

11-5-2021

2021 NAPA Annual Meeting

National Academy of Public Administration

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2021 NAPA ANNUAL MEETING

OMAHA, NEBRASKA

National Academy of Public Administration
Friday, November 5, 2021

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CONFERENCE HOST



WELCOME TO OMAHA!

Welcome to the National Academy of Public Administration conference in Omaha! This is the first time NAPA has held its conference outside of the Washington metropolitan area, and we are proud to be one of four regional hosts. The conference theme could not be more important: "Protecting and Advancing Our Democracy." The four panels all speak to timeless issues in a democracy: city governance, law enforcement, civic engagement, and the relationship between the media and government. I appreciate the distinguished panelists who are joining us today and am excited to hear the dialogue generated by the mix of ideas.

I want to thank those on the program committee that worked hard to make this happen: NAPA Fellows Carol Ebdon and Erik Bergrud, and my CPACS

colleagues Megan Nelson and Jack Murrell. I especially want to thank our sponsors: Park University and the Nebraska City/County Management Association, and our college.

John Bartle, Ph.D.

NAPA Conference Chair

Dean, College of Public Affairs and Community Service
University of Nebraska at Omaha

CONFERENCE DETAILS

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5

8:30 AM - 6:30 PM (CST)

Conference Location: Scott Conference Center, University of Nebraska at Omaha
Address: 6450 Pine St., Omaha, NE

Panels will be hybrid, with both in-person and remote panelists. All programming is available on Zoom. Lunch, coffee breaks, and reception are all included.

Conference Theme:

Protecting and Advancing Our Democracy

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AND COMMUNITY SERVICE**

MEETING AGENDA

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5

8:30 - 10:00 AM: National Civic League's Model City Charter Revision

The National Civic League published a Model City Charter that serves as the basis for the charters of many municipalities across the country. The ninth edition of the Model Charter will be released this year after engagement and consultation with numerous stakeholder groups. The new model will include a focus on equity, public engagement, and the use of technology and social media, and values of efficiency, economy and effectiveness that have been predominant in previous models. This session will provide an overview of the new Model City Charter and its potential impacts on local governments.

Speakers:

- Patria de Lancer Julnes (moderator), Rosenthal Endowed Professor & School Director, School of Public Administration, University of New Mexico
- Doug Linkhart, President, National Civic League
- Mary Ann Borgeson, Chair, Douglas County, Nebraska Board of Commissioners
- Norton Bonaparte, City Manager, City of Sanford, FL
- Matt Fairholm, University of South Dakota

Coffee break sponsored by Nebraska City Management Association

10:15 - 11:45 AM: Law Enforcement and Democracy

Issues related to policing and social equity are currently in the spotlight. This session will address questions related to how legitimate use of police authority can be supported without being abused and ensuring that all are protected. How can we best balance these values? What efforts are taking place across the country that can be replicated elsewhere? Planned speakers will bring various perspectives on this topic.

Speakers:

- Bob Houston (moderator), School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, University of Nebraska at Omaha
- Thomas Canavan, Executive Director, National Law Enforcement Museum
- Brian Peete, Police Chief, City of Montpelier, Vermont
- Shannon Portillo, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, University of Kansas, Edwards Campus
- Justin Nix, Distinguished Associate Professor, School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, University of Nebraska at Omaha
- Mark Foxall, Community Service Associate, School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, University of Nebraska at Omaha

12:00 - 1:00 PM: Networking Lunch

1:00 - 2:00 PM: National Academy Programming

2:15 - 3:30 PM: Civic Engagement and Democracy

A strong democracy requires citizens to be involved with their communities. Engagement can lead to increased trust in government, better understanding of the complexities and trade-offs involved in policy decisions, and social capital, among other benefits. Some organizations, such as the Kettering Foundation, are using innovative approaches to foster enhanced civic engagement. Local governments are also implementing a variety of engagement methods. This session will include discussions with representatives of organizations with successful public engagement experiences.

Speakers:

- Erik Bergrud (moderator), Chief Strategic Communications Officer, Park University
- Valerie Lemmie, Director of Exploratory Research, Kettering Foundation
- Jonathan Benjamin-Alvarado, Assistant Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs and Professor, University of Nebraska at Omaha
- David Warm, Executive Director, Mid-America Regional Council
- Kelly LeRoux, Professor, University of Illinois - Chicago

Coffee break sponsored by Nebraska City Management Association

3:45 - 5:00 PM: The Role of the Media in Protecting Democracy

The media landscape has changed dramatically in the last two decades. The reduced number of local newspapers, TV, and radio stations has led to "news deserts" in many communities. Areas fortunate that still have newspapers have seen dramatic budget cuts resulting in reduced coverage. The rise of social media and the increase of bias in many news outlets has negatively affected our ability to discern facts and understand current events. Speakers in this session will address these changes and opportunities and challenges for protecting democracy through the role of the media.

