

Call for Papers
The 2024 Public Administration Theory Network (PATNet) Conference

Theory, Practice, and Communities: Big Thoughts, Real Action

Hosted by Rutgers University-Camden
June 7-9, 2024



The Public Administration Theory Network (PATNet) has always been the place for big thoughts and ideas, where central questions about what is public administration, the state, and the citizen, and the like have been enthusiastically explored. The last few years across the world has reinforced the importance of asking these questions, but also the need to look to our local communities and think about how to make a difference—how to use theory to build communities, share power, and strengthen community bonds and relationships so that all may succeed, be treated with justice, and embrace their well-being.

The 2024 PATNet Conference is emphasizing the theory/practice connection with a focused design of embedding the conference directly in the community hosting us—Camden, New Jersey. The conference, through our hosts at Rutgers University-Camden, will feature a number of innovative sessions to showcase the public administration at the community level and think about how scholars and practitioners can work together to solve complex problems. In addition to papers on a myriad of public administration theory topics, we specifically welcome paper proposals consider topics such as:

- Power building and the meaning of power at the grassroots community level.
- The distribution of power in a community
- Power relationships at the local level between government and nonprofits
- The role of foundations and philanthropy at the community level
- The relationship between the individual and government
- The urban tradition in public administration
- The relationship and dynamics between people, place, positionality, and other factors

Interested scholars should submit an abstract of their paper to <https://tinyurl.com/PAThory24Submissions>. The **deadline for submission is January 15** and presenters will be notified by mid-February. A separate call will be announced for the PATNet PhD Fellows Program. If you have questions on this call, please email jesowa@udel.edu.

Camden, New Jersey is a city that bridges many of the complexities of modern public administration theories with the lived reality and richness of meaningful public life. The host organization, Rutgers University | Camden is a world-class university known for serving as a bridge between community engagement and collective governance and administration. Camden has a host of local businesses and restaurants, and is just one subway stop away from Independence Hall in one of the most vibrant neighborhoods of Philadelphia, PA.

Panel Proposals

Panels are composed of 3-4 papers or presentations that are pre-arranged to address a common issue or theme. Panel proposals should include the following.

- Convener, Moderator, and Discussant names, affiliations, and email addresses.
- Title: Title of the panel for the program.
- Description: A brief description of the panel and its relationship to the conference theme in 150 words or less.
- Paper Abstracts: Describe each paper in <151 words including the title, participant(s), not attending author(s), organizational affiliations, and email addresses.
- Proposals should be designed to be sufficiently explored in one hour and 15 minutes. Proposals with too many participants may be asked to separate into two separate panels.
- Logistics: Please use this space to tell us if there are significant logistics challenges that the conference committee can accommodate, such as Jewish Sabbath or other religious considerations, accessibility differences, or other necessary accommodations.

Roundtables and Workshops Proposals

Roundtables and workshops create provocative, highly interactive discussions between presenters and audience members. Roundtables are prearranged around a common theme or topic. Roundtable discussions are generally composed of 5-7 presenters and a discussant. Presenters may be asked a series of questions or given 5 minutes to briefly discuss their research as a means to spark discussion and contestation. These proposals are intended to generate audience involvement. Please include the following information in your proposal.

- Conveners, Moderators, and Participants: Names, organizational affiliations, and email addresses for each of the participants along with their participation roles.
- Title: Title of the roundtable/workshop for the program.

- Description: A description of the roundtable and its relationship to the conference theme in less than 151 words
- Logistics: Please use this space to tell us if there are significant logistics challenges that the conference committee can accommodate, such as Jewish Sabbath or other religious considerations, accessibility differences, or other necessary accommodations.

Individual Presentations

If accepted by the program committee, individual papers will be grouped together in panel proposals around topics that are arranged to speak to the conference theme. Proposal should include the following.

- Author(s): Name(s) of presenter(s), non-presenting author(s), along with affiliation(s) and email address(es).
- Title: Title of the paper for the program.
- Abstract: A description of the paper and how it relates to the conference theme in less than 151 words.