



Senator Grace Drake served in the Ohio Senate from 1984 through 2000, representing the eastern and southern portion of Cuyahoga County and all of Medina and Wayne Counties. During her tenure in the Ohio Senate, she served as a member of the Economic Development, Education, Agriculture, Finance and Financial Institutions, Highways and Transportation, Judiciary and Civil Justice, Rules and References, State and Local Governments, and Ways and Means Committees. She also chaired the committees on Health, Human Services, and Aging, and Economic Development and Environment. Nationally, she served as Chair of the Human Services Committee of the State-Federal Assembly of the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) and as Co-Chair of the National Conference of State Legislatures Task Force on Welfare Reform. She has served on several other committees of the NCSL, Council of State Governments, and the American Legislative Exchange Council. She has been recognized for her hard work with several key appointments, including serving as the first Chair of the Ohio Women's Policy and Research Commission and as a member of the State Controlling Board and Co-Chair of the Certificate of Need Study Committee.

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Cleveland State University



Maxine Goodman Levin
College of Urban Affairs

The Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs at Cleveland State University is a nationally recognized source of policy research, technical assistance, and training services around urban and regional development issues. The College is ranked second nationwide by *U.S. News and World Report's* survey of graduate programs in City Management and Urban Policy.

The Levin College of Urban Affairs provides applied research and outreach services to the community through a number of integrated centers and initiatives. The collective mission of these research centers is to serve as a source for the investigation of issues and challenges facing urban communities and to apply the college's resources to solutions.

Students have opportunities to work with faculty and staff in the research and public service (including training) centers, programs, and related initiatives of the Levin College.

- Center for Civic Education
- Center for Economic Development
- Center for Health Equity
- Center for Housing Research & Policy
- Center for Leadership Development
- Center for Neighborhood Development
- Center for Nonprofit Policy & Practice
- Center for Planning Research and Practice
- Center for Public Management
- Center for Sacred Landmarks
- Great Lakes Environmental Finance Center (GLEFC)
- Northern Ohio Data & Information Service (NODIS)
- Ohio Center for the Advancement of Women in Public Service
- Unger International Center for Local Government Leadership
- Urban Child Research Center

<http://urban.csuohio.edu>

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The Ohio Center for the Advancement of Women in Public Service



The Ohio Center for the Advancement of Women in Public Service

works to promote the advancement of the careers of women and men in public service within the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government at the national, state, and local levels. It accomplishes its mission through educational programs designed to foster and encourage the selection of public service as a profession.

MENTORING

The Center's mentoring program, run in collaboration with the Levin College Visiting Committee, is open to both female and male graduate-level students and undergraduates who are juniors or seniors. Each student is paired with a community professional who has real world experience in politics and governance, business, the public sector, or the nonprofit sector. These individuals are well-established within the Greater Cleveland community as leaders and innovators and can provide students with a broader body of knowledge than the classroom experience allows.

The Center sponsors an introductory dinner for students and mentors to meet, exchange interests, and plan goals and objectives for the upcoming year. Each student is required to participate actively in the mentoring experience. The program offers training sessions to learn how best to utilize the mentoring relationship, and students are encouraged to set goals in order to maximize their experience.



"Mentoring is vitally important for students to learn networking skills and to get some insight and real world experience in their chosen career path. I think it is beneficial for the mentors as well to pass down the knowledge they've gained over years of experience so that students can avoid repeating the same mistakes."

State Senator Grace Drake, Director
The Ohio Center for the Advancement of Women
in Public Service

CAREERS IN GOVERNMENT

Twice a year, the forum-style Careers in Government brings in a panel of professionals to discuss their career paths. Careers in Government is open to all current, former, and prospective university students as well as to the general public. Panelists are typically elected or appointed officials who give personal thoughts and reflections on the profession of public service and their reasons for choosing their career. The Center, in its endeavor to recruit young people for jobs in the public sector, uses life stories to highlight the benefits and rewards that come with that choice.



YOU SHOULD RUN FOR OFFICE



The Ohio Center for the Advancement of Women in Public Service has created a 30-minute DVD, *YOU Should Run for Office*, and accompanying curriculum to inspire Ohioans, especially women and members of minority groups, to run for the Ohio General Assembly. Through research funded by the

United States Departments of Labor and Education, the Center identified term limits as an impediment to attracting qualified candidates to the state legislature. In an effort to recruit more candidates, the program explores issues related to running for public office, including the nuts and bolts of running a campaign and the rewards of public service. The program also features 15 current and former elected officials who discuss their careers, how they entered public service, and the challenges of political life.

The program is available as a stand-alone DVD or can be accompanied by an educational curriculum for university students, community groups, social organizations, and political groups. The program includes a discussion of the history of women and minorities in Ohio politics, an examination of electioneering issues pertinent to political science classes, and demonstrates the role of representative government as part of a democratic republic. The DVD won a 2007 Silver Pollie Award in the category of *Television: Best Non-Broadcast Video* from the American Association of Political Consultants.

WOMEN IN ACTION SPEAKER SERIES

The career paths that women take when entering public service often differ from that of men. To illustrate alternative routes and provide examples of women who have successfully navigated the system, the Center sponsors the Women in Action Speaker Series. Past speakers have included HealthSpace Director Patricia Horvath, who combined a nursing and business career; former Levin Chair Dr. Camilla Stivers, who obtained her Ph.D. after a career in the health services industry; and 93-year old activist and former suffragette Esther Saginor.

Volunteer mentors have come from the following organizations:

- City of Shaker Heights
- Cuyahoga County Board of Commissioners
- Cuyahoga County Board of Health
- Downtown Cleveland Partnership
- Environmental Protection Agency, Northeast Ohio Division
- Forest City Enterprises
- Governor's Regional Development Office
- Greater Cleveland Convention and Visitors Bureau
- Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (RTA)
- HealthSpace Cleveland
- NAACP
- Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA)
- Positive Education Program (PEP)