

JOINT CONFERENCE OF THE
SOUTHEASTERN
CONFERENCE FOR
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

— AND —

NORTHEASTERN
CONFERENCE ON
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

— HOSTED BY —
OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC SERVICE



NORFOLK, VIRGINIA



CONFERENCE PROGRAM

— **2026** —

SEPTEMBER 17–19, 2026





School of
Public Service
Strome College of Business

Lead, Serve, & Inspire

The School of Public Service

prepares **you** to become a future **leader** committed to the public good. Our programs in **public administration, policy, and leadership** give you the skills to **serve** and **inspire** in **government, nonprofit organizations, environmental justice, and education.**

Advanced Leadership Development:

Build your leadership and analytical skills needed to guide public and nonprofit organizations. Students develop expertise in data-driven decision making, public budgeting, & organizational management.

Specialized, In-Demand Skills

Strengthen your professional toolkit through focused certificate training in data analysis for public decision-making, strategic planning, public budgeting, and community engagement

Flexible for your life needs

Your coursework is structured to fit into your busy life. Whether you are advancing your career, managing professional responsibilities, or supporting a family, our flexible programs allow you to continue your education without putting your life on hold.

Explore our Programs!

Ph.D. in Public Administration & Policy

Are you pursuing a career in higher education, government, or nonprofit organizations? Your doctorate will give you the advanced skills in research, policy analysis, program evaluation, and leadership you need.

Master of Public Administration

This degree will expand your expertise, deepen your understanding of public sector challenges, and advance your career in areas such as government leadership, nonprofit management, and public health administration.

Graduate Certificates

Public Procurement & Contract Management
Virginia State & Local Leadership
Nonprofit Management & Governance
Managing & Leading Coastal Resilience

These certificates help you build expertise in public administration and procurement contract management, preparing you to manage goods and services for government & public service organizations.

Undergraduate Minor

Start your Masters Degree early. Our Master of Public Administration Early Start program provides students with the opportunity to earn credits for their MPA degree during your senior year.





SCHEDULE



Wednesday, September 16th

- 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm Registration
- 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm SECoPA Board Meeting
- 5:00 pm – 10:00 pm SECoPA Fundraiser at Wasserhund Brewing

Thursday, September 17th

- 7:00 am – 4:00 pm Registration
- 8:30 am – 11:45 am Charting a Public Service Career Symposium
- 8:30 am – 11:45 am Civic Lands Symposium
- 8:30 am – 10:00 am Concurrent Sessions I
- 10:00 am – 10:15 am Break
- 10:15 am – 11:45 am Concurrent Sessions II
- 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm Plenary Luncheon
- 1:30 pm – 1:45 pm Break
- 1:45 pm – 3:15 pm Concurrent Sessions III
- 3:15 pm – 3:30 pm Break
- 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm Concurrent Sessions IV
- 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm Welcome Reception

Friday, September 18th

- 7:00 am – 4:00 pm Registration
- 8:30 am – 10:00 am Concurrent Sessions V
- 10:00 am – 10:15 am Break
- 10:15 am – 11:45 am Concurrent Sessions VI
- 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm Awards Luncheon
- 1:30 pm – 1:45 pm Break
- 1:45 pm – 3:15 pm Concurrent Sessions VII
- 3:15 pm – 3:30 pm Break
- 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm Concurrent Sessions VIII
- 5:15 pm – 6:15 pm Organizational Business Meetings
- 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm 2027 Host Reception

Saturday, September 19th

- 7:00 am – 10:00 am Registration
- 8:30 am – 10:00 am Concurrent Sessions IX
- 10:00 am – 10:15 am Break
- 10:15 am – 11:45 am Concurrent Sessions X
- 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm SECoPA Board Meeting



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

ASKEW SCHOOL OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND POLICY

MPA Program

Top ranked MPA in Florida
Top 5 MPA in the Southeast
Top 25 MPA in the US
#2 in US by Shanghai University

Online MPA Degree option available.

GRE currently waived for applied master's programs like the MPA, through Fall 2026.

Located in the capital city of the 3rd largest state, providing extensive opportunities for networking, internships, and job placements.

Career tracks in:

- Local Government Management
- Public Financial Management
- Evidence-based Policymaking
- Managing Nonprofit Organizations
- Emergency Management and Homeland Security
- U.S. Intelligence Studies
- International and Non-Government Organizations

PhD Public Administration & Policy

World-renown scholars in public management, local governance, policy process, innovation, emergency management, environmental policy, sustainability and resilience, and international NGOs.

Flexible curriculum enables students to collaborate with other top-rated programs at FSU, such as Urban and Regional Planning, Political Science, Education, Criminology, and Social Work.

Home to the Social Justice and Innovation and Local Governance research labs, which offer students the opportunity to collaborate with faculty in research partnerships with state and local governments with real world impacts.

Recent student publications in top PA/MBA policy journals and high-impact specialty journals, including JPART, PAR, PSJ, PMR, ARPA, Urban Studies, Applied Energy, etc.

Recent tenure-track job placements include: Auburn University, IUPUI, Indiana University Bloomington, University of Colorado Denver, University of Illinois Springfield, University of Baltimore, Wichita State University, Sam Houston State University, University of Miami, Trinity University, Augusta University, etc.



Dear Conference Attendees,

On behalf of the Old Dominion University School of Public Service, it is my great pleasure to welcome you to Norfolk, Virginia, for the 2026 Joint Conference of the Southeastern Conference for Public Administration and the Northeastern Conference on Public Administration.

This year's conference marks a special moment for both organizations. For the first time, our two regional conferences have come together for a joint gathering, creating an opportunity to connect scholars, practitioners, students, and public service leaders from across regions. From September 17–19, we have the opportunity not only to share research and ideas, but also to build new relationships and strengthen the professional community that connects all of us who are committed to effective, responsive, and meaningful public service.

As Conference Chair and Director of the Old Dominion University School of Public Service, I am especially proud that ODU has the privilege of hosting this historic gathering. Our School is deeply committed to preparing public service leaders, advancing knowledge, and engaging with the communities and institutions we serve. Welcoming colleagues from across the Southeast, Northeast, and beyond to Norfolk is a wonderful extension of that mission.

I encourage you to take full advantage of the days ahead. Attend a session outside your usual area of interest. Introduce yourself to someone whose work is new to you. Engage with our students and emerging scholars. Reconnect with longtime colleagues. Most importantly, use this joint conference as an opportunity to exchange ideas across institutional, disciplinary, geographic, and professional boundaries.

A conference of this scope is possible only because of the work of many people. I extend my sincere appreciation to the leadership of both conferences, our program and planning committees, reviewers, session chairs, presenters, volunteers, sponsors, and the faculty, staff, and students of the ODU School of Public Service who helped make this gathering possible.

Thank you for joining us and for contributing your expertise, experience, and perspective. I hope you leave Norfolk with new ideas, new connections, and renewed enthusiasm for the important work of public service.

Welcome to Norfolk, welcome to Old Dominion University, and welcome to our first joint conference. I look forward to an engaging and memorable three days together.

Warm regards,

Bruce D. McDonald III
School of Public Service
Old Dominion University

SECoPA

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MORRIW W.H. COLLINS AWARD

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SECoPA Through the Years

2026 - Norfolk, VA!

2025 - Coral Springs, FL
2024 - Memphis, TN
2023 - Atlanta, GA
2022 - Lexington, KY
2021 - Starkville, MS
2019 - Baton Rouge, LA
2018 - Birmingham, AL
2017 - Hollywood FL
2016 - Raleigh, NC
2015 - Charleston, SC
2014 - Atlanta, GA
2013 - Charlotte, NC
2012 - Coral Springs, FL
2011 - New Orleans, LA
2010 - Wilmington, NC
2009 - Louisville, KY
2008 - Orlando, FL
2007 - Nashville, TN
2006 - Athens, GA
2005 - Little Rock, AR
2004 - Charlotte, NC
2003 - Savannah, GA
2002 - Columbia, SC
2001 - Baton Rouge, LA
2000 - Greensboro, NC
1999 - St. Petersburg, FL
1998 - Pensacola, FL
1997 - Knoxville, TN

1996 - Miami, FL
1995 - Savannah, GA
1994 - Lexington, KY
1993 - Cocoa Beach, FL
1992 - Montgomery, AL
1991 - Charlotte, NC
1990 - Clearwater, FL
1989 - Jackson, MS
1988 - Birmingham, AL
1987 - New Orleans, LA
1986 - Pensacola, FL
1985 - Charleston, SC
1984 - Memphis, TN
1983 - Tallahassee, FL
1982 - Louisville, KY
1981 - Jackson, MA
1980 - Orlando, FL
1979 - Montgomery, AL
1978 - Charleston, SC
1977 - Knoxville, TN
1976 - Miami Beach, FL
1975 - Williamsburg, VA
1974 - Orlando, FL
1973 - Nashville, TN
1972 - Atlanta, GA
1971 - Hollywood, FL
1970 - Atlanta, GA
1969 - Clearwater, FL

SECoPA

SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE FOR PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

SECoPA Awards

Kathryn E. Hensley Distinguished Public Service Practitioner Award

2025 Winner - Jimmy Morales

This award recognizes sustained outstanding achievement in, and contributions to, public administration and public service through applied practice in the field.

Morris W. H. Collins Award

2025 Winner - Sina Jangjoo

Recognizes the most outstanding paper written and presented by doctoral candidates in the SECoPA region.

Robert Kline Award

2025 Winner - n/a

Recognizes the most outstanding paper written and presented by master students in the SECoPA region.

