



Michigan Political Leadership Program Alumni Herald

News from the MPLP Association of Fellows

Winter 2001

Mervenne Resigns as Co-Director

At the November 16, 2000, MPLP Advisory Board Meeting, Anne Mervenne regretfully tendered her resignation as MPLP Co-director. Anne stated that in the new year she would have more responsibility and be traveling more with the Governor, who will be serving as chair of the National Governor's Association. With the added responsibilities she felt that she would not have adequate time needed to dedicate to MPLP. She will serve as co-director through the February fundraising dinner.

A sub-committee appointed by the Advisory Board is conducting the search process and will soon make their recommendation to the University for final approval.

The goal of the committee is to have Anne's successor on board prior to the first weekend for the 2001 Class, which will meet on February 16-17. The search committee includes Board Chair Noreen Myers, Chair-elect Patrick Laughlin, Nancy McKeague, Sam Singh, and University Officials Carol Weissert and Steve Webster. The announcement of the new co-director will be made at the fundraising dinner on February 22.

Anne's investment in MPLP has been impressive and substantial. She has generously and effectively shared her experience with successive classes of fellows and shared her skills in building a stronger organization of support for the MPLP. We are sorry to see Anne go and thank her for her time, dedication, and commitment to help strengthen political leadership in Michigan.



Bradley and Kemp Headline Sixth Annual MPLP Fundraiser

It's that time of the year again!

Two nationally known political figures will headline the Sixth Annual Michigan Political Leadership Program Fundraising Dinner at the Laurel Manor in Livonia. Former Democratic United States Senator Bill Bradley and former GOP Vice Presidential nominee Jack Kemp will serve as the guest speakers at this year's MPLP Fundraising Dinner to be held on Thursday, February 22. WJR Radio's Paul W. Smith will serve as the dinner's emcee and moderator.

Both guest speakers ran for national office. Former New Jersey Senator Bradley waged an honorable campaign against Vice President Al Gore for the 2000 Democratic Party presidential nomination. Jack Kemp served as the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development before joining former Kansas Senator Robert Dole as his vice presidential running mate during the 1996 election.

"It's exciting to have two guest speakers with such well known political backgrounds, sharing their thoughts and their experiences for our fundraising dinner," MPLP Co-director Lynn Jondahl said.

"Each year the MPLP Dinner keeps growing and we are attracting high-profile guest speakers which bring us even more attention and stature. We think this year's dinner will be our best effort yet."

The reception for this year's fundraising dinner at the Laurel Manor begins at 5:30 p.m. and the dinner program will start at 6:30 p.m.

"We hope to have the highest number of dinner attendees this year and we want to especially invite all of the former MPLP graduates to celebrate with us on this special occasion," MPLP Alumni Association leader Gary Heidel said. "This is our annual fundraising dinner, but more importantly, we are all going to have a great time and this night will be based around the idea of having fun."

Whatever your party or political philosophy, Thursday, February 22 is a special night to join your friends and to have some fun at the Sixth Annual Michigan Political Leadership Program Fundraising Dinner.

Individual MPLP Dinner tickets are \$100 each and the table price is \$1,000 (tables of 10). For more information about this year's dinner and sponsorships, please contact the MPLP office at (517) 355-6672.

We'll see you there!

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Introducing the 2001 Class

Elizabeth Agius, Dearborn Heights: Elizabeth works in the Wayne State University School of Medicine conducting research and evaluation. She is a member of the Dearborn Heights City Council and a volunteer with Volunteer Impact.

Maria Alfaro-Lopez, Detroit: Maria is the Principal Attorney for Wayne County. She is a Project Manager for the Wayne County Abandoned Properties Project and a member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Organizing Strategy Enabling Strength (M.O.S.E.S) project.

Bryan Barnett, Rochester Hills: Bryan is the Engineered Wood Products Director for Michigan Timber and Truss. He is Vice President of the Rochester Hills City Council and Chairman of the Community Development and Viability Committee.

Kevin Beard, East Lansing: Kevin is the UAW Training Representative at General Motors Car Assembly in Lansing. He is also the UAW Representative to the Lansing Manufacturing Partnership and Chairperson of the East Lansing Planning Commission.

Sharalyn Davis, Climax: Sharalyn is a Creative Arts Therapist at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center. She is a Board Member with the Climax-Scotts Board of Education and a project leader with the Kalamazoo County 4-H Program.

Lawrence Dudley, Pontiac: Lawrence is a deputy with the Oakland County Sheriff's Department, as well as a Call Center Agent at MSX International. He is a former trustee of the Pontiac School Board.

