

School of Public Service Goes to Memphis!

By Georgia Sullivan

In the true spirit of Southern hospitality SPS '04 alumnus Adam Hanover and his family hosted the first School of Public Service regional alumni event in their Memphis home. With their parents, seven alumni from Tennessee, Alabama and Mississippi had a



The School of Public Service, gathered in Memphis this fall at a reunion hosted by the Hanover Family. From left to right, Lindsay Caldwell '04, Katie Isbell '04, SPS Director Mary Anne Waikart, Rwandan Ambassador Dr. Zac Nsenga, Mahamad Barry '04, Adam Hanover '04, Alex Pappas '04, and Violetta Pozdnyakova '04.

chance to catch up. The students also had an opportunity to meet with prospective students who came to learn more about the program. The group was joined by SPS friend and special guest Rwandan Ambassador Zac Nsenga and many friends of the SPS in Memphis.

Upon returning from Washington last summer, Hanover did precisely what SPS students are encouraged to do: He maintained contact with the many public officials whom he met during his four weeks in the program, including Ambassador Nsenga. Wanting to share a bit of his SPS experience with his Ridgeway High School classmates, Hanover invited the ambassador to Memphis to meet with students to discuss the challenges Rwanda faces as it tries to recover from the genocide of the early 1990s. The ambassador met with key civic leaders in the community and toured the National Civil Rights Museum.

Other SPS students are following Hanover's example by inviting SPS speakers to their communities. As SPS becomes more firmly established, additional regional events will provide greater outreach and expand the impact of the program. 🏠

The St. Albans School of Public Service Class of 2004



Left to right, front to back:
Audrey Murray (MA), Fawn Hall (NV), Adam Hanover (TN), Yalidy Matos (NY), Leah Calvo (DC), Carra Hoffmann (PA), Lindsay Caldwell (TN), Maggie Skinner (NJ), Katie Isbell (TN), Elizabeth Diaz-Esquivel (CA), Lauren Ohata (VA), John Hanle (DC), Violetta Pozdnyakova (MS), Alex Leal (VA), Breann Davis (GA), Katharine Kendrick (CA), Hayley Osen (CA), Chelsea Surber (VA), David Brown (TN), Will Wallace (DC), Meg Beasley (VA), Mahamad Barry (VA), Matthew Rothman (GA), Will Baldwin (MA), Alex Pappas (AL), Jimmy Blaise (TX).

School of Public Service Class Notes

'02

Alan Williams worked for the Salazar for Senate campaign in Colorado, taking a semester off from the University of Colorado to do so. He reports that working on a close campaign in a majority Republican state was a thrilling experience. **Hampden Macbeth**, who is studying diplomacy and world affairs at Occidental College in California, volunteered for the Kerry campaign and worked on some State Assembly races. He serves on Occidental's Constitutional Revision Committee, charged with rewriting the student government constitution, "an interesting application of political science to the real world." **Chris Peete** is a sophomore psychology major at Clark Atlanta University and a member of the Philharmonic Society and the Worship Choir. He writes, "Who knows? Maybe you'll see my name in lights as well as in the latest edition of *Psychology Today*." At Lafayette College in Pennsylvania, **Amaya Henry** is the club soccer president, a student representative to the board of trustees, a member of the dance team and the multicultural affairs chair of the student government.

Katie Gluckman worked on a project called H-Vote, to get out the vote at Harvard and at universities across the nation. She chairs a division of the project, Politics 101, a discussion session held once a week for political novices to learn the basics. Their motto is "No vote, no voice." Katie attended the first SPS reunion in Boston, joined by Sasha Kukanova ('03), Will Baldwin and Audrey Murray (both '04), and **Cindy Nguy**, at the Kennedy School. The kind hosts were Dr. Joseph McCarthy, Kennedy School associate dean, and Marina McCarthy. Also in attendance were friend of SPS '03 and Truman Scholar Johann Guzmann and SPS program assistant Stephanie Henck. And it was SPS that led to **Ethan McWilliams** and **Robin Graves** becoming roommates at the University of Richmond.

