronze-level “Bicycle Friendly Community,” the first community in Delaware to be so honored. “We [on the Newark Bicycle Committee] hope to build on this success and improve bicycling in this city even more,” said DAPA member **Mark Deshon**, who coordinated the event on behalf of the Newark Bicycle Committee with assistance from the University of Delaware Cycling Club.

“It had been a number of years since this event had taken place in Newark, and we’re looking for an even better turnout next year,” Deshon says.

Deshon hopes that more people consider the benefits of getting to work by bicycle. “I’ve been at UD for more than 30 years now, and I love being able to bike to work. It’s a great way to get myself going in the morning,” he says, “not to mention the monetary savings, the health benefits, and reduction of my own carbon footprint.”

The event featured free T-shirts supplied by DelDOT as well as coffee, juice, and food items donated by Main Street–area merchants. University of Delaware Public Safety officers and city of Newark police officers worked together to provide traffic safety for the event.



Bike-to-Work Day event partners included UD, DelDOT, the Wilmington Area Planning Council (WILMAPCO), and the City of Newark. Several downtown area merchants, including the local bicycle shops, contributed as event sponsors.

The Newark Bicycle Committee is a partnership of interested cyclists and agencies working to improve bicycling in Newark, Del. The Committee provides ongoing advice and support to the City of Newark and the Delaware Department of Transportation.

Recognizing the realities of coexisting with cars on the road, Deshon adds, “Don’t forget to wear your helmet!”

—by Mark Deshon

photos by Ambre Alexander, courtesy of the University of Delaware