Karl Hascall, Ada: Karl is the President/Owner of Steel Stud Systems and Vice President/Owner of Hascall Steel Company. He is Secretary of the Kent County Republican Committee and a Board Member of the Grand Rapids Youth Commonwealth.

Yolanda Haynes, Southfield: Yolanda is self-employed and works with the H.E.A.R.T. Homeschool Network Support Group. She is on the Advisory Board of African American Parent Magazine, and is Historian of the Birmingham Women's Republican Club.

Jeffery Jenks, Huntington Woods: Jeff is the Owner/Manager of Travel Is Fun and is as a Commissioner for the City of Huntington Woods. He is also President of the Caribbean Tourism Organization of Greater Detroit and the Southeast Michigan Returned Peace Corps Volunteers.

Todd Kaminski, Marshall: Todd is a Training Facilitator with Eaton Corporation and serves in the United States Marine Corps Reserve as a Peacetime/Wartime Support Team Officer. He also volunteers on the Battle Creek Chamber of Commerce Policy-making Committee and serves as Vice-chairman of the Calhoun County Local Emergency Planning Committee.

Mary Kerwin, Troy: Mary is an English teacher with the ABC Unified School District and serves as President of the Troy Board of Education. She is a member of the League of Women Voters and the Women Officials' Network.

Judith Lincoln, Saginaw: Judith is a lawyer with Braun Kendrick Finkbeiner P.L.C. in Saginaw. She is Vice President of the Saginaw Township Board of Education and Chairperson of the First Ward Community Center Board of Directors.

Lynn Mason, Belding: Lynn is a teacher with Belding Area Schools. She serves as President of the Belding Education Association and is a State Board Member of the Michigan Education Association.

Rosemary Netwig, Oscoda: Rosemary is a self-employed realtor. She is Vice Chair of the Tawas St. Joseph Health System and Trustee and Past President of the Oscoda Chamber of Commerce.

Anne Nichols, Flint: Anne is retired from a career which includes time as a Managing Principal at MBA International and President/Owner of Olsten Staffing Services of Flint. Today, she serves as Vice President of the Flint Board of Education and President of the Flint YWCA.

Nancy Patera, Lake Odessa: Nancy works as an Appointments Manager for Governor John Engler. She is Chairperson of the Ionia County Republic Committee, a Board Member for the Ionia County Community Foundation, and a member of the Ionia County Planning Commission.

Kenneth Ross, DeWitt: Ken serves as Assistant Attorney General in the Tort Defense Division of the Michigan Attorney General's Office. He is a Board Member of the Friends of Durant Park and the DeWitt Parks & Recreation Board.

Brian Scoles, Midland: Brian works in constituent relations for Congressman Dave Camp. He recently served as a campaign coordinator for the Dorene Allen for Probate Judge campaign.

Douglas Skrzyniarz, St. Clair Shores: Doug is Corporate Events Director for the American Heart Association and former Legislative Director of the New York State Senate. He also serves on the Steering Committee of the New Generation Leaders Conference.

Sharon Solomon, Grand Ledge: Sharon is President of Catholic Social Services of Lansing and the St. Vincent Home, Inc. She is a member of the Board of Directors of the Catholic Charities of Michigan and a Lead Partner for the Capital Area United Way.

Kurt Soper, Davison: Kurt is the Davison Township Supervisor, having recently retired from the Flint Board of Education. He serves on several local government commissions and is President of the Davison Area Environmental Team.

Visit the MPLP website at
<http://www.ippsr.msu.edu/policy/mplp>

2001 Fellows (cont.)

Juliann Trudell, Ypsilanti: Juliann is Field Director for the district office of Congresswoman Lynn Rivers for the Michigan Democratic Party. She also serves as Co-Chair of the Western Wayne and Washtenaw Young Democrats.

Roger Trudell, Shepherd: Roger is a Vice-President with Firstbank. He is a former President of the Shepherd Chamber of Commerce and a founding member of the Shepherd Area Foundation. He is presently a member of the Isabella County Planning Commission and the Mt. Pleasant Area Chamber Legislative Committee.

Joshua West, Royal Oak: Josh is currently attending Wayne State University Law School while also working as a sales manager for the Tandy Corporation. He is a member of the Wayne State Law School Board of Governors and serves as a GOP Precinct Delegate.

Leadership Michigan Accepting Applications

Leadership Michigan, a program of the Michigan Chamber Foundation, is seeking applications from exceptional individuals who would like to take their leadership experience one step further and discover opportunities with leaders from across the state.

Leadership Michigan is a traveling program that meets once a month from April through December tackling a different issue in each city. Participation provides diverse networking beyond company and community boundaries, personal and professional leadership opportunities, and a hands-on view of the critical issues facing the state.

