For ten years, the Bush School of Government and Public Service has educated principled leaders in public and international affairs, conducted research, and given back to the community through public service.
“In a hundred years, I would like to look back and have historians say, ‘From that school came generation after generation of people who were committed to public service for the right reasons—they believed that public service is noble and they believed they could make a difference.’”

GEORGE BUSH
41ST PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
THE VISION

In a little more than a decade, the Bush School has made remarkable strides toward becoming one of the leading public and international affairs graduate schools in the nation. The belief of George Bush, 41st President of the United States, in the nobility of public service has been the cornerstone of the School’s philosophy and continues to shape all aspects of the curriculum, research, and student experience.

The Master of Public Service and Administration and the Master’s Program in International Affairs are the two academic cornerstones of the School. In addition to the successful degree programs, the School has also instituted an expanding online and extended education program that includes certificates in advanced international affairs, homeland security, and nonprofit management.

Distinguished, multidisciplinary faculty members have gained national and international prominence for their research, publications, and leadership of significant conferences on key issues of public policy. The Institute for Science, Technology, and Public Policy and the Scowcroft Institute of International Affairs were established to conduct policy-oriented research.

In its short history, the School has made a significant impact in the public service arena through research and the development of public servants and principled leaders.
The need for men and women of character committed to public service is greater than ever. The nature of public service has changed dramatically in recent years, and the implications for government and public servants at all levels are profound. The Bush School prepares individuals for leadership positions in the public and nonprofit sectors through relevant and challenging courses, leadership development opportunities, and a distinguished faculty who support a collaborative learning environment enriched by advanced technologies. Talented and committed graduates pursue public service careers on a foundation of academic excellence.
The need for leaders of character and integrity in public life is greater than ever. The demand for accountability and ethical behavior has increased in recent years and is unlikely to diminish.

The Master of Public Service and Administration (MPSA) program develops principled leaders for the public and nonprofit sectors, providing students the tools and knowledge they will need in order to perform effectively and ethically in a time when public servants face new and increased challenges.

Accredited by the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration, the program provides students with general knowledge and analytical skills in management, leadership, policy analysis, and research methods. MPSA students have ample opportunities to engage in public service and to develop leadership skills both inside and outside the classroom through interaction with high-level public leaders, real-world consulting projects, student organizations, and the School’s Public Service Leadership Program.

The end of the Cold War, the acceleration of globalism, and aggressive worldwide terrorism are among the changes that have expanded and transformed national and international public service opportunities.

The Master’s Program in International Affairs (MPIA) prepares students for professional careers in global affairs, providing the academic background and life skills essential for careers that will enable them to make a positive difference in the lives of people around the world.

The curriculum provides students with general knowledge and analytical skills in diplomacy, international politics, regional studies, intelligence, and international economic development. Intensive seminars on international issues, study abroad courses, language immersion, and leadership and exchange programs prepare students for careers in international affairs.

Extended education

The Bush School welcomes working professionals and students who need flexibility in order to extend their education. Additional academic options have been developed for those interested in public policy and service. Because we appreciate the varied backgrounds that professionals from many fields, different levels of government, and the military bring to public service, the Bush School offers graduate-level certificate programs, as well as online and executive education options.

The Certificate in Advanced International Affairs (CAIA) program is an innovative way for individuals to acquire knowledge in international relations that supports a wide range of careers in a highly connected world.

The Certificate in Homeland Security (CHLS) meets rapidly growing educational needs in the area of strategy and policy for homeland security.

The Certificate in Nonprofit Management (CNPM) prepares the next generation of leaders to be effective managers of nonprofit organizations.
Students who choose the Bush School are among the best and the brightest. Showing a genuine desire to serve others, these students have demonstrated the potential for leadership, are self-aware and adaptable, and are ready for great responsibility. The School prides itself on having created an environment where students of diverse backgrounds and political views from around the nation and the world can study and work in collegial and welcoming surroundings. Their career opportunities are greatly enhanced through mutually supportive learning, leadership development opportunities, and successful teamwork experiences.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Despite being a relatively young school, graduates of the Bush School are already making their mark in the field of public service. Their places of employment include such prestigious organizations as the U.S. Department of State, the Central Intelligence Agency, West Point, and the American Red Cross. This impressive employment record is due in large measure to the fact that many students have internships at some time during their studies, often made possible by the connections and contacts of the faculty, graduates of the programs, or leaders connected with the Bush School.
Students from across the country and the world choose the Bush School because they have a desire to serve the public good.