Donato J. Pugliese Award

2025 Winner - Jeremy Hall

The Donato J. Pugliese Award is given in honor of its namesake, the “godfather” of SECoPA. Mr. Pugliese gave his time generously to ASPA and SECoPA throughout his lifetime. After his passing in 1985 at the age of 55, this award was created to honor his memory and service and to honor the SECoPA member that

best reflects Mr. Pugliese’s level of commitment to service and encourage of their colleagues.

Senator Peter B. Boorsma Award

2025 Winner - Akhlaque Haque

The Senator Peter B. Boorsma Award is to honor the practitioner or academician for facilitating over a period of many years the international exchange of knowledge and administrative practices that foster better performance in the public sector. The award symbolizes SECoPA’s recognition of the implications of the global village on management and performance in the public sector as well as its commitment to the study and exchange of administrative practices between the USA and other countries.

SECoPA Award for Outstanding Equity Research

2025 Winner - Beth M. Rauhaus and Laine Shay

The purpose of the SECoPA Award for Outstanding Equity Research is to encourage scholars to develop and present original manuscripts that address equity in a tangible way by recognizing the best work in this area with an award for the outstanding paper delivered at the annual conference.

SECoPA

SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE FOR PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION



MISSISSIPPI STATE
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**STENNIS INSTITUTE of GOVERNMENT and
Community Development**

P.O. DRAWER LV
382 Hardy Rd
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Executive Director: Dr. Dallas Breen



August 24, 2026

President's Welcome

On behalf of the Southeastern Conference of Public Administration, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2026 Joint SECOPA-NECOPA Conference.

This gathering marks a special moment in the history of both organizations. Bringing SECOPA and NECOPA together for a joint conference has been an idea worth pursuing because it creates opportunities for conversations that otherwise might never happen. We have much to learn from one another, and I am excited to see the connections that will emerge during our time together. For many of us, this conference will be our first opportunity to spend time with colleagues from outside our usual networks. That alone makes this gathering worth celebrating.

Conferences succeed because of the dedication of people who invest their time and energy long before attendees arrive. I want to express my sincere appreciation to Dr. Bruce McDonald, our Conference Host, and to Drs. Wie Yusuf and Vickie T. Carnegie, who has served as Program Chairs. From shaping the program to handling the details that most attendees will never see, Bruce, Wie, and Vickie have done a commendable job. The result is a program that reflects the depth and diversity of our field while creating space for meaningful engagement among scholars, practitioners, students, and public servants.

I would also like to recognize SECOPA Past President Dr. Patrick Exmeyer for his leadership and service to our organization. Patrick has been a thoughtful steward of SECOPA and has helped position us for continued growth and collaboration. At the same time, I am grateful for the partnership of our President-Elect, Dr. Tonya Thornton, whose energy and vision will serve the organization well in the years ahead. Last, but certainly not least, thank you to the SECOPA Board of Directors and membership for their patience and for making this past year eventful and full of great connections.

Whether you are presenting research, participating in discussions, reconnecting with colleagues, or attending your first professional conference, I hope you find this experience rewarding. The future of our organizations depends on people who care enough to stay involved, and I am grateful to everyone who has chosen to be part of this community. That spirit is on full display at this conference.

Thank you for being part of this historic event. I hope you enjoy your time at the conference, make new connections, and leave inspired by the conversations and insights shared throughout the week.

Warm regards,

<https://www.sig.msstate.edu>

STENNIS INSTITUTE

1976 - 2026



NECoPA

Northeast Conference on Public Administration

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NECoPA Through the Years

2026 - Old Dominion University!

2025 - Kean University
2024 - Pace University
2023 - Virtual Conference
2022 - Virtual Conference
2021 - SUNY Albany
2020 - Suffolk University
2019 - Long Island University Brooklyn
2018 - University of Baltimore
2017 - University of Vermont
2016 - Penn State Harrisburg
2015 - George Mason University
2014 - University of New Hampshire
2013 - University of Delaware
2012 - University of Massachusetts-Boston
2011 - John Jay College - CUNY
2010 - Rutgers University - Newark

NECoPA

Northeast Conference on Public Administration

NECoPA Awards

Marc Holzer Outstanding Service Award

Bok Gyo Jeong
Kean University

The Marc Holzer award recognizes a NECoPA member for sustained and exemplary service and outstanding contributions to the organization. It is named after NECoPA's founding father, Marc Holzer, who is a prominent international academic and leader in the field of public administration and who served as a past president of the American Society for Public Administration.

Best Academic Paper Award

Benjamin V. Rosa
University of Michigan
What Happens to Contractors After States Ban Affirmative Action?

Best Student Paper Award

Jennifer B. Hulehan
West Chester University of Pennsylvania
*The Restorative Human Loop:
Reclaiming Administrative Sovereignty in Public Sector AI Governance*

NECoPA
Northeast Conference on Public Administration

NECoPA

Northeast Conference on Public Administration

Welcome from NECoPA

On behalf of the NECoPA Board of Trustees, I am delighted to welcome you to the 2026 conference at Old Dominion University (ODU) in Norfolk, Virginia. This year's conference is particularly special as NECoPA joins hands with the Southeastern Conference on Public Administration (SECoPA) for a joint conference. Bringing together two vibrant communities of scholars, practitioners, and students offers an exciting opportunity to broaden our conversations, build new connections, and strengthen our shared commitment to public administration. SECoPA was an important part of my professional development when I was a student in Atlanta, and it is particularly gratifying to see our two organizations come together today. I am excited about the conversations, relationships, and collaborations that this partnership will inspire.



NECoPA has experienced remarkable growth in recent years, evolving from an important regional forum into a dynamic community of scholars, practitioners, and students with diverse interests and perspectives. This growth reflects the commitment of our members and the continued importance of NECoPA as a space for rigorous scholarship, professional exchange, mentorship, and collegiality. I am confident that our organization will continue to grow while preserving the welcoming and collaborative spirit that defines NECoPA.

I extend my sincere gratitude to Old Dominion University and the entire ODU team for hosting this year's conference. Special thanks to Professor Bruce McDonald and Professor Wie Yusuf for their leadership and dedication, as well as to the faculty, staff, students, volunteers, and others who have worked tirelessly to make this conference possible. I also thank the NECoPA Board of Trustees, conference committees, reviewers, sponsors, and volunteers for their invaluable contributions.

Finally, congratulations to our 2026 award recipients: Jennifer B. Hulehan, Best Student Paper Award; Benjamin V. Rosa, Best Academic Paper Award; and Bok Gyo Jeong, Marc Holzer Award for sustained and exemplary service to NECoPA.

I hope this conference provides opportunities to learn, exchange ideas, renew friendships, and forge new connections. Welcome to Norfolk, Old Dominion University, and the joint NECoPA-SECoPA conference. I wish you all a productive, engaging, and enjoyable experience.

Warm regards,

Rahul Pathak
Chair, NECoPA
Northeast Conference on Public Administration

60 YEARS

#3

Public Management
& Leadership

#3

Public Budgeting
& Finance

#4

Local Government
Management

#5

Public Affairs
Graduate Program

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Master of Public
Administration
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS EDUCATION



J. ALLEN JOINES (MPA '71)

Mayor
City of Winston-Salem
North Carolina

"The prestige of the program itself gave me an entrée into being selected to the staff of the City of Winston-Salem...becoming the longest serving Mayor in the history of the City...for me, one of the strongest areas from the MPA Program was Organizational Theory and Practice. I have been able to organize City functions in an effective and efficient manner to produce strong results."

CARLA WILLIAMS (MPA '91)

Vice President for
Intercollegiate Athletics
University of Virginia



"As a Director of Athletics, the practical training and comprehensive education I received through SPIA's MPA program have been extremely valuable. The MPA program exposed me to several foundational lessons that I have applied throughout my career, including finance, personnel, organizational theory, data analysis and application, as well as policy analysis and development."



CASEY DUNGAN (MPA '00)

President & CEO
BlueCare Tennessee

"The MPA program provided me with a great foundation in understanding how local, state, and federal governments operate on their own, and...how their responsibilities intersect and impact the people they serve. In every class, I gained important skills...[and] the education and experience I gained during the MPA program has continued to pay dividends in my career in many ways."



CONFERENCE COMMITTEE



Conference Chair

Bruce D. McDonald III
Professor, Director
School of Public Service
Old Dominion University



Program Co-Chair

Wie Yusuf
Professor
School of Public Service
Old Dominion University



Program Co-Chair

Vickie T. Carnegie
Clinical Assistant Professor
School of Public Service
Old Dominion University

SECOPA

SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE FOR PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

RAISE A GLASS.

Invest in the Future.

Join SECOPA for an evening of great food, award-winning craft beer, and community as we come together to support the SECOPA Endowment.



WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER 16, 2026



5:00 PM – 10:00 PM



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NORFOLK, VA 23517

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strengthen tomorrow.*



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CRAFT
BEER



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FOOD



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STRONGER
TOGETHER



Good beer. Good food. Great cause.

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!



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Master of Public Administration

Ethical Leaders Are Made Here!

The Augusta University MPA Program...

- **Prepares** graduates for careers in areas such as government, nonprofit, healthcare, higher education, and community organizations.
- **Develops** the leadership, ethical decision-making, and problem-solving skills to make a difference.
- **Offers** graduate certificates in Nonprofit Leadership or Urban Planning and Community Development.
- **Connects** students to a strong network to support their professional growth.

Find
Out
More!



