

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Linda Cleary, Michigan Political Leadership Program, clearyl@msu.edu, 517-353-0891 or Cynthia Kyle, Institute for Public Policy and Social Research, kylec@msu.edu, 517-353-1731

Michigan Political Leadership Program Grads Win State House Seats

Fourteen alumni of Michigan State University's Michigan Political Leadership Program won state House seats in Tuesday's election and quickly moved into leadership positions.

A total of 14 MPLP graduates – including two freshmen – are on their way to taking office in January 2013.

The new class is the second largest number of MPLP graduates to serve together in the state House in the program's history.

"We couldn't be more pleased," said Douglas B. Roberts, Ph.D., director of MSU's Institute for Public Policy and Social Research. MPLP, considered the nation's premier legislative training program, makes its home at IPPSR in MSU's College of Social Science.

"MPLP has a strong history of training candidates for Michigan's House of Representatives, the Senate and for scores of grassroots leadership posts both appointed and elected. We are very proud of that record."

Following the 2012 general election, MPLP alumni were also elected to leadership positions in Michigan's state House.

Rep. Tim Greimel, D-Auburn Hills, was elected House Minority Leader. He hails from the MPLP Class of 2005. Rep. Rudy Hobbs, D-Lathrup Village, was elected House Minority Floor Leader. He is a 2004 MPLP graduate.

Among House Republicans, Rep. Margaret O'Brien, of Portage, will serve as an associate speaker pro tempore. She is a graduate of the MPLP Class of 2000.

MPLP offers fellowships to 24 aspiring leaders each year. Training takes place over 10 months in such areas as personal leadership, campaign finance and strategy, media relations and public policy analysis.

At last count, more than 50 percent of MPLP graduates were serving in elected or appointed office, noted MPLP Co-Director Anne Mervenne, a former executive in the administration of Gov. John Engler.



**Institute for
Public Policy and
Social Research**

College of
Social Science

Berkey Hall
509 East Circle Drive
Room 321
East Lansing, MI
48824-1111

517-355-6672
Fax: 517-432-1544
lppsr.msu.edu

MPLP/2

“This is an exceptional record,” Mervenne said. “Our graduates are hard at work not only in the state Legislature but also in school boards, nonprofit organizations and businesses. They serve as township trustees, county leaders, tribal posts and in judgeships at all levels, just to name a few.”

“We are proud of all Michigan Political Leadership Program Fellows, past and present,” said MPLP Co-Director Steve Tobocman, a former Majority Floor Leader, the second-highest position in the Michigan House. “Their leadership is appreciated.”

MPLP alumni serving the state House after Tuesday’s election include:

- Rep. Harvey Santana D-Detroit, MPLP Class of 2002, 9th District, Wayne County.
- Rep. Phil Cavanagh D-Redford Township, MPLP Class of 1998, 10th District, Wayne County.
- Rep. Tim Greimel D-Auburn Hills, MPLP Class of 2005, 29th District, Oakland County.
- Rep. Rudy Hobbs D-Lathrop Village, MPLP Class of 2004, 35th District, Oakland County.
- Rep. Gail Haines R-Lake Angelus, MPLP Class of 2007, 43rd District, Oakland County.
- Rep. Sean McCann D-Kalamazoo, MPLP Class of 1999, 60th District, Kalamazoo County.
- Rep. Margaret O’Brien R-Portage, MPLP Class of 2000, 61st District, Kalamazoo County.
- Rep. Kate Segal D-Battle Creek, MPLP Class of 2002, 62nd District, Calhoun County.
- Sam Singh, D-East Lansing, MPLP Class of 1997, 69th District, Ingham County.
- Theresa Abed, D-Grand Ledge, MPLP Class of 2008, 71st District, Eaton County.
- Rep. Peter MacGregor, R-Rockford, MPLP Class of 2004, 73rd District, Kent County.
- Rep. Michael Callton, R-Nashville, MPLP Class of 2009, 87th District, Barry County.
- Rep. Amanda Price, R-Park Township, MPLP Class of Spring 1993, 89th District, Ottawa County.
- Rep. Wayne Schmidt, R-Traverse City, MPLP Class of 2007, 104th District, Traverse County.

For a list of all MPLP serving now or in the past in elected and appointed posts, please see <http://ippsr.msu.edu/mplp/fellows.html>.