



## **Collaboration among Government, Market, and Society: Forging Partnerships and Encouraging Competition**

Conference Report

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Fudan University's School of International Relations and Public Affairs (SIRPA), the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM), and the University of Maryland's School of Public Policy (UMD) cosponsored an international public policy and management conference at Fudan University, China on May 26<sup>th</sup>- 27<sup>th</sup>, 2013. The conference theme was "*Collaboration among Government, Market, and Society: Forging Partnerships and Encouraging Competition.*" About two hundred and fifty papers were submitted from all over the world and the one hundred best were selected for presentation. More than one hundred and forty scholars participated from about twenty countries and jurisdictions, including China, Belgium, Britain, Estonia, Hong Kong, Hungary, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, the Netherlands, the Philippines, Russia, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, Taiwan, and the United States.



The opening ceremony of the conference was held in the Xiexide Auditorium of the Center of American Studies Building (CAS) in the morning of May 26<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Xu Zheng, vice president of Fudan University, warmly welcomed the attending scholars, expressing wishes for a successful conference. She pointed out that, as China is moving toward a new stage of economic and social development, its government is becoming more efficient, transparent and responsible. Collaboration among the government, the private sector, and society is becoming an important element in the development of the public sector. Mrs. Xu then gave a brief introduction of Fudan University and welcomed scholars and academic institutions to establish various forms of partnerships with Fudan University.

Then, University of Maryland Professor Douglas Besharov, the conference co-chair and APPAM International Conference Coordinator, gave his welcome speech, and acknowledged the exemplary assistance provided by the Fudan University team, and especially associate dean Ying. In addition, Zhimin Chen, dean of SIRPA, welcomed guests on behalf of SIRPA. He pointed out that collaboration has become a trend in different countries and across different practice areas. He additionally welcomed academic exchanges and partnerships to be launched between international academic organizations and Fudan School of Public Affairs.

Sandra Archibald, professor and dean of the University of Washington Evans School of Public Affairs (and immediate past president of APPAM) and Professor Alfred Tat-Kei Ho, the immediate past president of the Chinese-American Association for Public Affairs, made their opening speeches on behalf of their respective organizations. The party secretary of SIRPA, Mr. Liu Jiping also attended the conference. Mr. Jing Yijia, conference co-chair, professor and associate dean of SIRPA hosted the opening ceremony and thanked the student volunteers from both Fudan University and the University of Maryland for their contributions.



There were in total twenty-five panels. Topics included: collaborative governance in China; environmental governance; policy and crisis response; marketization, corruption; urban service delivery; conflict or collaboration; public governance in transition; reshaping public accountability; government/business collaboration; public-private partnerships; collaboration in education; privatization; innovation through collaboration; comparative collaboration; collaborative coping of public affairs; networked governance; nonprofit participation; nonprofit advocacy; performance and effects of collaboration; E-governance; collaboration in the health sector; social service delivery; collaboration as a change instrument; and managing collaboration.



Top scholars were invited to give keynote speeches during the conference. On May 26<sup>th</sup>, Prof. E.S. Savas from City University of New York gave a speech on “what should government do?” Dr. Ariel Fiszbein, the chief economist for the Human Development Network at the World Bank, followed with a talk about models of private delivery of social services in developing countries. The keynote speech by the University of Central Florida Professor Tom Liou, who is the immediate past president of the American Society for Public Administration, was “Critical Issues in Collaboration among Government, Market and Society.” On May 27<sup>th</sup>, the keynote speech from Prof. Richard Zeckhauser, from Harvard University’s Kennedy School of Government, was “Civic Society and Public Value: China and the United States,” and Fudan University Prof. Jing Yijia’s speech was on “The Path toward Collaborative Governance in China.” The keynote speeches were thought-provoking and ignited lively discussions.

To promote international academic exchanges, five chief editors from top SSCI journals were invited to attend the conference. These chief editors were: Prof. Steven Kelman, editor of *International Public Management Journal*; Prof. Stephen Osborne, editor of *Public Management Review*; Prof. Maureen Pirog, editor of *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*; Jose Antonio Puppim De Oliveira, editor of *Public Administration and Development*; and Associate Prof. Craig Thomas, editor of *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*. As moderator, Prof. Besharov asked the editors six questions about their publications and then opened the floor to general questions.



This was the first time that APPAM hosted a conference in China. The conference was a milestone in promoting international exchanges of Chinese public affairs and management studies. About 20 Chinese universities and academic organizations attended. A series of academic publications are expected to follow the conference. Articles will be selected and published on APPAM'S *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management* and selected conference papers may be published by the Oxford University Press.

Concurrently, taking advantage of the visit of so many outstanding scholars, SIRPA and the Chan Center for Comparative Political Development celebrated its 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary and organized about 10 lectures given by some of the prominent scholars attending the conference.

For more information about the conference, please visit:

<http://umdcipe.org/conferences/GovernmentCollaborationShanghai/> or

<http://www.sirpa.fudan.edu.cn/APPAM/>