The 30th Annual Meeting of the Public Administration Theory Network

Tension and Transition
The New Frontiers of Public Administration

Laramie, Wyoming
June 1 - 4, 2017
The Public Administration Theory Network formed in 1978 when a group of academics sought a venue for discussing and developing public administration theory. Its members now include academics, government officials, and public service professionals.

The Network hosts a conference every year in late spring offering scholars the opportunity to discuss their work and hear from colleagues from across the globe.

The mission of the Public Administration Theory Network is to bring together people interested in a critical understanding of government, governance, and administration. To further this mission, the Network formally incorporated as a nonprofit organization in 2011 and adopted formal bylaws.

The Public Administration Theory Network also publishes *Administrative Theory & Praxis*, a quarterly journal of critical, normative, and theoretical dialogue in public administration, the purpose of which is to advance knowledge and stimulate new thought in public administration.

www.patheory.net
@patheory
www.facebook.com/patheory/
Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Theory Network Board, I want to welcome you to PAT-Net 2017 in Laramie. We know you have traveled a great distance and we appreciate your commitment to the work we do together. The Theory Network has been around for almost 40 years. The formative years of the Network were marked by our members’ responses to PA orthodoxy, and our annual conference has provided an intellectual space for a heterodoxy of theoretical ideas to flourish. We remain committed to epistemic pluralism and to addressing critical and normative questions about the relationship of public administration to democratic society and to marginalized voices and topics. We are also impacted by change. The generation that started the Theory Network is all but retired and the torch has been passed to each one of us—both long-standing members and newcomers alike.

The Theory Network, with its non-profit status, is a legal entity, and despite our best intentions, we tend to reify or even anthropomorphize it. Nonetheless, it is simply a set of social relations, constituted by the people who comprise it. We are a Network because of the intellectual work we produce, the relationships we form, and the discourse we sustain. Beyond that, the Network serves as a placeholder for the subjective meaning that each of us, one-by-one, gives to public administration. Without it, we might not be intellectually destitute. But with it, we are better able to live the courage of our intellectual commitments. Such a stance is more important than ever to address the societal challenges of today.

We value your scholarship and encourage you to give us your best work. While you are here at the conference, take the opportunity to engage in conversation with others. Learn, share, contribute!

Respectfully,

Gary Marshall, Chair

2017 Board Members

Gary Marshall, Chair  University of Nebraska, Omaha
Jennifer Alexander, Vice Chair  University of Texas, San Antonio
Roy Heidelberg, Treasurer  Louisiana State University
Tia Sheree Gaynor, Secretary  Marist College
M. Veronica Elias  Eastern Washington University
Thomas Catlaw  Arizona State University
Brandi Blessett  Rutgers University — Camden
Staci Zavattaro, Interim Editor  University of Central Florida
The frontier connotes a limit, the stark juxtaposition of the known and the unknown and the understandable from the chaotic. On the one hand, frontiers are edges, boundaries, and borders subject to the tension between ordered politics and anarchy. Within the administration of existing political, economic, and social formations, frontiers separate that which is settled, known, and unchallenged from that which is not. Frontiers create the “other” or “others” existing outside of current relations and stabilize practices of difference and separation.

Within the context of knowledge formation, frontiers describe existing parameters while simultaneously delimiting spaces for new possibilities. Encounters at the frontier oscillate between the static and the active, both reifying existing practices and creating openings for the development of new forms of knowledge, information and practice.

The papers at the 2017 Public Administration Theory Network Conference explore the tension between stability and possibility within the practices and theories of public administration. They ask, How does the defining of frontiers create limits and conflicts? Where might frontiers open space for emancipatory transitions to new forms of administration or governance? What tensions exist in the expansion or contraction of frontiers? How might public administration overcome that which should not be stable or static within democratic administration?

