2021 International Conference on Public Administration (14th ICPA)

May 14-16, 2021
Chengdu, P.R.China

【Virtual and Online Conference for All Participants.】

Call for Participation and Papers

2021 ICPA Theme:
Improving Public Sector Decision Making and Performance Through Collaborative Governance

Important Dates and Deadlines for 2021 ICPA:
Paper Abstract Due: December 15, 2020
Presentation Notification: February 15, 2021
Invitation letters will be provided upon request: Before March 15, 2021


Conference Website: http://icpa.uestc.edu.cn/
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University of Electronic Science and Technology of China (UESTC), P.R. China
American Society for Public Administration (ASPA), USA

2021 ICPA Supported by
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2021 ICPA Theme

*Improving Public Sector Decision Making and Performance Through Collaborative Governance*

Conference Theme Description

Although public sector organizations may draw strength from their bureaucratic structures, experience increasingly shows the limitations of a hierarchical and top-down approach to the performance of governmental functions. Problems may spill across organizational boundaries so that a hierarchical approach within a single organization may be inadequate to address them. A top-down approach also may deprive decision makers of needed external input about how to fit solutions to the problems they seek to address. And, increasingly in today’s world of public access to social media, top-down approaches may lack the legitimacy needed to ensure popular acceptance of governmental decisions.

Collaborative governance can help overcome these and other limitations of a hierarchical structure by adding the benefits of a network management approach to help improve the quality of decision making. The literature defining the precise meaning of the term “collaborative governance” is unsettled. On one end of the conceptual spectrum, collaboration merely means the pursuit of joint goals by two or more government organizations. Governance would be the structure and function of making joint decisions to achieve objectives that further the aims of each organization. A more expansive definition is that collaborative governance is a process where government decision makers bring relevant stakeholders—public, private and NGO—into the decision-making process. In all cases, collaborative governance takes place under applicable laws and other rules and is shaped by them.

2021 ICPA invites papers from academics and practitioners that highlight successful collaborative governance approaches to improving public sector decision making and performance, and lessons learned. We especially welcome those that use case studies and comparative analyses to illustrate promising practices and significant lessons. Perhaps most important, papers are invited that derive lessons, not merely describe theory or isolated experiences. For the purpose of this Call for Papers, we will accept quality submissions that fall

*Conference Website: http://icpa.uestc.edu.cn/*
within the range of suitable definitions of "collaborative governance." Given potential ambiguity of the term, it will be helpful to specify the definition of the term that a submitted paper adopts.

Subthemes, Topics, Questions

Although we encourage all submissions that bring new ideas to any aspect of the overall conference theme, we are especially receptive to proposals that focus on the following sub-themes:

- Promising Practices in Collaborative Governance
- Preconditions for Effective Collaborative Governance
- Leadership Supporting Effective Implementation of Collaborative Governance: Lessons Learned
- Comparative Case Studies: Why Collaborative Governance Succeeded in One Case, Not the Other
- Where Collaborative Governance Works Best: Types of Government Activity That Lend Themselves to Collaborative Governance
- Collaborative Governance and Citizen Participation: Lessons Learned
- Collaborative Governance, the New Media, and Lessons Learned
- The Belt and Road Initiative and Collaborative Governance

Papers may address these specific questions:

- How does collaborative governance in a particular country relate to the country’s national governance structure and the associated laws, rules and decision making policies that the governance structure engenders?
- What kind of top-down support can help to facilitate effective collaborative governance by a government organization and its stakeholders?
- To what extent does collaborative governance lose the perception of legitimacy if key stakeholders are excluded from participation?
- What useful cross-country comparisons shed light on one or more of these issues?

