

SIFTING THROUGH 35 NATIONAL CONFERENCES ON TEACHING PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION:

Resources for preparing PA faculty to
be creative and innovative teachers

.

Presentation

- The Challenge:
 - ▣ How do we prepare tomorrow's PA faculty to be creative and innovative teachers?
- My Response:
 - ▣ Attend teaching public administration conferences
 - ***If conferences are relevant***
 - ▣ Build on the cumulative knowledge of past conferences
 - ***If presentations/papers are available***

Presentation

- (Question 1) Are the conferences relevant for preparing faculty to become creative and innovative teachers?
 - ▣ **Yes** - Examine conference assumptions & principles, content & trends
- (Question 2) Are papers/presentations from past conferences available?
 - ▣ **Limited** - Proposal for building and maintaining archives

Question 1

- Are they relevant for preparing faculty to become creative and innovative teachers?
 - Founding Assumptions & Organizing Rules
 - Conference Content & Trends

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 - ▣ Because of the way academics are rewarded, it receives little formal attention and nurturing
- We can significantly benefit from exchanging information on content, presentation styles, course design good texts, etc.
- Having the opportunity to talk about our teaching activities can produce unintended and stimulating results

(1978) Five Organizing Rules

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- **We have fun**

Classifying the Content

- Teaching Methods*
- E-learning & Technology*
- Core Competencies
- Specific Courses*
- MPA Curriculum
- Program Administration
- International
- PA Issues

Content

- Teaching Methods*
 - ▣ Case studies, simulations, experiential learning, service learning, critical thinking, team teaching, films, collaboration, etc.
- E-learning & Technology*
 - ▣ Innovations not specific to a course
- Core Competencies
 - ▣ Relates to NASPAA Standard 5, Market Demands, curriculum

Content

- Specific Courses*
 - ▣ Innovation for existing, proposed content for one or more, textbooks
- MPA Curriculum
 - ▣ Social equity, capstone, outcomes assessment , interdisciplinary studies, globalization, concentrations
- Program Administration
 - ▣ Faculty development, internships, advising, admissions, benchmarking, off-campus programs

Content

□ International

- ▣ Programs in other countries, managing international students

□ PA Issues

- ▣ Studies relating to the field of PA not directly related to other categories

Content Trends – Total Number

Category	1978-85	1986-94	1995-04	2005-12	Totals
Teaching Methods*	44	54	83	94	276
E-Learning/Technology*	23	33	49	46	151
Core Competencies	22	13	7	7	49
Specific Courses*	116	97	144	87	445
MPA Curriculum	43	36	83	43	205
Program Administration	37	38	32	34	141
International	2	12	54	17	85
PA Issues	0	13	17	30	60
	278	296	469	358	1401

Content Trends – Percent of Total

Category	1978-85	1986-94	1995-04	2005-12	Totals
Teaching Methods*	16%	18%	18%	26%	20%
E-Learning/Technology*	8%	11%	10%	13%	11%
Core Competencies	8%	4%	1%	2%	4%
Specific Courses*	42%	33%	31%	24%	32%
MPA Curriculum	15%	12%	18%	12%	15%
Program Administration	13%	13%	7%	9%	10%
International	1%	4%	12%	5%	6%
PA Issues	0%	4%	4%	8%	4%
Total Numbers	278	296	469	358	1401

Question 1 - Answer

- Are they relevant for preparing faculty to become creative and innovative teachers?
 - ▣ Looking at the Conference Assumptions, Organizing Rules, Content and Trends
 - **Evidence appears to support that the conferences have been and are relevant**

Question 2

- How can we build on the cumulative knowledge of past conferences?
 - ▣ Availability of conference proceedings (issue)
 - **Proposal**
 - ▣ Adequacy of conference proceedings (issue)
 - **Proposal**

Availability of Conference Proceedings

- Current Situation:
 - ▣ Limited - sent to participants – not available through libraries or stored in an on-line data base
- Create TPAC Achieves (Project Started)
 - ▣ Potential Benefits:
 - **Help prepare faculty to be creative & innovative**
 - Resource for future conferences, papers & presentations
 - Documents the history of our profession
 - Serve as a faculty resource for research and publication

Availability of Conference Proceedings

- TPAC Achieves Status
 - ▣ Objective 1: Create archive web site
 - *Status:* (www.teachingpa.org)
 - ▣ Objective 2: Obtain, scan and post all conference proceedings, programs.
 - *(Status: 26 of 35)*
 - *Need help in locating 9*

Availability of Conference Proceedings

- TPAC Achieves Status
 - ▣ Objective 3: Create searchable conference indices (author/title/topic/category).
 - Status (December 2013)
 - ▣ Objective 4: Enhance functionality of archive website
 - Status (April 2014)
 - ▣ Objective 5: Transfer all data to SPAE for annual update and maintenance.
 - Status (?) 😊

Adequacy of Conference Proceedings

- Proceedings Published with Papers
 - ▣ 19 conferences
- Proceedings with Papers and Presentations
 - ▣ 5 conferences
- Proceedings with Abstracts Only (current situation)
 - ▣ 4 conferences
- No proceedings – only a conference program
 - ▣ 7 conferences

Adequacy of Conference Proceedings

- Complete Proceedings (papers)
 - ▣ Good for cumulative knowledge
- Combination of papers & presentations
 - ▣ Good for cumulative knowledge
- Abstracts Only
 - ▣ Questionable value for cumulative knowledge

Adequacy of Conference Proceedings

- Current Situation
 - ▣ Abstracts required for selection
 - ▣ Presentations prepared but “not collected”
 - ▣ Papers not required for conference
- Recommendations:
 - ▣ Option 1 – require & publish papers
 - ▣ Option 2 – continue to require and publish abstracts
 - Require copy of all presentations (PPT or paper summary)
 - Post all presentations on conference web site
 - Include in conference archives



National Teaching Public Administration Conference Archives

[Purpose](#)

[History](#)

[SPAE](#)

[Archives](#)

[2010-2012](#)

[2000-2009](#)

[1990-1999](#)

[1980-1989](#)

[1978-1979](#)

[Reflections](#)

[Link to:](#)

[2013](#)

[TPAC](#)

[Conference](#)

*University of
San Francisco*



Conference Information Needed:

22nd - 1999

15th - 1992

7th - 1984

6th - 1983

5th - 1982

3rd - 1980

2nd - 1979

1st - 1978

(See Purpose)

Link to the [Section on Public Administration Education](#)

National Teaching Public Administration Archives

- www.teachingpa.org