



Hampton Roads Chapter of ASPA



**Annual
Symposium
March 18, 2016**

**“The Challenge for Public Administration Associations:
Millennial and Young Professional Engagement”**

**Holiday Inn Select – Norfolk Airport
1570 North Military Highway
Norfolk, VA 23502**

Sponsored by:
The Hampton Roads Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration
www.aspahr.org



Welcome to the 2016 Symposium

We are pleased to present this year's symposium, "The Challenge for Public Administration Associations: Millennial and Young Profession Engagement." The mission of our chapter is to promote excellence in public service. To stay relevant, our chapter and other public administration associations need to understand, appreciate, and engage both young professionals and the millennial generation as they enter the workplace and discern their call to public service. If we gauge our success by chapter membership, we are not meeting that challenge. Since 2010 our general membership has declined by 28% and student membership by 49%. The number of ASPA state and local chapters has also declined from 113 in 2003 to 56 in 2015.

The purpose of this symposium is to enter into a dialogue on how we can meet this challenge. Two panels will lead the discussion. The first is an ODU student panel that will present ideas on what it will take for ASPA National and HR ASPA to successfully engage and support young professionals in discerning their call to public service and enhance their career. The second panel will consist of professionals that are members of four professional associations; the Conference of Minority Public Administrators (COMPAA), the National Forum for Black Public Administrators (NFBPA), the International City/County Administrators Association (ICMA) and the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA). They will respond to the ideas from the student panel and present ideas on how associations can collaborate to meet the challenges presented.

Our guest speaker, Sergeant William L. Gervin, Virginia Beach Police Department and founder of Spoken Destiny, will discuss his call to service and his efforts to engage young millennials to answer the call to public service. This is a *participation* symposium; we are looking for your ideas as well those of the panels and our guest speaker. Enjoy the symposium. We hope you take the opportunity to network and make new friends.

Charles J. Mills
President-Elect & Program Chair
Hampton Roads Chapter of ASPA
www.aspahr.org



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Schedule:

9:30 – 10:00 **Registration and Networking**

10:00 – 10:05 **Welcome and Symposium Overview**

10:05 – 10:50 **Panel One – Old Dominion Student Panel**

- This panel will present ideas on how ASPA National and our Chapter can support young professionals in their careers, increase student membership, and encourage young millennials to enter public service.

Panelists – Old Dominion University, School of Public Service:

- *Kelly Doolan, Ph.D. student, Supervisor VB Human Services*
- *Pragati Rawat, Ph.D. student, ODU Research Assistant*
- *Kylie Robbins, MPA student, Program Manager, Sentara*
- *David Sweet, MPA student, ODU Graduate Assistant*

11:00 – 11:45

Panel Two– Professional Associations Panel

- This panel will respond to the recommendations of the student panel and present ideas on how our professional associations can collaborate to support young professionals and engage millennials in the call to public service.

Panelists:

- *Michelle Clark, Administrative Services Manager, Public Works, City of Virginia Beach, VA (president of NFBPA (HR) and an ICMA member,*
- *Stanley Skinner, Assistant Director of Community Development, Suffolk, VA (past president of COMPA, ASPAHR council person)*
- *Steve Wright, Principal Analyst, Office of Budget & Strategic Planning, Norfolk, VA (ASPA and HR ASPA).*

12:00 – 12:20

Lunch

12:20 – 12:50

The Call to Public Service

Speaker:

Sgt. William L. Gervin

Virginia Beach Police Department

Founder: Spoken Destiny



William L. Gervin was born and raised in Newport News, Virginia. He attended Ferguson High School and graduated from Heritage High School as a member of its first graduating class. An honors graduate from Norfolk State University with a major in Sociology/Criminal Justice, he had an early desire to serve, starting his career as a juvenile counselor working with at risk youth. Two years later he began his journey into law enforcement, joining the Virginia Beach Police Department in 2003. During his time on the department he has served in multiple capacities to include community policing, defensive tactics instructor, academy fitness coordinator, and police selection officer. In 2010, William started his graduate studies at Troy University and completed his MPA in 2012. Promoted to Sergeant in 2013, he has worked in various supervisory roles to include overseeing patrol operations as well as recruitment and selection. He has received multiple awards to include a special commendation award and the department's lifesaving award. He is a graduate of the 2013 FBI National Academy's First Line Supervisor's School, 2015 FBI-LEEDA Supervisory Leadership Institute, and 2016 International Associations of Chiefs of Police Leadership in Police Organizations course.

Through all of his career experiences one thing has remained consistent, his ability to motivate and change the course of someone's life, whether that be a juvenile set on the wrong course, a new police recruit, a citizen in need, or now as a supervisor impacting both his employees or those looking to start their careers with the Virginia Beach Police Department.

Driven by his love for motivating people, in 2008 William started his company Spoken Destiny with a desire to become a positive and influential force in the lives of people, helping them reach their maximum potential, and doing so through one on one coaching, keynote and motivational speaking. His influence has been felt amongst a vast array of audiences including students, professionals, athletes, military service members, and entrepreneurs. In March of this year, Spoken Destiny hosted its first seminar, Seal Your Success 2016. He, alongside several experts in the field of fitness, finance, and faith helped people push past their "mental obstacles" to finally find success!