



## Master of Public Administration Faculty Biographies

All MPA Program faculty members bring a rich combination of experience and service to LIU. Descriptions of faculty experience and service are presented in order of their length of service at LIU.



**Helisse Levine, Professor and Director, MPA Program.** Dr. Levine earned her Ph.D. in public administration from Rutgers University, School of Public Administration and Affairs, Newark, N.J. in 2005 and holds a M.A. degree in financial economics from Fairleigh Dickinson University, College at Florham. Prior to joining LIU Brooklyn, Dr. Levine completed her post-doctoral, clinical work for Nassau County's Legislative Budget Review Office as a budget analyst, where she focused on best practices in local government budgeting.

Her research and teaching interests include social inequities and challenges to inclusion in public organizations, and the role of fiscal and economic constraints in subnational government sustainability. Since entering academe in 2008, she has contributed to over 30 peer reviewed journals and book chapters, and convened and presented at over 50 national conferences. She is co-editor of three public administration books including *Women in Public Administration: Theory and Practice*, *The Handbook of Local Government Fiscal Health*, and *Positioning Markets and Governments in Public Management*. She served as Board Member to the American Society of Public Administration's (ASPA) section on Women in Public Administration (SWPA), and Executive Committee Member to the Association for Budgeting and Financial Management (ABFM). Dr. Levine currently serves as Book Editor for the *Journal of Public Management and Social Policy*, as Executive Committee member for ASPA's Section on Health and Human Services Administration and as reviewer to over 15 peer review journals. She is recipient of SWPA's 2014 Dr. Rita Mae Kelly Distinguished Research Award for her work on women in public administration and LIU Brooklyn's David Newton Award for Teaching Excellence. Dr. Levine is a member of the UNDP Roster of Experts in Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in Public Administration.



**Bakry Elmedni, Assistant Professor.** Dr. Elmedni joined LIU Brooklyn in 2014. Dr. Elmedni holds a M.A. in Public Policy and Administration from the American University in Cairo and a Ph.D. in Urban Affairs and Public Policy from the University of Delaware. He brings to the program a diversified and multidisciplinary background involving program design and evaluation, policy and planning, non-profit budgeting, and community development. He worked in international development in the Middle East and East Africa. Working with international and local NGOs, Dr. Elmedni gained first-hand experiences in areas pertaining to economic development, public management, and public policies. These experiences equipped Dr. Elmedni with a sophisticated understanding of the government role in modern society in

times of economic downturn and fiscal difficulties. His research interests include the role of civil society in governance, mainly the role of social networks in changing public decision-making modes, nonprofits' strategies to cope with financial austerity, and social justice in an increasingly globalized society. Dr. Elmedni aspires to equip M.P.A. students with the sophisticated knowledge about the changing role of government in society in response to technological advances and economic hardships, particularly how these changes affect and influence the institutional behavior of public sector organizations and employees. He teaches courses in organizational theory and behavior, management of human behavior in public and non-profit organizations and managerial communications.

Selected publications of Dr. Elmedni include "Civil Society and Democratic Transformation in Contemporary Egypt: Premises and Promises" in the *International Journal of Humanities and Social Science (IJHSS)* and the book *Development NGO's and Social Development in Contemporary Egypt: Neoliberal State, Non-State Actors and the Question of Community Empowerment*. He is the editor of the American Institute for Policy Development and a member of the Sudanese Studies Association and the American Society of Public Administration.



**Karina Moreno, Assistant Professor.** Dr. Moreno completed her B.A. and M.P.A. at Texas A&M International University in Laredo, Texas. Dr. Moreno gained practitioner experience serving underrepresented migrant students in the Rio Grande Valley of South Texas. Following this experience, she pursued her Ph.D. in Public Administration from Rutgers University, the School of Public Affairs and Administration (SPAA); she completed this endeavor in 2012 with a dissertation titled, "The Impact of Arizona's Senate Bill 1070 on Latino Political Attitudes and Participation."

Dr. Moreno has taught courses at various institutions within the New York and New Jersey metropolitan area, including Kean University, Metropolitan College of New York, Marist College, and Rutgers University-Newark. Her research interests include Latino political attitudes on government efficacy and patterns of political participation within the U.S., policy analyses of immigration and/or security policies disproportionately allocated on Latinos and the subsequent impact (if any) on Latino mobilization in the U.S., Latinos' perceptions of discrimination within the context of immigration, and research methodology in the social sciences. Recent academic publications are featured in the journals, *Review of Public Personnel Administration*, *Public Administration Quarterly*, and *Journal of Public Affairs Education*.



**Simone Martin, Assistant Professor.** Dr. Martin received her Ph.D. in Global Affairs from Rutgers University-Newark where she completed her dissertation entitled "Evaluating Income Generation, Nutrition, and Parenting Programs on Maternal and Child Health Outcomes: A Multi-Program Case Study of a Community-Based Organization in the Western Cape, South Africa." She holds an MA in International Relations and an MPA from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University. Dr. Martin also received three Advanced Certificates of Study in Health Services Management and Policy, Conflict Resolution, and Security Studies from the Maxwell School. She received a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice with a minor in Spanish from St. John's University.

