

Toward a Quality Public Service Education

An International Conference
April 3-5, 2017 | Doha

Organized by:



The Network of Schools of Public Policy,
Affairs and Administration (NASPAA)



The Doha Institute for Graduate Studies,
Doha, State of Qatar

Conference Theme

International Quality Conference:

The Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs and Administration and the Doha Institute for Graduate Studies will hold an international conference on quality of public affairs education. The conference will aim to advance principles of quality in public service education around the world. The conference will provide an opportunity to create a networking space for public affairs programs in Asia, the Middle East, Europe, and North America to engage in pedagogical and program management and other matters of mutual concern to these programs. The conference program will be consistent with the NASPAA mission to improve the quality of education globally. NASPAA will make, through this conference, the case for professional education and the challenges of professional education especially in countries where there has not been a long tradition of professional education. For the benefit of global members and non-members of NASPAA, this conference will focus on issues of internships, case studies, simulations, teaching for outcomes, experiential learning, engagement, and employment of graduates.

Regional Networking Opportunity:

Public Policy, Public Administration, and Public Affairs scholarship and education investment have been limited in the Arab World. While some schools have had public administration and other public service instruction since the 1970s, the outcomes in areas of curriculum development, service, and scholarship in public service fields has been very limited. This conference presents an opportunity for schools and colleges in the 22 Arab countries to meet, explore opportunities for collaboration and engage global (NASPAA) and European (EGPA) accreditation professionals and accredited schools. The delegates to this meeting will also explore means of institutionalizing their collaboration in the future in the form of a public affairs association or a regional section of a larger association.

Themes

The conference is intended to have a workshop format and not a concurrent sessions format – all attendees will meet for every session or panel. The main themes will be present in the conference:

- 1) Enhancing quality of public service education
- 2) What Does Professional Education mean in the context of the Middle East and North African Region?
 - a. Mission-Driven Education/Program Outcomes
 - b. Student Learning Outcomes
 - c. Case Studies
 - d. Simulations
 - e. Internships
 - f. Experiential Learning
- 2) Promoting global engagement and pursuit of quality among the elite schools in the Middle East
- 3) Exploring the Value of Accreditation
 - a. Quality Assurance
 - b. Charting the Path to Accreditation
 - c. Working as a consortium of schools to explore accreditation options and to learn from previously accredited institutions
 - d. Learning from the experience of programs that have sought accreditation and/or affiliation with international networks and associations
- 4) Regional Networking for Quality Public Affairs Education
- 5) Public Administration/Service Curriculum
- 6) Employment and Career Planning - Employability of Public Administration, Public Policy and other public affairs graduates
- 7) Enhancing Scholarship: Journals, Indexes, Research tools, and Research Outcomes in Public Affairs Scholarship

Logistics

The vision for the conference, subject to deliberations with co-sponsors, is summarized in the following sections.

- A. The official languages of the meeting will be English and Arabic with simultaneous interpretation. Interpretation into other languages will also be explored
- B. The main sponsor of the event is the Doha Institute for Graduate Studies (DI).
- C. Outcomes will include and are not limited to:
 - a. Form working groups in at least four areas:
 - i. Curriculum development
 - ii. Scholarship
 - iii. Employment of Graduates and Career Prospects
 - iv. Program Management and Quality
 - v. Networking with international quality networks and associations
 - b. Explore the potential of organizing a consortium of Arab Schools and College of Public Administration to collaborate in scholarship and curriculum.
 - c. Plans for future meetings and networking