



CONFERENCE OF MINORITY PUBLIC ADMINISTRATORS (COMPA)

COMPA 2022, WEDNESDAY MARCH 2-SATURDAY MARCH 5

TIME ZONE-CENTRAL STANDARD TIME (CST)

THEME: SHIFTING PARADIGMS, CHALLENGING ASSUMPTIONS: MINORITY ADMINISTRATORS, ADAPTING TO CHANGING ENVIRONMENTS

Welcome to COMPA 2022 Virtual Conference!

On behalf of the COMPA Executive Committee, Board, and members, we welcome you to COMPA's 51st Annual Academic Conference. Although we were looking forward to having an in person conference in New Orleans, the pandemic and environmental conditions have pushed us to do the conference virtually. We are very excited about the dialogue from March 2nd - 5th on pertinent public service issues and to formulate strategies that can be implemented to combat these issues. This academic year's conference theme is "Shifting Paradigms - Challenging Assumptions: Minority Administrators Adapting to Changing Environments and The Impact on Local, National, Indigenous/Tribal and Other Global Communities."

We are looking forward to a great program that includes diverse speakers, panels, and networking opportunities. The keynote speakers plan to address the challenges facing minority public administrators in communities experiencing increasing inequalities, systemic racism; police violence coupled with racialism in legal and justice systems; housing crises and food shortages; medical mistrust; chronic underinvestment; environmental degradation; and white supremacist extremism. All these problems and many others have been exacerbated by an ongoing global pandemic that has killed over one million people as it intensifies racial/ethnic tensions and economic disparities.

The poster session, panels/tracks, remarks, and L. Frances P. Liddell Student Public Policy Debate will equally enable divergent and convergent public service discourse with implications for theory, policy, and praxis. We are confident in the virtual format and believe that it will foster constructive engagement and an enriching conference experience overall.

This year's conference would not be possible without the Conference Planning Committee, Executive Committee & Board, and Local Organizing Committee's tireless efforts. They have worked to ensure the success of this virtual conference. I would also like to thank Southern University at New Orleans' College of Business and Public Administration for the incredible support of my COMPA leadership roles and their contributions to the conference. Additionally, I would like to thank the sponsors, volunteers, panelists, keynote speakers, AdvanceNet Technology Services, and conference auxiliary staff who are the foundation of this conference.

In conclusion, I would like to state that it has been such an honor and privilege to serve as the 2021-2022 COMPA President. I look forward to our continued engagement relative to our collective efforts to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion in the field of public service and to equip the next generation of socially responsible servant leaders.

Thank you for your attendance and support of the COMPA 2022 Virtual Conference and for your commitment to governance and public affairs.

Patricia Boyd Robertson

Patricia Boyd Robertson, PhD, MBA

President, COMPA 2021-2022

Associate Professor Public Administration

Southern University at New Orleans (SUNO)

CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

Public administrators in general and minority administrators in particular are challenged to consider adapting to new and emerging realities of today's society. COVID-19 and related variants seem to have marked the rise in political divisions characterized by a lack of popular trust in science, the blurring of distinctions between fact and value and rational and nonrational decision-making and choices. These political divisions have been exacerbated by so-called "fake news" and the overtly hostile and polarizing political discourse occurring throughout the nation. As a result, the years of struggle and progress made towards social, political, and economic justice and the acceptance of all people regardless of differences have been seriously compromised by the rise of white nationalist movements and other movements suggest a growing swing towards a radical shift away from long held democratic rules and traditions that have been at the bedrock of American Government and Public Administration. Compounding all of these recent trends, many communities, especially communities of color, across the globe are fighting the brutal consequences of climate change and environmental racism amidst more frequent natural and man-made disasters. The rise in the lack of trust and confidence in democratic, governmental, and administrative leaders and processes has been very evident. For this conference, Minority public administrators are called upon to rethink our role as well educated and trained professionals seeking to mitigate an environment of rising injustices, helplessness, and a lack of hope and confidence in the present system. The COMPA 2022 conference theme "Shifting Paradigms, Challenging Assumptions: Minority Administrators, Adapting To Changing Environments" serves as a clarion call to all concerned public service leaders, scholars, administrators, nonprofit leaders, and community advocates/stakeholders to expand the discourse through intellectual forums, research considerations, collaborative partnerships, and the creation of successful governance structures to begin tackling these challenges and restoring public service values and meaningful governance. The conference with its 16 tracks aims to promote knowledge and understanding, including attendant praxis for the academy's benefit and management of people's affairs. We hereby thank you for your representation and participation.

