



THE NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY  
CARL E. HEASTIE, SPEAKER

INTERN COMMITTEE  
DEBORAH J. GLICK, CHAIR

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The New York State Assembly is an Equal Opportunity Employer.  
The New York State Assembly Intern Committee seeks to attract to its Internships qualified persons of diverse backgrounds, and pursuant to this policy, no applicant is discriminated against because of race, color, creed, sex, religion, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, domestic violence victim status, genetic predisposition or carrier status, marital status, or military status.  
A copy of the Assembly's Affirmative Action Policy is available upon request

NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY

Carl E. Heastie, Speaker  
Deborah J. Glick, Chair

GRADUATE  
INTERNSHIP

A Comprehensive,  
Professional and Academic Program

# ALL MAJORS ARE WELCOME TO APPLY

January – June

The Assembly's Graduate Internship Program provides an opportunity for up to 10 Graduate Scholars to serve as full-time staff researchers and policy analysts for Assembly leaders, committees and central staff. Graduate Scholars' responsibilities can include: fiscal analysis of proposed legislation and program budgets, researching and drafting bills and memos, and preparing background papers and reports. Specific duties are dependent on the abilities of the Graduate Scholar and the needs of the office.

The Assembly Intern Committee's faculty advise the Graduate Scholars and initiate a series of seminars and activities designed to integrate theory and practice. Graduate Scholars are also required to attend Issue Policy Forums as well as a course run by the faculty.



## Janet Penksa, PhD

*Professor-In-Residence*

*New York State Legislature, Assembly Graduate Scholars Internship Program*

Dr. Penksa is presently the Professor-In-Residence for the New York State Legislature's Graduate Scholars Program in the State Assembly, the legislature's lower house.

Prior to her appointment to the Assembly Graduate Scholars Program, Dr. Penksa held the positions of Associate Professor at Buffalo State College's Masters of

Public Administrations Program, Visiting Lecturer and Executive at Cornell University's graduate program in public affairs, and Executive Director at the Jacobs Institute, responsible for start-up operations for this newly established University-based innovation center. Dr. Penksa continues to hold professional workshops for Cornell University's graduate program in public affairs.

In addition to her academic career, Dr. Penksa has held a number of senior level positions in the public and private sectors. She launched her career in the New York State Legislature as a Graduate Scholar for the Assembly Ways and Means Committee. She rose to the appointed position of Secretary to the Ways and Means Committee in 1993, making her the first woman in the history of New York State to oversee one of the three key state fiscal departments in New York State. Dr. Penksa subsequently served as an Associate Vice-President at the University at Buffalo from 1999 until 2005, overseeing the University's Office of Government Affairs.

From 2007 to 2012, Dr. Penksa served as Commissioner of Administration, Finance, Policy and Urban Affairs for the City of Buffalo, a cabinet-level position reporting directly to the Mayor. Among her accomplishments here, Dr. Penksa directed and reformed the City's fiscal management practices, which contributed to the end of the New York State imposed financial control period and increases in the City's Wall Street credit ratings to "A" grade, the highest in over 40 years.

Dr. Penksa received her doctorate from the State University of New York at the University at Buffalo. She earned an M.P.A. and a B.A. from the State University of New York at Binghamton University.

Assembly Graduate Scholars receive an \$15,000 stipend for the six month, full-time Internship which coincides with the legislative session from January through June. The Internship provides a unique mix of professional and educational experience.



*2019 Graduate Scholar Seminar Series*



*Dr. Janet Penksa, Professor-in-Residence (front left) with 2019 Graduate Scholars*