



ASPA Suncoast Chapter Luncheon

April 9, 2009

**Stimulating the Green Economy:
A Discussion on Sustainable Development and the Role of
Local Government**

With

Sarasota County Administrator Jim Ley



ASPA

Happenings!

Welcome New Members!

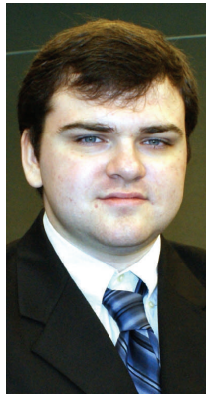
Kirill Mikerin

What is your background?

I am an undergraduate senior in Political Science at the University of South Florida. I was born in Ukraine 1988. When I was 13, I moved to the US with my mom. I attended Flagler Palm Coast High School. After high school I enrolled in Daytona Beach Community College. At first I was studying for International Affairs degree, but later changed it to Political Science. After I graduate with my BA in Poli Sci, I plan to go into MPA.

Do you intend to pursue a career in public service?

When I first started college my broad goal was a desire to work for the government. I chose international affairs. However, later on I sat down with my mother and she asked me what it is that I want to do. On her advice I decided to take a look at Public Administration. To familiarize myself with PA I took Introduction to Public Administration taught by Dr. Pettijohn. She was a great inspiration to me and my understanding of the field. On her advice I became a member of Suncoast Chapter of ASPA.



I am planning to pursue a career in Public Administration. I have not decided what specialization yet. However, I had a privilege to meet and talk to several Suncoast Chapter Members. I am always interested to learn how seasoned professional got into the field. And of course I am always looking for an internship in public administration to get a first hand experience. I want to pursue a PA career in the United States.

What advice might you offer to others interested in public service?

I would like to quote a French philosopher Henri Bergson: "Think like a man of action, act like a man of thought". My advice to students and professionals alike, who think about a career in public administration, is that the nation needs wise and decisive leaders. If you professionals alike, who think about a career in public administration, is that the nation needs wise and decisive leaders.

If you want to serve your country and the people do not hesitate with your career choice and chose Public Administration.

Do you have a hobby or pastime interest?

I have several pastimes. I like going to a gym and weight lift mostly. I am a member and an usher of Cornerstone Christian Church. I am a volunteer member of American Red Cross. I like videogames and sci-fi books.

Spotlight

We are ASPA!

We are advocates for greater effectiveness in government - agents of goodwill and professionalism - publishers of democratic journalism at its very best - purveyors of progressive theory and practice and providers of global citizenship.

Happenings!

Welcome New Members!

Theresa Conley

What is your job?

I have been an Insurance Consultant at Siver Insurance Consultants for over two years (Feb 2007) specializing in employee benefits. I have previous experience working for a non-profit in Manatee County in the risk management and human resource departments and claims adjusting experience for a firm in Tampa. All previous experience has led me to a career path in employee benefits working with public sector clients. By night, I am an MPA student at the University of South Florida with an expected graduation date of fall 2010.

What has motivated you to pursue a career in public service?

I believe there are many reasons why someone should consider a career in public service. The most unique thing that I have experienced with every governmental client is that each one is different, from the culture of the organization to the structure of the organization as a whole. You think you may know how a project will come out but each one is unique and I love that challenge. Even though I am not currently working within the public sector realm, at this time, I feel I have the best of both worlds. I work with very experienced insurance professionals, all of whom



have at least 20 years experience in insurance (yes, I am the "young" one --- their words and not mine!!) and I have the opportunity to work with public sector entities at a distance to learn the intricacies of each organization. Everyday is different and I enjoy that challenge.

What would you say to someone about joining ASPA?

As a new member of the Suncoast chapter of ASPA, I have already met individuals whose expertise in the public sector is unmatched. I am surrounded by individuals who genuinely care for their constituents and believe in their work in the public sector. The Suncoast chapter has had numerous speakers on the ongoing economic conditions and each meeting is an opportunity to learn more about public service and see people that make a difference everyday. Whether you join ASPA to network or be around people with similar interests, it is an organization that offers valuable knowledge.

Do you have a hobby or pastime interest?