Wednesday, March 2, 2022

Pre-Conference Events (Invocation by Dr. Gloria Billingsley, MPPA Program Director, Jackson State University)

2:00-4:00 p.m. Poster Presentation (Dr. Talya Thomas, Jackson State University, Moderator and Chair, Dr. Janiece Upshaw, UNT Dallas Co-Chair)

4:30-6:30 p.m. Presidents' Panel

Mistress of Ceremony Dr. Patricia Robertson, COMPA President and Associate Professor SUNO

Introduction of Speakers Dr. Patricia Robertson, COMPA President and Associate Professor of Public Administration (SUNO) and Dr. George Amedee, COMPA Vice President and Professor of Political Science, (SUNO)

Remarks by Dr. Gregory Ford, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs SUNO

Remarks by Keith Thode, CEO and Chief Scientist, AdvanceNet Technology Services

Remarks by President (insert name) National Forum for Black Public Administrators

Panel Theme: “Future Directions: Priorities and Expectations for COMPA and Minority Public Administrators”

Last year, COMPA celebrated its 50th anniversary beginning with a Pre-Conference Presidents' Panel that examined our contributions to diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) in public service, particularly, in areas such as the academy and general practice of administration/management. In this year's Pre-Conference Panel, seven past presidents share their thinking and insights regarding the future priorities and direction for COMPA specifically, and minority public administrators in general. The voice of minority public administrators through COMPA is critical to the many discourses and policy debates that will take place in public policy and administration going forward. Governmental agencies have to be realistic about how to weigh-in on the current and future direction of challenges to democracy. It is necessary for minority administrators to lend their voices to the critical discourses that will help mitigate the threats to the democratic traditions upon which the US political and administrative state stands. The Panel explores the future roles and highlights the issues that are especially important for the organization to address. Insights from these distinguished Past Presidents on health, education, economic/business, environmental, criminal justice, governance, human rights will suggest the path to engineering much needed changes in policy and governance/administration. Thus, the panel will holistically discuss COMPA's future and will highlight potential strategies/insights to relentlessly promote DEI in public service for the greater good.

Panelists: Dr. Mitchell Rice, Director of Race and Ethnic Studies Institute, Texas A and M University

Dr. Kristie Roberts-Lewis, Chair, Department of Public Administration, Nelson Mandela College, Southern University A &M

Dr. Andrew Ewoh, Interim Associate Dean for Academic Affairs /Professor, Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs, Texas Southern University

Dr. L. Frances P. Liddell, Retired Chair, Public Policy and Administration Jackson State University

Dr. Harvey White, Professor, Biden School of Public Policy and Administration, University of Delaware

Dr. Sylvester Murray, Distinguished Visiting Professor, Jackson State University

Dr. Charles Sampson, Associate Professor Emeritus, University of Missouri

Moderator, Dr. Susan Gooden, Dean & Professor, L. Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs, Virginia Commonwealth University

Thursday, March 3th

8:00 a.m.-9:30:00 a.m. Thursday Opening Plenary

Mistress of Ceremony Dr. Kristie Roberts-Lewis, Chair, Department of Public Administration, Nelson Mandela College, Southern University A &M

Greetings: Dr. Igwe Udeh, Dean of College of Business and Public Administration, SUNO

Remarks Dr. Roger Hartley, Dean, College of Public Affairs, University of Baltimore

Introduction of Speaker: Dr. DeLacy Davis, Executive Director, FSO of Union County, New Jersey

Keynote Speaker Dr. Tyrone Powers, Ph.D., C.E.O., Powers Consulting Group, LLC. **Topic:** “Gathering Storm: Administering I, n a Culture of Violence and Racism”

This keynote will provide an exploration of the current challenges facing Black Administrators and other minorities in policy, practice, and work culture-offering insight and strategies to combat violence and racism as it appears in many forms and fashions. He will also address in this topic underlying themes of counterterrorism and domestic terrorism. The presenter draws upon his academic, consulting, and professional law enforcement experience to help us understand this very timely topic.