The School strives to ensure that they have the knowledge, skills, and leadership abilities to be effective, principled leaders in a broad array of public service settings. That means providing the best faculty and physical environment possible so that effective learning can take place.

State-of-the-art classrooms with wireless internet access, laptops for learning, language laboratories, writing coaches, and career services are among the essential elements that help students succeed.

This learning environment has been purposefully designed to enhance a collaborative educational experience, which is at the heart of the Bush School.

The Bush School has been recognized by its peers for creating a unique learning environment, where students learn from one another and from highly acclaimed faculty in interactive and personalized settings. Shared work space adjacent to faculty offices and the diverse backgrounds of both students and faculty facilitate academic discourse, personal development, and lively intellectual exchanges.

The atmosphere of learning, collaboration, and partnerships begins in the classroom, but it extends well beyond it. From student organizations to Capstone projects, where teams of 5-7 students work with real-world clients on applied research projects, there is a special camaraderie within each cohort of students. Students, working together with faculty and staff members, complement each other’s strengths to help the group succeed. This collaborative effort, which is enriched by intensive classroom experiences, simulations, and internships, emphasizes the commitment of the Bush School to ethical and principled public leadership and service.
“My Bush School experience taught me the value of a life dedicated to public service. I learned that serving the public is a privilege as well as a way to fulfill my own dreams.”

STACI CROSS
MPSA Class of 2006
The academic reputation of any institution depends largely on the quality of its faculty. Bush School faculty members are nationally and internationally acclaimed experts in their academic fields; and many have real-world experience in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors. Widely recognized as dedicated teachers, the faculty combines specialized knowledge and expertise with innovative teaching methods that enrich and broaden students’ academic experience.

In addition to publishing books, the faculty contribute regularly to the foremost scholarly journals in their respective fields. Leading-edge research conducted by the faculty ensures that Bush School students are at the forefront of public policy knowledge. Strong faculty connections to the larger world of public service offer unique opportunities to students.

Seventeen of the School’s faculty hold endowed chairs or professorships, another testament to their academic excellence and reputation. All faculty members are carefully selected, well credentialed, from diverse backgrounds, and fully engaged in the School’s extensive research agenda, instructional activities, and professional service.

Through research, teaching, service, and mentoring, Bush School faculty members are the cutting edge of the college’s public service mission.
“Public service is a noble calling and we need men and women of character to believe that they can make a difference in their communities, in their states, and in their country.”

GEORGE BUSH
41ST PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
The Bush School is fully committed to its founder’s vision of educating and training principled leaders. By making leadership development and service core components of students’ educational experience, the School reinforces his belief that successful individuals must have more than education, experience, and credentials. They also need the ability to effectively motivate and influence others by realizing their own leadership potential.

Unique among peer graduate institutions, the Bush School’s Public Leadership Program integrates leadership development into all aspects of the curriculum, faculty research, publications, and outreach. The program was developed to underscore the belief that while education, experience, and credentials are important career elements, successful individuals must develop their own leadership potential. Formal leadership instruction is augmented with workshops, seminars, and exercises that enhance students’ skills in effective public management. The School’s speaker series, coordinated with the Bush Foundation, and the “Conversations in Leadership” series offer students interaction and informal discussion opportunities with experienced leaders from all levels of government as well as the nonprofit and private sectors.

A CALL TO SERVE

In addition to emphasizing its founder’s vision and values, the Bush School’s concentration on leadership and service also reflects Texas A&M University’s traditional emphasis on “the other education,” the learning and insights that come from participating in student activities and student life. Students in the Bush School have a rich set of opportunities from which to choose, both within the School and in a host of Texas A&M student organizations, where they can pursue a range of interests and projects. Bush School students often volunteer for local nonprofit organizations, further increasing their understanding of the importance of community service.
“I aim to make a difference, not only in my own society but in the world at large. The Bush School is the premier institution to provide me with the necessary guidance and tools to make this dream a reality.”