Processes of collaborative governance deserve special attention. For example:

- To what extent can powerful stakeholders, whether public or private sector organizations or NGOs, improve or distort the outcome of a collaborative governance effort?
- Are there case studies that show how leaders and facilitators of the collaborative governance process have addressed disparities in power to improve outcomes?
- To what extent do participating organizations need to adapt their cultures so that collaborative governance efforts can be successful?
Additional Information

Abstracts are due no later than December 15, 2020. An abstract should not exceed one page in length. It should:

- Be written in English and submitted using Microsoft Word 2007 or a higher version.
- Identify the primary sub-theme where the abstract (and, if selected, the paper) should be placed.
- Describe the paper’s contents and briefly explain the paper’s relevance to the conference theme.
- Identify affiliation and email address of the author(s).

Individuals whose abstracts are accepted may submit their final paper by Before March 15, 2021 for it to be considered for the Best Paper awards and recommendation for publication review.

Contacts

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2021 ICPA Best Papers Awards

The 14th ICPA will select and recommend the best papers for publication in one of the following journals subject to:

**Public Administration Review**—the best paper that focuses on identifying and analyzing current public administration trends in theory and practice.

*Public Administration Review* is the premier journal for the field of public administration, published by the American Society for Public Administration with a history dating back 81 years. The journal serves academics, practitioners, and students interested in public sector management and provides a factual basis for decision-making, discussion, and literature in the field in an easily accessible format.

**Chinese Public Administration**—the best paper that focuses on international comparative study.

*Chinese Public Administration* is the journal of Chinese Public Administration Society and has been the top tier journal in public administration and political science in China since its establishment in 1982. It is a window for scholars and practitioners outside China to understand the history and development of Chinese public administrative science and a bridge that connects China and the world.

**Chinese Public Administration Review**—the best paper that focuses on public administration and public policy topics with significant theoretical and practical implications.

*Chinese Public Administration Review* is the official journal of the Section on Chinese Public Administration (SCPA) of The American Society for Public Administration (ASPA). Published by the School of Public Affairs and Administration at Rutgers University-Newark, CPAR is a peer-reviewed journal with a very strong international editorial team. While CPAR is the first international journal specifically addressing the issues of Chinese public administration, riding on the rise of China, Asia and increasingly global interconnectedness, CPAR is expanding its focus beyond China to embrace Asia and the whole Pan-Pacific region.

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The Proud 13-Year Legacy of the ICPA

2018 International Conference on Public Administration (13th ICPA)

Theme: Improving Agility of Government Organizations
Date: November 30-December 2, 2018
Venue: UESTC, Chengdu, P.R. China

2017 International Conference on Public Administration (12th ICPA)

Theme: Managing across Organizational Boundaries: Innovation and Collaboration
Date: November 14-16, 2017
Venue: Accra, Ghana

2016 International Forum on Smart City (IFSC)
— one of the important events for 2016 Western China Overseas High Tech and High Talents Conference (OHTC) (International Seminar for Public Administration)

Theme: A City Built on Information Technology and Wisdom
Date: September 12-14, 2016
Venue: Chengdu, P.R. China

Conference Website: http://icpa.uestc.edu.cn/
2015 International Conference on Public Administration (11th ICPA)

**Theme:** Sustainable Development for Public Administration  
**Date:** December 9-11, 2015  
**Venue:** Padjadjaran University, Indonesia

2014 International Conference on Public Administration (10th ICPA)

**Theme:** New Challenges and Advances in Public Administration  
**Date:** October 24-26, 2014  
**Venue:** UESTC, Chengdu, P.R. China

2013 International Conference on Public Administration (9th ICPA)

**Theme:** Advancing Public Management Excellence & Innovation Worldwide  
**Date:** October 31 - November 2, 2013  
**Venue:** Cape Town, South Africa

*Conference Website: [http://icpa.uestc.edu.cn/](http://icpa.uestc.edu.cn/)*
2012 International Conference on Public Administration (8th ICPA)

Theme: New Frontiers in Public Administration: Practice and Theory
Date: October 25-27, 2012
Venue: Hyderabad, India

2011 International Conference on Public Administration (7th ICPA)

Theme: Future of Public Administration: Accountable and Transparent Government in Networked World
Date: October 18-20, 2011
Venue: UESTC, Chengdu, P.R. China

