

SIAM

Intergovernmental News

ASPAs - Section on Intergovernmental Administration & Management

<http://www.uic.edu/cuppa/pa/siam/Default.htm>

Chair: Jim Svava

Chair Elect: Pat Atkins

Volume 26

Fall 2003

Number 2

From the Chair . . .

Dear SIAM Members:

These are interesting and challenging times for practitioners and observers of federalism. The National Academy of Public Administration standing panels on the Federal System and Social Equity in Governance and the Triangle Chapter of the American Society of Public Administration held a joint meeting earlier this summer with groups in Washington and Raleigh, North Carolina, connected by speaker phone. With panelists who reflected federal, state, and local perspectives, it is apparent that fiscal federalism is breaking down.

Although the conditions facing governments throughout the country lead to the perception of crisis, Max Sawicky of the Economic Policy Institute observed that at the national level, there is no crisis but rather political choices by the administration and Congress that are altering the federal budget and changing intergovernmental relations. There are a number of factors that have put pressure on the federal budget, but the choice to cut taxes has been a contributor to federal deficits that will reach \$401 billion this year and \$480 billion next year.

The national government is also causing subnational governments to assume much greater security costs in programs to combat terrorism and setting higher standards for school performance. Meanwhile, the states and local governments, which cannot rely on deficit spending, are facing immediate and real crises in bringing their budgets into balance. Nick Johnson, Director, State Fiscal Project, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, characterized the current period as "turn your back federalism." Taxpayers face increases in less progressive taxes and fees, but Johnson argues that the states could mitigate the impact by increasing the progressivity of their own revenues. (A report on measures taken by states to balance their budgets has recently been released by the Rockefeller Institute available at <http://www.rockinst.org/>). Ellis Hankins, executive director of the N.C. League of Municipalities, noted that in North Carolina, the state has held onto funds collected by the state for distribution to local governments. Local officials in closest proximity to voters bear the brunt of discontent when they decide that revenues must be increased to reduce the cutback in needed services.

Neil Peirce in a column circulated in July notes that if federal deficits continue to increase, "the federal government will be simply unable to aid struggling state and local governments — governments whose fiscal futures are already shadowed by outmoded sales tax systems, fast-rising school and health costs, and a federal ban on taxing Internet transactions. Is American federalism resilient enough to sustain these assaults?"

SIAM members are well qualified to organize discussions of the critical issues surrounding changing fiscal relations. Before we begin another round of budget discussions in the midst of real and self-imposed crises, we need to have a thorough examination of public policy priorities and how the burden for supporting these policies is to be allocated across levels of government and across different kinds of revenues.

Jim Svava



SIAM Updates

Executive Board

The SIAM Executive Board met on Monday, March 17, 2003 at the National ASPA conference to discuss section business. Below is a summary of the important items discussed and decided upon. For a copy of the minutes from this meeting, please contact Kendra Stewart at kendra.stewart@eku.edu.

The following nominees were accepted to serve on the SIAM Executive Board to replace expiring terms:

William Dodge, Jr.

Principal, Regional Excellence Consulting

Cole Blease Graham

Department of Political Science
University of South Carolina

Michael A. Pagano

Public Administration Program
College of Planning & Public Affairs
University of Illinois at Chicago

Name Change

Overall the majority of members voted in the strategic planning survey to keep the current section name. A new logo design is still being explored and will be discussed again at this year's board meeting.

2004 ASPA Conference

Pat Atkins is representing SIAM on the planning committee for the upcoming ASPA Conference in Portland, Oregon. The theme is *Transforming Governance in a World without Boundaries* and there will be 12 different tracks. "Closest to the People: Trends in State, Local & Regional Governance" is the SIAM track that is being co-chaired by Pat and Mark Daniels.

State and Local Government Review

Thomas Pavlak of the Carl Vinson Institute of Government at the University of Georgia has agreed to serve as the new editor. The journal is pleased to have nine new editorial board members and over 1,000 general subscribers. The process is underway to have the journal listed in the well-respected Social Sciences Index (SSI). SSI is one of the most popular and oldest databases that will increase the exposure of *SLGR*.