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ACCREDITED**
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WEDNESDAY



3:00 pm – 5:00 pm - Registration

Room: Presidential Foyer

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm - SECoPA Board Meeting

Room: Jefferson

5:00 pm – 10:00 pm - SECoPA Fundraiser at Wasserhund Brewing

Location: 2411 Granby Street, Norfolk, VA 23517



THURSDAY



8:30 am – 11:45 am – Special Conference Symposia

Charting a Public Service Career in Troubled Waters

Room: Chesapeake I

Stephen R. Rolandi, Pace University and City University of New York
Pilar Gorordo, John Jay College of Criminal Justice
Hillary Knepper, Pace University
William P. Shields, American Society for Public Administration

Civic Lands Symposium

Building a Research and Practice Agenda for the Future of Public Lands

Room: Chesapeake II

8:30 am – 8:45 am - Welcome and Framing: Public Lands as Civic Lands

Thomas Bryer, Old Dominion University

8:45 am – 9:15 am – Big Questions in Public Lands

What are the big questions in public lands we should be asking?

Brooke Rudow, University of Central Florida
Levi Tenen, Virginia Wesleyan University
Charles Hayes, University of Montana

9:20 am – 9:55 am – What We Know

What are the most important things we currently know about the relationships among public lands, people, communities, institutions, and civic life?

Dawn Harfmann, National Issues Forum Institute
Kristen Crossney, West Chester University
Yinglin Ma, University of Central Florida
Julie Richter, College of William & Mary

10:00 am – 10:35 am - Public Lands Reshaped

What emerging forces are likely to reshape public lands and their relationships with people and communities during the next decade?

Cathy Allen, The Board Doctor
Shannon Bungart, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Todd Arrington, Jamestown Rediscovery Foundation
Nathan Schaumleffel, Indiana State University

10:40 am – 11:10am - Administrative and Strategic Issues in Public Land Management

How must the institutions, organizations, partnerships, and people responsible for public lands adapt to the forces reshaping them?

Jaclyn Piatak, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Leigh Hersey, University of Louisiana at Monroe

Thomas Bryer, Old Dominion University

11:10 am – 11:40 am – Full Forum: Toward a Civic Lands Research and Practice Agenda

11:40 am – 11:45 pm - Closing and Next Steps

8:30 am – 10:00 am – Concurrent Sessions 1

Organizational Performance and Management Innovation

Room: Hampton I

Replicable Strategies for Increasing Member Engagement Across Decentralized Chapters

Thomas Jacob Riggs, American Society for Public Administration

Christopher Tyler Burks, University of Arkansas at Little Rock

Why Context Matters: Organizational Conditions Shaping Performance Management in Local Governments

Rudy de Leon Dinglas, Johns Hopkins University

Kel Wang, Johns Hopkins University

Tenzin Jigme, Johns Hopkins University

Creating Conditions for Job Crafting in Public Research Organizations: The Roles of Psychological Safety, Psychological Empowerment, and Error Management Culture

Seongdeok Oh, Valdosta State University

Kyonghwan Kim, Korea Institute of Human Resources Development in Science and Technology

Breaking Down Organizational Silos: Workforce Integration as a Catalyst for Equity, Organizational Performance, and Resilience in Public Administration

Neugolca Rosario, Jackson State University

Red Tape, Green Tape, and Employee Burnout: The Role of Prosocial Rule Breaking

Casey Fleming, East Carolina University

AI, Digital Governance, and Administrative Burden

Room: Hampton II

AI Implementation in U.S. Local Governments: An Exploration of Administrators' Strategies and Potential Uses for AI

Wesley Meares, Augusta University

Lance Hunter, Augusta University

William Hatcher, Augusta University

When Portals Become Barriers: A State-Panel Analysis of Digital Administrative Burden and SNAP Participation

Albert Nii Noi Okwei, Virginia Commonwealth University

From Burden Reduction to Transformation: Rethinking Administrative Burden in AI-Enabled Public Service Delivery

Xinhe Shao, Pennsylvania State University Harrisburg

Younhee Kim, Pennsylvania State University Harrisburg

Neither Tool nor Agent: Who Decides? Artificial Intelligence, Principal-Agent Relationships, and Socio-technical Delegation and the Redistribution of Administrative Discretion

BJ Fletcher, University of Illinois-Springfield

Ming Xie, University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Yeonkyung Kim, Kean University

Collaborative Governance and Cross-Sector Partnerships

Room: Hampton III

Does motivation matter? An investigation of the influence of public service motivation on the performance of public-private partnerships in New Jersey

Giovanni Cusmano, Old Dominion University

Adam Eckerd, Old Dominion University

Collaborative Governance and City Performance: The Mediating Role of Internal Administrative Capacity

Aigerim Sultanova, Florida International University

Public-Private Partnerships in Transportation: State-Business Collaboration for Infrastructure and Service Delivery

Nusrat Emroz Monika, Virginia Commonwealth University

Collaborative Governance and Housing Stability: Examining Returns to Homelessness Across Continuum of Care Networks

Md Sharif Hossain, University of Memphis

Public Budgeting, Fiscal Stress, and Finance

Room: Hampton VI

Conditional Partisan Effects on Fiscal Stress: Evidence from U.S. State Governments

Min S. Kim, Georgia College and State University

Price of Dissent: Protests, Municipal Bond Issuance, Approval, and Borrowing Cost in State Governments

Marlon Walcott, Florida International University

Unorthodox Assessment of Funding Allocations in US Federal Budget

Nasir Ahmed, Grambling State University

Doing More with Less? Explaining the Decline in Per Capita Municipal Employment in Florida

Yongqing Cong, Florida International University

Hyewon Kang, Hanyang University

Howard A. Frank, Florida International University

Where Rubber Meets the Road: State Grant Conditions and Local Infrastructure Investment

Daniel Rudy, University of Georgia

Physical and Fiscal Resilience: Confronting Emerging Threats to State and Local Financial Sustainability

Room: Hampton VII

Noah Winn-Ritzenberg, The Volcker Alliance

Wie Yusuf, Old Dominion University

Scott Pattison, Federation of Tax Administrators

Leading Through the Long Pressure: A Resilience Framework for Public Administrators Navigating Sustained Institutional Uncertainty

Room: Hampton VIII

Chidi Iwuchukwu, Resilient Systems Architect

Convener, Connector, Catalyst: How Small Nonprofits Can Lead Large-Scale Cross-Sector Collaboration

Room: James I

Sarah Burnett Smith, Arkansas Research Alliance

10:15 am – 11:45 am – Concurrent Sessions 2

Public Administration Education and Leadership Development

Room: Hampton I

Mayoral Archival Records for Experiential Learning in Public Administration

Thanh Minnie Hoang, Southern Connecticut State University

Jyoti Aggarwal, Louisiana State University in Shreveport

Listening Through the Disruption: Student Well-Being Check-Ins as Trauma-Informed Pedagogy

Mariglynn Edlins, University of Baltimore

Bridging Higher Education and Public Service: Preparing Master of Public Administration Students for Real-World Government Leadership

Edmund K. Rhynes, University of Baltimore

The Role of Coop Education to Strengthen the Talent Pipeline to Public Service

Roger Hartley, University of Baltimore

How Hard Could It Be? A Public Administrator Tries to Run a University

Matthew L Howell, Eastern Kentucky University

Issues in Public Finance and Public Accounting

Room: Hampton II

Eighteenth Century Public Sector Accounting Reform: Learning from Some of the Underexplored Mid-night Calculations of the Moral Philosopher Richard Price

Laurence Ferry, Durham University and Rutgers University

Jim Haslam, Durham University and University of Jordan

Henry Midgley, Durham University

Emancipatory Accounting and the Public Sector: Advancing Contribution

Mengyuan Fend, University of Glasgow

Jim Haslam, Durham University and University of Jordan

Ileana Steccolini, University of Bologna and University of Essex

Rebecca Warren, University of Northumbria

Teaching Public Administration in Your State

Room: Hampton III

Chair: Hunter Bacot, University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Introduction to Public Administration in North Carolina

Bruce D. McDonald III, Old Dominion University

Hunter Bacot, University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Public Human Resource Management

Casey J. Fleming, East Carolina University

Tracy Miles, North Carolina Association of County Commissioners

The Nonprofit Sector

Heather Rimes, Western Carolina University

Sarah Nuñez, Aflorar Herb Collective

Amieris Lavender, LoveJoyLiberation Community Relations Firm

Public and Administrative Law

Jordin Dickerson, University of North Carolina at Pembroke

Andrew L. Smith, Robeson County Public Defender's Office

Environment, Sustainability, and Infrastructure

Room: Hampton VI

Collaborative Governance in a Polycentric Energy System: Adaptive State–Market Networks in Lagos, Nigeria

Blessing Ajisafe, Mississippi State University

20 Years of the American State Litter Scorecard for the NECOPA/SECOPA Territories

Stephen “Steve” Spacek, Texas State University
Solar Energy Development on Contaminated Lands to Advance Illinois’ Renewable Energy Portfolio Standards
Jason Kosowski, University of Illinois Springfield
Junfeng Wang, University of Illinois Springfield
The Digital Delta: Data Center Development, Environmental Governance, and Equitable Economic Development in the Mississippi Delta
Katherine Lambert-Pennington, University of Memphis
Emmanuel Owusu Agyei, University of Memphis
Data Centers, AI & Sustainability: Building a Community Scorecard
George Dougherty, University of Pittsburgh

Emergency Preparedness and Security: Lessons from the Commonwealth

Room: Hampton VII

Discussant: Robyn McDougle, Virginia Commonwealth University
Hans Louis-Charles, Virginia Commonwealth University
Curtis Brown, Virginia Commonwealth University
David Webber, Virginia Commonwealth University

Getting and Keeping your First Faculty Job: Understanding the Range of Academic Settings

Room: VIII

Kim Hoffman, University of Central Arkansas
Matthew Howell, Eastern Kentucky University
Meg Streams, Tennessee State University

The Academic Job Market: Insights and Advice for Doctoral Students

Room: James I

Wie Yusuf, Old Dominion University
Adam Eckerd, Old Dominion University

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm – Plenary Luncheon

Room: Hampton Ballroom



PLENARY LUNCHEON



Where Democracy Takes Root: The Vital Role of Public Administration

Mary E. Guy
University of Colorado Denver

Mary E. Guy teaches courses on public administration, public management, organizational behavior, and human resource management. She writes about good government and what it takes to advance democratic processes. An expert on the role of emotion in public service jobs, her research has framed the way emotionally intense work demands are understood. Her research also focuses on matters of access, quality, and outcomes in public service delivery and in policy development and implementation. She is a University of Colorado Distinguished Professor, a Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration, and past President of the American Society for Public Administration. Prior to joining the School of Public Affairs, she held the Jerry Collins Eminent Scholar Chair at the Askew School of Public Administration and Policy at Florida State University and before that, she served as department head at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She has also served as the Editor-in-Chief of *Review of Public Personnel Administration* and co-Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Social Equity and Public Administration*.