2010 International Conference on Public Administration (6th ICPA)

Theme: Public Administration Challenges and Opportunities: Serving Citizens in a Globalised World
Date: October 22-24, 2010
Venue: Australian National University, Canberra, Australia

Conference Website: http://icpa.uestc.edu.cn/
2009 International Conference on Public Administration (5th ICPA)

Theme: The State of Public Administration: Issues, Challenges, and Solutions
Date: October 23-25, 2009
Venue: UESTC, Chengdu, P.R. China

2008 International Conference on Public Administration (4th ICPA)

Theme: Building Bridges to the Future: Leadership and Collaboration in Public Administration
Date: September 24-26, 2008
Venue: Minnesota, USA

2007 International Conference on Public Administration (3rd ICPA)

Theme: Theory, Practice and Methods for Public Administration in 21st Century
Date: October 20-22, 2007
Venue: UESTC, Chengdu, P.R. China

Conference Website: http://icpa.uestc.edu.cn/
2006 International Conference on Public Administration (2nd ICPA)

Theme: Government Innovation and Reform
Date: October 4-6, 2006  Venue: University of Warwick, Coventry, UK

2005 International Conference on Public Administration (1st ICPA)

Theme: E-governance
Date: October 20-22, 2005  Venue: UESTC, Chengdu, P.R. China

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Renowned as China’s cradle for the national electronic industry, University of Electronic Science and Technology of China (formerly Chengdu Institute of Radio Engineering) is situated at Chengdu, the city of over a thousand-year-old cultural history in “the land of abundance”. As one of the seven earliest key universities in national defense, UESTC became one of the nation's key universities in 1960. Then, in 1997 it was included as one of the first universities into “Project 211”, a project in China for developing 100 first-class universities and a number of key fields of research for the 21st century. In 2001, UESTC was admitted into the nation’s Project 985, receiving special support for developing world-class universities and world-famous research-oriented universities. In September 2017, UESTC was once again selected as one of “Double First-Class” initiative universities (top 36 universities participating in China's construction plan of world-class universities and first-class disciplines). UESTC has made great contributions to China’s economic development, and IT development.

Sixty-four years’ efforts and cultivations have witnessed the University's process from sole dependence on electronic information engineering to all-around programs in electronic disciplines, and the University now turns out to be a key multidisciplinary university with electronic science and technology as its nucleus, engineering as its major field and featured the harmonious integration of science, engineering, management and liberal arts, well prepared at the call of the history to come up as a high-level research-oriented university.

Profile of School of Public Affairs and Administration(SPAA)

The School of Public Affairs and Administration of UESTC dates back to 1956 with the establishment of Marxism-Lenism Teaching Department, from which the Department of Social Science and Humanities has been comprehensively evolved in 1984 and gradually developed into the School of Social Science and Humanities in 1993, renamed as the School of Political Science and Public Administration in 2006 and since 2017 renamed as School of Public Affairs and Administration.

With research-led 66 full-time faculty members, SPAA has 20 full-time professors, 19 appointed adjunct professors, 28 associate professors and 16 lecturers. 38 faculty members have been awarded as top national and provincial excellent teachers and researchers such as “National Outstanding Teachers”, “New Century Talents” of the Ministry of Education in China, “Academic Peer” and “Thousand Talents” of Sichuan Province.

SPAA is top ranked for our full line of degrees from undergraduate to Ph.D degree including 4 bachelor degrees of Public Management, Information Management, Law and Urban Studies and 2 master degrees of Public Management and Journalism and Communication, 2 professional programs of MPA and MJC respectively, English-instructed International Program in Public Management and Ph.D degree in Urban Studies and Management in highly rated education with featured key disciplines, as well as featured Think Tank, Centers and Institutes for Social Science Research.