CATHERINE FORD
MPIA Class of 2008
In addition to the diverse individual research projects undertaken by faculty, the Bush School is also recognized for its emphasis on collaborative and interdisciplinary team projects conducted through its two organized research units and by teams of students for a client under the direction of a faculty member.
The ISTPP, a nonpartisan, interdisciplinary public policy research institute, focuses on the scholarly examination of complex public policy issues in the areas of the environment and natural resources, health, infrastructure and the built environment, and emerging technologies.

Created in the fall of 2000 on the foundation laid by the Center for Public Leadership Studies (CPLS), the Institute now concentrates on research development and the general problem of information transfer.

The Institute seeks to encourage and implement interdisciplinary research on science, technology, and public policy within the Texas A&M University System and to enhance the School and the University’s ability to effectively disseminate the results of faculty research in these areas to policy makers, decision makers, and the public.

In March 2007, the Texas A&M Board of Regents formally approved the creation of the Scowcroft Institute of International Affairs, named in honor of Lt. Gen. Brent Scowcroft for his years of dedicated service in the fields of national security and world affairs.

The Scowcroft Institute promotes policy-oriented research by faculty, students, and visiting scholars in national security and foreign policy as well as other issues in international affairs, and enables collaborative research partnerships with scholars and experts on international affairs. The Institute was a natural outgrowth of several successful existing Bush School programs such as the National Security Seminar Series, the Lone Star National Security Forum, the Humphreys International Speakers Program, Scowcroft Scholarships, and research activities of the Scowcroft and Gates Endowed Chairs, as well as several initiatives of the Bush Library Foundation.

The Institute also will provide a locus for faculty, students, and visiting fellows to explore crucial contemporary issues in foreign and national security policy and related aspects of world affairs.

CAPSTONE PROJECTS

Bush School students are active participants in the college’s research program through the Capstone projects. Teams of students execute an applied project for a real-world client and present the client with a final report. Led by a faculty member, these projects require students to think independently, frame and analyze issues, and apply their academic knowledge and skills. The Capstone process shows students how research affects policy decisions and the importance of fully examining all aspects of a problem. Their results profoundly impact policy at local, state, regional, national, and international levels.
Located on the campus of Texas A&M University, one of the largest universities in the nation, the Bush School enjoys the best of urban and rural Texas.

Texas A&M is a university of strong and unique traditions, has an enormous wealth of resources and opportunities, and attracts faculty and students from all over the world.
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Located on the campus of Texas A&M University, one of the largest universities in the nation, the Bush School enjoys the best of urban and rural Texas.

Consistently ranked as one of the best places in the nation to live, the twin communities of Bryan and College Station, adjacent to the Bush School campus and with a combined population of some 130,000, are literally in the “heart” of Texas. Less than 100 miles from Houston and Austin and 160 miles from Dallas and San Antonio, Bryan-College Station is a vibrant university community within a few hours of many of the unique sights of Texas, including the beautiful beaches of the Texas coast. A network of well-maintained highways and a regional airport serviced by major international airlines facilitate quick transportation between College Station and the rest of the country and the world.

The two communities and the University work together to create an environment that is welcoming and affordable to Bush School students.
The Bush Presidential Library and Museum are immediately adjacent to the Bush School and regularly host renowned speakers and unique traveling exhibits. Part of the National Archives, the Library chronicles the public service career of George Bush, 41st President of the United States, and includes a comprehensive collection of the President’s official and personal papers, photographs, museum objects, and video footage of his life. Since its opening in 1997, the Library has become a vibrant and integral part of the life of Bryan-College Station, sponsoring numerous community events and activities.

Local volunteers welcome visitors and students from around the world and take justifiable pride in this remarkable facility that includes the library, museum, and large conference center, and has significantly impacted the University, Bush School, and the community.
“The unique traditions and proud history of Texas A&M combined with the enormous wealth of resources and exceptional opportunities attract faculty and students from all over the world.”

ROBERTSON DICKENS
MPIA Class of 2008
Creating a new graduate professional school takes vision, commitment, hard work—and financing. From its earliest days, the Bush School has been generously supported by individuals, foundations, and corporations who were inspired by its founder’s vision for a new school of government and public service. Sharing his understanding of the importance of educating principled future leaders and appreciating Texas A&M University’s tradition of leadership and public service, they chose to be partners in this important endeavor of the state of Texas.
During the School’s first decade, generous donors have made possible the creation of 17 endowed faculty positions, a remarkable number for a relatively young school. Support for scholarships has enabled the School to recruit the very best students by offering outstanding financial aid packages. In sum, their gifts have played, and will continue to play, a crucial role in the School’s progress and continuing success.

