



# Michigan Political Leadership Program ALUMNI HERALD

NEWS FROM THE MPLP ASSOCIATION OF FELLOWS

SUMMER 2000

## Annual Fundraiser Nets Over \$100,000

On February 10, nearly 700 people attended the Michigan Political Leadership Program's Fifth Annual Fundraising Dinner at the Laurel Manor in Livonia. The fundraising event earned just over \$100,000 in pledges and in-kind support.

The program featured President Clinton's former Chief of Staff Leon Panetta and former Republican National Committee Chairman Haley Barbour as guest speakers. The emcee for the evening was NBC News *Dateline* Correspondent Chris Hansen.

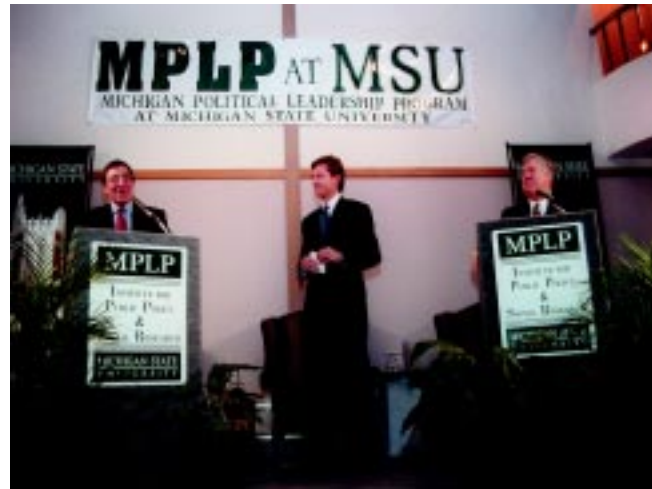
Hansen is a Michigan State University graduate and he began the night by focusing on the contribution Michigan State University makes in sponsoring the Michigan Political Leadership Program.

"The MPLP is a wonderful program which is trying to fill a niche due to term limits in Michigan and I am glad to be here tonight to talk about the program and wish the Spartans well," Hansen said. Hansen introduced MSU President M. Peter McPherson who gave some brief comments before turning things over to Panetta and Barbour. President McPherson recognized the hard work of many people including the MSU College of Social Science Acting Dean Philip R. Smith.

"I want to say I met Haley Barbour back in 1976 when I worked for President Ford and I have known Leon Panetta a long time as well," McPherson said. "This is quite an accomplishment tonight for the MPLP to hold their fifth annual dinner and it is so wonderful that we have two fine speakers and all of you here. I commend Dean Smith and his staff for putting on such a fine dinner."

Panetta and Barbour each spoke for about 20 minutes and then Hansen moderated a "Question and Answer" session between the audience and speakers. Both Panetta and Barbour stressed the same theme – getting involved in the political process.

"This upcoming election is important and not only because it's the start of the new millennium," Barbour said. "It's important because the new president and the Congress will decide how this country is taxed, how our health care needs will be handled and because as many as three United States Supreme Court Justices will be named in the next term."



*MPLP Dinner Speakers Leon Panetta and Haley Barbour  
with Moderator Chris Hansen*

"Every 20 years we have an election that changes the way our country is governed in such a unique way – going back to 1940, 1960 with John F. Kennedy and even in 1980 with Ronald Reagan – this year will be a real watershed election year," Barbour said.

Panetta stressed the importance of getting your neighbors and friends involved. "All of the people here tonight are committed to public service but it is our job to get someone else involved and aware of our political public service needs," Panetta said. "Talk to your friends, relatives or even your co-workers and let them know what is going on because their participation or lack of it will affect this country in either a positive way or a negative way."

Michigan Government Television (MGTV) taped and later aired the Fifth Annual MPLP Fundraising Dinner.

The MPLP Advisory Board Finance Committee along with the Alumni Steering Committee is presently working on the details for next February's annual fundraising dinner. If you have any ideas for speakers, you are asked to contact the MPLP office. The phone number is 517/355-6672 ext. 116.

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## Applications Are Available for 2001 Fellowships

We need your help in identifying potential candidates for the Michigan Political Leadership Program's 2001 Class.

MPLP alumni and others received applications in June to distribute to individuals who they feel would make good candidates for 2001 fellowships. Our strongest appeal in candidate recruiting is letting you select co-workers, colleagues and other people in your professional networks to discuss why the MPLP would be beneficial to other people. You are our strongest marketing and promotional spokespersons because you have gone through this program and are readily available to answer potential candidate's questions.

Applications and letters of recommendation will be accepted until **September 11, 2000**. If you need additional applications you may obtain them from the MPLP web site at [www.ippsr.msu.edu/policy/mplp](http://www.ippsr.msu.edu/policy/mplp) or by contacting the MPLP office at 517/355-6672.

## MPLP Web Site Redesign

Recently, the IPPSR department hired a full-time graphic designer who will assist in the redesign of the look and feel for the MPLP Web Page. MPLP alumni Dawn Dayton '98 and Scott Ray '99 have met and are discussing ways to help improve the web site. One of the future goals is to enhance the current link on the MSU IPPSR web page to the MPLP web site and to add a standard scroll bar for people wanting to access the site and receive more information about the MPLP.

