



## Call for Abstracts/Papers

In this, its Centenary year, the UK Joint University Council's Public Administration Committee (PAC) Annual Conference will be hosted by Newcastle Business School, at the Northumbria University on the overall theme of

### *'Innovative and Enterprising Public Services'*

As national governments' around the world continue their efforts to ameliorate the impacts of global shifts in migration; inequalities between rich and poor countries; collapse of global financial markets, an on-going lack of trust in politicians, they are also making decisions on exactly how to organise and structure representative democratic institutions fit for the 21st Century. The complexity of 'wicked issues' such as ageing demographic profiles and pensions shortfall; high youth unemployment, rising crime rates, terrorist threats; escalation in social media; and others policy priorities are not only demanding greater levels of public spending in an era of financial constraints, but forcing public servants and politicians to situate innovation and enterprise as core governmental activities. Seeking out innovation at all levels of government will, it is argued, enhance performance, increase public value, respond to citizen/user expectations, but also minimise costs and eradicate inefficiencies.

'One size fits all' universal solutions to complex social problems no longer suffice, as no one public, private or civic organisation in isolation is capable of satisfying increasing citizen demands to tailor services to personal needs. Citizens are no longer passive consumers but empowered individuals who expect state agencies to provide more personalised services and choice, either those more akin to private provision, or increasingly through a wider range of civic providers. An iPod generation that expects personalised service delivery and rapid responses to problems needs to be set against a backdrop of 'finite resources and infinite demands' meaning that innovation and enterprise become crucial and core activities. Pluralities of inter-relationships between state, market and civic institutions are now the focal point for co-production and co-responsibility of public service delivery and production of public value. New relational forms of governance are not only a challenge to the role of government in advanced democracies in the 21st Century but they raise questions on what type of institutions, organizational and leadership capacities are needed in future to synergise the state's own resources, capacities and knowledge with those of the market and civic institutions. Clearly this brings challenges for public service organisation and delivery.

In this conference, we invite abstracts and papers across a range of policy fields, and welcome you all to join us at Northumbria University 10-12th September 2018 (main conference will commence on 11th September, following on from the Doctoral Workshop).

We will also be joined by a delegation of scholars from the Teaching Public Administration Conference (TPAC), part of the Section on Public Administration of ASPA in the USA.

Abstracts/papers are welcome on the following specific themes:

- Teaching Public Administration
- Media and Public Services
- Co-production, opportunity and capacity
- Elected Mayors and Local Leadership
- Strategic Leadership in Public Service Contexts
- Brexit and Public Services
- Northern Powerhouse and Combined Authorities
- New vehicles for Public Service Delivery
- Tourism, Creative Industries and Public Services
- Sport and Public Services
- Public Entrepreneurship
- New Municipalism
- Social Economy and Public Services
- The impact of policy divergence of UK Public Administration
- Representation in devolving environments: opportunities and challenges
- Open Track session

Each of these themes has a theme leader, but if you wish to discuss your ideas for a paper within any of these themes, in the first instance, please direct any enquiries to the overall Conference organisers.

### **Conference Organisers**

Associate Professor Pamela Dunning, Troy University, USA: [pdunning@troy.edu](mailto:pdunning@troy.edu)

Professor Joyce Liddle: [joyce.Liddle@northumbria.ac.uk](mailto:joyce.Liddle@northumbria.ac.uk)

Dr Lorraine Johnston: [lorraine.Johnston@northumbria.ac.uk](mailto:lorraine.Johnston@northumbria.ac.uk)

### **Time Frame**

Abstracts/ideas for themes/open panel; papers to be submitted by **31 May 2018** to each of the Conference organisers:

- Associate Professor Pamela Dunning, Troy University, USA: [pdunning@troy.edu](mailto:pdunning@troy.edu)
- Professor Joyce Liddle: [joyce.Liddle@northumbria.ac.uk](mailto:joyce.Liddle@northumbria.ac.uk)
- Dr Lorraine Johnston: [lorraine.Johnston@northumbria.ac.uk](mailto:lorraine.Johnston@northumbria.ac.uk)

Feedback on abstracts/papers to authors by **30 June 2018**

**Swift decisions will be made on early submissions**, particularly for any colleagues with travel and other funding application deadlines and always within four weeks.