

BROOKINGS

Executive Education

June 12, 2018

Brookings Executive Education is a partnership of the Brookings Institution and Washington University in St. Louis Olin School of Business.



CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES



Students from Brookings Executive Education's [Master of Science in Leadership](#) (MSL) program graduated May 4, 2018, in a ceremony held at Graham Memorial Chapel on the campus of Washington University in St. Louis.

The celebration underscored the historical relationship between the university and Brookings Institution. Robert S. Brookings led Washington University's governing board for 33 years and also founded, in 1916 the Washington, D.C., think tank that bears his name.

"It's fitting that 101 years later, we have a new class emerging from our joint Brookings-Olin leadership program," said Washington University Business School Dean Mark Taylor. Retired U.S. Army Col. Timothy Keasling spoke on behalf of the MSL students.

"It is indeed a great honor to graduate from such a fine and prestigious university," Keasling said. "This will be my third master's and the one which I have learned the most from concerning leadership and leading change."

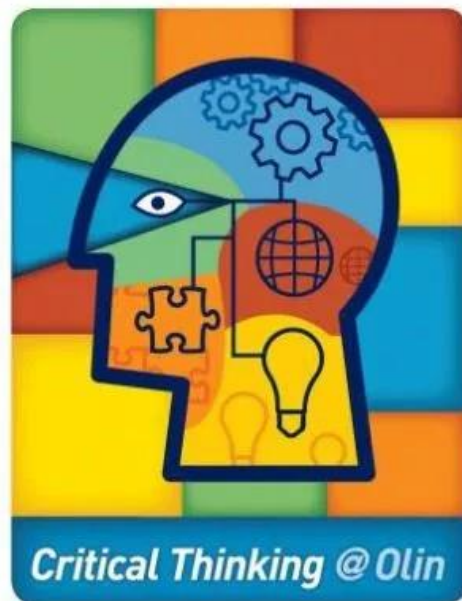
Part of Keasling's speech centered on the importance of education and, in particular, a primary school teacher who took a special interest in him.

"I know it sounds crazy, but from first grade to fifth grade, I completed each grade with straight Fs. How could this happen in America? The short answer was that I came from a broken home and was poor. I was seen by my other teachers as a throwaway. But when I came into Ms. Gathers' classroom, a strange thing happened. She noticed me, and when she

found that I could not read or write, she gave up her lunch periods and other times to help me learn to catch up. She never gave up on me. Ms. Gathers gave me life because she gave me an education.”

To learn how the MSL program is transforming government one leader at a time, go to <https://www.brookings.edu/master-of-science-in-leadership/>

CRITICAL THINKING COURSE ADDED BY DEMAND



Olin Business School received the first MBA Roundtable Innovator Award in 2012 for its critical-thinking curriculum. The MBA Roundtable is a nonprofit organization composed of leading business schools from around the world.

Brookings Executive Education’s [Problem Solving Through Critical Thinking](#) course adapted this award-winning content to the government workplace. The class teaches participants how to diagnose wicked challenges, recognize and overcome biases that impede problem formulation, and solve the right problems using structured-thinking processes.

One of Brookings Executive Education’s most-sought-after courses, Problem Solving Through Critical Thinking sold out its June 2018 class. A second offering has been added by demand and is being taught [July 18-19, 2018](#).

Space in the July class is filling up quickly. Click [here](#) to register.

Read how the U.S. Army applied Critical Thinking@Olin in Timothy Keasling’s article in the April-June issue of the MI Professional Bulletin [here](#).



[Onsite courses](#) bring Brookings Executive Education’s award-winning curriculum directly to government organizations across the continental United States. These courses create an enterprise-wide culture that supports leading, learning and change. Participants receive cutting-edge thinking and tools that help them excel as leaders.

“Brookings Executive Education has become the crown jewel in the learning we offer,” said a program manager for leadership and supervisory development at a federal agency that has been bringing courses onsite since May 2015.

“In addition to tools employees can take back to their office and implement, Brookings Executive Education fosters a sense that we care about individuals’ professional development and that we’ve gone out of our way to give them the best. Brookings Executive Education has helped us create a talent-development pipeline.”

Comments from other participants prove these points.

“Brookings Executive Education serves as a forum for employees from different parts of the workforce to discuss leadership challenges and opportunities.”

“Our leadership cares enough about us to bring expert instructors and programming to our agency.”

“Brookings Executive Education is a great opportunity for agency employees to be exposed to higher-level learning that would be expensive to obtain on an individual basis.”

“The experience has been life changing!”

Note: Onsite classes cover the same content and are taught by the same instructors as the courses held at Brookings Executive Education facilities. In addition, onsite courses are less expensive than customized programming. They eliminate participant travel expenses, saving agencies hundreds of dollars per individual. Onsite courses also substantially lower per-attendee costs, especially if 30 employees (maximum) enroll.

Brookings Executive Education’s onsite courses can lead to a powerful credential: the [Certificate in Public Leadership](#). Participants also can apply credit hours from certain courses to the [Master of Science in Leadership](#) program.

For more information, please contact [Jessika Portney](#).

Upcoming courses

Register early for these courses; several of them are almost full.

- [Executive Leadership for America: September 23-28, 2018](#)
- [Problem Solving Through Critical Thinking: July 18-19, 2018](#)
- [Communicating for Success: September 5-6, 2018](#)
- [Inside Congress: September 24-27, 2018](#)

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