In my spare time, I feel very strongly about ongoing education and in addition to pursuing my masters degree in Public Administration, I am also pursuing the CEBS designation for employee benefits. Education is something that no one can take from you and while it makes you more knowledgeable, it also makes you a stronger individual. I am always the first one to raise my hand to learn something new! In addition, I love spending time outdoors, going to the beach (Floridian born and raised) and spending time with my families.

Spotlight

“The country’s problems today are so daunting that pretense and pride must give way to a recognition that government will be central to their solution.” — James S. Bowman and Jonathan P. West

Happenings!

Mark Your Calendar! Mark Your Calendar!

ASPA Suncoast Online Chapter Meeting

Florida and Renewable Energy Policy

A Discussion on Feed-in Tariffs and the Impact on Local Government

Presenters: Mike Antheil and John Burges

April 2nd @ 10:00 a.m.

RSVP to Steven Concepcion

Concepcions@hillsboroughcounty.org

What: Suncoast Chapter Annual Awards Dinner

When: May 9th

Where: University of South Florida-Tampa



We are ASPA!

We invite you to enter into the dynamic world of information, challenges and people that make ASPA what it is today. When you join the American Society for Public Administration, you become part of the time-tested heart of the world of public service. Since 1939, we have been the nation's most respected society representing all forums in the public service arena. We believe that by embracing new ideas - addressing key public service issues - and promoting change at both the local and international levels, we can enhance the quality of lives worldwide.

Happenings!

Meet Suncoast Board Member Mariana V. Llanso !

I am the General Manager for Service and Program Improvement, Hillsborough County Public Works Department.

What do you like best about your job?

I love that I see the results of our work reflected in improved programs and functions that serve my community; for example, we are the first (and so far the only) county public works department Accredited in Florida. I am very proud of this accomplishment because it entails adhering to the industry's highest standards in delivery of service.

What motivated you to pursue a career in public administration?

Many factors including my parents, my education, my previous work experience in the private sector.

What advice would you offer to others who might be interested in a public service career?

Go for it! But: Be prepared to work long hours. Be prepared to work in a highly political environment. Be conscious that you will hold a public trust and that the public does pay our salary. Be prepared to lead. Be prepared to be scrutinized by the media. Be prepared to endeavor in continuous education, not for kudos or promotion but because it will make you a better public servant. Be prepared to be held at a higher ethical standard.

What would you say to someone about joining ASPA?

ASPA provides the opportunity to meet with public servants and professors in a relaxed environment.



Since I completed the MPA in December, I have been focusing on all that was deferred for three years. Organizing my home, my personal papers, reading for pleasure, spending more time with family, et cetera.

Education: Juris Doctor from University of Miami School of Law; MPA from USF; B.A. in Politics and Public Affairs from University of Miami.

Most recent book read: Harry Frankfurt's *The Importance of What We Care About*.

Spotlight

Tom Bonfield, former Temple Terrace city manager and now Durham North Carolina City Manager offers comments on "**Assessing and Managing Environmental Risk: Connecting Local Government Management with Emergency Management**" *Public Administration Review* (March/April 2009)

While the media's attention to the response during an emergency event is sometimes described as a local government manager's "opportunity to shine" or proof of the value of professional management, the ability of managers to make the unpredictable routine before an event, as well as their courage, compassion, humility, and competence behind the scenes during a disaster, may be the more significant value of a professional local government manager.

In the News!

St. Pete Beach CM recuperating after emergency appendectomy

By Sheila Mullane Estrada, St. Petersburg Times, 3/5

ST. PETE BEACH — City Manager Mike Bonfield is recuperating at Bayfront Medical Center after undergoing an emergency appendectomy. Bonfield was rushed to the St. Petersburg hospital late Saturday night and underwent surgery within 15 minutes of arriving at Bayfront, according to Karl Holley, St. Pete Beach community development director. Holley said Bonfield experienced some discomfort during the day Saturday, but was not in any significant pain until later that evening when he was rushed to the hospital.

Bonfield has cancelled his appointments for next week and until he returns to work, Holley will serve as the interim city manager. "Mike is doing well and may be returning home Friday," Holley said. Bonfield lives in Gulfport with his wife and three children.



