

## **Program Theme**

*"Redefining Public Service through Civic Engagement"*

Businesses, nonprofits, and citizen groups have become essential partners in government, contributing resources to community problem solving and public service delivery. Recently, the rapid expansion of technology and the development of social media has informed and empowered individuals and is changing the relationships between governments and citizens. The 2012 conference will bring together government and nonprofit professionals, scholars, students, and citizen groups to learn what is happening in various areas and obtain skills that they can implement in their communities, states and countries.

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## **Proposal Types**

Proposals may be submitted under the following option types: (1) Fully Formed Panel, (2) Individual Paper, (3) Ask an Expert Discussion Circle, (4) Poster Session and (5) Best Practices Workshop. If your submission is selected, every effort will be made to place it in the proposal type requested. However, the reviewers, at their discretion, may place it in a more suitable format. If this occurs, you will be notified as to which option it was placed in.

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## **Session Formats**

**Panel.** A maximum of four papers and/or presentations are represented on a panel, which also includes a moderator and an optional discussant. ASPA tries to distribute panels of the sections somewhat equally throughout the time slots. Panels may be selected from pre-determined, fully formed papers and/or presentations, or comprised of four separate papers with common themes, submitted by individuals.

**Ask an Expert Discussion Circle.** *Ask an Expert Discussion Circles* provide a unique opportunity where individuals can discuss their topic and related issues in a small group setting. A paper may be prepared but is not required. Although the individual's research topic and expertise are the focus of Ask an Expert, exchange, questions and participant involvement are encouraged. This format should maximize the opportunity for dialogue among and between practitioners and academics. The submitter (Ask an Expert leader) will plan the 45-minute presentation to ensure that each session reserves at least 25 minutes for discussion and engagement of the discussion circle attendees. The session will then end, and repeat for another 45 minute session, allowing attendees to participate in two Ask an Expert sessions within a 90 minute period. Only the primary submitter will be selected to lead/chair each discussion circle.

**Poster.** A Poster Session advances an author's paper and research. It usually combines text and graphics to make a visually pleasing presentation. A poster involves showing your work to numerous academics and practitioners at the conference. Attendees have the opportunity to walk through and view the poster presentations throughout the day. Posters are particularly useful as a way to present quantitative research. More than one participant may author a poster but during a selected time period at least one of the primary authors must be in attendance to discuss the poster as needed and answer any questions.

**Best Practices Workshop.** In these interactive sessions you can hear real world solutions to real issues encountered in the workplace. Unlike panel sessions, these "hands on" workshops are intended to bring the attendees into the discussion and offer practical solutions/suggestions to work situations. Opportunities for exchanging ideas with peers is a major part of the program. These sessions are not

strictly lectures. Presenters are required to show/describe in their submission how they will incorporate attendees in the learning process. They will also need to list three (3) measurable learning objectives identifying what attendees can expect to take with them following the session.

Best Practices Workshops are designed to encourage additional interaction between practitioners and those who teach public administration. Participants can discuss their successes, failures, or seek input from city managers, state executives, and national leaders while obtaining insight from academics who study and work with those issues. These workshops also provide public administration scholars and students the opportunity to network with and learn from those who are “on the front lines.”

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## **Program Tracks**

### **The Public Service and New Technologies of Engagement STTIG**

- Social media: The revolution is here
- What will Government 3.0 look like?
- Public service and deliberative democracy
- Using technology to engage new populations

### **Collaborative Governance – SPOD, SIAM, SICA, Complexities**

- Collaborative leadership: A new paradigm
- Engaged citizenry: Implications for local governments
- Open source governance
- Public consultation and participation

### **Nonprofit and Civic Organizations Engaging Citizens – Non Profit Forum**

- Philanthropy and civic engagement
- Teachable moments through volunteerism
- The role of professional membership associations in civic education

### **Growing the Next Generation: Civic Education - SPAE**

- Constitutional democracy and civic education
- Civic education and decision making
- Defining standards for civics and government education

### **Engagement across and within Differences – DSJ, COMPA, SWPA**

- Civic engagement and managing conflict
- Democracy and social justice
- Public service five decades after the “I Have a Dream” speech
- Community visioning and master planning

### **Delivering “Government Services” through Public-Private Partnerships – CPM, SHHSA, SCJA, SHARE**

- Partnerships in health care delivery, criminal justice, arts/civic/quality of life areas
- The changing definition of government services

### **Transparency, Accountability and Financial Management – ABFM, SPPM**

- Transparency and combating corruption
- Implications of the global economic crisis for budgeting and financial management
- Why accountability matters
- Community indicators and performance measurement

- The future of public retirement systems in state and local government

#### **Managing Human Resources across an Array of Service Delivery Modes - SPALR**

- Implications of the millennial generation for human resources professionals
- Management, trust and telecommuting
- Reforming human resource management systems
- The future of government internship programs

#### **Economic Development, Sustainability and Livable Communities – SENRA, STPA, SECM**

- Finding synergy between economic development and sustainability
- Economic development and the local public administrator
- Case studies of “green” communities
- Innovations in transportation and livable communities
- Natural resource and emergency management

#### **Ethical and Management Challenges to Contracted Service Providers – Ethics, SPLA**

- Ethical considerations of privatization
- The federal government and contracted services: lessons learned
- Updates on the law
- Evaluating the costs and benefits of contracting out

#### **Founders' Forum - SPAR**

There is no specific substantive or topic orientation that is required for proposals to be part of the Founders' Forum, but it is a part of the conference that features research that is:

- Academically oriented
- Theoretically robust
- Methodically vibrant
- Historically grounded