Applications are being accepted through February 28th. For more information or to receive an application, contact Susan Combs, Executive Director of Leadership Michigan at 1-800-748-0266 or visit their Web site at www.michamber.com.

Leadership Continuing Education

2001 Elections 101: Getting Ready To Run

The MPLP Alumni Steering Committee is sponsoring another edition of the popular campaign training seminar - Elections 101: Getting Ready To Run. On Tuesday, April 24, at the Holiday Inn-South in Lansing, seminar attendees will have the opportunity to learn the basic nuts and bolts of campaign training from various experts.

Some of the topics that will be covered are: understanding finance requirements, campaign plan development, fundraising, and getting your message out.

The seminar runs from 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. and the cost is \$75 per person. The fee includes a campaign reference binder, lunch and parking. The seminar is open to anyone interested in being a political candidate, campaign manager, volunteer coordinator, or just has a love for politics and public service. The seminar has been well attended in the past and we hope you will attend this year. Contact the MPLP office for more information at (517) 355-6672.

MPLP Introduces New Campaign Seminar - Elections 201: Technology in Campaigning

On Thursday, May 24 at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing, the MPLP Alumni Steering Committee will introduce Elections 201: Technology in Campaigning. This brand new seminar will focus on ways to run political campaigns and learn new campaign techniques by using computer based resources. The seminar will highlight: why to use the web, designing a web site, message development, voter identification, and how to better utilize resources like campaign finance software.

"Elections 101 has been quite a success, but we feel Elections 201 will bring a whole new dimension to the kind of quality campaign training programming we have the ability to show the general public," Association of MPLP Fellows Education Committee Chair Barb Knuth said. "The Internet and the home personal computer boom has changed the way political campaigns are being run in this day and age and we are on the cusp of the new curve, by offering this program to all interested parties."

The seminar will run from 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. and the cost is \$75 per person, which includes reference materials, lunch and parking. Contact the MPLP office for more information at (517) 355-6672.

WKAR TV Program To Highlight MPLP Fundraising Dinner

Another added bonus in attending this year's Sixth Annual MPLP Fundraising Dinner is the possibility of seeing yourself or one of your friends on TV!!

WKAR-TV (East Lansing) is planning to focus on this year's MPLP Dinner by featuring highlights from the evening and showing TV interviews with some dinner attendees. WKAR-TV's *One on One with John Morales* television program will also feature "one on one" interviews with guest speakers, Bill Bradley and Jack Kemp.

The one-hour television program will air on WKAR-TV on Monday, March 19 at 10 p.m. The program will focus on the importance of public service and will be taped on location on the night of this year's MPLP fundraising dinner. The TV program's on-air host, John Morales, is a 1998 MPLP graduate. Please tune in and look for yourself on TV Monday, March 19.



Calendar Of Events

February 16-17, 2001 - Weekend I - Holiday Inn-South, Lansing -- *Defining Ourselves and Our Work*

February 22, 2001 - Sixth Annual Fundraising Dinner -- Laurel Manor, Livonia

March 16-17, 2001 - Weekend II - Holiday Inn Gateway Centre, Flint -- *Understanding Leadership*

April 20-21, 2001 - Weekend III - MacMullan Conference Center, Higgins Lake -- *Local Government Leadership* and 2000 Class Reunion

April 24, 2001 - Elections 101: Getting Ready to Run -- Holiday Inn-South, Lansing

May 18-19, 2001 - Weekend IV - Hotel St. Regis, Detroit -- *Intergovernmental Relations, Urban Policy, and Social and Economic Development*

May 24, 2001 - Elections 201: Technology in Campaigning -- Kellogg Center, East Lansing

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 or call 517/355-6672. Thank you for your assistance.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY



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Public Policy and Social Research
College of Social Science*

MPLP Alumni Steering Committee

Chair: John Morales, 1998
Richard Bernhardt, 1995
Karen Brantley, Fall 1992
John Dally, III, 1999
Dawn Dayton, 1998
Bill Evans, Fall 1993
Pan Godechaux, Spring 1993
Gary Heidel, Spring 1993
Jeffrey Hunt, Spring 1994
Tonya Johnson, Spring 1994
Calvin Jones, 1996
Barbara Knuth, Fall 1994
David Lossing, Fall 1994
Elizabeth Misuraca, 1995
Dwayne Parker, 1998
Scott Ray, 1999
James Ribbron, Spring 1994
Susan A. Safford, Fall 1993
Michelle Walk, 2000
Andrew F. Wardach, Fall 1994
William Zaagman, 1996