**MPA 2015 New Student Orientation Evaluation Results:**

# in ( ) = # of people giving approximate same response

**What did you like BEST?**

Getting sense of cohort (5)  
Human Graphics (6)  
All three panels (4)  
Seminars (2)  
Entire Weekend  
Psychological Types (3)  
Student Panel  
Workshops  
Talking about what we learned day one  
MPA 101 (2)  
“Thinking in an Emergency” seminar (1)  
Faculty panel  
Alumni panel (2)  
“Building Community” seminar

**What could be Improved (and how, if you have ideas)?**

Randee speaking in day 1 instead of day (2)  
Day 2 first hour purpose made clearer since tour was canceled

Seminar on Learning through Discussion needed more of a teambuilding /get-to-know-you exercise (1)  
Meyers Briggs would have been better with chance to talk among peers  
Campus tour (1)  
MPA 100 had some repetition on things that we all know or at least should know…  
Panel bios too long  
Orientation done earlier in the summer instead of days before the first class

More team building activities

Different food—not using Aramark (1)

Better chairs (1)

Smaller groups

Intro cards on tables as conversation starters (1)

Hard to hear everyone—microphones?

Going over expectations for seminars

Workshop—do more with connecting the individuals outside of the group

Provide lunch the 2nd day

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

Campus tour (2)

Better introductions methods among the cohort/seminar groups—like speed dating

Linking students to big Evergreen services

Alert students that syllabi are posted on the MPA website

Days shortened and simplified

An example of a good seminar paper

Adding Friday night which will prepare us for night classes that we will be taking

Several references to the tribal program which I thought was part of MPA. I didn’t meet any Tribal students

Small groups based on concentration

**Other comments**

Great weekend education experience

Orientation was very helpful

Thank you (3)

Orientation was a warm, welcoming and supportive environment

By the end of day 2 I was pretty burned out…

I enjoyed orientation more than I thought I would

Very organized and I am confident that I am in the right place.

I thought MPA 101 was basic. I had taken the time to figure out credit loads and MPA requirements. I would have like

this part shorter.

Some people have an internship requirement. Why?

I didn’t find Thinking in an Emergency compelling academically

Long days—maybe shorten end of the day by half an hour

I most appreciated the MPA 101 aspect of the 2 day orientation period/process

**Questions About You:**

**Was Evergreen your first choice as a graduate school? If not, please write in your first choice. If Evergreen was your only choice, why was your only choice?**

Evergreen my first choice due to the interdisciplinary approach instruction and cost ( 9)

Evergreen first choice because I work here. (2)

No Bastyr University to study nutrition was my first choice. Evergreen because of financial reasons and proximity to home.

Evergreen first choice. (10)

Evergreen first choice because I live here( 2)

Evergreen first choice because I went to undergrad here. ()

Evergreen was my 1st choice but not my only choice. I also looked at the Naval Post Graduate School in CA. I chose TESC even though I had a full-all costs paid (books/tuition/travel) scholarship to NPG

First choice as this program is highly competitive and highly regarded as a program. Good preparation for PA.

Also looked at Portland State University

Seattle U has a dual MPA/Law School, and that was my first choice because I want to go to Law School as well. MPA worked out at Evergreen because I have a free ride waiting at UW law…

First choice was ASU Social/Justice/Human Rights Masters, but not ready to move out of state.

First choice was an MBA but I live here.

Between here and Seattle University.

Evergreen was first choice because other graduate programs felt like the staff were unavailable to me. Randee answered my questions in person.

**How did you first hear about the Evergreen MPA program?**

During undergrad (6)  
working here (1)  
Career Development Office  
alumni ( 7)  
co-worker ( 3)  
online( 6)  
intern coordinator @legislative internship program 2  
Lee Lyttle  
Job Fair (Randee)  
After moving to the area  
took an MPA class over summer  
Helping my daughter explore college options

**What Circumstances or event prompted you to apply to the program when you did?**

Lack of promotion in state work  
Children more independent now  
GI Bill  
Getting older  
Masters for higher paying job  
Promotion opportunities  
Too long in the job search  
Needed a reason to leave my job  
Desire to make a change in my life in helping others  
Ready for an insurance plan  
Needed a change  
My last VISTA position  
Moved here in December  
Careful long-term planning  
I qualified for education waiver  
Life changes/return to the US

**Why are you pursuing an MPA (vs a different graduate degree)?**

To help make changes  
Broad lateral scope, many options  
PA is my field of employment  
Fits my career goals but I wish MIT offered evening and weekend education…  
I want to do non-profit administration  
Passion for public service with a degree that holds real value

Has wider applicability than MES or MIT  
Most directly relates to my chosen field  
MPA has greater emphasis on the public sector and social justice issues  
Helps to make a difference  
I want to do meaningful work and help create positive communites/policy  
My passion is public service and non-profit, I don’t see that changing so it made sense to me…  
MBA would be good I wish there was a MBA/MPA duel degree option  
I’ve worked in the private for profit sector my entire career and am looking for something different for my next career.  
Flexible & broad  
It aligns with my interest in policy and looking at the big picture  
I want to eventually run for some type of public office  
I want to make government a better place that serves all people and is equitable.  
I want to create policy. I believe in government.  
Because it will help me earn my Ed. D.  
To become a non-profit director  
For now my dream to be a better equipped change agent in my world  
For my age and previous work experience and education this degree seems most logical, mort affordable, and easiest   
 way to obtain work that is more lucrative.  
I desire and aspire to perfect health policy.

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