Deerfield Beach adopts ethics ordinance

Linda Trischitta, South Florida Sun-Sentinel, 3/4

Deerfield Beach passed a strict new ethics ordinance with broad authority over elected officials, political candidates, the city manager and anyone doing business with the municipality. During a public hearing and commission debate Tuesday night, Mayor Sylvia Poitier and Commissioner Gloria Battle opposed the law. They cited possible enforcement costs and public disclosure of familial relationships and finances.

In the majority vote, Commissioners Colleen Simpson-DiDonato and Marty Popelsky joined Vice Mayor Pam Militello, who had sponsored the ordinance after the December arrests of former Commissioner Steve Gonot and former Mayor Al Capellini on separate felony corruption charges. "This is something that the city can be very proud of, and I hope that it sets the tone for other cities in Broward County Click here for restaurant inspection reports and across the state of Florida," she said.

Read the draft ethics code (PDF) —

<http://www.sun-sentinel.com/media/acrobat/2009-02/45115615.pdf>

ASPA Elects New Leaders

ASPA is pleased to announce the results of our 2009-2010 leadership elections. The following members will assume their new roles in ASPA this March at our annual conference. Congratulations!

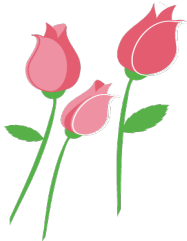
Vice President: Erik Bergrud, Park University
District 1: George Dougherty, University of Pittsburgh, GSPIA
District 2: Jennifer Alexander, CSU College of Urban Affairs
District 3: Kendra Stewart, College of Charleston
District 4: Dwight Vick, West Texas A&M University
District 5: Catherine Horiuchi, University of San Francisco



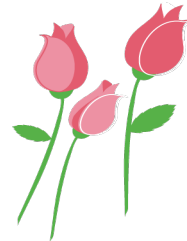
Happenings!

Spring for Spring!

Gallery Bistro



Wednesday, March 25, 2009
Time: 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 pm



Bay Street at International Plaza
2323 North West Shore Blvd.
Tampa, FL

Join us for an after work social event sponsored by
the American Society for Public Administration Suncoast Chapter

Please bring an item to benefit the Spring of Tampa Bay.

Items in need:

Baby bath, baby powder, baby shampoo, baby wipes, baby bottles, sippy cups, bath towels, wash clothes, blankets, pillows, cell-phones (working or not) and many more items for women and children.

The Spring of Tampa Bay, Inc. is Florida's largest certified domestic violence shelter. Since 1977, they have provided shelter for more than 50,000 victims and their families.

If you are unable to make it to the event, but still wish to donate, please contact Meagan Decker for drop off information.

Meagan Decker

Email: deckerm@hillsboroughcounty.org

Phone: (813) 975-2097



Happenings!

Mark Your Calendar!
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GOVERNANCE IN THE MIDST OF DIVERSITY

BRIDGING OPPORTUNITY AND CHALLENGE

ASPA 2009 ANNUAL CONFERENCE MIAMI, FLORIDA - MARCH 20-24

MIAMI MIAMI MIAMI



ASPA's 2009 Annual Conference will be held March 20-24 in Miami, Florida at the Hyatt Regency Miami. The conference theme - *Governance in the Midst of Diversity: Bridging Opportunity and Challenge* - will explore and develop innovative practices for public administration to address the growing diversity of communities around the country. It emphasizes the importance of context and culture on the sustainability of innovations, and ASPA's role in supporting public administration globally from a U.S. perspective. We are happy to report that we received more than 400 submissions!

Miami is South Florida's magical city. It is a tropical cosmopolitan paradise as diverse as it's people. White sandy beaches stretch past pastel colored art deco buildings; year round events and festivals highlight the art, culture, music and cuisine of not only the Latin American and Caribbean influence, but also the European and Native American cultures. Miami is truly a mosaic of people from around the world. Consider staying a few days after the conference to experience all that Miami has to offer. Always inviting! Always exciting!

To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#).

Questions or comments? E-mail us at concepcions@hillsboroughcounty.org or call (813) 307-3221