2017 Conference Committee

Sarah Surak, Program Chair
Justin Piccorelli, Site Chair

Henry Oghator, Program Vice Chair
Jennifer Alexander
Jeffrey Callen
Laura Hand
Lars Karlsson
Robbie Robichau

#patheory2017
Conference Overview

### Thursday, June 1
- 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Doctoral Pre-Conference Workshop
- 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Registration

### Friday, June 2
- 8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Coffee and Light Breakfast
- 8:30 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. Opening Plenary and Welcome
- 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Concurrent sessions 1A, 1B, and 1C
- 11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Lunch (onsite): Robert Godby
- 12:45 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. Concurrent sessions 2A, 2B, and 2C
- 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Concurrent sessions 3A, 3B, and 3C

### Saturday, June 3
- 8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Coffee and Light Breakfast
- 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Concurrent sessions 4A, 4B, and 4C
- 10:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. Concurrent sessions 5A, 5B, and 5C
- 12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. Lunch (onsite): Keynote Ryan Gildersleve
- 1:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. Concurrent sessions 6A, 6B, and 6C
- 3:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. Concurrent sessions 7A, 7B, and 7C
- 4:30 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. Concurrent sessions 8A, 8B, and 8C
- 6:30 pm Evening reception

### Sunday, June 4
- 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Breakfast (Garden Ballroom)
- 9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. Business meeting (Garden Ballroom)
- 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Editorial board meeting (Garden Ballroom)

### Registration Table
- Thursday 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.
- Friday 7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Saturday 7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

#patheory2017
Meeting Spaces

**Session A** — Garden Room I  
**Session B** — Garden Room II  
**Session C** — Garden Room III

**Doctoral Workshop** — Hilton Boardroom

**Plenary Sessions** — Garden Ballroom
Plenary Sessions

Friday
8:30 a.m.- 9:15 a.m.  Opening Welcome — President Laurie Nichols, University of Wyoming

President Nichols was born and raised in South Dakota. A first-generation college graduate, she received a bachelor's degree in education from South Dakota State University in 1978. She then earned a master's degree in vocational and adult education from Colorado State University in 1984 and a Ph.D. in family and consumer sciences education from Ohio State University in 1988. Laurie Nichols began her duties as the University of Wyoming's 26th president May 16, 2016. She and her husband, Dr. Tim Nichols, have two adult daughters.

11:15 a.m.- 12:30 p.m. Robert Godby, University of Wyoming
“The National Energy Policy Debate: Wyoming as Frontline or Frontier?”

Rob currently serves as the Director of the University of Wyoming’s Center for Energy Economics and Public Policy, and is also an Associate Professor in the Economics Department at UW. His research areas include natural resources, energy and environmental economics and policy, industrial organization and macroeconomic policy. He authored the book *The European Financial Crisis: Debt, Growth and Economic Policy*, released in 2013, and his second book, *A Greek Tragedy and a European Odyssey: The Politics and Economics of the Euro-crisis* (with Stephanie Anderson), was published in July, 2016. Rob has also authored or co-authored several studies for agencies in the Wyoming government regarding education, revenue, energy and energy taxation policy. Rob’s passions outside of work include sports-car and bicycle racing, both of which he has participated in rather unsuccessfully.

Saturday

12:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m. Keynote Address: Ryan Evely Gildersleeve
“Lazy Ethics in the Neoliberal Academy”

Ryan Evely Gildersleeve is Associate Professor and Department Chair of the Higher Education Department in the Morgridge College of Education at the University of Denver. His research investigates the philosophical foundations of higher education in relationship to the social and political contexts of educational opportunity for historically marginalized communities. He has a particular interest in supporting Latin@ (im)migrant families. As a critical methodologist, he is interested in theorizing a materialist inquiry that informs policy for more democratic postsecondary institutions. These lines of research connect in their contributions to understanding what it means to seek opportunities as democratic participants in an increasingly global society. He is the author of *Fracturing Opportunity: Mexican Migrant Students and College-Going Literacy* (Peter Lang Publishers) and publishes regularly in leading journals. He was a 2012-2013 National Academy of Education/Spencer Foundation Fellow and received the 2011 Early Career Award from the American Education Research Association’s Division D – Research Methodology.