SIAM HEADLINE NEWS

For more information on the following stories, see the links listed. You can also access the *SIAM newsletter* online at www.uic.edu/cuppa/pa/siam/Default.htm and link directly to the articles.

National Governors Association letter to Congress

In a letter sent to House and Senate leaders on April 3, the NGA said states are doing an exceptional job of spending federal homeland security money, given the complexity of the first-responders grant program. http://www.nga.org/nga/newsRoom/1,1169,C_PRESS_RELEASE%5ED_5293,00.html

ASPA Posts Online 2003 National Conference Highlights

ASPA has posted online highlights of its recent 2003 National Conference at: <http://unpan1.un.org/intradoc/groups/public/documents/aspa/unpan008708.pdf>

NLC Posts Web Resources for Cities in Times of War

The National League of Cities (NLC) has introduced a new feature on its web site, "On the Homefront: Resources for Cities in Times of War." City officials can use this resource to find information sought by citizens and community leaders alike, from how employers must handle National Guard and reserve call ups to how to fly the American flag. http://www.nlc.org/nlc_org/site/programs/homeland_security/war_resources.cfm

ICMA Selects Krings as 2003-2004 President

David J. Krings, county administrator, Hamilton County, Ohio, was selected by the executive board of the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) to serve as the Association's 2003-2004 president. Krings took office at the ICMA Annual Conference in September 2003 and will serve a one-year term as president. He will remain on the executive board as a past president for two years following the year of his presidency. Krings is a past president of ASPA's Greater Cincinnati Chapter.

Mandell Will Keynote Oceania Conference

Former ASPA National Council member and SIAM President Myrna Mandell has been invited to be a keynote speaker at the Australian and New Zealand Health Services and Policy Research Conference to be held in Melbourne, Australia, November 17- 19, 2003. The conference is supported by the Australian and New Zealand governments, the Nuffield Foundation (UK) and Commonwealth Fund (USA).

NGA Develops Searchable Governors Database

The National Governors Association (NGA) is currently working on a searchable database of all current and past governors. Users will be able to search for governors by state, political party, time in office, military service, birth or death dates, and numerous other options. Each governor's entry also includes a short biographical sketch. The search engine is in the testing stages, and NGA would appreciate your help in testing the database and providing it with any feedback you have. NGA hopes to launch the database to the general public in a few months.

http://www.nga.org/governors/1,1169,C_SEARCH_GOV,00.html

Advice for Handling Non-profit Leadership Transitions

In any given year, about one out of ten nonprofit boards will face the challenge of searching for a new executive director. Whether you are a board member, an executive director, a foundation executive or other supporter of nonprofits, this site will help you understand how executive transitions can be done successfully.

<http://www.transitionguides.com>

State Tax Revenue Declined by 7.5 Percent in Fiscal Year 2002

According to a study recently published by the Rockefeller Institute, state tax revenue declined by 7.5 percent in fiscal year 2002, after adjusting for tax changes and inflation. This is the largest decline in the 12 years that the Institute has tracked state revenues and has caused major headaches for the states.

http://www.rockinst.org/publications/fiscal_studies/FB_67.pdf

High Court Gives Congress Rare Federalism Victory

The U.S. Supreme Court departed from its pattern of siding with the states in a recent ruling that found Congress didn't overstep its authority by allowing federal lawsuits against states under the 1993 federal Family and Medical Leave Act.

<http://www.stateline.org/story.do?storyId=308286>

Web Site Helps Nonprofit Organizations Connect to Online Users

The goal of Network for Good is to connect people to charities via the Internet - using the virtual world to deliver real resources to nonprofits and communities. The web site is both a nonprofit collaboration to help nonprofit organizations increase capacity, reach new audiences, and build Internet strategies; as well as an e-philanthropy site where individuals can donate, volunteer and speak out on the issues they care about. <http://www.networkforgood.org>

Web Site Offers New Media Guide for Nonprofits

MyNoodle, the Internet portal for nonprofit news, information and resources, has launched a new Media Guide for Nonprofits. The Media Guide is a free service that provides nonprofit organizations with the tools and resources to send press releases and information to news agencies without having to invest a lot of money or time.