We offer many unusual advantages compared to other schools of Public Administration and Political School for UESTC is “a cradle for Chinese Electronic Information Industry”. Our school’s research and teaching is information knowledge based one. With joint efforts and contributions from SPAA faculty, we have witnessed proud legacy of teaching and researching nationwide with Top National Courses based Teaching Achievements, Nationally Recognized Research Projects Granted and enjoy popularity of academic influence worldwide via the platform of International Conference on Public Administration (ICPA).

Conference Website: http://icpa.uestc.edu.cn/
American Society for Public Administration (ASPA)

Founded in 1939, the American Society for Public Administration is the largest and most prominent professional association for public administration. A 9,000-member non-profit organization, it represents a wide range of professions in public service, government, and nonprofit agencies, including universities in the United States that educate the nation’s best public service officials. It also manages formal international cooperative agreements that promote various academic and professional development programs. Dedicated to advancing the art, science, teaching and practice of public and non-profit administration, ASPA’s four core values are Accountability and Performance, Professionalism, Ethics and Social Equity. It provides networking and professional development opportunities to those committed to public service values. Among its activities:

- Its Center for Accountability and Performance addresses the requirement for all levels of government to move toward performance-based, results-driven management, through education, training, advocacy, technical assistance, resource sharing and research.
- PA TIMES is a quarterly magazine focusing on issues in public management and the best practices in the field of public administration. Its twice-weekly online supplement can be viewed at www.patimes.org.
- The Bridge is ASPA’s biweekly newsletter that details the organization’s latest news and current news in the public administration community.
- Public Administration Review (PAR) is ASPA's premier professional journal. It is a bimonthly publication that links theory and public management practice together.

Institute of Urban Governance of Shenzhen University, P.R.China

Institute of Urban Governance of Shenzhen University, P.R.China is an independent institution established through the integration of the Center for Urban Innovation and Government, Contemporary Chinese Politics Research Institute, Research Center of CPC Rules and Regulations, and the Institute of Social Management Innovation in September 2016. The institution has been inducted into the Guangdong Provincial Key Research Base for Humanities and Social Sciences and Guangdong Provincial Platform for Collaborative Innovation. In May 2019, the Shenzhen Commission for Discipline Inspection and Shenzhen University jointly established the Institute of Clean Government of Shenzhen University, a listing in Shenzhen Clean Government Research Base. In addition, the institution is based in and managed by the Institute of Urban Governance. In January 2020, Institute of Bay of Bengal Studies, Shenzhen University, was established to focus on regional and country-specific studies. In May 2020, Institute of Compliance Studies, Shenzhen University was established.
With more than 30 full-time and part-time researchers in Political Science, Public Administration, Law, and Sociology, the institution has a Master's program in Political Science and a PhD program in Political Communication. Professor Huang Weiping serves as the Dean, Professor Chen Wen as the Executive Dean, and Associate Professor Gu Zhijun as the Deputy Dean.

In recent years, the Institute of Urban Governance of Shenzhen University, P.R.China has undertaken more than 10 projects funded by the National Social Science Foundation (self-study), including two major projects, three key projects, and more than 100 provincial and ministerial projects. The relevant research achievements and policy recommendations have been adopted by the central core leadership which includes the Chairman of the National People's Congress, the Minister of the Central Organization Department, etc. Seven sets of monographs in the fields of Political Science, Public Administration and Urban Governance have been published, including Contemporary China Political Research Report which is the first academic collection in China with the theme "Contemporary China Politics". This distinguished report has been collected by reputable universities such as the Harvard University, Oxford University Library, among others, and has a wide influence at home and abroad.

In line with the central government's strategic plan for strengthening urban work based on the Pearl River Delta urban agglomeration and the innovation circle of Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau, P.R.China, the institute focuses on important theoretical and practical issues in urban governance. The main focal point is on the feature of "localization" of the research object and "globalization" of the research results with the aim of building an academic highland for urban theoretical and practical research, and striving to become a top class "Think Tank" with extensive influence in the field of urban governance.