Speakers:

- Peter Harkness (moderator), Founder and Publisher Emeritus of Governing
- Katherine Barrett and Richard Greene, Barrett & Greene, Inc.
- Steven Youngblood, Director, Center for Global Peace Journalism, Park University
- Henry Cordes, Reporter, Omaha World-Herald

5:00 - 6:30 PM: Reception, Sponsored by Park University – Scott Conference Center

SPEAKER BIOS

Panel #1: National Civic League's Model City Charter Revision



Patria de Lancer Julnes

Dr. Patria de Lancer Julnes is the inaugural Rosenthal Endowed Professor of Public Administration and Director of the School of Public Administration at the University of New Mexico. Patria is an internationally recognized scholar and consultant in performance measurement, government capacity building, and citizen-driven governance. She received her Ph.D. in public administration from Rutgers University.

Doug Linkhart

Doug Linkhart has served as President of the National Civic League in December 2015. Prior to his work at the National Civic League, Doug served in elective office for 18 years, including as a Denver City Councilman and Colorado State Legislator. Doug grew up in Tucson, Arizona, and has lived in Denver since 1980. At the National Civic League, Doug's life-long values of inclusiveness and equity are evident in his work to create new programs on racial equity, community health disparities and sustainability. He initiated a revision of the 30-year-old Civic Index to make sure that it encourages communities to incorporate equity and inclusiveness in their civic engagement work. Doug has also created new collaborations with many other national organizations and taken steps to broaden the impact of the League by reaching a bigger audience with our publications and tools.



Mary Ann Borgeson

Douglas County Commissioner Mary Ann Borgeson has developed an impressive track record in public service over 27 years since she was first elected to the Douglas County Board of Commissioners in 1994. Commissioner Borgeson was the first woman elected to serve as chairwoman of the Douglas County Board. She currently holds that position, as well as, holding that position numerous times during her tenure. She currently serves on the Board of Directors for both Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO) and the National Association of Counties (NACo.)



Norton Bonaparte

Norton N. Bonaparte, Jr. has served as the City Manager of Sanford, Florida since September 2011. The City Manager is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Mayor and City Commission. As the City's chief administrative officer, he is responsible for overseeing all city operations, which includes a \$195 million budget, and over 540 employees. Prior to Sanford, Mr. Bonaparte served as the city manager of Topeka, Kansas; Plainfield, New Jersey; Camden, New Jersey; Willingboro, New Jersey; and Glenarden, Maryland.



Matt Fairholm

Matt Fairholm is Professor of Public Administration with a joint appointment in the Department of Political Science and the W. O. Farber Center for Civic Leadership at The University of South Dakota. His academic and professional interests focus on public administration, leadership theory and practice, and constitutional governance. He has received several teaching and research awards. He has served on his local Planning Commission for the last sixteen years and currently serves as Vice Chair. He also served on the city's home rule charter study and drafting committees. Bob Houston



Panel #2: Law Enforcement and Democracy

Bob Houston

Bob was appointed as an SCCJ Senior Community Research Associate in January 2014, following 39 years of Nebraska corrections work that included 10 years as the Director of Correction, 2 years at Douglas County (Omaha) Corrections, and 8 years as State Director, Nebraska Department of Correctional Services (NDCS). Both DCDC and NDCS are accredited by the American Correctional Association (ACA). In 2007, NDCS became just the 10th corrections system in the nation to be 100% accredited by ACA, thereby earning the "Golden Eagle Award."



Thomas Canavan

Thomas is the Executive Director of the National Law Enforcement Museum and beginning in late 2019 began refocusing the Museum into what it is today ... a place to come to honor law enforcement. Thomas leads the Museum's operations which includes exhibitions, education, outreach, and fostering strategic partnerships, all of which focus on connecting Law Enforcement with the communities they serve. It is under Thomas's leadership and vision that the Community Alliances and Law Enforcement Bulletin (CALEB) Network was created. His experience includes establishing collaborative program environments; development and oversight of innovative educational programming; and cultivating strategic partnerships and alliances between local government, corporate sector, and nonprofit organizations.



