

HUMPHREY SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

MAY 18, 2014



*Herbert H. Humphrey*

OUR THANKS TO VICE PROVOST FOR FACULTY AND  
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS ARLENE E. CARNEY AND REGENT  
PEGGY E. LUCAS FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION  
IN TODAY'S CEREMONY.



*Robert H. Humphrey*



**PROCESSIONAL**

**WELCOME**

Dean Eric P. Schwartz

**PRESENTATION OF AWARDS**

Dean Eric P. Schwartz

**STUDENT SPEAKER**

Constance Ify Onyiah  
Master of Public Policy

**COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS**

R.T. Rybak

**PRESENTATION OF GRADUATES**

Associate Dean  
Laura Bloomberg

**CONFERRING OF DEGREES**

Regent Peggy E. Lucas

**WELCOME TO THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

Deena Anders

**CLOSING**

Dean Eric P. Schwartz

**RECESSIONAL**

*Please stay seated until the faculty  
and students have exited.*





## MASTER'S DEGREE AND CERTIFICATE CANDIDATES

Master of Development Practice in International Development (MDP)

Master of Public Affairs (MPA)

Master of Public Policy (MPP)

Master of Science in Science, Technology,  
and Environmental Policy (MS-STEP)

Master of Urban and Regional Planning (MURP)

Certificate in Early Childhood Policy (ECP)

Certificate in Nonprofit Management (NM)

Certificate in Policy Issues on Work and Pay (PIWP)

Certificate in Public Affairs Leadership (PAL)

Ali Abbas, MPP

Abdihakim Abdi, MPP

Suado Mohamed Abdi, MURP

Giovann Alarcon, MPP

Veronica Alarcon Esteva, MPA

David R. Anderson, MPA

Liv Augusta Anderson, MPP

Elizabeth Irene Appleby, MURP

Chelsey Grace Armstrong, MURP

Caitlin Wildemuth Badger, MPP

Lara M. Bauer, MPA

Johann Benson, MPP

Karla Kaye Bigham, MPA

Cassie Lee Bordelon, MPP

William Boulay, MPP

Bethany Brandt-Sargent, MURP

Jackie Braun, MPP

Josephine Brasenell Brookes, PIWP

Charles Bruce, MPP

Jason Thomas Buck, MPP

Jose Miguel Buere Villegas, MPA

Anna Therese Burke, MPP

Rong Cao, MDP

Andrea Carroll-Franck, NM

Jose Luis Casco Guerra, MPP

James Paul Chan, MPP

Adam Daniel Chelseth, MPP  
Partha Sarathi Reddy Chevuru, MPA  
Kate Christopherson, MURP  
Robert Clarksen, MPA  
Kristina Marie Cochran, NM  
Kimberly Ann Conger, MPP  
Maria Katharine Cote, MPA  
Brendan Crosby, MPA  
Alexandria Cruz, MDP  
Colin Cureton, MPP  
Scott Dallman, MPP  
Anthony Damiano, MURP  
Charles Darnell, MURP  
David Davies-Deis, MURP  
Michael Diedrich, MPP  
Alexandra Henkels Diemer, MDP  
Abdou Diouf, MPA  
Chuqing Dong, MPP  
Edwin Dorbor, MDP  
Patricia Dorsher, MPP  
Vaneesha Dusruth, MPP  
Jonathan Ross Dworin, MPP  
Julia Helena Eagles, MPP  
Julia Ekeberg, MPP  
Khalid Elmasry, MPA  
Sheyda Rebekha Esnaashari, MPP  
David Ballenger Evans, MPP  
J. David Fenley, MPP  
Jesse Aaron Flanagan, MPP  
John Francis Frost, MPP/JD  
Erin Matthew Garnaas-Holmes, MURP/MLA  
Jennifer Geris, MPP  
Lidiya Girma, MPP  
Natalie Rosemary Glynn, MDP  
Emily Ann Goellner, MURP  
Thomas Gerald Golembeck, MPP  
Susana Gonzalez, MDP  
Zoila Guachichulca, MDP



## **R.T. RYBAK**

R.T. Rybak began serving as the next executive director of Generation Next in early January 2014. R.T. served as mayor of Minneapolis from 2002–2013. During his tenure as mayor, R.T. led efforts to make Minneapolis a national leader in innovative, cradle-to-career approaches to youth development, and worked to highlight the crisis of our region's achievement gap and advance effective strategies for ending it.

