

# **CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY MAXINE GOODMAN LEVIN COLLEGE OF URBAN AFFAIRS**

## **Description**

The Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs has a long-standing reputation for outstanding scholarship that is at the heart of defining Cleveland State University's urban mission. It is Ohio's only college of urban affairs and is ranked among the top eight schools of urban affairs in the United States. For the past 10 years, the *U.S. News and World Report* has ranked the Levin College of Urban Affairs' Master of Public Administration program second in the nation in the area of city management and urban policy. Overall, the College is ranked 45<sup>th</sup> among the nation's 269 public affairs schools. The Levin College has long been a recognized source of expertise in urban policy, public management, planning, economic development, nonprofit administration, urban sprawl, neighborhood development, housing, real estate, demographics, and regional issues.

The Levin College combines theory and practice in teaching urban policy analysis, planning and management. Whether they pursue careers in the public, private, or nonprofit sectors, Levin College graduates understand urban policy and public management and are prepared to solve problems, analyze policies and programs, and to lead people and organizations.

Faculty in the Levin College are experts in the disciplines of economics, urban planning, public administration, geography, and political science. Adjunct faculty, who are leading professionals in their fields, also teach within the College, giving students ample opportunity to learn from their professional expertise.

For nearly 30 years, the Levin College's Urban Center has served as the focal point of research and public service in Ohio. The Center draws on the talented pool of researchers and scholars at the college. Serving as the flagship school to the Ohio Urban University Program (UUP), the Urban Center offers expertise in four key areas of excellence: leadership and organizational development, public and non-profit management, economic development and sustainable communities.

The Levin College receives public support through the UUP, a program of the Ohio General Assembly and the Ohio Board of Regents. The Levin College coordinates the unique network linking the resources of eight of Ohio's urban universities with the communities and students they serve in a cooperative effort to serve Ohio's urban regions. The Levin College of Urban

Affairs serves as administrator of the UUP; and the Dean of the College serves as Chair of the committee, providing leadership and serving as primary spokesperson for the program. The Levin College also has administrative and day-to-day management responsibility for the UUP. The program is recognized as a national model for focusing the talents and resources of Ohio's higher education community on the revitalization efforts of the state's urban communities.

The Levin College is also home to the Albert A. Levin Chair of Urban Studies and Public Service. Established at Cleveland State University in 1969, it was the first endowed professorship in the nation that combined classroom teaching with public service. The Chair was established with the intent that it would serve the common interests of Cleveland State University and the Greater Cleveland community and would address the problems of the urban environment. Part of the Levin Chair's charge is to work with community leaders concerned with seeking solutions to urban problems. The Chair is also expected to research, with faculty and students, for new and advanced understandings to these problems and makes positive responses to them. The Chairholder is described as a catalyst within the University and the community to develop long-range strategies to address urban concerns. Dr. Jeffrey L. Brudney, Ph.D. is the current Levin Chair of Urban Studies and Public Service. Dr. Brudney has published widely in the areas of public administration, the nonprofit sector, and volunteerism. According to a study in the *Journal of Public Administration Education*, he ranks tenth in research productivity among scholars world-wide base on article publication over the past decade in all referred journals affiliated with the American Society for Public Administration. The Urban Institute calls him the "foremost research expert on volunteer management programs and community volunteer centers in the United States."

The College's Visiting Committee has always been an important advisory group to the Levin College. In 1985, the Visiting Committee established the "In Tribute to Public Service" Award Program to honor individuals who demonstrate exemplary leadership in public life and contribute significantly to the betterment of the community. Proceeds from the event, which total over \$500,000, support the Mercedes Cotner Endowed Scholarship, which provides educational opportunities for the next generation of public leaders from the Cleveland Municipal School District. The scholarship provides full tuition, room and board, books, and other related fees at the Levin College.

The Levin College offers six undergraduate majors, five graduate majors, a Ph.D. program, three 5-year BA/MA programs, dual degrees with the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, six certificate programs, and a degree partnership with Chung-Ang University in Seoul, Korea. In addition to its academic degree offerings, the Levin College offers non-degree professional training to meet the needs of individuals at a variety of levels, such as policy

makers, elected officials, public administrators, local ward leaders, and community leaders. Leadership Development is offered through the College's Leadership Academy, Ohio Certified Public Manager Program, Newly Elected Official Certificate Series, and the American Marshall Memorial Fellowship. The College also serves as the home for *Economic Development Quarterly*, the leading journal in the field of economic development.

## **Charge to the Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs Visiting Committee**

The primary purpose of the Visiting Committee is to provide advice and support to the Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs in its mission as a major academic, research, and community service unit of Cleveland State University. Specifically, the Visiting Committee will:

- Assist in the refinement of a long-term strategic plan for the College of Urban Affairs that addresses the development of a strong academic capability and building of an urban research and technical assistance program; provide critical advice in the identification of relevant environmental factors, assessment of the College's current capabilities, and the formulation of long-term priorities, goals and related program and personnel needs.
- Assist in designing an effective recruitment program to attract top quality faculty, staff and students.
- Provide a forum for interaction with employers of the College of Urban Affairs, students, and groups who can benefit from the College's research, training, technical assistance, and data programs for the purpose of improving our academic, research, and community service activities.
- Report its activities and recommendations in writing annually to the Board of Trustees.

The following overall goals support the aforementioned charges to the Visiting Committee:

- Develop an enhanced awareness of the Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs' mission, goals and objectives.

- Serve as front-line ambassadors for the Levin College of Urban Affairs and Cleveland State University.
- Provide intern opportunities, career counseling, and job placement whenever possible and appropriate.
- Support and enhance the College's efforts to attract and secure funding from private and public sectors.
- Participate fully in the annual "In Tribute to the Public Service" fundraiser.
- Serve as guest lecturers in regularly scheduled classes or at specially convened forums.
- Share expertise with the Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs faculty, staff and students.
- Identify funding sources for the Levin College of Urban Affairs.

# Membership

## Visiting Committee Chair

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**Patricia J. Britt**  
City Clerk, Clerk of Council  
City of Cleveland

**John J. Carney**  
Attorney, Real Estate Owner and  
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Lankmark Management

**Jeri E. Chaikin**  
Chief Administrative Officer  
City of Shaker Heights, Ohio

**William B. (Barry) Doggett**  
Senior Vice President, Public and  
Community Affairs  
Eaton Corporation

**Sari Feldman**  
Executive Director  
Cuyahoga County Public Library

**William S. Gaskill**  
Firm Administrator  
Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue

**David S. Goodman**  
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**James Levin**  
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**Dr. Jared S. Levin**  
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