#patheory2017
Concurrent Sessions 1:  Friday, 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

1A: The Quest for Social Justice in Public Administration Theory
Moderator: Jennifer Alexander
Discussant: Camilla Stivers

Nuriel Heckler, “White Men in Public Organizations”
Samantha June Larson, “Queering Public Administration: From Review to Recommendations”
Sean A. McCandless, “What’s Fair, and How Do We Know? Exploring Social Justice in Public Administration Theory Using a “Macintyrean” Lens”
Anthony M. Starke, “Notes from a Native Son: A James Baldwin Philosophy of Social Justice”

1B: The Frontiers of Public Administration
Moderator: Terence Garrett

Jeffrey C. Callen, Eric K. Austin, and Ryan Rouse, “Frontiers, Boundaries and Qualitative Praxis”
Lars Karlsson and Angelica Börjesson, “The Public Interest at the Frontier of the Public Administration”
Robert C. Zinke, “German Historicism, early 20th Century Progressivism, and American Public Administration”

1C: Citizen Participation in the Public Sphere
Moderator: Christa Slaton

Negin Khanloo (via Skype), “Citizen Participation in Iranian Non-Profit organizations: A Case Study of Good Practice”
Grant E. Rissler, “Power And Place: Exploring a Deeper Conceptual Model for Forces Driving Local Government Responses Toward Immigration”

#patheory2017
Concurrent Sessions 2: Friday, 12:45 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.

2A: How Identity Matters in Public Administration
Moderator Samantha Larson

Maren Trochmann, “American Identities and Opportunities: An Examination of Federal Housing Policy and its Impact on Gender, Race, and Class”
Jennifer Hooker, “Pushing Theoretical Boundaries: Overcoming Challenges to the Study of LGBTQ Representation”
Vanessa M. Fenley, “The Problem and the Solution: Applying a Feminist Perspective to Efforts to End Homelessness”

2B: Hermeneutics of the public space: Phenomenological interpretations of public programs
Moderator: M. Verónica Elías
Discussant: William M. Denihan

Justin T. Piccorelli and M. Verónica Elías, “Crisis Intervention Training for Police—A Phenomenological Analysis”

2C: Discourses of Public administration: Narratives and Stories
Moderator: Sharon Mastracci

Leigh D. Espy and Mary E. Guy, “Maybe it IS Rocket Science: How The Martian Reflects Gulick’s ‘Notes on the Theory of Organization’”
Mehnaaz Momen, “Political Satire: A Reflection of Democratic Values?”
Ryan Rouse, “Applying Film to Public Administration: A Reexamination of Subjectivity through the Lens of Cognitivism”

#patheory2017
Concurrent Sessions 3:  Friday, 2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

3A: Whither the Social Conscience of Public Administration?: What Role for PA Theory in a Moment of New Frontiers
Moderator: Catherine Horiuchi

Christine Reed, “Being-with-animals: Overcoming Animal Cruelty in PA Thought and Scholarship”
Erica Oman and Adam Croft, “Social and Psychological Structures that Influence Citizenship, Inclusion, and Bureaucracy through Anonymous Communities”

3B: Behaviors and Norms in Public Administration
Moderator: Jeffrey Callen

Ryan Kelly, “Administering Entrapment: Does Public Administration Reinforce the Obesity Epidemic?”
Laura C. Hand, “Nudging Policies: New Frontier or the Old World Repackaged?”
Misty Springer, “Shifting Identities — Class & Minorityization”

3C: Regulation and Accountability: Preserving Ambiguity and Politics
Moderator: Lars Karlsson

Hugh T. Miller, “Regulatory Public Administration: Stigma and Political Contestation”
Thomas J. Catlaw, “Politics, Public Administration, and the Truth-Event”
Jennifer Eagan, “Dissociative Democracy and a Case for an Alternative Accountability”

#patheory2017
Concurrent Sessions 4: Saturday, 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

4A: What Women Know: Elevating Feminism in Public Administration
Moderator: Ida Drury
Discussant: Mary Guy

Samantha June Larson, “Advancing Social Equity through Feminist Standpoint Theory”
Ida Drury and Sarah Jenkins, “Gender and Communication: Analysis of a New Frontier in Emotional Labor”