Thursday, 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm
Hampton Ballroom

1:45 pm – 3:15 pm – Concurrent Sessions 3

Policy Narratives, Social Construction, and Equity

Room: Hampton I

Implications of the Changing Federal Policy Landscape on Food (In)Security: Emerging Government and Community Responses in the United States

Veronica Adams-Cooper, Albany State University

A Historical Analysis of the Social Construction of HIV and AIDS Social Science Research

Michelle D. Evans, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

José Luis Irizarry, North Carolina Central University

Quicksand: Criminal Justice Reform as a Wicked Problem

Whitney Marsh, Old Dominion University

Constitutional Silence and Domestic Violence: Using CHIA to Evaluate Policy Omission

Kimberly L. Hutson, Norfolk State University

Framing Preventable Tragedy: Media Narratives, Autism, and Child Drowning Policy in Florida

Sabrina DeGoias, Florida Atlantic University

Matthew Patterson, Florida Atlantic University

Comparative and International Governance

Room: Hampton II

Globalizing CHIA's Unified Theoretical Framework: Evaluating Kenya's Free Primary Education (FPE) Outcomes

Stephen M. Magu, Norfolk State University

Public Sector Work and Subjective Wellbeing: Do Different Welfare State Regimes Matter?

Nevbahar Ertas, University of Alabama at Birmingham

Michael Howell-Moroney, University of Memphis

Pacific Island Anti-Corruption Agencies and their Failure to Establish Effective Accountability Mechanisms for Bureaucrats

Jett Zenthoefer, University of Georgia

Between Global Agendas and Local Legitimacy: Navigating Foreign Aid and Civil Society in Kyrgyzstan

Saltanat Liebert, Virginia Commonwealth University

Social Equity and Budgeting

Room: Hampton III

Equity in Action: Assessing the Adoption of Social Equity Budgeting

Saman Afshan, Old Dominion University

Citizen Perceptions of Equity in the Budgeting Process

Bruce D. McDonald III, Old Dominion University

Sean McCandless, University of Texas at Dallas

Mapping Social Equity in Budgeting Across Crisis Phases: Evidence from the Rohingya Joint Response Plans

Nibedita Datta, Nord University

Giuseppe Grossi, Kristianstad University and Nord University

Tobias Polzer, WU Vienna

Social Equity Budgeting: Assessing the Revenue Side of Taxation in Local Governments

Gustavo Andrey de Almeida Lopes Fernandes, FGV EAESP

Eduardo Grin, FGV EAESP

Why and How is Social Equity Budgeting Introduced in Local Governments?

Juan Pablo Martínez Guzmán, University of Maryland

Meagan Jordan, Clinton School of Public Service

Economic Development

Room: Hampton VI

Business Incentives for Potentially Hazardous Industrial Facilities

Vanessa Mellynchuk, Villanova University

Max Harleman, Villanova University

The Energetic States: The Effects of Long-Standing Capacity Disparities on the Distribution of AI Investment and State Economic Performance

Jeremy L. Hall, University of Central Florida

Designing Boundaries Beyond Boundaries: A Literature Review of Foreign Trade Zones

Ana Luiza Ferreira Terra Pinto, Florida International University

PILOTs for Economic Development: Development of a New Typology for Risk Assessment

John Isbell, Tennessee State University

Meg Streams, Tennessee State University

Workforce Development Policy and the Green Economy Transition: A Comparative Analysis of Selected U.S. States

Arifur Rahman Bhuiyan, Pennsylvania State University

Public Service Ethics, Leadership, and Organizational Values

Room: Hampton VII

A Social Equity Vulnerability Approach Will Strengthen Community Resilience and Civil Rights

Michael A. Brown, Columbia Southern University

Toward an Integrated Framework of Workplace Spirituality, Servant Leadership, and Ethical Leadership in Public and Nonprofit Organizations

Elijah Agyapong, Regent University

Stephen King, Regent University

Gary Roberts, Regent University

Public Service Identity Under Siege: DOGE Orders and Identity Threat

Jessica F. Khan, North Carolina State University

Administrative Evil: Stumbling Block Masking Powers in Collusion Networks

D. Francis, Light of Life Ministries – Royal Power Mission

Early Career Survival Guide: What they Don't Teach You about Budgeting Jobs

Room: Hampton VIII

Kaitlyn James, City of Virginia Beach

Ines Beecher, City of Hialeah (retired)

Aneisha Daniel, Miami-Dade County

Joseph Brown, City of Virginia Beach

Working with Tribal Nations: Lessons from Coastal Community Resilience for Broader Application

Room: James I

Wie Yusuf, Old Dominion University

Elizabeth Andrews, University of Virginia and Virginia Sea Grant

Sierra Gladfelter, University of Virginia

Cameron Bruce, College of William & Mary

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm – Concurrent Sessions 4

Conceptualizing, Defining, and Measuring Resilience Across Different Contexts

Room: Hampton I

From Participation to Measurement: Operationalizing Equity in Coastal Resilience Policy

Wie Yusuf, Old Dominion University
Marina Saitgalina, Old Dominion University
Jennifer Whytlaw, Old Dominion University
Tom Allen, Old Dominion University
Joshua Behr, Old Dominion University
Vickie Tyler Carnegie, Old Dominion University

Power, People and Place: Urban Resilience Islands

Serena Hoermann, Florida Atlantic University
Arthur Sementelli, Florida Atlantic University

Semantics of Resilience: Exploring Administrator and Constituent Conceptualization

Samantha Mosier, East Carolina University
Jason Pudlo, East Carolina University
Olga Smirnova, East Carolina University
Sarah Radel, East Carolina University
Stephen Moysey, East Carolina University

Public Administration in North Carolina

Room: Hampton II

Chair: Hunter Bacot, University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Community Development

Allison Bramwell, University of North Carolina at Greensboro
Annie Luxmore Martinie, Liminal Collaborations
Phillip Sheldon, MDC, Inc.

Emergency Management

Jason M. Pudlo, East Carolina University
Merrill Flood, East Carolina University

Election Administration

Martha Kropf, University of North Carolina Charlotte
Karen Brinson Bell, Advance Electronics, LLC

Citizen Engagement

José Luis Irizarry, North Carolina Central University
Christopher J. Paul, North Carolina Central University
Salima N. Thomas, North Carolina Central University

AI Adoption and Implementation

Room: Hampton III

Determinants of Artificial Intelligence Adoption: Evidence from a Survey of U.S. Local Governments

Julius Nukpezah, Mississippi State University

The Embedded State: Artificial Intelligence, Perception, and Governance in Local Public Administration

B.J. Fletcher, University of Illinois Springfield
Daniel Scheller, Texas Tech University
Wesley Wehde, Texas Tech University

Artificial Intelligence, Digital Governance, and Local Policy Making: A Case Study of Bangladesh

Minara Nazmin, People's Republic of Bangladesh
MD Nurul Karim Bhuiyan, Gazipur District Administration

Now In Your Backyard: The Public Health and Policy Implications of AI Data Centers in Mississippi

Ivan S. Ozherelev, Jackson State University
Marie T. Bass, Jackson State University

Data Centers, A.I., Municipal Regulations, and Community Opposition

Trevor M. Clark, Norfolk State University
Tina L. Jordan, Morgan State University

Local Government Leadership, Professionalism, and Reform

Room: Hampton VI

The Campaign for Municipal Reform – Another Look at the Advocacy of Richard Childs
Eric Zeemering, University of Georgia
Small But Mighty: Local Government Leadership Qualifications and Municipal Performance
Aislinn Riley, University of Alabama
Reassessing Professional Local Government: Ethics, Structure, and the Council-Manager Model
Nina Alvandipour, University of Arkansas at Little Rock
Gabrielle Swain, University of Arkansas at Little Rock
Rethinking Expertise: Professionalism in Public Service Organizations
Honey Minkowitz, University of Nebraska Omaha
Sheldon Brennemann, University of Nebraska Omaha
Saman Afshan, Old Dominion University
Back to Deadwood: A Modern Retrospective on ad hoc Government Performance in the Pioneer Settlements of the Dakota and Montana Territories
Jeremy Hall, University of Central Florida
Patrick Exmeyer, University of Louisville

The Pedagogy and Practice of Equity in the Era of Trump 2.0

Room: Hampton VII

Ron Carlee, Old Dominion University
Vickie Tyler Carnegie, Old Dominion University
Aleea Slappy Wilson, City of Norfolk, Virginia
ClauDean Kizart, Lightwork Equitable Solutions LLC

From Dissertation to Public Scholarship: Reimagining Doctoral Education for the Current Moment in Public Administration

Room: Hampton VIII

Mariglynn Edlins, University of Baltimore
Jamie Hoots, University of Baltimore
Ruba Abukhadeir, University of Baltimore
Terrell Williams, University of Baltimore
Margo Settles, University of Baltimore

Transformative Potential of Artificial Intelligence and Digital Twin in Public Administration

Room: James I

Sasi Kasiraju, Valdosta State University

Building Practice-Ready Learning in MPA Classrooms

Room: James III

Tracy Banner, Florida State University

5:30 pm – 7:30 pm – Welcome Reception

Room: Marriott Ballroom



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Senior Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs and Faculty Development

Lindsey Evans, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor and Director, Wilder Graduate Scholars Fellowship

Saltanat Liebert, Ph.D.

