



**Memorandum of Understanding
between
NASPAA and NISPAcee
Regarding General Cooperation**

Introduction

This document outlines a cooperative agreement between the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration (NASPAA) and the Network of Institutes and Schools of Public Administration in Central and Eastern Europe (NISPAcee) regarding the promotion of high quality public service education and the enhanced capacity and image of public service professionals.

Rationale

NASPAA and NISPAcee share an interest in promoting high quality public service education, supporting the interests of their respective member programs and schools, and in ensuring that public service professionals possess the knowledge and skills to address complex social challenges. In an environment of scarce resources and increased global interdependencies, it is in the interests of both associations and their member programs to have association leaders communicate regularly about shared concerns and interests and to identify and pursue opportunities for collaborative efforts to address mutual interests.

Background

NASPAA and NISPAcee share a common interest in improving and promoting public affairs education. NASPAA was formed in 1970 to advance quality in public affairs education and to promote the ideals of public service. NISPAcee adopted its bylaws in 1995 and established as its objectives advancing schools of public administration and training in Central and Eastern Europe, encouraging young professionals to enter public service, fostering more research and cooperation in the field, and encouraging comparative studies in the field of public administration. Both NASPAA and NISPAcee host annual conferences, during which association leaders meet to establish policies and priorities and members share information on issues, challenges and innovations in the areas of program administration, teaching and research.

When NASPAA and NISPAcee first began working together the emphasis was on providing technical assistance to help build lasting, sustainable institutions and managerial expertise within NISPAcee and its member institutions, and to support the newly emerging democracies of Eastern Europe and former Soviet states. The early years of partnership between the two associations were characterized by a heavy reliance on externally funded initiatives and strong personal relationships between leaders of the two associations. While lasting ties have developed and been maintained among individuals and universities, the coordinated activity between the two associations has not been as extensive in recent years.

In recognition of increasing global interdependencies and the internationalization of programs and associations, this Memorandum of Understanding is intended to formalize and institutionalize the relationship between NASPAA and NISPAcee to encourage greater levels of communication and cooperation.

Proposed Terms of General Cooperation

In recognition of the benefits of general cooperation, NASPAA and NISPAcee agree to the following for the term of this Memorandum of Understanding:

- NASPAA will maintain its status as an associate member of NISPAcee and NISPAcee will maintain its status as an associate member of NASPAA;
- Both NASPAA and NISPAcee pledge that, as often as possible, at least one member of the association leadership (president, vice-president, executive director or other designee) will attend the annual conference of the other association;
- NASPAA and NISPAcee pledge to create opportunities for the designated representative of the other association to participate formally as part of the annual conference program;
- NASPAA and NISPAcee agree to provide a complimentary conference registration to one designated leader of the other association on an annual basis;
- NASPAA and NISPAcee agree to schedule time during the annual conference for association leaders to meet to discuss prospects for additional collaboration. This scheduled time may be in the form of a private meeting or by having the guest participate in a portion of the governing body meeting of the host association;
- NASPAA and NISPAcee agree to distribute to their respective members information regarding each other's annual conference and other activities;
- For the first two years of this agreement, NASPAA will permit NISPAcee and NISPAcee member programs to post exchange opportunities free of charge NASPAA's online Student and Faculty Exchange service;
- NASPAA and NISPAcee agree to cooperate in seeking and securing external funding in support of activities and projects that would serve the mutual interests of both associations.

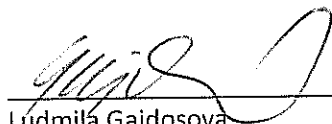
This is an agreement between the two associations, and not between individuals or member schools or programs. This agreement is subject to review by the participating organizations and may be terminated at any time by either organization. This agreement shall remain in effect for a period of five years from the date of signing below, and may be renewed.

Signatures:

ON the behalf of NISPAcee

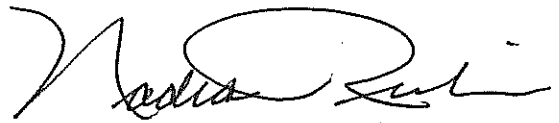


Gyorgy Jenei
President 2012



Ludmila Gajdosova
Executive Director

On the behalf of NASPAA



Nadia Rubaii
President 2011/2012

Date: May 23, 2012
Place: Ohrid, Republic

Date: May 23, 2012
Place: Ohrid, Republic of Macedonia