



NAZARBAYEV
UNIVERSITY
GRADUATE SCHOOL
OF PUBLIC POLICY

GSPP DIGEST 02 • 2019

Ceremony of the Exchange Student Agreement between
KDI School and NU GSPP

2, 2019 | KDISchool, Korea



GOOD GOVERNANCE MATTERS



GSPP signed a Student Exchange Agreement with Korean Development Institute (KDI)

GSPP Dean Weng Tat Hui signed a Student Exchange Agreement between Nazarbayev University and the KDI School of Public Policy and Management of the Korean Development Institute (KDI). The Student Exchange Agreement was signed at a ceremony hosted by the KDI School of Public Policy and Management which is a graduate school of policy studies founded in 1997 with the support of the Korean government. It is the educational arm of the Korean Development Institute (KDI) which is ranked as the top think tank in Asia and 5th worldwide among non-US think tanks and 20th worldwide. With the signing of the Student Exchange Agreement, GSPP plan to send up to 2 students to KDI School in the Fall semester.

GSPP students Arailym Taibassarova, Nargiz Dautova, Almagul Tapayeva, Temirlan Yergaziyev, Diana Kabdusheva took part in the 2019 NASPAA-Batten International Simulation Competition hosted by the KDI School. At KDI, the teams included those from Tsinghua University, National University of Singapore, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST), Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) and Zhejiang University. The NU team came in 2nd in their group. The observation of the NASPAA-Batten simulation competition was helpful to GSPP's plan to be one of the successful hosts of this international competition in the coming year.

GSPP Dialogue Session

Rinat Balgabayev (Black and White Group, White Media) delivered a talk at GSPP on promoting governmental agenda through SMM: failures and lessons. Mr. Balgabayev was engaged in Internet promotion of Kazakhstan and international brands, government agencies (the Supreme Court of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Ministry of Health, the General Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Kazakhstan, etc.), and prominent figures on Kazakhstani arena. Rinat shared an analysis of some campaigns in Kaznet and gave examples of crisis communication in Kazakhstan.



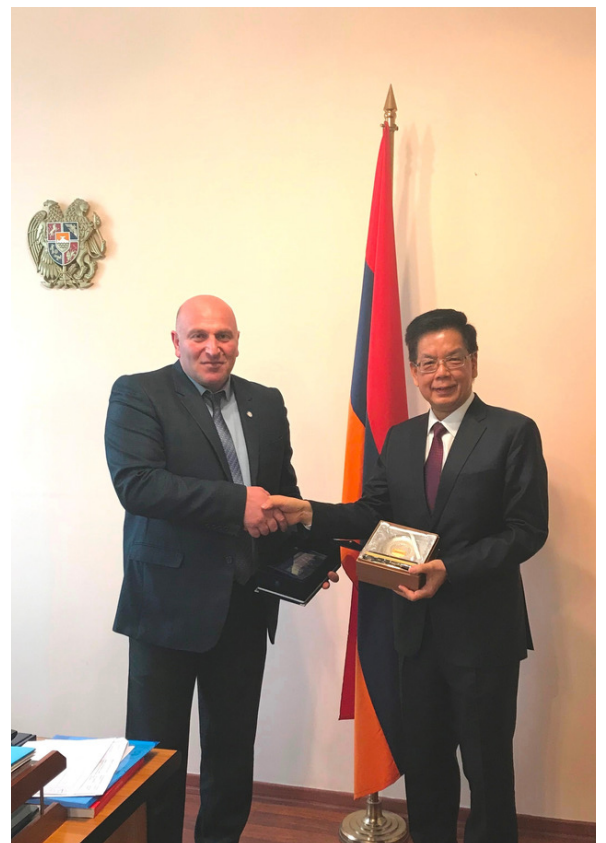


GSPP delegation visited Armenia

The Graduate School of Public Policy (GSPP) within the framework of establishing cooperation within Central Asia and Caucasus countries has visited Armenia. On 4 March 2019 GSPP Dean Weng Tat Hui met with representatives of the Public Administration Academy of the Armenia. GSPP Dean provided an overview of Nazarbayev University's schools and delivered a presentation about GSPP programs. During the meeting, participants discussed participation of students in the Masters and PhD programs of the Graduate School of Public Policy; GSPP executive education programs; and, collaboration in research work in Central Asia and Caucasus.

