Greetings!

I’m pleased to let you know that our program remains strong thanks to both our students who have chosen excellence in education and our alumni like you who provide a strong network of support for our program.

There are many exciting events we would like to share with you. First among these is our Second Annual Key Executive Leadership Conference. This conference will build on the success of last year’s conference. Engaging and dynamic speakers will present both on current issues that face many of us in our workplaces and on new strategies and ideas to improve performance. The conference will be held on May 10. I hope that you will all join us for this wonderful event. If you are interested in registering for or assisting with the conference, contact Nina Allen at keyconference@american.edu.

We are also excited to announce that the Key Executive Leadership MPA Program is again headed to Brussels in June 2011. We had rave reviews from the first group of students and I am looking forward to leading the next group around Brussels this summer. We are one of only a few Executive MPA programs who offer an abroad experience, which is just one of the reasons why the Key Ex-

(continued on page 2)
(Director’s Message from page 1)

effective Leadership MPA program stands apart. As always, all of us at Key will continue to find new ways to offer increased value to our students.

In a first for Key, we have launched the first cohort of the AU/NMI Key Executive Leadership MPA Program with a Focus in Maritime Affairs. This focus is extremely important as global trade increases and concerns of international security place new demands on officials in ports around the world. We are working to keep Key on the leading edge of education demand in all areas of public administration and leadership.

If you missed the Leadership Forum on March 15, which was a great success, our next Leadership Forum will be on October 26; contact Sophie Idilbi at si8400a@american.edu for more information. The USDA is planning to include American University’s Key Certificate Program as part of the SES CDP Program. I would also like to extend a personal welcome to Key MPA Cohort 42 and Cohort 14 of the certificate program as they continue upholding our core values of knowledge and leadership.

Our first Open House of the year on April 15 was very successful. We will be hosting two more open houses this year on July 22 and October 14. I encourage you to come by and see all of the great improvements that have been made to provide the best academic programs possible for future leaders like you. As always, I encourage you to send students who desire to begin the path of extraordinary leadership. Our best ambassadors are our alumni and their ability to share their personal success in our program.

I continue to work with Key faculty, alumni, staff, and students to ensure that we maintain our tradition of providing a learning environment where students make the choice to excel. I look forward to seeing you at an upcoming Key event.

(Brussels Trip from page 1)

has stood the test of time; but it never occurred to me that emerging governments would consider using our system as a model. Going to Brussels changed all that. I was able to step outside this country and observe, from a different perspective, our government’s strengths, its weaknesses, and how we are able to guide the development of a new international government.

Not only has this experience helped shape how I view my role in government, but how I view my role in the world. I am now more engaged in foreign policy and able to see the bigger picture of how national objectives set by my agency feed into the larger governmental system that is often analyzed and re-tailored by foreign governments like the EU. As a civil servant and an American citizen, that’s something for which I’m particularly proud. But most importantly, it’s become more evident to me that I’m part of a workforce that leads the world in effective governance and that every day I commit to serving my country, I am committing to being a global citizen. In the end, that’s what it’s all about.”

Matthew August (Key 39)

“The trip to Brussels made me realize that humankind’s struggle for political equality and representation has taken many forms the world over. The EU is an evolutionary political body whose goal is to combine the hundreds of cultures and histories of its member states so that peace and prosperity can be shared and maintained across Europe. As a civil servant in the U.S., my role is the same as the civil servants in the EU who work to create and protect the national infrastructure and ensure that it remains strong and viable for all citizens now and into the future.”
Leadership Forums: Educating Leaders Outside of the Classroom

On March 15, the Key Executive Leadership Programs held a Leadership Forum at the National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA) on, “Increasing Leadership Scores on the Best Places to Work Index: Observed Best Practices at the Internal Revenue Service”. The Forum featured speakers from the IRS including James Falcone, Kevin McIver, and Susan Greer. They spoke about how they used their own discretion within their positions at the IRS to help improve leadership and overall IRS Best Places to Work scores.

The event was well attended by both current students and alumni in addition to representatives from numerous federal and local agencies. We encourage you to attend our next Leadership Forum at NAPA on October 26. Contact Sophie Idilbi at 202-885-6256 or email key@american.edu for more information.

2nd Annual Key Executive Leadership Programs Conference

The Key Executive Leadership Programs and the Key Alumni Conference Committee are excited to announce the second annual Key Executive Leadership Alumni Conference: “Bridging Academics and Application: The Key Journey” on AU’s main campus on Tuesday, May 10, 2011. The purpose of the Conference is to provide enriching and inspiring content, connections, and possibilities to the broader community of the Key Executive Leadership Programs as well as to others whose leadership contributes to public service and the public good. Key is excited to have Dr. Neil Kerwin (SPA/BA’71), President of American University and former Key professor, returning as our keynote speaker. Other conference speakers include Dr. Robert Marshak, Senior Scholar-in-Residence, Public Sector Executive Education, American University; Tom Caulfield, Executive Director, Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency Training Institute; and Mary L. Kendall, Acting Inspector General, US Department of the Interior.

Don't miss this exciting learning and networking event! Register for the conference for only $75. Space is limited, so register now!
**Alumni Updates**

**Key Certificate Program with the Fairfax County Police Department**
Graduate Andre Tibbs was promoted to the rank of Captain on February 26, 2011, assuming command of the Reston District Station.

**Key MPA Cohort 38**
December 2010 graduate Kathy Halvey Gibson was promoted to the position of Director, Division of Safety Analysis, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, at the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Current Key Students Need Your Support!**

With agencies under greater pressure from tightened budgets, funding for education is being scaled back or cut out of many agency budgets entirely; forcing many Key students to fund the program on their own. With your financial support, we can continue to ease the financial burdens of some Key students.

Since 2004, the Donald G. Zauderer Scholarship Endowment has helped to support students in the Key Executive Leadership MPA Program. Starting in 2010, the Anita F. Alpern Memorial Scholarship was established with the same mission. Each year these scholarships partially support two students enrolled in the Key Executive Leadership MPA Program. To qualify for the Scholarship, applicants must be Key MPA students who are receiving limited or no financial support from their employer and who have completed one year in the program, while maintaining at least a 3.7 GPA.

For more information on how you can help, please contact the SPA Alumni Office at (202) 885-2661.