

Dear MPA students and alums,

We are now ready to move forward into the spring semester after the tragic event of February 14, 2008. I realize this may be more difficult for some of us than others. If any of you need or wish to talk to me about our plans to move forward I encourage you to do so. If any of you need or want special counseling, or have some issue regarding your capacity to get back into the swing of regular classwork, visit the [NIU website counseling page](#), or contact the office (815.753.0183) and either myself, June, or Ellen will help you.

On behalf of the Division I wish to thank everyone for their outstanding support, help, and patience during this trying period. It is now time to restore a sense of normalcy to the semester, and to do our best in moving the MPA program forward. Over the next couple of weeks keep an eye on our website regarding any changes in our schedule. Keep in mind that the semester will end on May 17th with graduation, not May 10th, 2008. Most faculty will rearrange various course materials to reflect this. Our comprehensive exams will still be held on March 8th, 2008, and the spring break will still be at the same time.

If you have any questions please call us. If you have the chance to stop by the office we would like to see you. In the meantime, help support one another and be proud of your NIU affiliation. We have a great program and a great university. We will move forward.

Best wishes,

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