4B: Public Administration and the Political Sphere
Moderator: Jennifer Alexander

Evalyn Clark and Cal Clark, “The Paradox in President Trump’s Attacks on Big Government and Globalization”
Hannah Lebovits, “Public Universities as Catalysts for Collaboration, Change”

4C: Collaborating and Connection: Public, Private, and Citizen Organizations
Moderator: Roy L. Heidelberg

Josef Chaib, “Knowledge Regimes at Work – The Role of Knowledge in Welfare Collaboration”
Kimberly Collins, “Networks and Governance in the U.S.-Mexican Borderlands”
Juniper Katz, “Co-Optation: Constructive or Hegemonic?”
Maria Pilar M. Lorenzo, “Ethical Considerations in the Citizen Participatory Audit (CPA)” (presenting via Skype)

#patheory2017
Concurrent Sessions 5: Saturday, 10:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

5A: City Managers and Street Level Bureaucracy
Moderator: Laura Hand

John R. Wood and Kenneth Kickham,
Peter Federman, “Towards a Revised Theory of Bureaucratic Politics for Local Government Decision-Making”
Arthur Sementelli, “Micro-Hegemony, Deskilling, and a New Public Service”
Robert Eskridge and Michal Potter, “Do Local Government Executives Believe They Are More Political or Administrative? An Analysis of the Ethics of Administrative Officer Self-Perception”

5B: Democracy, Science and Evolution in Public Policy Studies
Moderator: Hugh T. Miller

Michael Spicer, “What Do We Mean by Democracy?”
R. McGreggor Cawley, “Narrative Evolution and The Question of Extinction”
Larry Luton, “What Do We Mean by Science? Climate Science and the Use of Computer Models”
Amanda Gillespie, “The Narratives of Voter Suppression and Fraud”

5C: Othering, Exclusion, and Opportunities for Community
Moderator: M. Verónica Elías

Abhishek Bhati, “Race, Gender, and Poverty: Semiological Analysis of Representation of Poor in the United States”
David Moura, “Looking Inside our Own Borders: Values and Public Administration Stigma”
Esteban Santis, “The Archeology of Segregation: Understanding the Role of Oppression in the Administrative State”
Natalie Patterson, “Cohousing and Participatory Space for People with Disabilities”

#patheory2017
Concurrent Sessions 6: Saturday, 1:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.

6A: Tension, Transition, and Stories for Street-Level Bureaucracy
Moderator: Richard J. Herzog

Richard J. Herzog, “Tension, Transitions, Teachers, and Turnover”

6B: Places and Spaces of/for Sustainability in Local Government
Moderator: Sarah Surak

Barış Gençer Baykan, “Participation in Urban Issues: Environmental Protests against İstanbul Metropolitan Municipality”
Adam Eckerd and Susan Sterett, “Appealing to the Authority of Data: Social Complexity, Fragmented Decision-making, and the Politics of Climate Adaptation”
Nadia Bowman, David Carter, and Tyler Scott, “Balancing Barriers to Entry and Administrative Burden in Voluntary Certification: An Example from the National Organic Program”

6C: Teaching Public Administration Today
Moderator: Thomas Catlaw

Arthur A. Felts, “Keeping Up With the Joneses: Teaching Public Administration in the Twenty-First Century”
Sharon Mastracci, “Teaching Economics in Public Administration: My Odyssean Search for Multiple Voices”
Christa Slaton, “Teaching Ethics in an Era of Bully Rule: Lessons Learned and Questions Remaining”

#patheory2017
Concurrent Sessions 7: Saturday, 3:00 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.