Dr. Martin received her practitioner experience working as the Business Development and Community Relations Specialist at the Syracuse VA Medical Center, as an Administrative Analyst

for the Onondaga County Health Department in Syracuse, as the Community Relations Specialist at the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Bureau of Intergovernmental Affairs, and as a Consultant for the Vera Institute of Justice.

Dr. Martin's multidisciplinary background has formed her research interests which include healthcare administration and policy, global health, maternal and child health, transnational crime, prisoner re-entry, and addressing violence as a public health issue. She teaches courses in Organizational Theory and Behavior; Health, Disease, and Medical Care; Managed Health Care Systems; Public Health and Regulation; Aging Policy and the Community; and Healthcare Responsibility and Accountability for Administrators. She has taught Criminology, Juvenile Delinquency, Introduction to Sociology, and International Criminology at John Jay College of Criminal Justice and Introduction to Criminal Justice at Rutgers University-Newark.



**Edward Summers, Assistant Professor.** Dr. Summers received his Ph.D. and M.Phil. in Public and Urban Policy from The New School in New York City and his MPA and B.A. in Political Science from Marist College. He has served on a number of nonprofit boards and was appointed by the Dutchess County Executive to serve on the Dutchess County Industrial Development Agency and Dutchess County Local Development Corporation board of directors. He has worked at several colleges and universities throughout New York serving in senior executive roles. Dr. Summers is also the inaugural Executive Director of the Brooklyn Education Innovation Network (BE.IN), a local organization focused on higher education collaboration.

Dr. Summers is a native of New York City and defines himself as an urbanist. He is fascinated with understanding the dynamics of how cities work and how individuals over time interact with place. Additionally, he appreciates pondering how cities remain just and equitable and are places that all live, work, and play. Dr. Summers conducts research on community and economic development, housing policy, gentrification, neighborhood change, and education. He has taught courses in American government, public policy, perspectives on social institutions, public management, South African politics, and economic development in Ghana.



**Nicole J. Christian, Adjunct Assistant Professor.** As the owner of NJC Consulting, Nicole brings close to 15 years of experience to her grant writing and business services; she has counseled and assisted businesses and individuals in all areas of business development, healthcare administration, grant writing and economic/community development. Nicole has written grants for towns, villages, and state agencies receiving grants totaling over \$3.5M. Nicole has held both policy and executive posts in Washington DC and New York with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI), the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), the Town of Brookhaven (TOB) and the County of Suffolk. She is a Class of 2001 Presidential Management Fellow and worked at the Small Business Administration in the Washington DC headquarters office and then eventually transferred to work in the NY District office. Her main responsibilities were developing programs and policies to increase entrepreneur's access to capital and government contracts.

She is an effective community organizer, having helped register over 2,000 people to vote, and advocated on issues of historical preservation (Gordon Heights Fire Department), environmental justice (Caithness Power Plant), and voter suppression and representation (County and Town re-districting).

Nicole earned a B.B.A. from Marymount University, a M.P.A. and Advanced Graduate Certificate of Nonprofit Management from George Mason University and is a Ph.D. student at Walden University. She is also an adjunct lecturer at SUNY Empire State College and LIU Brooklyn. She has conducted workshops and seminars throughout the NYC Metro area and Long Island. Her specialties are grant writing, fundraising, business plan development, and economic/community development. Nicole was awarded the 2013 Town of Brookhaven Chamber Member of the Year Award and in 2015 selected as one of Long Island's "40 Business Leaders under 40 to Watch" by the Long Island Business News (LIBN). Nicole is lead Economic Development Consultant Grant Manager at Harris Beach LLC, an international NY-based consulting firm. Nicole is a native Long Islander and believes that obtaining wisdom is the most important pursuit in the human experience.



**Mark D. Stumacher, Adjunct Professor, Esq.** Mark most recently held the position of Associate Administrator for a 378-bed skilled nursing facility on Staten Island, where he also served as its Corporate Compliance Officer. Having been with the facility since 1996, Mark previously was in the position of Director of Labor and Legal Affairs, Vice President, and Senior Vice President for Human Resources.

Prior to assuming his responsibilities at the health care facility, Mark provided legal representation for indigent clients as a staff attorney for the Legal Aid Society's Criminal Defense Division for 13 years over a span of three decades. In addition, Mark served as Inspector General of the NYC Department of Health, a position which he assumed as a mayoral appointment, subsequent to his role as an Assistant General Counsel and Deputy Inspector General for the agency. Mark received his Juris Doctor from Brooklyn Law School and went on to earn a Master of Laws from New York University's Graduate School of Law with a concentration in Labor Law. He also holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Brooklyn College, CUNY and thereafter did graduate work in political science at his alma mater. He presently is an Adjunct Professor at LIU Brooklyn and an Assistant Professor at the College of Staten Island, CUNY, since 1990 and 2004, respectively. His prior teaching appointments include at CUNY's New York City College of Technology and Bronx Community College, the latter whereby he taught within the NYC Correctional System.

Over his teaching career dating back to 1988, Mark has taught 23 different courses, 14 of which have been at LIU. The bulk of courses have focused on the legal system, the health system, and managerial/administrative subjects. Mark is a member of the Public Administration Honor Society and holds an appointment with the New York State Surrogate Commission. He resides in New Jersey with his wife and has two children and one grandson.