Associate Professor and MPA Program Assistant Chair



FRIDAY



8:30 am – 10:00 am – Concurrent Sessions 5

Publishing Through Polarization: Challenges and Strategies for Social Equity Scholarship

Room: Hampton I

Hillary J. Knepper, Pace University
Meghna Sabharwal, University of Texas at Dallas
Bruce D. McDonald III, Old Dominion University
Michelle D. Evans, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga
RaJade M. Berry-James, Virginia Commonwealth University
Gina Scutelnicu Todoran, Pace University
Mary E. Guy, University of Colorado Denver
Sean McCandless, University of Texas at Dallas

Digital Transformation in Government: Policy Diffusion, Administrative Capacity, and Discretion

Room: Hampton II

Chair: Sukumar Ganapati, Florida International University
Digital Transformation, Discursive Silence, and Administrative Capacity
Diana Camelia Iancu, National University of Political Studies and Public Administration
Catalin Vrabie, National University of Political Studies and Public Administration
Administrative Discretion versus Algorithmic Governance in Smart City Policies
Milena I. Neshkova, Florida International University
David Ferraz, University of Lisbon
Diffusion of AI Policies across State Governments in the United States
Sukumar Ganapati, Florida International University

Public and Nonprofit Institutions at a Crossroads: Equity, Evidence, Resilience, and Innovation

Room: Hampton III

Chair: Angela Eikenberry, University of Connecticut
Evidence-Based Policymaking and Criminal Justice Reform: A Community-Engaged, Student Fellowship-Based Policy Research Initiative
Bok Gyo Jeong, Kean University
Felipe Peralta, The Lesniak Institute for American Leadership
Are the Faculty Alright? Exploring Burnout Amid Political Pressure
Lindsey L. Evans, Virginia Commonwealth University
Lauren Azevedo, University of North Carolina Charlotte
Pamela S. Medina, California State University San Bernardino
Authoritarian Signaling: Campuses Reacting to Anti-DEI Legislation and Political Pressure
Roseanne Mirabella, Kean University
Michael Taylor, Seton Hall University

Mohamed Shaheen, Kean University
Nonprofit AI Adoption: Themes, Gaps, and Governance Challenges
Wendy D. Chen, Texas Tech University

Organizational Equity, Representation, and Workforce Inclusion

Room: Hampton VI

Shaped by Role: Examining the Influence of Organizational Position on DEI Perceptions in Nonprofits
Lindsey Evans, Virginia Commonwealth University
Angela Kline, West Chester University
Tayler Shreve, Virginia Commonwealth University
Exploring Equity and Excellence: A Mixed Methods Study of Research Funding Disparities and Success
Among Women Faculty of Color at a Research-Intensive University
Mary Strawderman, Virginia Commonwealth University
A Hidden Cost of Telework: Telework and Government Managers' Promotion Decisions
Ju Won Park, University of Utah
Yoon Jik Cho, Yonsei University
Bradley E Wright, University of Georgia

Public Health, Health Equity, and Health Systems

Room: Hampton VII

The Health and Economic Benefits of HPV Vaccines: A Longitudinal Study
Tudor Todoran, Mamaroneck High School
Gina Scutelnicu, Pace University
Environmental Justice and Health Equity: Strategies for Improving Maternal, Infant, and Child Health
Outcomes
Celeste Murphy-Greene, Norfolk State University
Michelle Angeletti, Florida Gulf Coast University
A Mixed-Methods Exploratory Sequential Approach to Understand Global Healthcare Burdens and
Their Systematic Drivers
Gabrielle Scarlett, Florida International University
Milena Neshkova, Florida International University
Donavon A. Johnson, Florida International University
A Systematic Case Study of Healthcare Burden Reduction Strategies in Contrasting National Health
Systems
Gabrielle Scarlett, Florida International University
Milena Neshkova, Florida International University
Donavon A. Johnson, Florida International University
Health Systems Matter Independently: Econometric Evidence on Maternal Health, Adolescent Fertility,
and HDI in Sub-Saharan Africa
Emmanuel Owusu Agyei, University of Memphis

AI Trustworthiness in Public Administration- NIST AI Risk Management Framework

Room: Hampton VIII

Sasi Kasiraju, Valdosta State University
James. E. Cronkhite, Valdosta State University
Barbara Collier, Valdosta State University
Daaiyah, Salaam, Valdosta State University
Sarah E. McCalister, Valdosta State University

Structural Erasure: Policy, Law, and Electoral Systems as LGBTQ+ Exclusion

Room: Chesapeake I

Christina Barsky, University of Vermont

Emma White, University of Vermont
Zane Zupan, U.S. Attorneys' Office and University of Vermont
Veronika Scavacini, University of Vermont
Sheldon Brennemann, University of Nebraska Omaha

Professional Development for Doctoral Students: Developing Your Scholarly Identity and Using your CV as a Planning Tool

Room: Chesapeake II

Wie Yusuf, Old Dominion University

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10:15 am – 11:45 am – Concurrent Sessions 6

The Spirit of SECoPA: Leading Through Crisis, Complexity, and Change

Room: Hampton I

Tonya E. Thornton, Global Connective Center
Dan Lasseter, University of Georgia
Kim Hoffman, University of Central Arkansas

Procurement and Contracting

Room: Hampton II

When Competition Does Not Discipline: The Rules of Courtship in Contracting for Complex Products and Systems

Jung Won (Leo) Choi, Georgia Institute of Technology & Georgia State University

Risk and Resilience: Managing Public Transit Contracting during a Disrupted Market

Suzanne Leland, University of North Carolina Charlotte

Wie Yusuf, Old Dominion University

Olga Smirnova, East Carolina University

Agency Theory and Contracting Out for Out-of-school Time Tutoring

Joanne Carman, University of North Carolina Charlotte

Kristen Beach, University of North Carolina Charlotte

A Practical Guide to Teaching Public Procurement in Higher Education

Jean-Claude Ndongo, Old Dominion University

Digitalized Procurement: Implications for Efficiency and Bureaucratic Control

Eric Prier, Florida Atlantic University

Britney Roach, Florida Atlantic University

Clifford McCue, Florida Atlantic University

DEI Policy, Governance, and Institutional Change

Room: Hampton III

The Dismantling of DEI in the Public Policy Square: Implications for Higher Education

Jackie Okao, Virginia Commonwealth University

Jeffery Wilson, Virginia Commonwealth University

The Impacts of Anti-DEI Laws on Student Access and Retention in Higher Education

Seunghwa Kim, University at Albany, SUNY

From Compliance to Contestation: DEI Policy and Polarized Federalism

Doug Goodman, University of Central Florida

What Happens to Contractors After States Ban Affirmative Action?

Benjamin Rosa, University of Michigan

Thank You for Your Service: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and its Role in Veteran's Preference

Nichelle Clark, Old Dominion University

Democratic Governance, Trust, and Accountability

Room: Hampton VI

Rethinking Reapportionment: Examining Mapmaking Best Practices and a Focus on the 2021 Pennsylvania Legislative Redistricting Commission

Tom Konen, West Chester University

The Role of Respect in Public Administration and Democratic Governance

Elliot Stoller, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

The Case of Non-Adoption: Why States Choose Not to Adopt Popular Policies

Emily Robinson, North Carolina State University

Governing at the Counter: A Randomized Vignette Study of Bureaucratic Encounter and Democratic Trust



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Md Al Hasib, University of Texas at Dallas
Salman Bin Habib, University of Texas at Dallas
Policy, Participation and Preservation: Building Trust & Civic Engagement in Gullah Geechee Communities
LaTasha Chaffin, College of Charleston
Arianna Parker, College of Charleston

Workforce Wellbeing, Retention, and Organizational Behavior

Room: Hampton VII

Beyond Public Service Motivation: When Engagement Backfires in Public Service
Abdollah Zeraatpisheh, University of Texas at Dallas
Organizational Resources to Reduce Stress in the Public Workforce
Justin Stritch, University of North Carolina Charlotte
Michelle Allgood, University of Wyoming
Ulrich Thy Jensen, Arizona State University
Workplace Bullying as a Leadership and Organizational Responsibility: A Sensemaking Study of Targets' Lived Experiences
Ruba Abukhdeir, University of Baltimore
Sensemaking, Psychological Contract Disruption, and Turnover Considerations Among Federal Employees During Government Shutdowns
Ifeyimika David, University of Baltimore

Fiscal Health Monitoring Systems

Room: Hampton VIII

Chair: Bruce D. McDonald III, Old Dominion University
Queensland, Australia
Craig Maher, University of Nebraska Omaha
Jihoo Han, University of Nebraska Omaha
Fiscal Monitoring in India – Accountability, Compliance, and Local Fiscal Health
Saman Afshan, Old Dominion University
International Perspectives on Fiscal Condition and Local Government – Monitoring System: Brazil
Gustavo Andrey de Almeida Lopes Fernandes, FGV EAESP
Ricardo Corrêa Gomes, FGV EAESP