We welcome your ideas. The web address is [www.ippsr.msu.edu/policy/mplp](http://www.ippsr.msu.edu/policy/mplp).

## '99 Class Reunion

On May 12 members of the 1999 class gathered for a enjoyable evening of catching up and reminiscing. The reunion began with an evening reception and then dinner. Later the group retreated to old MPLP hospitality traditions.

A special thanks goes out to Nannette Bowler and Bruce Rasher for planning and coordinating the event.

The '99 class is making plans to get together again next year around the same time, possibly at Higgins Lake.

## Elections 101: Getting Ready to Run – “The Successful Sequel”

On September 28, 1999, the Association of MPLP Fellows held its first seminar entitled: *Elections 101: Getting Ready to Run*. The day long event held at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing was designed to assist those who were either planning on running or considering a run for elective office in the near future. The seminar was attended by more than 70 people from across the state. In addition, the glowing comments received from the seminar's evaluation forms were enough for the decision to be made to put together another campaign seminar.

On Monday, May 1, the second seminar was held at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing with 62 different attendees coming together to learn about: Understanding Campaign Finance Requirements, Developing Your Campaign Plan, Financing Your Campaign, Knowing Your District, and Getting Your Message Out. The seminar speakers ranged from political pollsters, campaign finance specialists, media persons and fundraising experts.

MPLP Alumni Steering Committee Chair Rick Bernhardt summed up the purpose for putting on these kinds of seminars, “The main purpose is to help demystify the daunting task of running for office,” Bernhardt said. “There are a lot of good people out there who are intimidated by the prospect of putting a campaign together and this seminar breaks down everything into incremental steps so the task isn't so hard to imagine.”

The Alumni Steering Committee wishes to thank all of those who volunteered to make this event a success including all of the speakers, MPLP staff and the planning committee, Rick Bernhardt, Barb Knuth, David Lossing, Scott Ray, and Bill Zaagman.

VISIT THE MPLP WEBSITE AT  
[HTTP://WWW.IPPSR.MSU.EDU/POLICY/MPLP](http://www.ippsr.msu.edu/policy/mplp)

## Alumni Update

We would be happy to share your good news with your fellow alumni in the next newsletter. Let us know if you are running for office, re-election, or of any job changes. Forward your updates to Shannon Horvath at the MPLP office by e-mail at [Shannon.Horvath@ssc.msu.edu](mailto:Shannon.Horvath@ssc.msu.edu) or by phone at 517/355-6672.

Congratulations and good luck!

**Doug Adams '97** - Working as Assistant Vice President of Business and Development Services for Comerica Business Banking Center in Southgate.

**Vance Bates '99** - Running for re-election as Sheriff of Benzie County. His web address is <http://www.batesforsheriff.org>.

**Rick Bernhardt '95** - Running for Treasurer of Kinross Township.

**Nannette Bowler '99** - Running for Kent County Probate Court Judge. Her web address is <http://www.bowler2000.com>.

**Regina Bell '99** - Accepted a position in Ameritech's Lansing Government Relations office.

**Barbara Bradford '96** - Coordinating a campaign for Dan Titterness for Jefferson County Commission in Washington state.

**Mike Brady '96** - Running for 3<sup>rd</sup> term as Brady Township Trustee.

**Marlene Chockley F'93** - Running on the Republican ticket for Supervisor of Pittsfield Charter Township. Currently serves as a Washtenaw County Commissioner.

**Robert Coughlin '98** - Running for Kent County Commissioner.

**Dawn Dayton '98** - Accepted the position of Manager of Government Affairs and Community Relations with the American Society of Employers.

**Rev. Robert Dean F'94** - Elected to the Grand Rapids City Commission, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward.

**Craig DeRoche F'92** - Currently serving as the Oakland County Republican Party Campaign Chairman for all general elections.

**Gary Giguere F'94** - President-elect of the Kalamazoo County Bar Association.

**Pan Godchaux S'93** - Running for 3<sup>rd</sup> term to the Michigan House of Representatives, District 40.

**Barbara Goushaw '98** - Serving as the Michigan Chairperson in the Harry Browne for President campaign. Was the keynote speaker at the Libertarian Party National Convention.

**Kenneth Horn F'93** - Serving as Saginaw County Commissioner, District 4.

**Mike Hubert '99** - Accepted the position of Assistant Superintendent of Business Operations with the Waverly Public Schools. He is a current participant in the Michigan Chamber of Commerce's *Leadership Michigan* program.

**David Jaroch S'93** - Running for Sheriff in Huron County.

**Doug Jones F'94** - Running for re-election as Supervisor of Grosse Isle Township.

**Julie Knight '98** - Running for re-election as Treasurer of Dexter Township.

**Alicia Kolar '99** - Accepted a position in the scheduling office of Secretary Andrew Cuomo at the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

**Wayne Kuipers '96** - Running for 2<sup>nd</sup> term to the Michigan House of Representatives, District 90.

**James LaVallee F'93** - Working as Supervisor in the Information Technology Management Department for Daimler Chrysler Corporation. Appointed to the Holly Academy Board of Directors, a CMU Chartered Elementary School in Holly, Michigan. Currently Serving as Board Treasurer.

