To be eligible, students must be enrolled at a university within the SECoPA region during the academic year preceding the annual SECoPA Conference (e.g. students must be enrolled during the 2014-2015 academic year to be eligible for the 2015 award). Students cannot be enrolled in a joint master/doctoral program; only master’s students are eligible for the Kline Award.

Eligible students are encouraged to submit abstracts of their papers from now through May 5th, 2015 to

ewaltjg@cofc.edu

Ines Beecher
National Council Representative
District 3

Call for Abstracts

Attending the ASPA National Conference in Chicago was educational but also a lot of fun! Since I am a budget type-I learned about participatory budgeting which began in Brazil. Allocate a portion of money for a community project(s), have the community in for town meetings, decide the project(s) and vote as to which project(s) will be the final winner(s). Vallejo, California has tried it with great success! There are services in governments which are called business activities. These business activities could possibly be delivered by the private sector. For example, City of Hialeah has begun initiating discussions on privatizing its solid waste sources. However, I have learned that privatizing means the government entity is no longer interested in a service it was previously providing to the community. We should be using the terminology “outsourcing” which is when the government entity is still in charge of the service being provided to the community but paying the private sector to provide the service. From now on, I will be stating that our city’s solid waste services are not being privatized, but being outsourced, since we will continue to monitor this service delivery in the City.

There were some great parties as well! The opening reception, at the AON Center, on the 80th Floor was fantastic! The food, the majestic view of Chicago, and the people were just wonderful. By the way, I have been to Chicago a few times but I have never seen ice on Lake Michigan, it was unbelievable and snow was everywhere—

The South Florida Chapter was well represented in Chicago. I was happy to see old friends from across the nation and make new friends as well.

It was an honor to speak at the Founders Fellows meeting to discuss job search in the public sector, to participate in various meetings too many too count, and applaud my friends for winning awards (Claire and Steven). I wish you could all have been there, it was quite an experience. Please keep in touch, I am only an e-mail away at nesbreek@hotmail.com, and tell me your ideas, thoughts and comments. Until next month.

Ines Beecher
National Council Representative
District 3

Message from the SECoPA Board President

Welcome to the second issue of the SECoPA Newsletter. I would like to share with you a few updates from SECoPA.

The SECoPA board met in Chicago, Illinois, at the ASPA’s National Conference on March 7th. We had a great turnout of the board members and District III members at the conference. I am pleased to report the following:

• Atlanta SECoPA 2014 reported a net profit of $12,655.40
• Taskforce Implementation Committee has researched our past tax exempt status and now we are in the process of obtaining our tax exempt.
• Communications/Marketing committee is working on hosting a webinar of the SECoPA members. If you have any thoughts on the professional development topics, please send to Roslyn Ali-Batson at alic@miamidade.gov.
• Bylaws/Procedures committee has updated the bylaws and procedures adopted by the board since 2011. The full document can be found at the SECoPA website.
• Endowment committee has established a fundraising goal of $2,500 and are making progress towards that goal. We hope that you will be willing to contribute to the SECoPA endowment. Please contact Anne Kilpatrick at kilpatrick@musc.edu if you would like to donate to the endowment.

During the conference, ASPA recognized two outstanding SECoPA members. Steven Bobes received the Donald Stone Award for outstanding service to the society.

SECoPA annual conference is coming up on September 30th through October 2nd in Charleston, South Carolina. Please see the Charleston Conference section of this newsletter for more information. One of the most important part of the conference is to award individuals for outstanding service to the field of public administration. We hope that you will nominate individuals for the awards. As part of our effort to increase visibility and accountability to you as members, we will continue to bring you updates and progress from SECoPA organization.

If you have any questions about SECoPA, please feel free to contact me atphin.xaypangna@mecklenburgcountync.gov or 704-975-0548.

Thank you,
Phin Xaypangna,
President 2014-2015
Fellow SECoPA Members,

As your new District III representative to the ASPA National Council, I wanted to introduce myself and to thank you for your continued involvement in SECoPA. I currently serve as a Public Service faculty member at the University of Georgia’s Carl Vinson Institute of Government, where I am a member of the Human Resource Management Unit. I oversee our executive search team which coordinates searches for high-level leadership positions in public sector organizations. Additionally, I provide technical assistance to state and local public safety agencies regarding employment testing issues, which includes job analysis, job knowledge test development, and assessment center design and administration.

My involvement with ASPA goes back more than a decade when I was introduced to the organization as an undergraduate student by Dr. Steve Condrey. Since then, I have been an active member of SPALR, the ASPA Mentoring Committee, assisted with the Founders’ Fellows process, and led the executive search process that brought us our current Executive Director Bill Shields. ASPA and SECoPA are important to me and I will work with you to make them both thrive in the coming years.