As mayor, R.T. founded the Minneapolis Promise, an innovative cluster of coordinated efforts to get students college- and career-ready and put them on the path to success. The Minneapolis Promise says to young people that if they stay in school and focus on their education, Minneapolis will support them with high-quality summer jobs and work-readiness training through the STEP-UP program, counseling to help them plan a vision for their future at privately-funded college and career centers in every Minneapolis public high school, and financial assistance to attend college through The Power of YOU, a collaboration between Saint Paul College, Minneapolis Community and Technical College, and the Saint Paul and Minneapolis Public Schools. R.T. has called STEP-UP the achievement of which he is the most proud. Since 2004, STEP-UP has put 18,000 Minneapolis youth to work in meaningful summer employment.

A Minneapolis native, R.T. Rybak spent almost 30 years working in journalism, the commercial real estate business, publishing and the Internet before being elected mayor in his first run for public office. He and his wife Megan O'Hara, a communications consultant and local-food advocate, have two grown children.

Maria del Carmen Guerra de Sims, MPA  
Humberto Guerrero, MDP  
Aaron Louis Gutzke, MPA  
Kiwook Ha, MPP  
Saleema Hamid, MDP  
Kadence Taylor Hampton, MURP  
Lonetta Wilson Hanson, MPP  
Brad Scott Hasskamp, MPA  
Kallen Coulthard Hayes, MPP  
Rachel Herr-Hoyman, MDP  
Alex William Hevern, MPP  
Jason Francis Hicks, MPP  
Joshua B. Hill, MDP  
Laura Leigh Holey, MURP  
Christopher Hough, MPP  
Jamie L. Hunte, MPA  
Zachary Ian Hylton, MDP  
Jeremy Ray Jenkins, MPA  
Tuo Jiang, MPP  
Ashley Johnson, MPP  
Wesley Johnson, MURP  
Kristin L. Jorenby, MPP  
Kay Kammen, MPA  
Buba Kanagi, MPA  
Bibhusa Karki, MDP  
Rima Azizee Michel Kawas, MPA  
Geoffrey Morgan Kemp, MURP  
Tenzin Khando, MPP  
Alexey Khlebnikov, MPP  
Minsun Kim, NM  
Yoon-Taik Kim, MPA  
Kelsi Dayle Klaers, MS-STEP  
Amanda Koonjbeharry, MPP/MSW  
Karen Ann Korslund, MS-STEP  
Kristine Kosek, MPA  
David Walker Kowen, MURP/MLA  
Michael Howell Krantz, MURP  
Kelly Renee Krinn, MPP

Michael Krizic, MPP  
Amy Krzyska, MPA  
Sanjeev Kumar, MPA  
Gina Kundan, MPA  
Jodi Lynn Kwarciany, MPP  
Yufeng Lai, MPP  
Angela Laird, MS-STEP  
Kanwar Sameer Lather, MPA  
Matthew Lewis, MPP/MBA  
Rodrigo Lovaton Davila, MPP  
Todd Maki, MPA  
Andrea Mastro, MPP  
Jason Edward Matlock, MPA  
Kellie Marie McElroy, MPA  
Adam McFarlane, MPA  
Patrick McKennan, MPA  
Yanquan Miao, MPP  
Caroline Alicia Miller, MURP  
Maria T. Moeller, MPA  
Kassim Mohamed, MPA  
Sophak Sar Mom, MPP  
Kelly Lynn Monson, MPA  
Sunni Jo Monson, MPP  
Diane Montgomery, MPA  
Tracy Moore, MPA  
Andrew Edward Morales, MPP/MSW  
Katrina Mosser, MPA  
Kayla Mueller, MDP  
David Paul Muench, MDP  
Filza Nasir, MPP  
Jennifer Britt Nelson, MPP  
Linnae Rebecca Nelson, MS-STEP  
Michael Randall Nicholas, MPA  
Jeffrey Steven Ochs, MPP/MBA  
Seunghoon Oh, MURP  
Sook Jin Ong, MPP  
Constance Ify Onyiah, MPP  
Andrew Ostlund, NM



