



October 12, 2018

Memorandum of Understanding Between CAPPAA and NASPAA Regarding Accreditation, Joint Program Activities, Cross-Border Collaboration in Research, Student Engagement, Teaching Resources and Case Study Exchange, and the Promotion of Joint Activities

Introduction

This document outlines a cooperative agreement between the Canadian Association of Programs in Public Administration (CAPPAA) and the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA). CAPPAA, formerly the Committee of Schools in Public Administration, was launched in 1972, and has been accrediting Canadian programs in public administration since 2007. It has the mission of improving the quality of teaching and research in public administration. NASPAA, established in 1970, has been accrediting American programs in public policy and administration since 1980, and non-US programs since 2011. NASPAA's mission is to promote excellence in education and training for public service and to promote the ideal of public service.

The associations have a long history of informal exchange and cooperation, both at the association level, and at the level of individual schools and faculty. The purpose of this MoU is to put in place some formal cooperative structures that will strengthen and sustain the relationship between the two associations and make progress towards achieving some of our shared goals.

Section One: Accreditation



i. Both CAPPAA and NASPAA are committed to advancing the quality of public administration and public affairs education and share a mutual interest in promoting high quality training and professional development in the discipline. CAPPAA hopes to continue to engage both the leadership and professional staff of NASPAA as NASPAA moves forward in revamping its accreditation standards and process and CAPPAA continues to implement its new standards and process. Both organizations recognize the importance of accreditation for public administration education, and commit to developing a further understanding of each others' models while exploring potential ways of working together on accreditation going forward.

Section Two: Joint Program Activities

2.1 Exchange of Information on Public Administration Education in the United States and Canada

CAPPA and NASPAA as associations share a common interest in key issues such as public administration education, accreditation, recruitment, and professionalization. The two organizations have worked together in the past on research projects on topics of mutual interest, and will identify a key issue on which to collaborate. Areas of consideration might be the use of case studies in public administration education and/or trends in public administration education.

CAPPA and NASPAA will work together to identify presenters to participate in each association's annual conference (such as through a joint CAPPA-NASPAA panel), relating to these key issues.

2.2 Cross-Border Collaboration in Public Administration Research

CAPPA and NASPAA agree to explore how best to involve academics and senior association officials from both countries to explore ways to facilitate communication, research exchange, and research partnerships among scholars.

2.3 Student Engagement

Student Experiences

International experiences, including exchanges and internships, can be an integral part of many public policy and administration programs in Canada and the US. CAPPA and NASPAA agree to work together to explore how best to promote and develop these experiences, including the exchange of students between institutions in the US and Canada.

The two associations commit to working together to promote student participation in international experiences, through means such as our association websites and the Atlas of Public Management.

Case Competition

CAPPA and NASPAA share an interest in increasing student engagement with public management and policy issues, and agree that student competitions are one way to foster that, as well as to promote the awareness of graduate programs in public affairs with prospective students and the public.

The two associations commit to exploring how we might participate in each others' case competitions.

2.4 Teaching Resources and Case Study Exchange

CAPPA and NASPAA are committed to using case studies in education, and agree to explore the potential for a common case study repository. The two associations will form a working group to:

- Consider whether an existing structure (like the ATLAS of Public Management) could be extended to provide this option;
- Share smart practices both on how to construct cases for use in public administration education, and how to expose cases developed by members and others internationally to a broader audience; and
- Propose a session at the CAPPA or NASPAA annual conference to discuss and demonstrate the value of collaborative work on the case study repository.

CAPPA and NASPAA further agree to conduct outreach to the American, Canadian and international community to advance the project.

2.5 Promoting Joint Activities

Website Promotions

CAPPA and NASPAA commit to highlighting the partnership by promoting the activities of the two associations on our respective websites.

Conferences

CAPPA and NASPAA both hold annual conferences designed to bring together association members to discuss and challenge emerging ideas relevant to each others' associations in areas such as public administration education, accreditation, recruitment, and professionalization. Each association commits to sending an executive member to attend and present to each other's conference.

Terms

This agreement is subject to review by the participating organizations and may be terminated at any time. This agreement will be effective for a period of five years from the date of signing below, and may be renewed.

CAPPA President

Date

NASPAA President

Date