

## 2020: Perfect Vision

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Before discussing my Vision, let me begin by discussing my ideas for a smooth transition. Transitions assumes change, which is a given with any change in leadership. It becomes difficult, moreover when there is no shared vision. It is the vision that keeps an organization towards the same direction regardless of the leader.

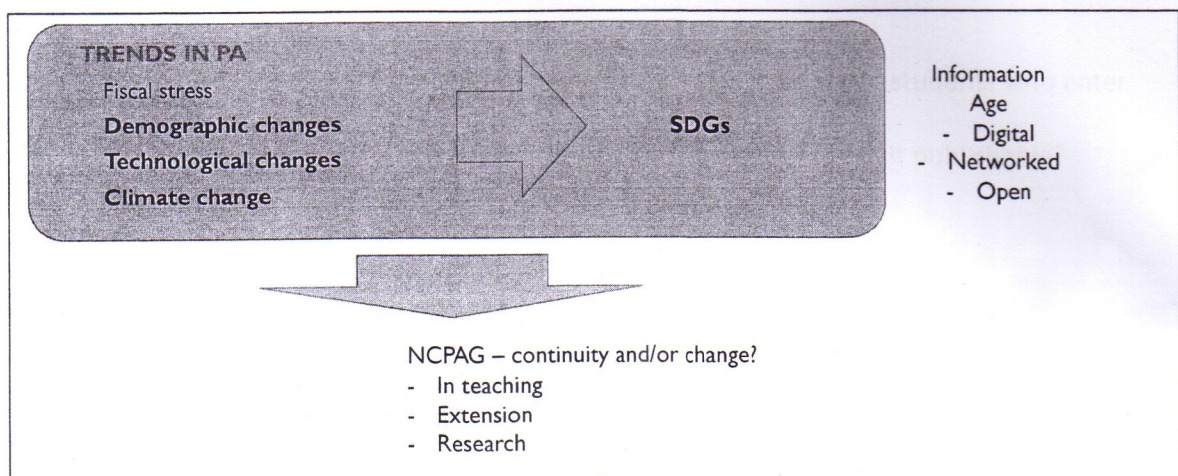
In this sense, I am not worried about a transition, foremost because we, in NCPAG, share a common vision. In particular NCPAG has a shared vision: “of **a public service founded on competence and compassion**, integrity and leadership and on values of public interest and high ethical standard...”

Our vision goes on to say that as an institution, we commit ourselves to serve the nation by promoting good governance, and we are founded on good people (faculty, staff and REPS) and an organization upon which it is built.

Hence, as a PA scholar and as a member of the NCPAG community for more than 20 years, I have faith in this institution that it will carry on. Programs will continue; the conference will be convened, and commitments will be fulfilled. It will do so, because together we have institutions for it. Which I STRONGLY BELIEVE is at the heart of PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION. The building of institutions.

That said, things can not remain the same because the context on which our institutions operate also change. We also have to recognize that how our vision is interpreted is also influenced by who is leading the institution. In this sense, consider my vision for the college taking into consideration my background as a systems analyst, a manager of volunteers; a development specialist; ICTD observer, a martial law baby, and part of “Gen X.”

### My Vision – PA in context





There are four trends or issues in PA today. Fiscal stress, demographic change, technological change and climate change (Pollit 2016). These are the givens that the college must consider. Add to this our commitments to sustainable development goals (SDGs) and an era where information and knowledge is central, what does this mean for NCPAG and its tri-function of teaching, research and extension?

## **PRIORITIES**

### **1. INTEGRATION AND ENGAGEMENT**

The tri-function should not be seen as separate but as complementary. Extension can lead to research and research and extension can feed into our instruction. This is something I've strove to do in CLCD and CLRG and hope to continue in the college.

- Extension: Centers should also be seen as complements rather than silos. Increasingly there are many national-local interphases and agency-CSO collaboration.
- Research: Encourage collaboration in both national and international networks
- Instruction: Develop new course materials from extension and research work (e.g. local government textbook; governance textbook for K-12).

A whole-of-government approach highlights the connectedness in the bureaucracy, one that can be linked to the information revolution that we now find PA in.

### **2. REIMAGINING QUALITY, METRICS AND MONITORING IMPACT**

#### Quality Assurance

- o Strengthen systems and processes
- o Academic programs:
  - Standard forms for thesis/dissertation defenses
  - Standard forms for rating comprehensive exams
  - Fixed scheduling for defenses

#### Metrics:

- Instruction:
  - o Graduation Rate (instead of enrollment rate)- number of students who enter and graduate
  - o Quality of knowledge produced by graduate students – is it publishable?
    - Strengthen research methodologies
    - Introduce more data analytics
  - o Time taken to graduate (instead of number of graduates)
  - o Supervisor to graduate student ratio
    - This highlights the importance of increasing our PhDs in the faculty
    - Need to tighten requirements for entering graduate program
  - o Diversify Faculty - Embrace inter- and multi-disciplinary nature of PA
- Research:
  - o Access Reach instead of Scopus (e.g. downloads; reads; citations)
  - o Influence on policy (e.g. policy briefs)
  - o New frameworks and innovative methodologies (data analytics)

- PJPA – as both an applied and an academic journal
- Extension:
  - Tracking graduates trained
  - Development and use of databases of policies, and communities of practice (e.g. LGU ordinances; SGLG data; EODB etc.)
  - Engagement with government
    - Critically constructive founded on principles of PA and good governance
- Networking:
  - Bridge between international and local
    - Strategic engagement- pragmatically, we can not take the lead in all networks
    - Make the network work for NCPAG
    - Review the overlaps/redundancies (value diversity)
    - Focus on networks that can strengthen knowledge creation and building capacity

Reference:

Pollitt, Christopher (2016). Advanced Introduction to Public Management and Administration, Edward Elgar Publishing.