<http://www.mynoodle.org/media.htm>

Tough Economic Times Remain for States

As the fiscal year draws to a close, budget data released last week by the National Governors Association (NGA) and National Association of State Budget Officers (NASBO) indicate that states continue to struggle with declining revenues amidst an uncertain economy, with most states unable to protect their highest priority programs from budget reductions. http://www.nga.org/nga/newsRoom/1,1169,C_PRESS_RELEASE%5ED_5631,00.html

Building Collaborative Communities

Building Collaborative Communities is a free e-newsletter that features information on the latest resources in community collaboration, conflict resolution, partnerships, and citizen participation; stories of efforts to build collaborative communities; reports on relevant research; and information on upcoming events.

<http://www.collaborativecommunities.org>

States Cautiously Project Recovery

The Rockefeller Institute of Government also released State Fiscal Brief #68, "State Budgetary Assumptions in 2003 — States Cautiously Projecting Recovery," the Institute's eighth annual survey of the economic assumptions underlying state budgets. States are expecting a slightly stronger economy in 2003 and near full recovery by 2004. They also project slowing growth in Medicaid and other caseloads. If states were not cautious enough in their projections,

especially in Medicaid, it will cause even more budget problems.
http://www.rockinst.org/publications/fiscal_studies/FB_68.pdf

On-Line Library of Philanthropy Resources

Philanthropy Resources On-line is a digital library of primary and secondary sources that supports teaching and learning about philanthropy and the nonprofit sector. The library is made up of scanned images of the actual pages in original books, journals, and pamphlets. It is an impressive and growing collection that any researcher or teacher would find valuable.

<http://indiamond.ulib.iupui.edu/PRO>

National Center Will Offer \$30K Grants to Local and State Governments

With support from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, the National Center for Civic Innovation is launching the Government Performance Reporting Demonstration Project. The aim of this three-year initiative is to encourage local and state governments to apply the criteria specified in the Governmental Accounting Standards Board's (GASB) Special Report, Performance Reporting: Suggested Criteria for Effective Communication. To encourage a wide range of participation, approximately 30 governments will be awarded grants of about \$30,000 to assist them in preparing two annual reports on performance using some or all of the GASB Suggested Criteria. Selection began in the summer of 2003 with the aim of making all awards by December 31, 2003.

<http://www.nationalcenterforcivicinnovation.org>

States Share Terrorist Intelligence

Homeland security officials in 10 northeastern states want to establish intelligence-sharing centers that would better disseminate terrorist-related information between federal law enforcement and local police officers. <http://www.stateline.org/story.do?storyId=321075>

Governors Announce All States Have Passed First Responder Funding to Local Governments

Delaware Governor Ruth Ann Minner and Massachusetts Governor

Mitt Romney, the National Governors Association's lead governors on homeland security, announced last week that all states have spent or obligated at least 80 percent of federal funds appropriated in the FY2003 budget for first responders. [URL: <http://www.nga.org/nga/newsRoom/1,1169,C_PRESS_RELEASE%5ED_5842,00.html>](http://www.nga.org/nga/newsRoom/1,1169,C_PRESS_RELEASE%5ED_5842,00.html)

City Councils in America Grow Older, More Diverse But Remain Mostly Male

Mirroring the nation's shifting demographics, city councils have grown older and more ethnically diverse over the past two decades, but the proportion of women serving on city council (about one in three) has stayed roughly the same, according to a survey of 664 council members conducted by Jim Svava and released by the National League of Cities. [URL: <http://www.nlc.org>](http://www.nlc.org)