During the trip to Yerevan meetings were also held with Rectors / Vice Rectors and senior leadership of the following institutions: Yerevan State University, Russian Armenian State University, American University of Armenia, and ICARE, International Center for Agribusiness Research and Education. GSPP representatives conducted presentations on Nazarbayev University and GSPP programs followed by Q&A sessions.

Diana Petukhova, GSPP alumni of MPP program (second cohort) joined the meetings at the universities and supported GSPP by providing feedback and answering questions about studying at GSPP. Diana works for ICARE, International Center for Agribusiness Research and Education and runs her own project at the same time. GSPP network is expanding, and we are proud of our alumni in Kazakhstan and abroad! Click to watch the video from Diana.



GSPP Research Seminar

GSPP Visiting Professor Jesuthason Thampapillai held a research seminar on February 13, 2019 entitled Economics and Contraindications for Climate Maladies: Lessons from Environmental Macroeconomics. He argued “Economic theory has to be reworked to take into account the realities of the natural environment; in another context, I would extend it to society. Then macroeconomic will have more meaning.”



Professor Dodo J. Thampapillai is an economist at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy - National University of Singapore. He previously held a personal chair in Environmental Economics at Macquarie University in Australia, where he currently holds an adjunct professorship. He also held an adjunct professorship in the same field at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (Uppsala) until 2009, following periods Visiting Professorships between 1993 and 2001. He was awarded the DFG Professorship in Germany (University of Kiel 1999/2000). The third edition of his book - Environmental Economics: Concepts Methods and Policies - is due to be released by Routledge (UK) in May of this year.

Collaboration with External Partners - PhD Supervision



Professor Stefanos Xenarios has participated in the PhD supervising committee of Mr. Aggelos Alamanos' thesis on ‘Integrated Decision Support System for Sustainable Water Resources Management, through hydro-economic modeling and Multicriteria Analysis’. The thesis was defended at in University of Thessaly, Department of Civil Engineering, Greece and was awarded the grade of ‘Excellence.’ Professor Xenarios also participated in the Rural Water Supply Network (RWSN) Mentorship programme for young professionals, aimed at matching young professionals under the age of 35 with more senior professionals in the rural water sector.

The RWSN is the global network for rural water supply professionals, with 10,000 members in more than 150 countries. RWSN is a strategic global platform for knowledge sharing and collaboration in the water sector with a central focus on the achievement of universal access to safe, affordable water supplies.

An experimental study focusing on discretionary enforcement and strategic noncompliance



Professor Omer F. Baris' joint-project with S. Gupta and E. Araral from LKY School was awarded the Social Science Research Thematic Grant at the National University of Singapore. The project involves an experimental study focusing on discretionary enforcement and strategic noncompliance. The laboratory experiments will be conducted in Kazakhstan, Singapore and India.



Guest lectures on Environmental Policy and Economics

Dr. Dietrich Schmidt-Vogt, Professor in the University of Freiburg, Faculty of Environment and Natural Resources, Germany gave a presentation on land use changes and the economic implications of rural areas in China by comparing the market-driven forces of particular plantations in China and Central Asia on the 2 March 2019.

Dr. Schmidt-Vogt is a geographer with more than 30 years of experience in mountainous areas, mainly of the Himalayan and Mekong regions in South and Southeast Asia. His research interests include forest-farming interactions, multi-functional landscapes, integrated land use systems, and land use change and livelihoods in mountainous areas. He has extensive experience in teaching and supervising graduate students from diverse national and cultural backgrounds, as well as in capacity building and curriculum development.

Dr. Schmidt-Vogt has also collaborated with Associate Professor Stefanos Xenarios in the finalization of a book publication on Aral Basin in collaboration with UN University.

Gender equality and leadership

GSPP MPA student Kamila Tuyakbayeva delivered training on gender equality and leadership for NU students. This event was organized by Unisex and supported by E.Quality Club of Nazarbayev University, supported also by the US Embassy in Kazakhstan.

Kamila was invited by Dina Shaikhislam, NU alumna, who started Unisex project to educate young people and adolescents on sexual health and raise awareness about topics like gender, equality and domestic violence. Kamila was a volunteer and trainer of Y-PEER network since 2007, a volunteer network initiated by the UN population Fund across the globe that delivers information on reproductive health and rights, gender equality and leadership skills development through peer to peer principles and using theater-based techniques.