Digital Communication and Governance

Room: Chesapeake I

From Digital Communication to Decision-Testing Capacity: Social Media Feedback as a Weak-Signal Tool in Local Public Administration
Catalin Vrabie, National University of Political Studies and Public Administration
D. Iancu, National University of Political Studies and Public Administration
Small Acts, Systemic Power: A Foucauldian Analysis of Microfeminism on Social Media and Its Implications for Digital Governance
Amanda Adams, University of Louisville
Aaron C. Rollins Jr, University of Louisville
Accessibility and Usability of Department of Health Websites across the U.S.
Jeffrey Nyabor, Mississippi State University
Julius Nukpezah, Mississippi State University

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm – Awards Luncheon

Room: Hampton Ballroom



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1:45 pm – 3:15 pm – Concurrent Sessions 7

Public Finance Journal -- Conducting and Publishing Engaged Research

Room: Hampton I

Chair: Craig Maher, University of Nebraska Omaha

How to Write and Publish Engaged Research

Craig Maher, University of Nebraska Omaha

How to Engage with Practitioners

Kyle Wedberg, Government Finance Officers Association

How to Conduct Engaged Research

Sarah Larson, Miami University

Climate and Coastal Resilience

Room: Hampton II

Coastal Household Preparedness: A Framework for Understanding Hurricane Evacuation

Oge Nwandu-Vincent, Virginia Department of Transportation

Wie Yusuf, Old Dominion University

Gail Nicula, Old Dominion University

Adaptive Reuse, Civic Infrastructure, and Community Resilience: Reimagining Public Service Through Participatory Urban Governance

Asma Mehan, Texas Tech University

Elevation as Unequal Protection: Saltwater Intrusion, Farmland Access, and Environmental Injustice in Coastal South Carolina

Chandler Dickert, College of Charleston

Jun Li, College of Charleston

Beyond the Stationarity Assumption: Why Planning Instruments Fail in Non-Stationary Environments

Geoff Edlins

Opening Policy Windows for Managed Retreat: A Configurational Analysis of Coastal Climate Adaptation

Honey Minkowitz, University of Nebraska Omaha

AI Governance, Accountability, and Public Values

Room: Hampton III

Governing Artificial Intelligence in Local Government: A Best Practices Framework for Accountability and Implementation

Stephen Sussman, Barry University

Carole Huberman, Barry University

Jalane Meloun, Barry University

When No One Is Responsible: Agentic AI and the Accountability Vacuum in Government Services

Kelvis Gills, Florida State University

Bot or not? Organizational Rules, Wicked Problems, and Perceived Trustworthiness of Artificial Intelligence

Ziwei He, Pennsylvania State University Harrisburg

Jiaxi Yang, Fudan University

Xiangli Kong, Beihang University

From Symbolic to Substantive: A State-Panel Analysis of AI Governance Adoption and Content Strength, 2019 to 2025

Albert Nii Noi Okwei, Virginia Commonwealth University

How is AI Procurement different from Technology Procurement? Evidence from US Local Governments

Md Abu Talha, University at Albany, SUNY

Mila Gasco-Hernandez, University at Albany, SUNY

Higher Education Policy, Administration, and Student Success

Room: Hampton VI

Transformational Leadership and Post-War Economic Recovery: A Cross-Country Comparative Study

Kristina Nano, James Madison University

Margaret F. Sloan, James Madison University

Administrative Intensity/Bloat and Faculty Job Satisfaction in Higher Education Institutions (HEIs)

Neena Banerjee, Valdosta State University

Nandan Kumar Jha, Valdosta State University

The impact of the Massachusetts Campus Safety & Violence Prevention Act of 2021: An intercampus survey analysis

Jessica Terman, George Mason University

Andre Silva, University of Massachusetts

Nicolas Anguelov, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth

Beyond Reputation: Impacts of Integrating Objective Indicators with Peer Perception in USNWR Public Affairs Program Rankings

Shaoming Cheng, Florida International University

Gina Scutelnicu Todoran, Pace University

Goktug Morcol, Pennsylvania State University Harrisburg

Public Trust and Transparency

Room: Hampton VII

Shaping Trust from Within: Public Administrators' Perceptions of the Public and the Practice of Transparency

Austin N. Kaiser, Sinclair College

Adam Eckerd, Old Dominion University

The Politics of Satisfaction: Education Quality and Democratic Outcomes in Latin America and the Caribbean

Deshawn Cooke, Florida International University

Milena Neshkova, Florida International University

Managerial Decision-Making and Street-Level Discretion in Immigration Enforcement and Its Effects on Public Trust

Stanley Peter Anukwuocha, Old Dominion University

Mitra Bhattarai, Old Dominion University

Mapping Power: Gerrymandering, Representation, and Public Trust in Government

Marc J. Broadhead, Belmont University

Wesley P. King, Old Dominion University

Merit Systems, Public Personnel, and HR Management

Room: Hampton VIII

The Merit Paradox: Navigating Institutional Logics and Micro-Level Sensemaking in Public Sector Promotion

Armil D. Djara, Pennsylvania State University Harrisburg

Bing Ran, Pennsylvania State University Harrisburg

The Convergence of Merit Principles in Creating Public Value: The Mediating Role of Ethical Organizational Climate

Eyasin Ul Islam Pavel, University of Texas at Dallas

Job Security and Whistleblowing: The Case of the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs

Shang Yat Lam, University of Georgia

Beyond Technical Metrics: Redesigning Performance Appraisals to Incorporate Relational Competency in the Age of AI

Omololu Adeyemi, University of Baltimore

Innovation, AI, and Emerging Pedagogies

Room: Chesapeake I

Integrating Artificial Intelligence into Public Administration Education: Bridging Theory, Practice, and Workforce Readiness

Stephen Sussman, Barry University

Carole Huberman, Barry University

Jalane Meloun, Barry University

Teaching Diversity & Equity During Complex Political Narratives

Shamima Ahmed, Northern Kentucky University

When Fiction Governs Reality: A Pedagogical Approach to Organizational Culture and Decision-Making in Emergencies

Mohammad Newaz Sharif, University of Central Florida

Preparing Public Service Professionals: Integrating AI into the MPA Curriculum

Heather Wyatt-Nichol, University of Baltimore

The AI Co-Pilot: Generative AI in Public Administration Education

Sawsan Abutabenjeh, United Arab Emirates University

Raed Jaradat, Mississippi State University

Annus Azhar, Arizona State University - China

Process Improvement in Local Government: A University Collaboration

Room: Chesapeake II

Marina Saitgalina, Old Dominion University

Betty Meyer, City of Norfolk

Haley Danielson, City of Norfolk

Monica Wilburn, City of Chesapeake

Ron Carlee, Old Dominion University

Vickie Tyler Carnegie, Old Dominion University



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3:00 pm – 4:30pm – Concurrent Sessions 8

Emergency Management

Room: Hampton I

An Open Discussion About Artificial Intelligence's Role in Disaster Emergency Management

Michael A. Brown

Bridging Academia and Practice Through Tabletop Simulations in Emergency Management Education

Mohammad Newaz Sharif, University of Central Florida

Claire Connolly Knox, University of Central Florida

Jennifer Classen, Endicott College

Steven Lerner, Seminole County

Communications and Messaging for Hurricane Evacuation: Perspectives of Emergency Managers, PIOs, Community Leaders, and Residents

Qian Hu, George Mason University

Wie Yusuf, Old Dominion University

Joshua Behr, Old Dominion University

Rafael Diaz, Old Dominion University

Hemant Purohit, George Mason University

When the Campus Goes Dark: Disaster Readiness in the Sun Belt

Leigh Hersey, University of Louisiana Monroe

Eleonora Franco, University of Louisiana Monroe

Coercion Post-COVID-19: Local Emergency Management Policy Implementation After the Pandemic

Sean Hildebrand, Ball State University

Matthew Malone, Lander University

Emerging Challenges in Governance, Equity, and Administrative Legitimacy

Room: Hampton II

Chair: Hillary Knepper, Pace University

The Price of Entry: How Indian Exams and U.S. Internships Shape Career Barriers for Women

Areeba Hashmi, Pace University

Implementation Gaps and Public Trust in Transnational Exchange Programs: Evidence from the J-1

Summer Work Travel Program in a U.S.–China Context

Yuhong Min, Pace University

The Economics of Human Trafficking: Why Current U.S. Policies Fail

Yaren Dilek, Pace University

Examining Administrative Critical Consciousness in Environmental Governance: Leadership and Praxis in the Case of Carol Browner

Jyoti Aggarwal, University of Texas at Dallas

When Artificial Intelligence Governs: A Systematic Review and the Algorithmic Public Value Framework

Md Al Hasib, University of Texas at Dallas

Local Budgeting, Fiscal Oversight, and Financial Resilience

Room: Hampton III

Does Fiscal Health Mean Sound Public Policy?

