

### Admiral Thad Allen Addresses 2011 Graduates on the 'Black Swans and Wicked Problems' Facing the Nation

[Admiral Thad Allen](#) received a standing ovation for his compelling words to the graduates of the Maryland School of Public Policy on May 20. Allen spoke to the graduates about the management and leadership challenges--black swans and wicked problems as Allen calls them--they will face moving forward. "When you step out into the world no matter what sector you go into, you're going to be part of an event that will require a unity of effort—a whole of government, a whole of nation, and sometimes, a whole of world response," Allen said. "You're going to have to be able to do that."

[More...](#)

### Tackling the Federal Deficit and Debt *A Status Report from Former CBO Directors*

There is "tremendous urgency" in putting together a credible, long-range plan to get the federal budget back on track, says a panel of former Congressional Budget Office directors at an event sponsored by the Maryland School of Public Policy and Georgetown University Press. The event, moderated by MSPP Professor Philip Joyce, was broadcast live on [C-SPAN](#). Former CBO directors [Alice Rivlin](#), [Rudolph Penner](#), [Robert Reischauer](#) and [Douglas Holtz-Eakin](#), came together on June 7 to talk about federal budget deficits and the national debt. Among the topics they addressed were efforts to raise the debt ceiling, the potential impact of a default on the debt, past efforts at debt and deficit reduction, and the impact of economic stimulus spending.

[More...](#)

### Jacques Gansler's New Book Urges 'Total Transformation' in Industry and Defense Department Business Practices

In [Democracy's Arsenal: Creating a New 21st Century Defense Industry](#) (MIT Press), [Jacques Gansler](#) describes the transformations needed in government and industry to achieve a new, more effective system of national defense. Drawing on his decades of experience in industry, government, and academia, Gansler argues that the old model of ever-increasing defense expenditures on largely outmoded weapons systems must be replaced by a strategy that combines a healthy economy, effective international relations, and a strong (but affordable) national security posture. The defense industry must remake itself to become responsive and relevant to the needs of twenty-first-century security, Gansler says.

[More...](#)

### The Congressional Budget Office: Truth in Numbers

*Joyce Publishes New Book on the History of CBO*

Philip Joyce's new book, [The Congressional Budget Office: Honest Numbers, Power, and Policy](#), investigates the 37-year history of this powerful institution with a combination of political history, economic history, and organizational development analysis. Created in 1974 to provide nonpartisan analysis of how proposed legislation will impact the federal budget, the CBO has become one of the major forces in national policymaking. A critical component of our system of checks and balances, it has given Congress the analytical capacity to challenge the president on budget issues while it protects the public interest, providing honest numbers about Congress's own budget proposals.

### MSPP Offers New Specialization in Federal Acquisition

The federal government is the world's largest single buyer of goods and services, spending hundreds of billions of dollars to meet the country's many critical requirements. Today, as the nation faces unprecedented budgetary pressures, the need to acquire these goods and services efficiently and effectively has never been greater. The specialization in Federal Acquisition is designed for students who seek rewarding careers in what is becoming one of the fastest-growing fields of public service.

[More...](#)

### Undergraduate Honors Students Give Away \$10,000

Undergraduate Honors students awarded a total \$10,000 to two nonprofit organizations for at-risk youth. After a rich discussion and intense deliberation, the 19 students chose to give \$6,000 to [Take Charge](#), a juvenile correction organization; and \$4,000 to [Homeless Children's Playtime Project](#), a program that serves homeless youth and their parents in DC. The students were excited and relieved to come to a final decision during one of the last classes before final exams. They presented their grants to the two organizations on May 10 at a Grant Award Ceremony in Anne Arundel Hall.

[More...](#)

### Public Leadership Faculty Recognized by Students

[David Crocker](#), [Jennifer Littlefield](#) and [Stacy Kosko](#) were honored with awards from College Park Scholars as part of their first annual Faculty and Staff Recognition Awards. For the first time, current and former students were asked to nominate faculty and staff for awards in various categories. Jennifer was nominated for and won an 'Unsung Hero' award. Dave Crocker won a creatively named 'All of the Above' award from a student who felt that he deserved to be recognized in every single category. Stacy won a 'Most Dedicated to Students' award. Walter James, a 2010 MSPP graduate and second-year Public Leadership GA, was also given a 'Most Dedicated to Students' award.



Commencement 2011

[Kumar V Pratap](#), PhD '11 has published an article in the *Sanford Journal of Public Policy* (Duke University). It is entitled "[Does Privatization Lead to Benign Outcomes? - A Case Study of India](#)".



Former CBO directors Holz-Eakin, Reischauer, Penner, Rivlin and MSPP Professor Philip Joyce discuss ways to get the federal budget back on track.

### MSPP IN THE NEWS [More...](#)

### Susan Schwab on Foreign Affairs LIVE



Building on their essays for *Foreign Affairs*, former U.S. Trade Representative Susan Schwab and Center for Global Development President Nancy Birdsall discuss the many complex balancing acts and compromises necessary to bring about a new international consensus on international trade and development. [Video](#)

### Tracy Gordon Who's Best at Cutting State Spending?

Many governors will come up against the same problem: Huge swaths of state budgets that are fixed or off limits. [New York Times](#)



[Nathan Hultman](#)  
U.S. Nuclear Outlook  
President Obama has said that nuclear power will remain a pillar of our energy industry here in the United States. [NHK Japan](#)

### [MORE FACULTY NEWS...](#)

### MSPP Hosts 16<sup>th</sup> Cohort of the Maryland Leadership Institute

[More...](#)

### Student Publishes in Baltimore Sun

What began as a class assignment for Nathan Hultman's energy policy course has turned James McGarry into a regular contributor to the *Baltimore Sun*. James has published his third op-ed; this one on innovations in energy policy. [More...](#)

Center for Integrative Environmental Research (CIER) Director, Matthias Ruth, and researchers



Andy Blohm and Rebecca Gasper contributed to a new United Nations Global Report on Human Settlements 2011 entitled [Cities and Climate Change: Policy Directions](#). They authored Chapter 4 "Impacts of Climate Change Upon Urban Areas."

### UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE 13  
[MLI](#) Opening Luncheon  
[More...](#)

JUNE 23  
TERPS ON THE HILL



Questions or comments or to submit news  
Email us at [rdenise@umd.edu](mailto:rdenise@umd.edu)  
or call  
301.405.6334



The School of Public Policy at the University of Maryland, College Park, provides graduate and post-graduate studies in a comprehensive range of domestic and international policy areas. Situated near the nation's capital, the school affords access for students and faculty to the broad spectrum of governmental and nongovernmental agencies that formulate and implement policies affecting the economy, the environment, welfare, children and families, and international relations.