Kamila delivered a presentation on the gender issues and the importance of tolerance. At the end of the training, students talked about the concept of “uyat” in Kazakhstan society. The participants concluded that it is time to redefine uyat. Uyat should not be used to justify aggressive behavior and violence; as well as being a bystander without intervention when coming across cases of violence or harassment.





Colin Knox (2019) Teaching Public Administration “Whatever you say, say nothing”, Teaching Public Administration, 37 (1): 107-120

Colin Knox and Saltanat Janenova (2019) The E-Government Paradox in Post-Soviet Countries, International Journal of Public Sector Management (accepted for publication)



Southern Times published a review of the "Africa at the Crossroads" book authored by GSPP Professor and Vice Dean for Research Riccardo Pelizzo

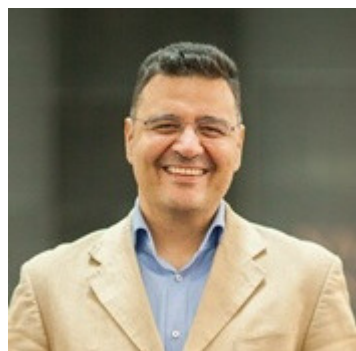
The center of geopolitics (geopoitica.nfo) affiliated with the University of Roma published a review wrote by Professor Riccardo Pelizzo of Professor Babones' last book

Professor Riccardo Pelizzo gave a number of interviews in March 2019:
<https://www.lindro.it/canada-scandalo-trudeau-la-sinistra-che-muore/>

<https://www.lindro.it/cina-in-africa-compro-tutto-senza-condizioni/>

Review by Professor Riccardo Pelizzo “Why Counterinsurgency Fails” in the Italian language

Professor Riccardo Pelizzo was awarded a certificate as a Certified Publons Academy Mentor. Well done, congratulations!



Xenarios S, Smakhtin V, Sehring J, Schmidt-Vogt D, Tsani S, Hannah C and M. Water-Energy-Food Nexus and Environment in Central Asia. In Carmona-More (Eds) ‘ ‘ EC Position Paper on Water, Energy, Food and Ecosystem (WEFE) Nexus Development Goals (SDGs)’ ’ Publications Office of the European Union, DOI : press)



Professor Omer F. Baris’ paper on “Environmental enforcement and compliance in developing countries: evidence from India” co-authored with S. Gupta and S. Saksena is published in the World Development

GSPP alumni, Nurlyaiym Zhaksybayeva and Saltanat Nurzhanova, have published their PAE (Policy Analysis Exercise). It was published by the "Trade policy" journal (Higher School of Economics, Moscow, Russia). The Policy Analysis Exercise (PAE) is conducted as part of the Master in Public Policy degree. PAE of Saltanat and Nurlyaiym won the best PAE award back in 2016.

Each year, the Graduate School of Public Policy at Nazarbayev University aims to provide pro-bono services to public and nonprofit organizations as part of capstone projects completed by students. Students work in teams for a client, conducting independent and rigorous research and producing professional, high-quality analysis, recommendations, and solutions.

2019 **GSPP**
conference

SAVE THE DATE!
10-12 OCTOBER 2019

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DATE!

Risk, Rationality and Resilience

GSPP CONFERENCE
10 – 12 OCTOBER 2019
NAZARBAYEV
UNIVERSITY, ASTANA

Apply to GSPP programs before 1 April 2019!

GSPP held its annual Open House Day on 28 February and welcomed more than 100 participants! GSPP professors, students, and alumni took part in the event. We encourage you to apply to GSPP programs as early as possible.

GSPP offers – Master in Public Policy (MPP), Master in Public Administration (MPA), and Ph.D. in Public Policy programs.

The School maintains a strong partnership with the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore, one of Asia's leading educational universities. All students have the opportunity to spend up to 2-3 weeks on Master's programs and up to 3 months on a Ph.D. program in Singapore.

Programs are delivered in English. GSPP provides state grants covering tuition fees and monthly allowances based on academic performance. MPA program's schedule allows combining work and study format.

APPLY! Click for more information.