'03

At Harvard, **Sasha Kukanova** helped to organize An Evening with Champions, a charity figure skating exhibition, which raised \$50,000 for cancer research. She has been skating with the Harvard figure skating club, attending Institute of Politics events and working at Widener Library. **Victoria Speidel** is vice president of the College Democrats and of the Outdoors Club at Washington and Jefferson College. "Please call me if you are in the Pittsburgh area," she says to all SPSers. **Gustavo Ramallo** is "trying classes I've never tried before," such as music and theology, and finding them appealing. He is a freshman at Mary Washington College. **Anne Fauvre**, **Jeff Hadzima** and **Emily Broyles** met in DC with SPS Development Director Georgia Sullivan. Anne and Jeff attend Georgetown University and Emily attends George Washington University. **Robert Rogers** is enjoying his gap year in DC, working with a professor at George Washington University on the Eleanor Roosevelt papers. He is living just up the street from St. Albans and is taking a drawing class at the Corcoran.

'04

Jimmie Blaise flew from Texas to Alabama to visit **Alex Pappas**. Together they attended an Alabama vs. Ole Miss football game and had a great reunion. "Sorry, Violetta, but 'Bama won!" writes Alex. **Meg Beasley** volunteered for the Kerry campaign in Norfolk. She is organizing a Holly Ball to benefit the Children's Hospital of the Kings Daughters and setting the groundwork for a Green Ribbon Drive and guest speaker to raise money for survivors of and awareness about genocide in Darfur. **Mahamad Barry** misses the new friends he met at SPS and adds that "the best thing to keep is friends." Also inspired by **Carra Hoffmann** to get involved with the Sudan Project, **Katharine Kendrick** started a branch to bring awareness of the Darfur atrocities to high-schoolers in San Francisco. It has spread from her school to eight other schools in the Bay Area. Working with Youth Philanthropy Worldwide and Relief International, they have raised over \$2,000 selling green ribbons at only \$1 each.

Audrey Murray worked on an election campaign for a candidate for state representative from her district in Massachusetts, an exciting race by a Republican trying to unseat a popular Democrat. **Maggie Skinner** is also working on the Sudan project, in New Jersey. She has been active in dramatics and loves her political science class this year. **Breann Davis** is co-captain of her varsity volleyball team, tutors kids at her school in Georgia for NHS, and is "trying to get by" in AP Literature. In her economics class, **Haley Osen** is using a lot of what she learned at SPS St. Albans with Mr. Eagles (STA '54). She is working on her school newspaper and yearbook and is active in debate. She has also been appointed to a Pasadena City Council commission.

Fawn Block worked on a voting drive for first-time voters in Nevada and, through her SPS connection with Dr. Zac Nsenga, ambassador of Rwanda to the United States, has been appointed to an advisory committee on agricultural and economic development at the Rwandan Embassy. Dr. Nsenga accepted **Adam Hanover's** invitation to visit Memphis (*see related story*). An SPS reception hosted by the Hanovers was attended by **David Brown**, **Lindsay Caldwell**, **Alex Pappas**, **Violetta Pozdnyakova**, **Katie Isbell**, **Mahamad Barry**, SPS parents, and prospective SPS parents and students. **Chelsea Surber** is president of the National Honor Society, SADD, and the Youth and Government Club at her school, playing flute, and cheerleading. She is also one of a seven-member Mock General Assembly and patron of their bill. Chelsea was very active in Republican presidential campaigning and hopes to attend the inauguration with Alex and Adam.

Much credit goes to **Carra Hoffman** for suggesting to her SPS classmates that they get involved with the Sudan/Darfur project. She started working in Pennsylvania with the Mennonite Central Committee and let her SPS classmates know about the project and it spread. Carra is also working at the Ephrata Cloister, a historic landmark where she has volunteered for four years. From DC, **Leah Calvo** and **Will Wallace** visited Carra and spent a day being tourists at Hershey Park.