Office of Management and Budget Releases Bulletin

The OMB June bulletin contains information on the Census Bureau's final designations of metropolitans, micropolitans and more, as well as guidance on uses of the statistical definitions of these areas.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/bulletins/b03-04.html>

Public Performance and Management Review

seeks articles for a symposium on Intergovernmental/Intersectoral Administration Accountability and Decision Making. Papers submitted should be based on original research on issues related to vertical (federal- state-local) or horizontal (interlocal/public-nonpublic organizations) programming, contracting, or collaborative projects. Of particular interest are studies of performance and value-adding in intergovernmental programs and/or collaborative endeavors involving the public sector, as well as assessments of intergovernmental networks, partnerships, consortia, alliances, joint ventures or similar cross agency/organization ventures. **Deadline will be June 1, 2004.** Send proposal abstracts to Robert Agranoff, Professor Emeritus, SPEA, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47405 [agranoff@indiana.edu].

SIAM 2003 Stone Award Winners

Academic Award:

SIAM members recognized the ***Donald Stone Award winners*** at the ***National ASPA Conference*** this spring. The academic award was presented to Richard W. Campbell, Ph.D. Campbell retired recently as a senior associate at the Carl Vinson Institute of Government at the University of Georgia where he initiated and edited the Institute's *Public Policy Research Series*. He has played the role as teacher, researcher, consultant, and administrator during his career in academia. SIAM has benefited first hand from Campbell's expertise and skills for the past 17 years while he served as the editor for *State and Local Government Review* until 2002.



Jean and Richard Campbell

Practitioner Award:

Anthony Griffin is this year's practitioner award winner. Griffin serves as the County Executive for Fairfax, Virginia. Prior to this position, he has served the people of Virginia in a variety of capacities in Arlington and Fairfax counties, including as City Manager for Church Falls City.

re -

Griffin has repeatedly demonstrated his ability to lead and serve during the cent threats his government has been faced with over the last few years including the 9-11 Pentagon attack, the anthrax incidents in 2001 and the sniper attacks in 2002.

Left to right: Jim Svava, Anthony Griffin and Patti Stevens

Congratulations to both of this year's Donald Stone Award winners. SIAM is pleased to recognize such outstanding individuals. Nominations for the 2004 Stone Awards can be sent to Jim Svava (svava@ncsu.edu).

SIAM OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

Section Chair (2002-2004)

James H. Svava, North Carolina State University
Email: svava@social.chass.ncsu.edu

Chair-Elect (2202-2204)

Pat Atkins, George Washington Institute of Public Policy
Email: patkins@gwu.edu

Past Chair 2002-2004

Myrna Mandell, California State University, Northridge
Email: myrna.mandell@csun.edu

Secretary

JoAnn Ewalt, Eastern Kentucky University
Email: joann.ewalt@eku.edu

Treasurer

James Ward, Midwestern State University
Email: james.ward@mwsu.edu

Newsletter Editor

Kendra Stewart, Eastern Kentucky University
Email: kendra.stewart@eku.edu

Membership Chair

Tanis Salant, University of Arizona
Email: Tjs@u.arizona.edu

Board Members

2001-2004

Jocelyn Johnston, University of Kansas
Email: jocelyn@ku.edu

Tanya Hennessy

2002-2005

Anita R. Favors, City of Tallahassee
Email: favorsa@talgov.com

John Kamensky, PwC Consulting
Email: jkamensky@aol.com

John Vocino, U.S. General Accounting Office
Email: VocinoJ@gao.gov

2003-2006

William Dodge, Jr.
Email: williamdodge@aol.com

Cole Blease Graham

Email: deancbg@gwm.sc.edu

Michael A. Pagan

Email: mapagano@uic.edu

SIAM
Institute of Government
113 McCreary Hall
521 Lancaster Avenue
Eastern Kentucky University
Richmond, KY 40475-3102
www.aspasiam.homestead.com

*If you would like to contribute an article or
an idea to the SIAM newsletter, please feel
free to contact Kendra Stewart at
kendra.stewart@eku.edu.*