



# Public Administration, Policy and Community Development: Managing a Changing Landscape

**November 3, 4, and 5, 2017**

University of Vermont

Burlington, VT

The ability of local communities to thrive amidst changing political, social, economic and environmental landscapes has long been a central concern of public administration and policy analysts. Street level bureaucracy, local and nonprofit administration, intergovernmental relations, and public private partnerships unfold within local contexts driven by demographic, political, and cultural trends and norms. In thriving communities, local advocates, town and city managers, local business operators, nonprofit directors and regional planners work at the crossroads of sectors, political, cultural, ethnic, and class boundaries for the good of the whole. This year's Northeast Conference on Public Administration will shed light on these complex dynamics.

The University of Vermont, located in one of the Northeast's most progressive small cities and nestled between majestic Lake Champlain and the Green Mountain range, is pleased to host the NECoPA 2017. Inspired by the Vermont traditions of grassroots democracy and strong local "town meeting" culture, and collaboration across public, private and nonprofit sectors, this year's NECoPA theme is:

## **Public Administration, Policy and Community Development: Managing a Changing Landscape**

Calls for conference papers, "posters plus," panels, preconference workshops, and practitioner forums are now open and can be emailed to: [necopa@uvm.edu](mailto:necopa@uvm.edu). Further details on the conference can be found at: <https://northeastpublicadmin.org/>. Abstracts and proposals will be due August 1, 2017, with decisions made and provided to applicants by August 18, 2017.

For more information contact local conference host: Chris Koliba, Community Development & Applied Economics Department, University of Vermont; [ckoliba@uvm](mailto:ckoliba@uvm); 802-656-3772.

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Inspired by this central theme, papers, posters, panels, preconference workshops, and practitioner forums around the the following conference tracks will be solicited:

- **Changing Landscapes in Local Communities.** Possible topics can include: the roles of local governments and nonprofits in community development initiatives; social equity and community development; "community capitals"; local and state government workforce development; public administration in rural communities; differences between urban and rural development; community policing & development; innovative tax and

financing for local development; role of new immigrants/new Americans as community development strategy; changing roles of education funding and finance.

- **Using Partnerships to Address Community Level Wicked Problems.** Possible topics can include: Collective Impact work; studies of collaboration; the use of partnerships and networks to address pressing community level problems (e.g., Opioid addiction; lack of affordable housing, etc.); partnerships and social equity; the role of governments in incubating local business development; social entrepreneurship.
- **Managing for Resilience.** Possible topics include: public administration and the science -policy interface; food systems; adaptive management; climate change impacts at the local scale; emergency and disaster management; social ecological systems; water resources management; renewable energy policies.
- **Communities as Complex Adaptive Systems.** Possible topics include: public administration and computer modeling; e-governance; models of networks and systems governance; evolving uses of social media; leading in complex environments; the uses of game theory in public administration; the role of the behavioral and decision sciences in public administration; utilization of performance management systems; the role of design and systems thinking in public administration.
- **Lessons in Trans-Border and Trans-Boundary Relations and Governance Reform.** Possible topics include: devolution of power and authorities; trans-border policy and administration; consolidation of governance and services; state and local government compliance and resistance to federal authority; changing federal-state-local relations (e.g. marijuana markets; immigrant labor; consumer labeling).
- **Pressing Topics in Public Administration Research and Practice.** Including any public administration and policy relevant topics not covered above.

