**MPA 2012 New Student Orientation Evaluation Results**

**What did you like BEST?**

Faculty intro/panel 5

I enjoyed every activity

The time people invested to educate, inspire, and welcome us

Both panels—informative and helpful in getting an understanding of what I am preparing myself for in the future!

|  |
| --- |
| **What could be IMPROVED (and HOW, if you have ideas)?**More time for questions for facultyNot have the panels during dinner and lunch. Just want to talk to the new comrades at my tableAll of the information was good, but it seems like ift could be covered in less time to shorten orientationFood too tailored towards vegetarian tastesLimit talking to 45 minutes with 15 minutes of small group talking and movement would make the days feel quicker and more dynamicIt was tough having an assignment prior to orientation and the seminar or outcome of the seminar caused me some anxiety through out orientation.Vast amount of people who gave examples as to what they did with their MPA degree, some of which were new to me---maybe a packet or info sheet that gave info as to where we could explore these fields some more. |
|  |

**What was MISSING that you would have liked?**

Everything was covered

Hours during business hours to get together and make sure financial aid, et al is done correctly and ready to go

I felt it was very well planned, unfortunately I am not sure what is missing. Yet. Ask me in 2 years

**Other comments**

I would like more time to meet the colleagues in my cohort

Thank you for feeding us

Great job, very much enjoyed

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **3 Questions about You** |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Was Evergreen your first choice as a graduate school? If no, please write in your first choice. If Evergreen**  |
| **was your only choice, why was it your only choice?**UW but didn’t think it was diverse enoughEvergreen was my first choice because I loved how good an education I received here during my undergraduate studies. MPA was my first choice for a degree because I want to go into public serviceYes, Evergreen was my first and only choice due to program being the best fit for my life. The flexibility of the program solidified my decision.I looked at several schools including USC and Nowrthwester’s online MPA programs, but I decided that Evergreen would give me the best networking opportunities within my region and interests.Yes, Evergreen was my only choice. I have a friend who had gone through MPA and he told me that it was wonderful and would be a great fit for me.Evergreen was my first choice because of the cohort group and schedule relative to work and raising a family.Yes, it was due to mostly convenience and cost. |

|  |
| --- |
| **How did you first hear about the Evergreen MPA program? What circumstances or event prompted you to**  |
| **apply to the program when you did?**Searched on-line for Washington Public Affairs graduate programs—location, diverse faculty and studentsI heard about the MPA program during my junior year when I was curious about what graduate program I could do here at Evergreen. I applied when I did because I was graduating with my BA and did not want to take a break from schoolI first heard about the evergreen MPA program by checking out Evergreen’s website and learning more info about the program. Soon after I started my research, a co-worker at the time let me know of MPA program at Evergreen but I applied to the MSW program at UW-Tacoma two years in a row and was denied both times. The rejection made me realize that I didn’t want to be in social services work my entire career and wanted to be involved in something that didn’t limit opportunities. I didn’t want to give up on my goal of earning a masters degree so I applied to Evergreen MPA program..I have a friend who was going through the program at the time that I applied and he spoke very highly of the faculty and curriculumI was an Evergreen undergradI work in higher ed and have aspired to get my MPA for years. Evergreen’s MPA program appears to have relevance to my work and my ability to be a good citizen.Through government agency in which I work, they had an information meeting regarding this program. It was something I was interested in and when I went to the meeting realized I should pursue it. |

|  |
| --- |
| **Why are you pursuing an MPA (vs. a different graduate degree)?**Pursue interest in policy and law to get my career goingI am pursuing an MPA because I want to go into public service and this is the best program for that goalI am pursuing the MPA degree because I want tot be exposed to different areas of opportunities, want to grow/develop my skills & transition into more leadership roles, passions to spark change people lives and to get outside my comfort zone and learn from others.I think that an MPA will give me an edge within a broad range of government and /or NGP opportunities depending on where I end up wanting to settle.A practical policy program is hard to find(so many seem too theoretical) and this program fills that niche.My life’s work has always been focused on finding resources to help othersI have a desire to work with the people that are in need. I want to make changes in the way we help the people and  to be more efficient with our funds. What better way than to learn how organizations are run? |
|  |