

Center for Integrative Leadership

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Call for Papers
For a Conference and Special issue of *Public Administration Review*
on
Creating Public Value in a Multi-Sector, Shared-Power World

Sponsored by the
Center for Integrative Leadership and the
Hubert H. Humphrey School of Public Affairs
University of Minnesota, USA
www.leadership.umn.edu/Public_Value.html

The Center for Integrative Leadership and the Hubert H. Humphrey School of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota, USA, seek paper proposals for a conference on what it means to create public value in a multi-sector, shared-power, no-one-wholly-in-charge world. Successfully addressing most major public challenges in today's world requires contributions from governments, businesses, nonprofit organizations, communities and/or other sectors – yet the effort to find effective solutions is often stymied by lack of knowledge or highly fractious politics and rigid ideological divides. So how do we get the good that these sectors have to offer, while minimizing or overcoming their characteristic weaknesses in such a way that public value is created and the common good is advanced? Papers presented at the conference will be considered for publication in a special issue of *Public Administration Review* to appear in 2014. An edited book is a likely additional conference outcome.

Defining Public Values

Based in part on the work of Barry Bozeman¹, the working definition of *public values* is as follows:

A society's *public values* are those providing a reasonably broadly shared normative consensus about:

1. the *rights, benefits, and prerogatives* to which citizens or other persons, legal entities, and other organized groups should (and should not) be entitled;
2. the *obligations* of citizens or other persons, legal entities, and other organized groups to society, the state, and one another; and
3. the *principles* on which policies or rules affecting the constitution and functioning of society should be based, whether the policies or rules are developed by governments or non-governmental entities.

Public values in a democracy are typically *contested*, meaning the consensus on them is hardly ever complete; thus analysts, citizens, and policy makers should also focus on *institutions* and the *processes* of leadership, decision making, deliberation, and consensus building necessary to forge agreement on and achieve public values in practice.

¹ Adapted from Barry Bozeman, *Public Values and Public Interest*, Washington, DC, Georgetown University Press, p. 17):

Foundation Papers Have Been Commissioned

In order to develop a more informed discussion, conference organizers have commissioned a number of *foundation papers* that provide: 1) an *overview* of the literature on specific public value “building blocks” and societal “sectors;” 2) articulation of the *basic theory or theories* underpinning or guiding each area; 3) a summary of *strengths and weakness* of each building block or sector and the instruments or tools² it typically uses to do its work; and 4) a short list of *key points* or *principles* that should be taken into account when attempting to create public value in a multi-sector, shared-power society. Foundations papers are in the following areas: 1) public interest, public values, public value criteria; 2) constitutional law; 3) democracy; 4) public opinion; 5) elective politics; 6) government; 7) markets; 8) nonprofits; 9) corporate social responsibility; 10) organized labor; 11) higher education; 12) pre-K-12 education; 13) media; and 14) organized religion and spirituality. These papers will be available by late Spring 2012.

The Call for Papers

Paper proposals are sought in two areas:

1. *Studies that highlight how public value is or is not created.* These studies may be of many different types, e.g., analytic case studies, comparative case studies, large-N studies, field experiments, laboratory experiments, high-quality literature reviews, or meta-analyses. Studies should illuminate how various *sectors* and *instrument* or *tools* are used to advance (or not) *public values* and the *theory* that accounts for the results. The studies will provide theoretical backing and concrete grounding for thinking about the achievement of public values. The studies will address one or more of the following questions:
 - a. How does the study exemplify a public intention or consensus on public values and what are the ways in which more than one sector and various tools are brought to bear to achieve public value?
 - b. In what ways does the study demonstrate that the concept of public value is relevant and applicable across multiple sectors?
 - c. In what ways does the study demonstrate how multiple sectors (e.g., business, government, nonprofits, higher education, civil society, labor, media) contribute to the achievement of public value? In what ways are the sectors limited in their ability to create public value?
 - d. How might a focus on public value enable leaders and their constituents to make progress on some of today’s thorniest problems?
 - e. In what ways do individuals and groups engage and lead in cross-boundary action, create integrative processes and structures, or foster a culture that enhances or inhibits the achievement of public value across sectors?
 - f. What are the aligned, complementary, or conflicting public value principles *at the intersection* of multiple sectors? Why does it matter?
 - g. What philosophical foundations, sector-specific theories, goals, or assumptions may explain the construct of public value and its achievement within *and across* multiple sectors in specific cases?

² Instruments or tool include, in the case of government, for example, regulations, taxes, subsidies, contracts, insurance, transfer of property rights, etc.

- h. What does the study contribute to theory development in the area of creating public value?
2. *Approaches to discerning, measuring, and assessing public values and the ways of creating them.* Papers in this category will address one or more of the following questions (some of which are similar to those in the previous category):
- a. What do different disciplines, fields, or perspectives have to say about discerning, measuring and analyzing public values, e.g., traditional economics-based approaches, interest group politics, public opinion polling, or deliberative democracy approaches? What is the theory base guiding the approach?
 - b. What issues are related to empirical assessments of citizen or stakeholder preferences and values; and the activation, aggregation, and/or delivery of those values through social mechanisms, such as markets, legislation, philanthropy, etc.? What does theory have to say about addressing the issues?
 - c. In what ways is the concept of public value relevant, discernable, measureable, and assessable across multiple sectors? What are the strengths and weaknesses of extant theory in this regard?
 - d. What are the aligned, complementary, or conflicting public value principles *at the intersection of* multiple sectors? What are the implications theoretically and practically?
 - e. What philosophical foundations, sector-specific theories, goals, or assumptions may explain the construct of public value within and across multiple sectors?

Submission process and due dates. Abstracts should be submitted by February 3, 2012. Authors will be notified by February 24, 2012 whether their proposals have been selected for development as full-blown papers. The due date for final submissions is August 15, 2012. Authors of paper abstracts selected for development into full papers will be invited to present their research at the conference scheduled for September 20 - 22, 2012 in Minneapolis, MN, USA. After the conference, papers will go through a standard blind review process as a requirement for publication in the special issue of *Public Administration Review* to appear in 2014. An edited book is a likely additional conference outcome.

Submission guidelines. Manuscripts should be prepared in MS Word in accordance with APA format and be no longer than 30 pages (not including abstract, table, figures, and references). Additional information on *Public Administration Review* may be obtained at wileyonlinelibrary.com/journal/puar.

Publication date. The special issue is planned for 2014.

Conference chair and special issue editor: The conference chair and editor for the special issue is Prof. John M. Bryson, Hubert H. Humphrey School of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota. Submissions should be sent electronically to CIL@umn.edu with the subject line: Creating Public Value Submission. Questions about appropriate topics and methodology should be directed to John Bryson (jmbryson@umn.edu or 612-625-5888).

For more information, go to www.leadership.umn.edu/Public_Value.html