

## **Budgeting and Financial Management Section Meeting- NASPAA 2020**

**Wednesday, October 21, 4:00-5:30pm EST**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89060309953>**

### **SPECIAL AGENDA:**

#### **Inter-School Collaboration on Doctoral-Level Public Budgeting Classes**

The 2020 NASPAA Budgeting and Finance Section meeting (4:00 – 5:30 pm, Wednesday, October 21) will be a panel discussion of inter-school collaboration on doctoral-level Public Budgeting Classes. This panel is a sequel to a Roundtable at the 2019 ABFM conference of the same title, which formulated a proposal on this topic as an action plan. This discussion panel is to push the proposal forward, hoping to win endorsements by schools and programs as well as colleagues who are interested in this topic.

This proposal was initiated during the spring of 2019, out of concerns with long noticed chronic issues that are very hard to solve by individual departments or schools. From the spring through summer of 2019, a small group of scholars discussed and decided to initiate and compose a collective proposal. Then, we put together a Roundtable at the 2019 annual conference of the Association for Budgeting and Finance Management (ABFM, September 26-28, Washington, D.C.), with prepared speeches to deliberate on the necessity and possibility of inter-school collaboration on offering a doctoral level class in public budgeting. The panelists of the Roundtable achieved consensus.

Schools of Public Affairs and Administration have long faced challenges that we can summarize as three aspects. First, the cohorts of doctoral students is small each year at each school of in public policy and public administration; even a program that enrolls eight or ten per year is unlikely to have more than a couple in any one subfield. At a typical school, there would hardly be more than two or three students in the PBF specialization at once, and they often are not in the same stage of their degree schedule. Second, each school has only limited expertise in the PBF subfield. Each school or department has typically two faculty members, not quite enough to cover the broad area of this specialization. Finally, there are serious financial constraints for each school to offer doctoral classes by itself on a regular basis. Even though the schools may have some success in coming up with courses of sufficient size enrollments for core classes, often the opportunity costs of having dedicated, doctoral level courses in budgeting and finance is too high. Therefore, we propose collective, collaborative offering of doctoral-level classes on public budgeting and finance. The collaborative teaching can be online.

**Main items on the agenda are (1) introduction to the proposal for collaborative class offering, (2) competences of doctoral students in the public budgeting and finance concentration, (3) structure of a public budgeting seminar, (4) benefits of collaborative classes, (5) opinions of deans, department heads and program directors, and (6) input from colleagues, open discussion.**