

Spring 2016

Hi, MPA alumni and friends. The

busy for MPA students and alumni in terms of graduation, new jobs and awards. (This photo features some of our newest alumni at the Fall commencement.) We are sharing what we know about alumni in

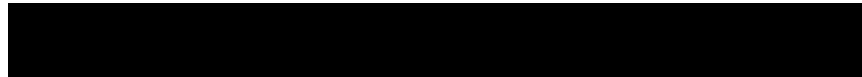
## What's Happening in the MPA Program?

### **New MPA Diversity Scholarship**

The NKU MPA program has a new Diversity Scholarship, which is designed for students with a demonstrated commitment to enhancing the understanding and appreciation of diverse populations. The program plans to award the first scholarship of \$1,000 in Fall 2016.

Applicants must be new MPA students who have been fully admitted (not conditionally or provisionally) and write an essay detailing activities in which they will engage to promote diversity on campus and/or in the broader community. Preference will be given to students from underrepresented populations in the MPA program.

For more information on applying for the scholarship or contributing to it, please contact Dr. Julie Olberding, MPA Director, at [olberdingj@nku.edu](mailto:olberdingj@nku.edu).



MPA students have a new



the Distinguished MPA Alumnus/nae Award by sending a message to Dr. Julie Olberding at [olberdingj@nku.edu](mailto:olberdingj@nku.edu).

As has been the tradition for the past few years, the alumni award winner will be the guest speaker at the Spring Banquet. Recent winners have included: Larry Klein, City Manager of Covington; Jane Keller, CEO of Cincinnati Youth Collaborative; and Wade Williams, Senior Vice President for Business Retention and Expansion at the Northern Kentucky Tri-County Economic Development Corporation (Tri-ED).

The annual MPA/ASPA dinner took place on Tuesday, February 23. Eric Avner, CEO of People's Liberty, talked about this five-year initiative that grants funding to individuals who have "big ideas" to transform the region. This approach of granting funds to individuals, or social entrepreneurs, is in contrast to the traditional approach by most foundations of granting funds to nonprofit organizations.



A flagship program of People's Liberty is the Haile Fellowship, which is a \$100,000 grant awarded to two individuals each year who have identified major challenges in the region and potential strategies for addressing them. The fellows also receive 12 months of space at People's Liberty, which is located in the historic Globe Furniture building near Findlay Market in Over-the-Rhine, as well as assistance with marketing and outreach.

The dinner was co-hosted by the NKU MPA program and the Greater Cincinnati Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA), which is the largest professional association for managers in public and nonprofit organizations.

## **Fall Reception speaker focused on sexual orientation in public environments**

About 50 MPA students, alumni and faculty attended the MPA Fall Reception on October 22. They networked, socialized and heard from Bonnie Meyer, Director of NKU's LGBTQ Programs and Services.

NKU was the first university in Kentucky to create an LGBTQ office to increase awareness of and advocacy for students, staff and faculty. Bonnie shared her experiences as the first director in developing policies, programs and services. In addition, she discussed recent events related to sexual orientation in our broader society,



**Tom Jacobs helps acquire \$10,000 grant for bicycle and pedestrian safety**

During the Fall 2015 semester, Tom Jacobs (MPA 2015) worked with Planning and Development

Patty Poor (MPA 2010) is now a Cancer Control Specialist for the Kentucky Cancer Program (KCP), which is managed by the Markey Cancer Center / University of Kentucky. Drew Tilow (MPA 2011) started as a Management Analyst in the City of Cincinnati's Office of