Diversity in Public Service

Investing in the Future

In 2005, when he established the Diversity in Public Service Scholarship Fund, alumnus James Howerton, MPA ’72 sought to address the needs of students with diverse backgrounds who were confronting significant financial challenges. The scholarship recognizes that diversity of race, background, and experience among MPA classmates enriches the academic environment of the program and the personal development of each student, better preparing students to lead in a complex world. The Diversity in Public Service Scholarship Fund has supported students for more than a decade and is well-positioned to continue this support.

“I thought the combination of both diversity and public service is awesome because our current government administration has never represented the complexity of our population. Having a scholarship that encourages a diverse population to get into public service and government positions is phenomenal.”

—Anne Hopp
Diversity in Public Service Fund Donor

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“Over the years, Carolina MPA has invested in students like me through the Diversity in Public Service Scholarship. It has invested in students and perspectives that have long been underrepresented in public administration and I am grateful to Carolina MPA for their continued support for students like me.”

—Ebony West, MPA ’18
Diversity in Public Service Scholarship recipient
Expanding opportunities

As communities throughout North Carolina and the country continue to evolve demographically and socially, the program is committed to ensuring that future MPA graduates are prepared to effectively serve and meet the evolving needs of citizens. In addition to providing access to students, the newly named Diversity in Public Service Scholarship and Activities Fund will also support a variety of activities, including trainings, conferences, and lectures to better equip MPA students, faculty, staff, and alumni to engage and lead in their workplaces and communities.

Join Me: You + Me = $333

How can you help grow this expanded fund to have an immediate impact? Support the MPA Alumni Association board’s challenge to raise $50,000 by December 31, 2019, by participating in its campaign, UNC MPA Diversity Formula: Join Me: You + Me = $333. The concept is simple: people working together can do a great deal more than a person working alone. The board is asking alumni and friends of the program to come together—two people, three people, or an entire cohort—to make a donation of $333 or more. Our goal is to have at least 150 donations.

To learn more, see who has joined the challenge, and make your gift, visit mpa.unc.edu/you-me-333.

“I am excited about Carolina MPA’s efforts to further expand its focus on diversity and this effort to grow the Diversity in Public Service Scholarship and Activities Fund quickly in order to have an immediate impact on current and future students and, in turn, on the work they do as public administration professionals.”

—James Howerton, MPA ’72

Help Carolina give students an edge

As part of the Campaign for Carolina, the University’s $4.25 billion fundraising campaign, the Carolina Edge seeks to raise $1 billion for undergraduate scholarships and graduate fellowships in areas such as middle-income scholarships, merit scholarships, summer internship grants, athletics and graduate and professional school financial aid.