

Intro to Public Affairs

- Week 1
- Introductions...
 - Hometown
 - UG institution and major
 - Why an MPA?
 - Outstanding talent or attribute...

An Administrative State?

- 1/3 of U.S. GDP, but other countries much higher
- Bureaucracy vs. democracy
- Red tape...we love it and hate it
- Public vs. private administration
- Policy formation vs. policy execution
- Administrative discretion & responsibility

Politics/Administration Dichotomy

- What is politics?
- What is administration?
- Neutral Competence
- Subordinate Autonomy
- Speaking truth to power
- PA: science, process and art
- Government and nonprofit context

Major Political, Economic and Social Trends

- In North Carolina, for example...

The Browning & Graying of North Carolina

- Net population change from 1990-2000 (394% for Hispanic or Latino, 128% for Asian, 16% for White).
- Births by Race/Ethnicity, 1990 and 2003 (817% for Hispanic, 195% for Asian, 1.4% for White).
- % of Total Change in Public Schools due to Hispanic enrollment (15% in 1995 to 57% in 2005).
- Implications for key industries and school systems.

Browning & Graying (cont'd)

- Relative change in age composition from 1990-2000 (23% for age 55-64, 21% for age 65+ and 5% for age 18-34).
- For 2000-2005 (23% for 35-54 and -7% for 18-34).
- Implications for health and human services systems; succession planning in all organizations.

Growth

- From 2000-2005, 22% in Brunswick, 13% in Pender, 12% in New Hanover (state is 7.9%)
- Growth is positive....
 - double digit economic growth of 10% predicted for region
- But also creates serious challenges...
 - “N.C. Fines Port City \$30,000 for Sewer Spills”
 - “Price of City Roads Might Top \$1 billion”
 - Traffic #1 concern in UNCW surveys
 - “Park Proponents Flock to Meeting”

Education

- B.A. or Higher: Pender (13.6%), Brunswick (16.1%), New Hanover (31%)
 - State average is 23%
- Teacher Pay (26th in U.S.), Pupil-Teacher Ratio (31st) and SAT scores (14th) are Improving, but...
- High School Graduation Rate (38th), College Affordability (11th), and Gaps Between White, Black and Hispanic Students Alarming

Other Trends?

- Effective public administrators must be proactive; otherwise one is in a constant reactive, crisis mode.
- Requires regular scanning of the internal and external environment.
- Bring to class next week a one-page memo identifying five other important trends (either local, state or national).

Intro to Public Affairs

- Week 2
- Discussion of Important Trends...

Politics and the Economy

- “It’s the economy, stupid!”
- Command (government) economies vs. market economies
- Efficiency vs. equality, capitalism vs. democracy, individualism vs. collectivism: clash of values
- Income disparity: the struggle for fairness