**Dr. Mary Beth Leininger '98** - Accepted a position as the Director of Professional Affairs for Hill's Pet Nutrition in Topeka, Kansas.

**David Lossing F'94** - Accepted the position of Associate Director of State Outreach with the Office of the Vice President for Government Relations at the University of Michigan.

**Deborah Macon F'93** - Running for 2<sup>nd</sup> term as West Bloomfield Township Trustee.

**Katherine Maggi '99** - Accepted the position of Executive Director of Judge Michael Martone's *Courageous Decisions* program, an award winning alcohol and drug intervention program.

**Del Martin '98** - Running for re-election as Fabius Township Supervisor.

**Marion Miele '95** - Accepted the position of Technology Services Technical Writer with the Oakland School District.

**Rusty Merchant '96** - Accepted the position of Vice President of Government and Community Affairs with the Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce.

**Mike Michniak '99** - Re-elected to the Chippewa Valley School Board receiving the most votes in the district.

**Joel Morales '99** - Accepted the position of Manager for Labor Ready, a Holland employment service specializing in general labor.

**John Moralez '98** - Recently named on-air host of Michigan Public Television's *Michigan At Risk*, a statewide public affairs program, and WKAR's *One on One*, a public affairs interview program.

**Scott Ray '99** - Running for Bath Township Trustee.

**Melissa O'Rear '99** - Working as a Field Representative for Congressman Joe Knollenberg.

**Deb Panozzo '97** - Running for 3<sup>rd</sup> term as Berrrien County Commissioner.

**Dwayne Parker '98** - Recently appointed to fill the position of Township Supervisor for Buena Vista Township. Also currently serves as a township Trustee and is running for election as Supervisor.

## Alumni Update (cont.)

**Aaron Payment** F'92 - Running for 2<sup>nd</sup> term on the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Tribal Council.

**Mary Pitcher** '96 - Running for 3<sup>rd</sup> term as Benzie County Commissioner. Currently serving as Commission Chair.

**Amanda Price** S'93 - Running for Park Township Trustee in Ottawa County. Serving as Vice-Chair of the Ottawa County Republican Party.

**Robert Randall** '96 - Running for 3<sup>rd</sup> term as Township Supervisor of Three Oaks.

**Deborah Robertson** '98 - Named Minority Small Business Advocate of the Year by the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce.

**Marc Shulman** F'94 - Running for 2<sup>nd</sup> term to the Michigan House of Representatives, District 39.

**Jacque Steingold** S'93 - President of the Michigan Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers. Also accepted the position of supervisor at the Children's Aid Society.

**Roger Swaim** S'94 - Running for 3<sup>rd</sup> term as Grand Blanc Township Trustee. Serving as the legislative liaison for the Michigan Elementary and Middle School Principals Association.

**Jennie Sweet** '98 - Accepted the position of Communications Specialist with the United States Council for Automotive Research (USCAR) in Southfield.

**Andrew Wardach** F'94 - Running for re-election as Supervisor of Brighton Township.

**Ed Wyszynski** '96 - Elected Mayor of Grand Ledge.



## Calendar Of Events

**August 18-19, 2000** - Weekend VII - Kellogg Center, East Lansing -- *Politics and Media*

**September 11, 2000** - 2001 Fellowship Application Deadline

**September 15-16, 2000** - Weekend VIII - Kellogg Center, East Lansing -- *How We Create Change*

**October 20-21, 2000** - Weekend IX - Ashman Court Hotel, Midland -- *Translating Knowledge Into Action*

**November 17-18, 2000** - Weekend X - Sheraton Hotel, Lansing -- *Effective Governance*

### NEWSLETTER FOR MPLP ALUMNI

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Please help us keep the MPLP alumni database up-to-date. Notify us of any address, phone or e-mail changes. Forward your corrections to MPLP by e-mail at [Shannon.Horvath@ssc.msu.edu](mailto:Shannon.Horvath@ssc.msu.edu) or call 517/355-6672. Thank you for your assistance.

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### MPLP Alumni Steering Committee

Chair: Richard Bernhardt, 1995  
Karen Brantley, Fall 1992  
Dawn Dayton, 1998  
Bill Evans, Fall 1993  
Pan Godchaux, Spring 1993  
Gary Heidel, Spring 1993  
Mark Howe, 1998  
Jeffrey Hunt, Spring 1994  
Barbara Knuth, Fall 1994  
David Lossing, Fall 1994  
Tonya March, Spring 1994  
Elizabeth Misuraca, 1995  
John Moralez, 1998  
Scott Ray, 1999  
James Ribbron, Spring 1994  
Susan A. Safford, Fall 1993  
Andrew F. Wardach, Fall 1994  
David J. Yardley, Fall 1992  
William Zaagman, 1996