Gustavo Andrey de Almeida Lopes Fernandes, FGV EAESP

Bruce D. McDonald III, Old Dominion University

Débora Tristão, Universidade Municipal de São Caetano do Sul

Marco Teixeira, FGV EAESP

Navigating Service Disruptions for Protected Student Groups: Financial Resiliency and Entrepreneurial Leadership during Federal Funding Delays and Disruptions

Jamie R. Hoots, University of Baltimore

Multi-Year Capital Budgeting: Evidence from Georgia

Austin M. Aldag, Mississippi State University

Peter A. Jones, University of Alabama at Birmingham
Vincent Reitano, Binghamton University
Rewarding Success or Fixing Failure? Citizen Responses to Performance Information in Participatory Budgeting
Andreas D. Sihotang, Clinton School of Public Service
Melissa McShea, John Jay College of Criminal Justice
Songkhun Nillasithanukroh, Clinton School of Public Service
Robert Richards, Clinton School of Public Service
Meagan Jordan, Clinton School of Public Service
From Turnaround to Oversight: State Intervention in Memphis-Shelby County Schools
Sharon Leigh Wrobel, University of Memphis

Digital Government, Technology, and Public Service Delivery

Room: Hampton VI

Digital City Branding for Economic Development
Wendy Chen, Texas Tech University
Aroon Manoharan, Suffolk University
E-Government Capacity, Digital Infrastructure and Sustainable Development Performance: A Cross-National Analysis of 162 Countries
Z. R. M. Abdullah Kaiser, University of Louisville
A Study of Incomplete Information, Public Value Perceptions, and Crisis Decision-Making Styles
Chun-yuan Wang, Central Police University, Taiwan
Jyun-wei Hong, Central Police University, Taiwan

Curriculum, Competencies, and Professional Education

Room: Hampton VII

Educating for the Times in Public Service
Michelle Pautz, University of Dayton
Sara Rinfret, Northern Arizona University
What Do We Teach When We Accredite? Public Administration Education, Democratic Purpose, and the Pedagogy of Quality Assurance
Diana Camelia Iancu, National University of Political Studies and Public Administration
Do We Have the Courage to Lead? Teaching Leadership in the MPA Classroom
Robert Smith, University of Illinois Springfield
Bruce D. McDonald III, Old Dominion University
Stanley Anukwuocha, Old Dominion University
Can MPA Programs Legitimately Signal Public Procurement Training? A Curriculum Analysis
Jessica Terman, George Mason University
Deficits in Fiscal Literacy Regarding Public Debt: Challenges and Opportunities in Public Affairs Education
Sombo Muzata, James Madison University

Fiscal Capacity, Revenue Policy, and State Budgeting

Room: Hampton VIII

Creating Independent Budget Oversight: The Role and Efficacy of Municipal Fiscal Councils
Rahul Pathak, Baruch College, CUNY
Budgeting for Legitimacy? State Spending and Public Evaluations of Governors
Anton Sutiagin, University of Texas at Dallas
Build-Up or Breakdown? Revenue Substitution, Fiscal Capacity, and the Governance Risks of Mississippi's HB 1
George Welch, Jackson State University
Public Budgeting: Deaths of Despair, Manufacturing Decline, and State Fiscal Choices-A View from the States
Zhanbolat Zhuleuov, Florida International University

Howard Frank, Florida International University
Milena Neshkova, Florida International University
The Historical and Current Equity Impact of State Sales Tax Policy: The Intended and Unintended Consequences
Sarah Larson, Miami University
Megan M. Jordan, Clinton School of Public Service

Simulating Crisis: Strengthening Coastal Resilience and Interagency Coordination in Norfolk, Virginia
Room: Chesapeake I

Tonya E. Thornton, Global Connective Center
Brian J. Gerber, Arizona State University
Alessandra Jerollemen, Loyola University
James Newman, Southeast Missouri State University
Joe Hines, Timmons Group
Marco Rubin, Virginia Innovation Partnership Corporation

Budgeting in Uncertain Times: Building Flexibility into Rigid Systems
Room: Chesapeake II

Kaitlyn James, City of Virginia Beach
Ines Beecher, City of Hialeah (retired)
Jonathan Hobbs, City of Chesapeake
Alex Gottschalk, Mecklenburg County
Nikki Johnson, Hampton Roads Planning District

5:15 pm – 6:15 pm – SECoPA Business Meeting

Room: Hampton I

5:15 pm – 6:15 pm – NECoPA Business Meeting

Room: Hampton III

6:30 pm – 8:00 pm – 2027 Host Reception

Room: Marriott Ballroom



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SATURDAY



8:30 am – 10:00 am – Concurrent Sessions 9

Housing, Urban Affairs, and Community Development

Room: Hampton I

Policy Drift in Bar Harbor: Public Policy and Public Costs of Cruise Ship Tourism

Josh Steinfeld, Bowie State University

Between Centers, Sanctuaries and Slums: An Analysis of Commuting Equity in U.S. Cities

Michael O'Grady, Virginia Commonwealth University

Jonathan Lubin, Georgia Southern University

Urban Land Use Reform and Urban Administrative Capacity: An Examination of East Coast Cities

Caitlin O'Kelley, University of Georgia

Bridging Practice and Scholarship: Insights on Governance, Administrative Burden, and the Human Loop

Room: Hampton II

Chair: Angela Kline, West Chester University

The Socio-Technical Loop: Shared Governance as a Democratic Corrective to Black Box Algorithmic Power in Public Administration

Jennifer Hulehan, West Chester University

The Administrative Burden of Prior Authorization: The Case for Equitable Reform

Jazmin Thomas, West Chester University

Artificial Intelligence, Healthcare and Poverty

Janet M. Woodley, West Chester University

Nonprofits, Policy Roles, and Civil Society

Room: Hampton III

Chair: Triparna Vasavada, Pennsylvania State University

Appealing to Donors through Narratives: Narrative Point of View and Character Perspective in Fundraising Appeals

Honey Minkowitz, University of Nebraska Omaha

Teshanee Williams, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

How Nonprofit Fundraising Strategies Affect Donations for People with Disabilities and Stigma

Zach Curinga, Rutgers University-Newark

Ying Liu, University of Rhode Island

Lindsey McDougale, Rutgers University-Newark

Nonprofit Density, Competition, and Collaboration: Organizational Viability in Complex Governance Environments

Dave Chadha, Lehigh University



Faculty Spotlight

Recently Published and Forthcoming Titles



COLT JENSEN

Assistant Professor of
Public Administration and
Government

“Representative
Bureaucracy and Administrative
Burdens: Exploring the Intersection
of Lived Experience, Gender, and
Professional Qualities” | *Journal of
Public Administration Research and Theory*

“40 Years of Rural Research in Public
Administration: Conceptualization,
Evidence, and Future Avenues for
Research” | *Public Administration Review*

“Safeguarding Merit: Citizen Support
for Civil Service Protections Against
Political Interference” | *Public
Administration Review*

“Beyond Census Metrics: Toward a More
Inclusive Understanding of Rurality and
its Effects on Organizational Capacities
in Georgia” | *American Review of
Public Administration*



KIMBERLY L. NELSON

Albert and Gladys Coates
Distinguished Professor of
Public Administration and
Government • Director,

Public Leadership and Governance Division
• Co-Editor, *State and Local Government
Review* • Fellow, *National Academy of Public
Administration*

*The Ethics Challenge in Public Service: A
Problem-Solving Guide*

“An Unstable Hierarchy: Departmental
Dynamics in Local Government
Organizations.” | *Public Administration
Review*

*Managing Local Government: An Essential
Guide for Municipal and County Managers*

*Managing Local Government: Cases in
Effectiveness*



TESHANEE WILLIAMS

Assistant Professor of
Public Administration and
Government • Lead Faculty,
Nonprofit Concentration

“Balancing Mission and Measurement:
The Impact of Institutional Pressures
on Evaluation Practices in Community
Development Financial Institutions”
Journal of Urban Affairs

“The Iron Triangle of Affordable
Homeownership: Habitat for Humanity
Affiliate Strategies for Balancing Efficiency,
Effectiveness, and Equity” | *The American
Review of Public Administration*

“Narrative Policy Framework at the Macro
Level—Cultural Theory-Based Beliefs,
Science-Based Narrative Strategies”
Public Policy and Administration

“A Transaction Cost Approach to Policy-
Mandated Collaborations: Evidence
from North Carolina.” | *Human Service
Organizations: Management, Leadership &
Governance*

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Marcus Braga Alves, Pace University
Hillary Knepper, Pace University
From Advocacy to Policy: How Nonprofit Actors Shape Policy Debates
Omowonuola Fayemiro, Old Dominion University
What Happens to Nonprofit's Mediating Role in an Outsourced and Politically Volatile Environment?
Fred Mayhew, James Madison University

Social Equity, Inclusion, and Vulnerable Populations

Room: Hampton VI

The Intersection of Wealth, Health and Racial Inequality for Black Women
Tishawna Dawson, Mississippi State University
Role of Government and NGOs in Addressing the Marginalization of the Third Gender Community
Ridwan Islam Sifat, University of Maryland, Baltimore County
Exploring the Healthcare Experiences of Intersex Individuals in the United States
Ridwan Islam Sifat, University of Maryland, Baltimore County
Promises vs. Outcomes: Policy Misalignment and Persistent Poverty in Mississippi
Debra Braddock, Jackson State University
Invisible Disability and Inequalities Among Black Women: A Public Administration and Health Policy Approach
Julaya Lewis, University of Baltimore

Villains, Victims, and Heroes: A Visual Narrative Pedagogical Workshop

Room: Hampton VII

Drew Lusher, Old Dominion University and Chrysler Museum of Art

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10:15 am – 11:45 am – Concurrent Sessions 10

Surviving Your PhD Program

Room: Hampton I

Bruce D. McDonald III, Old Dominion University
Honey Minkowitz, University of Nebraska Omaha
Meghna Sabharwal, University of Texas at Dallas
Anna Ladipo, University of Texas at Dallas
Sean McCandless, University of Texas at Dallas

Issues in Housing Policy

Room: Hampton II

From Entry Points to Current Residential Locations: Neighborhood Trajectories of Economically Successful Immigrants in the United States
Grant Rissler, University of Richmond
Zehra Sahin Ilkorkor, Virginia Commonwealth University
Saltanat Liebert, Virginia Commonwealth University
Gabriela Leon-Perez, Virginia Commonwealth University
Daniel Morales, Virginia Commonwealth University
Public Comment and Housing Development
Khamani Williamson, Clemson University
Redlining and Its Discriminatory Housing Practices on Minorities
Damani A. Morgan, Norfolk State University