With your support, I plan to:
1. Represent SECoPA’s interests to the ASPA National Council;
2. Serve as a unified voice for our district, bridging the gap between academicians and practitioners;
3. Promote effective partnerships and collaboration between sections, chapters, and other organizations such as SECoPA;
4. Reinvigorate chapters and sections by clearing the bureaucratic underbrush that may prohibit their growth and ability to thrive; and
5. Encourage activism among students and new professionals, which serve as a critical element for sustaining and strengthening our organization.

I appreciate the opportunity to serve, and look forward to working with you in continuing the outstanding work that SECoPA performs every year.

Sincerely,

Dan Lasseter
District III Representative
ASPA National Council

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**ATTENTION SECoPA MEMBERS**

Updated SECoPA ByLaws are available and can be viewed at the SECoPA website [www.aspaoonline.org/secopa/wordpress](http://www.aspaoonline.org/secopa/wordpress).

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**The Collins Award** recognizes the most outstanding paper written by doctoral candidates in the SECoPA region. To be eligible for this award, students must be enrolled at a university within the SECoPA region during the academic year preceding the annual SECoPA Conference (e.g. students must be enrolled during the 2014-2015 academic year to be eligible for the 2015 award). Papers may be co-authored with other students and may not exceed 30 pages. Faculty members cannot be co-authors. Students must adhere to the application process as set forth in the attached flyer. Failure to adhere to the process will result in a withdrawal of the award.

To receive the award, the author or at least one co-author of the winning paper must register and attend the SECoPA conference, present the paper, and attend the awards function where the award is presented (normally a luncheon). In addition to a plaque, the award winner will receive a $300 cash award and have his/her registration fee for SECoPA 2015 waived.

An abstract of the nominated paper must be submitted to both the SECoPA Program Chair at SECoPA2015@cofc.edu and the Collins Award Chair, Dr. Joseph “Jody” Holland by submission due date of May 15. Please pass the word among your doctoral students!

**The SECoPA Distinguished Public Service Practitioner Award 2015**

This Distinguished Public Service Practitioner Award recognizes sustained, outstanding achievements in, and contributions to public administration and public service through applied practice in the field. The recipient of this award must be or have been, a practitioner with a significant and established record in public service. Service may be tied to any public service environment (local, state, federal, international, government or non-profit). Recipients must also have made the considered contributions while providing their public service within the SECoPA region.

The Award Committee will receive and assess nominations, and will present the award at SECoPA 2015 in Charleston South Carolina, September 30-October 3, 2015. More information regarding qualifications and nomination is forthcoming soon.

Calvin E. Sims, Sr., MPA
Chair: Distinguished Public Service Practitioner Award Committee
1062 Chapman Lane
Stone Mountain, GA 30088
simss@bellsouth.net
770-879-1176

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**SECOPA 2015 CONFERENCE**

The Southeastern Conference of Public Administration (SECOPA) is held once a year and this year it will be hosted by ASPA’s Lowcountry Chapter in beautiful Charleston, SC on September 30 – October 3, 2015 at the Embassy Suites in North Charleston, SC.

The 2015 conference theme of “Research & Application: Promoting Effective Public Service” emphasizes the importance of bridging theory and practice as public administration practitioners and scholars explore lessons learned and new ideas on innovations in addressing public problems. This theme is also meant to reflect the importance of the relationship between academicians and practitioners, a distinguishing feature of public administration and SECOPA.

Academics and practitioners are encouraged to submit paper, presentation and panel proposals for the SECOPA 2015. All proposals must be submitted no later than May 15, 2015 by email to secopa2015@cofc.edu.

The conference hotel is conveniently located just two miles from the Charleston International Airport. SECOPA 2015 has secured a group rate for single or double suites of $125.00 plus tax per night. Please make room reservations by calling 1-800-EMBASSY (362-2779). The hotel offers complimentary cooked-to-order breakfast and evening reception with beverages and snacks, complimentary shuttle to the Charleston International Airport, WiFi and parking.

Join your colleagues at the welcome reception on Friday, October 2, 2015 aboard the Carolina Queen for a delightful evening on the scenic Charleston harbor. Enjoy dinner, beverages, and dancing all while taking in the spectacular views of the harbor. Transportation will be provided from the conference hotel.

To register for the SECOPA 2015 online, please use the link below. More information about the conference in general, sponsorship opportunities and to view the call for papers online, please visit [www.aspaoonline.org/secopa/wordpress](http://www.aspaoonline.org/secopa/wordpress).

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SECoPA WEBSITE: [http://www.aspaoonline.org/secopa/wordpress](http://www.aspaoonline.org/secopa/wordpress)

EMAIL: secpapa@gmail.com

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