

Master of Public Administration

(MPA)

* *be the change you wish to see in the world*

Annual Report

2016

TESC MPA Mission:

Our students, faculty and staff create learning communities to explore and implement socially just, democratic public service.

We:

* *think* critically and creatively
* *communicate* effectively
* *work* collaboratively
* *embrace* diversity
* *value* fairness and equity
* *advocate* powerfully on behalf of the public
* *imagine* new possibilities and accomplish positive change in our workplaces and in our communities

**Executive Summary**

The Master of Public Administration (MPA) degree program at the Evergreen State College has continued to thrive within its evening and weekend format

History

Founded in 1980, the MPA program has undergone some significant changes as it endeavored to meet the needs of its students. Initially started to provide a masters-level degree to the many state government workers living in Olympia, Washington, many government workers residing and working in Olympia, Washington. A bit more than 20 years later, in 2002, underwent a major redesign to accommodate an increasingly diversified student population which had expanded significantly beyond the state government pool to include local/regional governments, tribal governments and non-profits. Since that time, the program has graduated X cohorts and has refined its program of study to increase the flexibility and relevance of the Evergreen MPA degree. In 2014, the program underwent an external review by nationally known and respected public administration educators to ascertain whether the program was adequately providing

How are we doing since the External Review?

In looking to the future, the External Review identified several challenges and opportunities the MPA program faces as it seeks to build a dynamic and responsive program. Since the review, how have we addressed these issues?

Changes:

* leadership – director role
* staffing change to support ADs and director
* PNAP
* Online application system

Program of Study

Our Applicants

Our Students

Our Mission

Our Service

What’s Next for MPA?

The MPA Program weathered some significant challenges in 2015-16: a full-time faculty member left, a new Director stepped in, and the Program’s two largest cohorts of students graduated. Institutional changes impacted the program as well, including the welcoming of a new College President, the exiting of the Provost, and the placement of an interim Provost. Accepting and weathering change are inherent to organizations

Two new faculty fall 2016; 1 new faculty fall 2017

CRM training and implementation

Launch of a Tacoma cohort 2018-20

Develop a more robust MPA adjunct faculty pool—be more deliberate in who’s teaching for us, what’s on the horizon in the field that needs to be approached in the classroom.