10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Breakout Sessions

12:00-1:30 p.m. Thursday Luncheon Plenary

Mistress of Ceremony Dr. Elizabeth Overman, Professor, University of Central Oklahoma

Remarks by Dr. Orlando Perez, UNT-Dallas, LAS Dean

Remarks by Dr. Allan Rosenbaum, ASPA President,

Remarks by Chancellor James Ammons, Southern University at New Orleans

Introduction of Keynote Speakers: Ms. Melissa [Rosenfelt](#), *Seminole Nation of Oklahoma, descendant of the Kiowa Nation of Oklahoma*

Keynote Speakers, John Maisch, J.D., Associate Professor, University of Central Oklahoma; Jennifer LaMere, MPH, *Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska*

Topic: “Every Reservation has Its Whiteclay: Lessons Learned While Fighting to End Predatory Beer Sales in One Nebraska Border Town”

Synopsis:

The Lakota are Sovereign on Pine Ridge, the only reservation in South Dakota where the sale and possession of alcohol is illegal. Although contested at times, the “dry” status has been enforced almost entirely since the 1889 treaty with the U.S.

Government. Whiteclay, Nebraska, just across the state line originally, was established as a 50-mile buffer zone to prevent the sale of alcohol nearby. In 1904, by executive order Theodore Roosevelt reduced the dry zone to a single mile allowing traders to build “whiskey ranches” plying the Lakota community with liquor resulting in untold damage resonating through the generations as addiction became endemic. Following decades of complaints, the 2017 Nebraska Supreme Court ruled that the four beer stores will close forever. What are the lessons learned in the fight to end such predatory practices?

1:45-4:45

L. Frances P. Liddell Public Policy Debate

(Moderator, Dr. L. Frances P. Liddell & assisted by Dr. Kristie Roberts-Lewis)

5:00-6:30 p.m.

Networking Sessions

Students & Young Professionals Networking Session- moderated by Rep. Kareem Willis, Rutgers University and assisted by Aravinda Uvindu Bandara Karunartine, University of Georgia

COMPA Executives and Membership Networking-moderated by Dr. Patricia Robertson, COMPA President and Associate Professor SUNO, Dr. Cassandra Hawkins, [Mississippi State University](#), Dr. De Lacy Davis, FSO of Union County, New Jersey

Friday, March 4, 2022

7:00-8:00 a.m. COMPA Business Meeting (Dr. Patricia Robertson, SUNO, Dr. Kelechi Uzochukwu, University of Baltimore)

8:00-9:30 a.m. Friday Opening Plenary

Mistress Ceremony/Introduction of Speaker Dr. George Amedee, Professor, Southern University at New Orleans

Remarks by Bishop Kevin Boyd, Church at New Orleans (CANO)

Remarks by Rufus Johnson, Owner, Johnson and AssociatesRemarks by William P. Shields, Jr., Executive Director, American Society for Public Administration (ASPA)

Keynote Speaker, Susan Hutson, Orleans Parish Sheriff Elect

Topic: Overhauling the Criminal Justice System: An Eye Toward Reform and Accountability

This keynote will examine the challenges in reforming the criminal justice system. With the rise in crime that appears to be associated with the advent of the COVID 19 Crisis and its variants, many citizens are now seeking political and administrative leaders in the criminal justice field with a vision towards change. A plethora of solutions have been considered including police reform, independent police monitors, annual audits by inspector generals, reducing mass incarceration, better and diverse training, discharge planning, law enforcement collaborations, community policing, privatization, and cross-organizational planning and cooperation among all stakeholders of the criminal justice system. Having served in various positions within the system and now ready to embark on her new position as the first female Parish Criminal Sheriff in the State of Louisiana, our presenter will offer critical perspectives on what is required to reform the criminal justice system. The major problem of crime overwhelming the criminal justice system and the basis for constructive dialogue will be the focus of this presentation within the context of public service.