7A: Labor and Public Administration
Moderator: Terence Garrett

Andrew Hyder, “Aesthetic Labor in the Public Sector”
Anis Shivani, “Whatever Happened to the Market (and to Capital)? The Consequences of the New Phase of Neoliberalism for Public Administration”
Jonathan Anderson and Anthony Silard, “Emotional Labor on the Frontier”

7B: ET’s Phone Home is Being Traced: Public Administration, Hacking, and Communication in the 21st Century
Moderator: Catherine Horiuchi

Zachary Taylor, “ET’s Phone Home is Being Traced”
Jerry M. Stott, “Ethics 2.0: Administrative Responsibility in the 21st Century”
Sarah V. Büche, “Irony 101: Privacy in a Public Sector”

7C: Organizing after Weber
Moderator: Henry Oghoator

Senator Khaled, “Challenges of The New Organizational Structure of the Tax Administration In Algeria”
Brett Sharp and Eric Anthony Johnson, “Revisiting the Much-Maligned Grace Commission: Applying Data Visualization Through Connectivity-Based Cluster Analysis”
Mats Fred and Dalia Mukhtar-Landgren, “The Black Box of Public Administration Projectification”

#patheory2017
Concurrent Sessions 8:  Saturday, 4:30 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.

8A: Big Picture Questions in Public Administration
Moderator: Juniper Katz

Patricia M. Patterson, “What if Public Administration Promoted Human Dignity?”
Alison Turner, “Value-Informed Public Service”
Craig Wickstrom, “Facts and Clues: Talking the Talk without Walking the Walk of Moral Inversion”
JS Kobus Wessels, “Public Administration Sense-Making: In Search For Common Meaning Within Diverse Contexts”

8B: Institutional Consistency and Innovation in Multi-Layered Public Administration
Moderator: Gary Marshall
Discussant: Justin T. Piccorelli

Zachary Taylor, “You Don’t Vote for a King: Constitutional Bureaucracy and the Electoral College”
Olivia Spencer and Alia Scott, “Dispelling The Bureaucratic Myth: An Investigation Into The Mindset Of Millennials & Their Role In The Modernization Of The American Bureaucratic System”

#patheory2017
Public Administration Theory Network Fellows

The Public Administration Theory Network recognizes the PA Theory Fellows, doctoral students whose work promises to contribute to the advancement of critical and theoretical research in areas of administration, policy, management, and government.

Abhishek Bhati, abhati@unomaha.edu (Session 5C)
Alexis Kennedy, lexedy13@gmail.com
Anthony M. Starke, Jr., astarke@unomaha.edu (Session 1A)
Esteban Santis, esteban.santis@knights.ucf.edu (Session 5C)
Ian Adams, ian.adams@utah.edu
Juniper Katz, JUNIPER.KATZ@ucdenver.edu (Session 4C)
Jennifer Hooker, jennifer.hooker@ucdenver.edu (Session 2A)
Peter Stanley Federman, peter.federman@ku.edu (Session 5A)
Grant E. Rissler, risslerge@vcu.edu (Session 1C)
Samantha June Larson, samantha.larson@ucdenver.edu (Session 4A)
Tulasi Acharya, tulsirames@yahoo.com
Craig Wickstrom, cwickstrom@wickstroms.net (Session 8A)

Doctoral Workshop (Hilton Boardroom)

Participants in the pre-conference Workshop for PhD Students will read Zavattaro and Orr, eds. Reflections on Academic Lives (2017) and Gary S. Marshall (2016) “The University in the Knowledge Economy”. Both readings are sent to participants in advance, and during the first part of the workshop, participants discuss the relevance of these publications to their careers.

For the second half of the workshop, students participate in a writing session for a special issue of Administrative Theory & Praxis devoted to new voices in the field. Participants are welcome to develop new essays based on the workshop discussion or bring existing projects for further refinement. The collaborative working environment will provide students with feedback from peers and professors on the projects.

Doctoral Workshop Coordinators

Sharon Mastracci
Jeffrey Callen
Laura Hand
Robbie Robichau
Staci Zavattaro

#patheory2017
Support

Milward L. Simpson Fund
The general purpose of the Milward L. Simpson Fund is to “further, foster and advance education and learning in the field of political science at the University of Wyoming.” The Public Administration Theory Network is grateful to the Simpson Fund for its support.

Thank you Dr. Gregg Cawley for your generous support of this event!

Thank you to the University of Wyoming Department of Political Science for your support!

#patheory2017