

## [SoPA program director named 'Educator of the Year'](#)

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Halima Leak Francis, Ph.D., was presented the 2024 Educator of the Year award by Monika Hudson, Ed.D., University of San Francisco Director of the Gellert Family Business Center (left) and Calvin D. Jamison, Ed.D., The University of Texas at Dallas Vice President for Facilities & Economic Development (right).

The National Forum for Black Public Administrators named Halima Leak Francis, PhD, its 2024 Educator of the Year. Leak Francis is a professor of practice and the program director for the John Lewis Public Administration Program at the Tulane School of Professional Advancement. The award was presented at the Forum 2024

Conference in Baltimore, Maryland on April 7, 2024. Leak Francis joined SoPA in 2019 to lead the development of the public administration program and was instrumental in building its curriculum, recruiting faculty, forming partnerships and securing accreditation.