10:00-11:30 a.m. Breakout Session

12:00-1:30pm Friday Luncheon Plenary

Mistress of Ceremony Dr. Sandra Schrouder, Professor, Barry University

Remarks by Patrick Robertson, Owner /Trainer, The Lab Strength and Performance

Luncheon Panel: Harvey Reed, Moderator, Founder and CEO, Louisiana Association of Cooperative, Gail Adams, CEO Adams, Jackson, and Associates, Linda Fortenberry, Executive Director, Circle of Faith Community Development Corporation and Bahati Adam Best, Producer, Director, Cinematographer.

Topic: The Role of Advocacy in Achieving Change in Government

These four panelists will discuss their roles and experiences in achieving change in government. As nongovernmental advocates from four very different professional arenas, they will highlight the lessons to be learned from their experiences in advocating for change. It will involve key lessons in helping to achieve equity and inclusion for communities of color as part of the crucial role external advocates for change play in complementing internal actors in government who are interested in real change. Important strategies that can be adopted to effectuate effective measures will be highlighted. The question of the nature and impact of such advocacy efforts will be addressed.

1:45 pm- 3:15 Breakout Sessions

3:30pm-5:00pm Breakout Sessions

6:00-8:00.p.m. Evening Plenary Session/Awards Ceremony

Mistress of Ceremony Dr. Patricia Robertson, COMPA President and Associate Professor, SUNO

Keynote Speaker, Dr. Keenan Grenell, Administrator for Business Connection Module of The Business Council (TBC), Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Topic: Unleashing The Wealth Creation Ecosystem Model Ignite Community Change

The speaker provides conference attendees with an in-depth understanding of how well defined wealth creation ecosystems are at the very center of jobs, new ventures, and wealth creation in market economies. A particular focus will be on best practices in how to establish the right business environment that will foster the success of private enterprise and lead to community-wide shared prosperity. The speaker addresses five important political economy issues: rethinking institutional alliances for new wealth creation outcomes, how to stay competitive and collaborate and do so around a shared vision, cultivating new visionaries to lead the way, supporting and acting on the strategies that are important to new venture creation, wealth creation and job creation, and establishing a more definitive role for public administrators in the wealth creation ecosystem arena.

COMPA AWARDS CEREMONY:

POSTER AWARDS- CHAIRPERSON DR. TALYA THOMAS, Jackson State University

**STUDENT POLICY DEBATE AWARDS -CHAIRPERSON DR. L. FRANCES P. LIDDELL,
Retired Chair, Jackson State University**

BEST PAPER AWARDS- CHAIRPERSON DR. ELIJAH AGYAPONG, Regent University

COMPA RECOGNITION AWARDS-CHAIRPERSON DR. GEORGE AMEDEE, SUNO

Saturday, March 5

10:00-11:30 a.m. Closing Plenary

**Mistress of Ceremony COUNCILWOMAN DR. CATHERINE FOSTER ROWELL, CITY OF
SOUTH FULTON**

**Speaker: Dr. Shawn Wilson, Secretary, Louisiana Department of Transportation and
Development (LADOTD_**

Topic: Equity and Diversity in Transportation

The speaker examines the environment facing national and state transportation systems. He will discuss some of enormous challenges to insuring fairness and inclusion. The nation has witnessed COVID 19 and its variants, unpredictable storms and weather conditions that have impacted the normal flow of travel, the economy, and the responses of citizens at the national and state level. Despite these challenges, Minority Transportation Administrators and Public Policy Leadership must ensure that greater equity and diversity are major considerations. The session will discuss how planning, development and implementation of the state transportation systems must consider the inclusion of diverse and communities of color in the provision of transportation benefits, opportunities, and the wide range of services.

**11:45am-12:20pm Closing Remarks Dr. Patricia Robertson, COMPA President
and Dr. Kelechi Uzochukwu, COMPA President Elect**

REVISED 2/13/2022