Brian Peete

Brian R. Peete is the Chief of Police in Montpelier Vermont where he leads a dedicated Police Department of 27 full time members of officers, administration, parking enforcement, and a regional emergency communications dispatch personnel for a daytime population of over twenty-thousand. Prior to his current role, he served as Chief for the Alamogordo Police Department in New Mexico. Before becoming Chief in Alamogordo, Brian served in the City of Chicago's Inspector General's Office as the Chief Forensic Audit Investigator for Public Safety (Police Accountability) and as a Chief Investigator. He was also a Patrolman, Field Training Officer, and Fusion Center Analyst for the Chicago Police Department.



Shannon Portillo

Shannon Portillo, Ph.D., serves as associate dean of academic affairs for the University of Kansas Edwards Campus and the School of Professional Studies and as a professor in the School of Public Affairs and Administration at the University of Kansas. Dr. Portillo's scholarship explores how formal policies and rules and informal social norms shape the work of public organizations. She is specifically interested in how racism and sexism impact organizations and workers' experiences both historically and currently. Her work helps scholars and practitioners understand how inequities have been institutionalized in public organizations, including courts, policing, city management, higher education, and the military. Her research has been funded by the National Science Foundation, Women's Foundation, the Army Research Institute, and other entities. Her work has appeared in a broad array of academic and popular outlets, and she is currently working on her second book. Community service is core value. Dr. Portillo serves as Co-Chair of Governor Laura Kelly's Commission on Racial Equity and Justice and Chair of the Douglas County Commission.



Panel #2: Law Enforcement and Democracy (continued)



Justin Nix

Justin is a Distinguished Associate Professor in the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at the University of Nebraska Omaha. His research centers on police legitimacy, police/community relations, and police shootings. An active member of the American Society of Criminology, Justin was the 2020 recipient of the "Early Career Award" from the Division of Policing and the 2021 recipient of the "Outstanding Young Experimental Criminologist Award" from the Division of Experimental Criminology. He frequently collaborates with police departments across the U.S. to understand local crime problems and identify fair and effective police responses.



Mark Foxall

Dr. Mark Foxall is the Community Services Associate for the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO), College of Public Affairs and Community Services, School of Criminology and Criminal Justice. He also served as an adjunct professor at UNO for 13 years before assuming a full-time faculty position. Dr. Foxall recently retired from the Douglas County Department of Corrections after having served as that agency's Director, Deputy Director, and Community Corrections Manager. Dr. Foxall also served as a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Director of Project Impact with the United States Attorney's Office, District of Nebraska. He began his law enforcement career as a police officer in Omaha, Nebraska.

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Panel #3: Civic Engagement and Democracy

Erik Bergrud

As Chief Strategic Communications Officer at Park University, Erik Bergrud stewards the institution's public face, oversees constituent-based communications, and advises the President and other members of the University community on communications strategy and opportunities. Throughout the year, he emcees major Park events and produces audio and digital communications. He was elected a NAPA Fellow in 2013. During his tenure as President of the American Society for Public Administration (2011-12), ASPA undertook a major revision of its Code of Ethics and launched, in collaboration with NAPA, a Memos to National Leaders project in advance of the 2012 U.S. general election. He serves currently as chair of the NAPA Social Media Working Group and is participating in an Academy panel study of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy.

Valerie Lemmie

NEED PHOTO + BIO

Jonathan Benjamin-Alvarado

Dr. Jonathan Benjamin-Alvarado is a scholar, public servant, and innovative higher education administrator. He is also a Latino, a veteran, and a first-generation college graduate. He was named Assistant Vice Chancellor of Student Success at the University of Nebraska Omaha in October 2014. He is a Professor of Political Science, with an emphasis on U.S. Foreign Policy, International Development, National Security and Intelligence.

David Warm

David Warm has served as executive director of the Mid-America Regional Council since July 1990. As the council of governments for Greater Kansas City, MARC leads key regional services and planning initiatives and is widely regarded for innovation and effectiveness in areas that include transportation, environmental protection, emergency management, aging and community services, early education, workforce development, and local government cooperative services.