AI, Workforce Transformation, and Public Service Delivery

Room: Hampton III

Government Predictive AI's Performance: Taking Institutional and Racial Contexts into Consideration
Canyu Gao, Rutgers University-Newark
AI-Driven Workforce Governance: Building Trusted Digital Identity and Employment Verification Systems for the Future of Public Administration
Rahul Raj, Walmart
AI, Digital Governance, and Public-Service Education
Georgette Dumont, University of North Florida
Exploring the Implications of AI and the Digital Frontier
Stephanie Pink-Harper, University of Alabama at Birmingham

Federalism and Intergovernmental Relations

Room: Hampton VI

Capacity Pooling: How Federal Policy Implementation Relies on State Capacity
Ji Hyun Byeon, University at Albany
Effects of the New Property Tax Levy Limit on Tax Rates and Levy Growth in Texas
Salman Bin Habib, University of Texas at Dallas
Eugenia Gorina, University of Texas at Dallas
Administrative Discretion in Block Grants: How States Respond to Family Caregiver Burden of Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs through Title V Block Grant Programs
Joseph Hafer, University of Memphis
Policy Windows in the Sunshine State
Alessandra Tasca, Florida Atlantic University

Civic Engagement, Participation, and Community Partnerships

Room: Hampton VII

Equity in Civic Engagement: An Analysis of Historical Perspectives, Conceptual Frameworks and Progressive Practices

Beth Rauhaus Akcora, University of Louisiana at Lafayette

City-Nonprofit Partnership in Promoting Civic Engagement and Democracy: A Case Study of the City of Lakewood, California

Ahmed Rafi, University of Texas at Dallas

Innovation Through Lesson-Drawing: Community Engagement Strategies in Higher Education

Aloha Balza Montes, Florida Atlantic University

Palina Prysmakova, Florida Atlantic University

Bridging Regions and Sectors: The Importance of Intergovernmental and Nonprofit Collaboration

Tassew Gizaw, Norfolk State University

Student Success, Engagement, and Experiential Learning

Room: Hampton VIII

Narrative Simulation and Crisis Leadership in Public Service Education

Shawn E. Schooley, Bemidji State University

Indigenous Student Internships: Advancing Social Equity in Higher Education in the United States

Susan E. Baer, Renaissance Institute

Victor Ferreros, Walden University

Daniel Hajdo, Walden University

Keys to Persistence: A Mixed-methods Systematic Review of Online Doctoral Attrition Literature

Blake Lafond, National University

More Than Grades: Exploring How Professional Development Programming Shapes Graduate Student Engagement and Success in an MPA Program

Marla Robertson, College of Charleston

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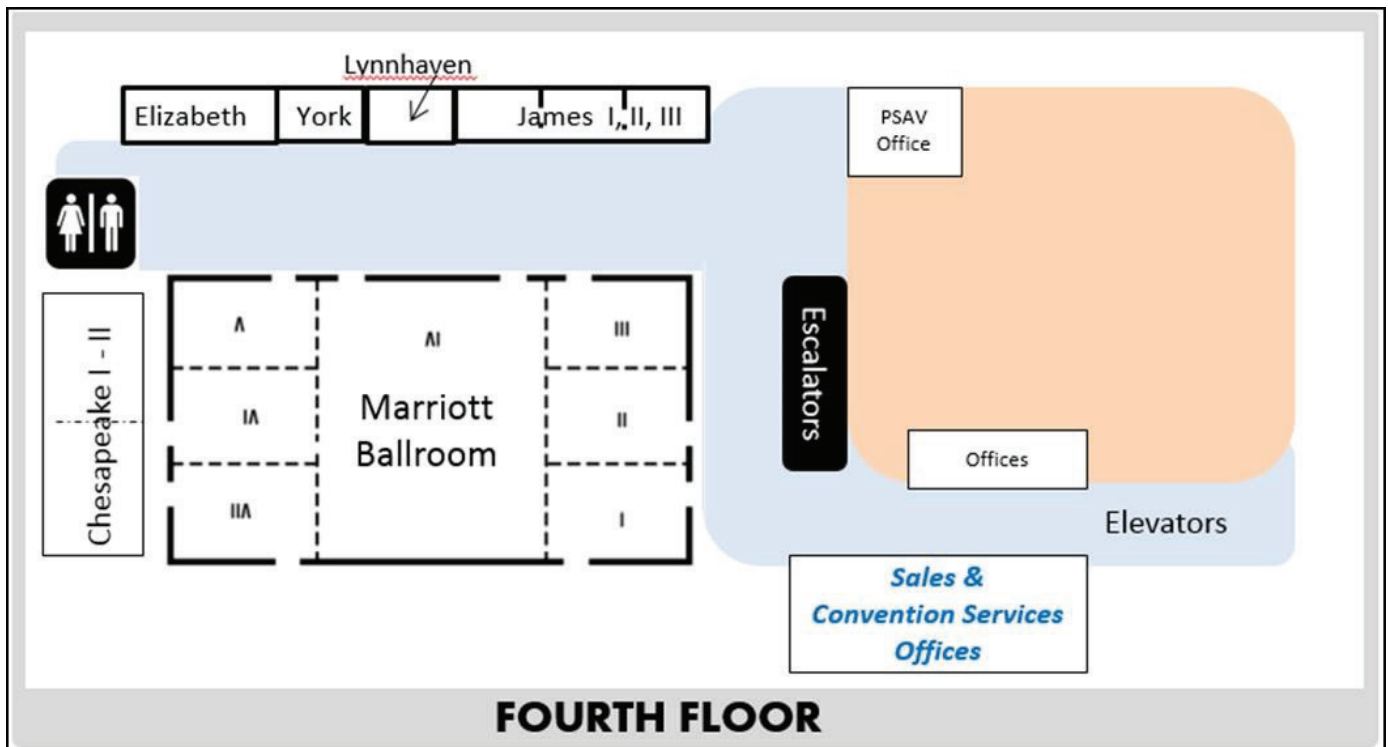
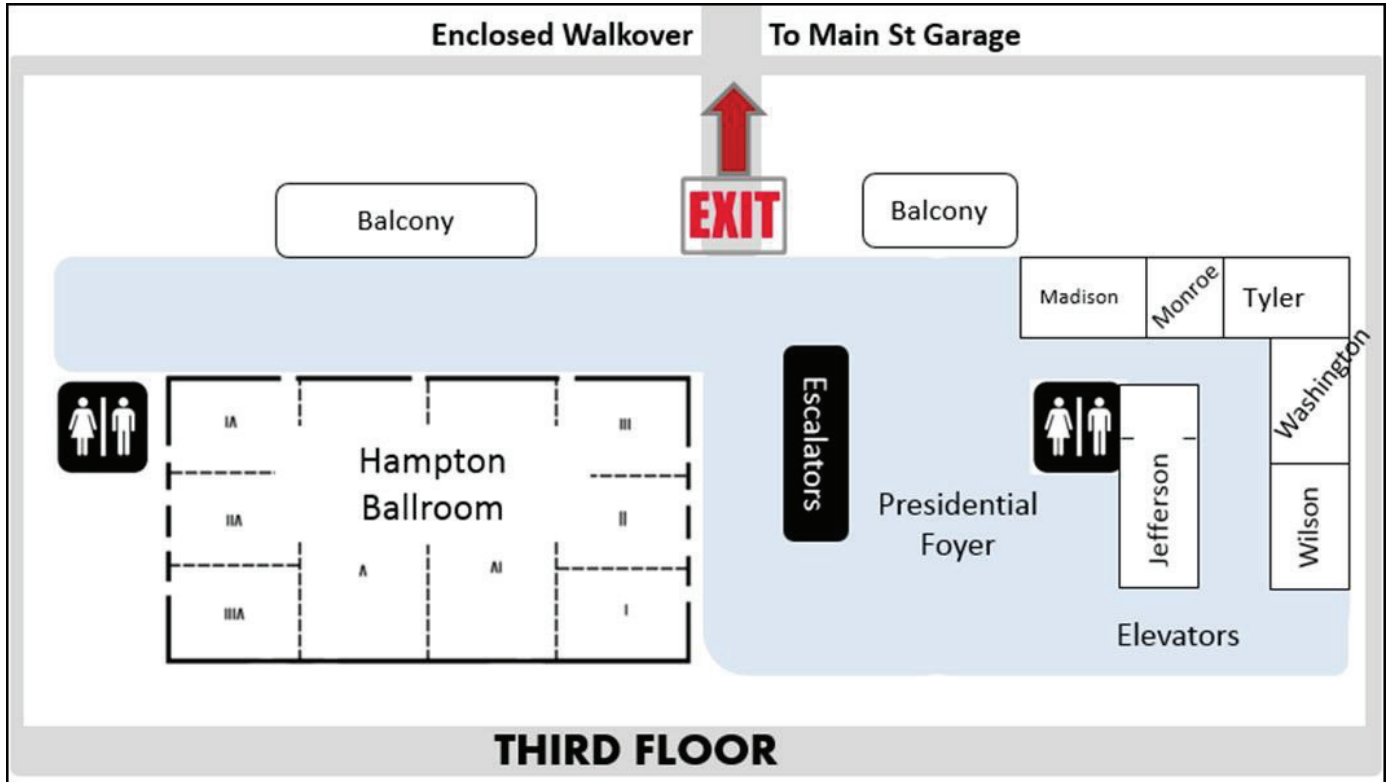
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