



Welcome to the 2015 Program of the Public Executive Leadership Academy!

We salute you for making this commitment to professional and personal development. Our faculty members have designed a program to challenge you, and to provide you with new capacities for leading your community in times of change.

Through participating in PELA you will be better equipped to:

- Understand your strengths and weaknesses as a leader and develop skills for personal learning and change;
- Diagnose problems and assess situations within your organization and community;
- Engage elected officials and other leaders in community change;
- Promote teamwork and collaboration;
- Communicate to diverse audiences;
- Assess risks and manage conflict; and
- Facilitate change.

Achieving these outcomes will require hard work. We will be spending two weeks together, but this is just the beginning! UNC's School of Government provides a welcome and safe learning environment for candid, constructive, and confidential conversations. You will have an open and inviting climate for discussion, where all ideas and insights are important, and critiquing is done in a respectful manner.

We have assembled a talented faculty, who are skilled at engagement and interaction inside and outside of the classroom. They will encourage creative thinking and risk-taking to enrich our conversations. You will also learn from one another. The residential format enables the PELA learning process to continue after the program sessions.

We are counting on you to set ambitious learning goals for yourself to make the most of the PELA experience. We want you to take responsibility for your and your colleagues learning by:

- Attending all class sessions, arriving on time, and being prepared;
- Participating in social functions;
- Working in-between sessions and after graduation on your community change project and leadership development plan;
- Interacting with colleagues and faculty, thinking creatively, and challenging when you disagree;
- Leaving the office (and cell phone) behind.

With your commitment and contributions, PELA 2015 will be an exciting and engaging experience for everyone. We look forward to working with you!

Carl Stenberg



Professor of Public Administration and Government
Program Director, Public Executive Leadership Academy