Leah Catherine Palmer, MPA  
Kris Anthony Perez Hicks, MPP/JD  
Amy Leigh Perna, MPP  
Ryan Petersen, MPA  
Ben Lucas Peterson, MPP  
Cadence Rhea Peterson, MURP  
Marissa Kate Peterson, MPP  
Rosario Plascencia, MPP  
Dean Porter, MURP  
Jonathan Wagner Poulson, MPP  
Alexandria Kay Prael, MURP  
Sean Allen Rahn, MPlan  
Michael Emerson Richardson, MURP/MLA  
William Loren Risse, MURP  
Dominique Jean-Francois Rolando, MPP  
Harry Samit, MPA  
James Scheibel, MPA  
Teresa Schicker, MPA  
Mitchell Schroeder, MPP  
Conrad Stackhouse Segal, MPP  
Jennifer M. Shadowens, MPA  
Xiaoyun Shen, MPP  
Kathleen Ann Shepard, MDP  
Janelle Louise Shoemake, MDP  
James Shoemaker, MURP  
Lauren Elisa Siegel, MPP/MSW  
Tashna Silburn, MPP  
BrieAnna Simon, MURP  
Kari Sindberg, MPP  
Mailee Singhathip, MPA  
Ido Sivan Sivilia, MPP  
Nicole Elizabeth Smerillo, MPP  
Mary Jill Smith, MPA  
Jennifer Song, MPP  
Matthew Steele, MPP  
John Harvey Steies, MPP  
Sarah Kathryn Stephenson, MS-STEP  
Susan Jacobson Tade, MPA

Pa Thao, MPP  
Becky Thiessen, MPP  
Shannon Pfarr Thompson, MPA  
Amanda Thorstad, MPP  
Lauren Jane Boche Tjernlund, MPP  
Kumars Toosi, MPP  
Addison Vang, MPP  
Tatyana Venegas Swanson, MDP  
Ramamoorthy Venkatasamy, MPA  
Mamta Verma, MPA  
Anders G. Victor, MPP  
Amy Elizabeth Walsh, MDP  
Donald Warneke, MPP  
Vivienne Pajibo Weh-Dorliae, MPA  
Erik White, MPP  
Sean Williams, MPP  
Jennifer Williams Pavich, NM  
Jonathan Wolfish, MPP  
Nan Wu, MPP  
Duanyi Yang, MPP  
Christopher L. Zempel, MPP  
Hannah Zimmer, MPP





## PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED AWARDS

### **INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR**

Kaye Husbands Fealing

### **CORE COURSE INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR**

Ragui Assaad

### **TEACHING ASSISTANT OF THE YEAR**

Dominique Rolando

### **LUKERMANN AWARD**

### **SERVICE TO THE PLANNING PROGRAM**

David Davies-Deis

### **AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CERTIFIED PLANNERS AWARD**

Wesley Johnson

*A reception on the patio between  
the Ted Mann Concert Hall and Ferguson  
Hall follows the ceremony.*



## HUMPHREY SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Hubert H. Humphrey School of Public Affairs is dedicated to excellence in education for public responsibility. As a living memorial to the public life and ideals of Hubert H. Humphrey, it seeks to enhance Minnesota's contribution to public and political life. The University of Minnesota's public affairs program (founded in 1938) is the third oldest in the nation. It was named for Humphrey in 1977 to honor the former U.S. Senator and Vice President.

The Humphrey School is one of the country's top-ranked professional public policy and planning schools, widely recognized for its success in advancing the common good through a comprehensive program. The School is long noted for equipping students to play key roles in public life at the local, state, national, and global level.

## HUMPHREY SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
**Driven to Discover<sup>SM</sup>**

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