Friends of the Bush School

BUSH SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD

The Bush School is fortunate to have the support of a group of distinguished persons from government, business, the military, and academia with unique perspectives about government and public service willing to provide advice and counsel. Formed in 1997, the Board enjoy the participation of George Bush, 41st President of the United States, as an ex-officio member. In addition to providing strategic advice to the School’s administration, the Board also works to promote the institution’s national visibility, reputation, and prestige, and provides other assistance as necessary. The strong support, interest, and dedication of members of the Bush School Advisory Board help to explain the extraordinary progress achieved in the School’s first ten years. Working with the School’s leadership, the Board’s guidance and wise counsel always serve the School’s best interests.

BUSH SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Like all public institutions of higher education, the Bush School is state assisted, not fully state supported. More than two-thirds of the funds needed to operate the School come from private donations. A 23-member Development Council works with the dean and others to help meet these on-going needs, with a goal of securing the Bush School’s future as one of the preeminent and noteworthy professional education programs in the world. Composed of leaders from business, government, and education, the Council helps the School’s leadership identify financial needs and develops strategies to help ensure that the School continues the tradition of excellence for which it has become known.

Generous Support

During the School’s first decade, generous donors have made possible the creation of 17 endowed faculty positions, a remarkable number for a relatively young school. Support for scholarships has enabled the School to recruit the very best students by offering outstanding financial aid packages. In sum, their gifts have played, and will continue to play, a crucial role in the School’s progress and continuing success.
DEAR FRIENDS, COLLEAGUES, SUPPORTERS, AND BENEFACCTORS OF THE BUSH SCHOOL:

During the remarkable first decade of the George Bush School of Government and Public Service, the vision of its namesake, the 41st President of the United States, has served as the template for the School’s advancement into the 21st century. He challenged us to build a “great school” that would attract men and women of character to the noble calling of government and public service, a school that would inspire and prepare people to make the world a better place to live. Working together—students, faculty, staff, administrators, supporters, benefactors, and friends—we think we are well on the way to accomplishing the vision and the challenge set forth by President Bush.

Teaching, research, and service are the three core missions of the Bush School. Our job is to prepare principled leaders for public and international affairs, conduct policy-oriented research that improves the world around us, and perform service that enhances the lives of people everywhere. The School’s vision calls for it to be a preeminent school, an asset to the community, state, nation, and world, and a center of excellence for all that we do. When I look at the fundamental contributions of the School in its first 10 years of history—the placement of its graduates in positions of high responsibility and the impact of its cutting-edge research and studies in the service of others—I see the emergence of this “great school”, and others see it as well.

I have said many times that the Bush School is a new school...for a new era...preparing a new kind of public servant for the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century. “The nature of public service is dynamic and changing, and it is a “new world coming.” Thus the demands on public leaders are changing, and new requirements exist for leadership, management, and stewardship, for organizations, processes, and methods, for science, technology, and research, and for training, education, and professional development. When I look at the landscape, I believe that a “revolution in government and public service” is underway, and I believe the preparation of today’s public servants must keep pace...must lead, not lag, the inexorable advance of change and transformation...and provide principled, professionally competent leaders.

That’s what we do in the Bush School.

Dick Chilcoat
THE GUIDING PRINCIPLES

THE MISSION OF THE GEORGE BUSH SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC SERVICE is to educate principled leaders in public and international affairs, conduct research, and perform service.

OUR VISION is to be a preeminent school of government and public service... a state, national, and international asset... and a center of excellence for teaching, research, and service.

OUR STRATEGIC GOALS are to serve the interests of the public at local, state, regional, national, and international levels... to educate principled leaders, conduct relevant research, and perform contributing service in the realm of public and international affairs...

...to build a great school of government and public service...

...to help build a greater university...

...and to help build a greater presidential library center.

OUR CORE VALUES are excellence in teaching, research, and service...

...shared vision and shared governance...

...academic integrity, freedom, and responsibility...

...diversity of thought and expression...

...intellectual rigor and objectivity...

...respect, dignity, and consideration for others...

...ethical and principled conduct...

...collegiality, community, tolerance, and teamwork...

...nonpartisanship...

...and commitment to public service and democratic institutions.