Kelly LeRoux

Kelly LeRoux is a Professor in the Department of Public Administration and Associate Dean for Research in the College of Urban Planning & Public Affairs at the University of Illinois Chicago. Her work on nonprofits, contracting, local public service delivery, and intergovernmental collaboration has been widely published in public administration, urban policy, and nonprofit management journals. She is the author of *Performance and Public Value in the Hollow State: Assessing Government-Nonprofit Partnerships* by Elgar Press (with Nathaniel Wright) and *Nonprofits Organizations and Civil Society in the U.S.* by Routledge (with Mary Feeney). She currently serves on the advisory board for two national voter capacity-building organizations: Project Vote Smart and Nonprofit Vote. Her current projects focus on nonprofits role in elections, and the role of nonprofits in local service delivery.



Panel #4: The Role of the Media in Protecting Democracy



Peter Harkness

Peter Harkness is the retired editor and publisher of *Governing*, a news service covering state, city and county government across the country, concentrating not only on policy and politics, but management as well. He launched *Governing* almost 35 years ago when he was executive editor and deputy publisher of the Congressional Quarterly News Service in Washington, covering the U.S. Congress in great detail.



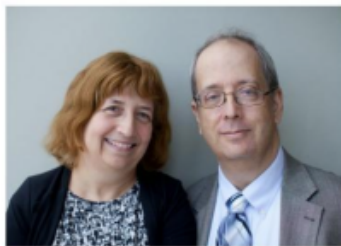
Steven Youngblood

Steven Youngblood is the founding director of the Center for Global Peace Journalism at Park University in Parkville, Missouri, where he is a communications and peace studies professor. He has organized and taught peace journalism seminars and workshops in 27 countries/territories. Youngblood is a two-time J. William Fulbright Scholar (Moldova 2001, Azerbaijan 2007). He also served as a U.S. State Department Senior Subject Specialist in Ethiopia in 2018. Youngblood is the author of "Peace Journalism Principles and Practices" and "Professor Komagum." He edits "The Peace Journalist" magazine, and writes and produces the "Peace Journalism Insights" blog. He has been recognized for his contributions to world peace by the U.S. State Department, Rotary International, and the World Forum for Peace, which has named him a Luxembourg Peace Prize laureate for 2020-21.



Henry Cordes

Henry Cordes has been a reporter and staff writer for the Omaha World-Herald for more than 35 years. The Omaha native joined the paper's sports department as a freshman at UNO in 1981. In 1985, he graduated with a degree in journalism and moved over to the paper's news division. He served for seven years as statehouse bureau chief in Lincoln and has covered politics, the military, and public policy. He's a five-time winner of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Sorensen Award, given each year to recognize the state's most distinguished journalism, and has won national or regional awards for deadline writing, sports writing, feature writing, business writing, enterprise reporting, and investigative reporting. His deadline story on a 2007 mass shooting in Omaha was featured in the Poynter Institute's 2008 book, "Best Newspaper Writing." He also has authored four books, including two on the history of Nebraska football, and one on an Omaha serial killer. Henry was inducted into the Central High School Hall of Fame in 2018 and Omaha Press Club Hall of Fame in 2021.



Katherine Barrett and Richard Greene

Katherine Barrett and Richard Greene are both fellows in the National Academy of Public Administration and are principals at Barrett and Greene Inc., where they have done much-praised analysis, research and writing about state and local governments for over thirty years. They are currently columnists, senior advisors and co-chairs of the advisory board for Route Fifty, special project consultants for the Volcker Alliance, columnists and advisors for the Government Finance Officers Association, visiting fellows at the IBM Center for the Business of Government and senior advisors at the Government Finance Research Center at the University of Illinois in Chicago. Their website is greenebarrett.com.

ABOUT NATIONAL ACADEMY OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

The National Academy of Public Administration helps government leaders solve their most critical management challenges. Since 1967, our congressionally chartered non-partisan non-profit Academy has provided expert advice to government leaders in building and managing more effective, efficient, equitable, accountable, and transparent organizations. Our national network of over 850 Fellows includes former cabinet officers, Members of Congress, governors, mayors, and state legislators, as well as prominent scholars, business executives, and public administrators.

Supported by a full-time professional staff, our Fellows bring their insights, experience, successes, and lessons learned straight to our clients through independent thought leadership, in-depth studies and analyses, advisory services and technical assistance, congressional testimony, forums, and conferences.





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Dr. Angela Eikenberry
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MPA Program:	ranked #28
Public Budgeting & Finance:	ranked #8
Local Government Management:	ranked #11
Nonprofit Management:	ranked #12
Public Management & Leadership:	ranked #24

