

# **ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT AND MIDTERM STRATEGIC PROGRAM OF THE EGPA STUDY GROUP 9 “PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND TEACHING**

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## **Activities 2006**

The Permanent Study Group on Public Administration and Teaching was established at EGPA conference 2005 in Berne. It was aimed to offer the community a platform to exchange and discuss experiences and new developments in the field of teaching public administration (including public policy and management). The PSG 9 perceives itself as continuator of the “European Public Administration Network” (EPAN) which was headed by Prof. Theo Toonen (Leiden) and which has successfully worked over several years under the umbrella of the Socrates program of the EU (Thematic networks modality).

Since 2006 the group is coordinated by Carlos Conde (Universidad de Granada, Spain) and Christoph Reichard (Potsdam University, Germany). PSG 9 met again at the EGPA conference 2006 in Milan. About 15 persons participated in the altogether 5 sessions of this meeting. The sessions dealt with the following issues (see Annex 1):

- Education for Public Administration and Management in Europe.
- Didactical Aspects of Teaching Public Administration and Management.
- Platform for Master programs on Public Administration and Management.
- Strengthening PhD education in the field of Public Administration and Management.
- Accreditation and Evaluation of Academic Programs in the field of Public Administration and Management.

The different participants in the sessions of the 2006 meeting provided interesting and important information on general issues of Public Administration education (e.g. a comparison of Public Administration education in Portugal and Spain, Europeanization of Public Administration studies in Romania) but also some practical and specific experiences (e.g. the teaching experiences of the network of European business schools in public management). Some contributions dealt with didactical issues (e.g. the case method or the learning transfer), others with issues of accreditation or with PhD programs in our field. One session was particularly interesting: the short presentation of MPA programs of several European universities. Although the attendance of participants was quite limited, we assess this meeting as successful. The last session was devoted by participants to brainstorm on the future agenda of the Study Group. As a result of this exercise and the discussions and contacts between the co-chairs and colleagues interested in the evolution of the Study Group, an enlarged set of activities is expected to be implemented in the mid-term.

## **General aim and purpose of PSG 9:**

The PSG should function as a platform of EGPA to strengthen teaching and training in the public sector and to exchange experiences about teaching contents, methods, structural and technical issues. The organizational aspects of education will be included in the agenda of the Study Group as well: curriculum development, evaluation, accreditation and related issues. The PSG will continue some of the activities of EPAN, particularly a specific interest in PhD training and relations to third countries.

The PSG will pay particular attention to the applied aspects of education and training. Academic programs and short term educational activities are progressively expected to have an immediate impact on administrative performance. This approach is especially present in capacity building programs implemented in the context of cooperation for development policies. Technical improvement and reinforcement of expertise is a main need in this field. PSG 9 will act as a platform for exchanging methodologies, cases and experiences as well as developing agendas for research.

The PSG will function as one of the scientific groups of EGPA and encourages scholars to contribute by presenting relevant research results and by participating in the academic debate of the group. Practitioners from the public sector are equally encouraged to contribute to the debate and to present problems and good practices to future meetings of the study group. Reinforcing and improving the quality of links between academia and the professional world is a main purpose for the study group. However, the PSG should be more than a mere scientific group. It should be a forum for exchanging views and experiences and to disseminate information to the academic and professional community involved in teaching and training in Public Administration, Policy and Management. The future web site of the Study Group will be designed with special focus on this dissemination aspect.

The activities of PSG 9 are linked with the actual strategic plan of EGPA (decided in Milan at 8<sup>th</sup> September 2006); see p. 7, 2.2.3. They will be narrowly coordinated with the President and the Secretariat of EGPA.

#### **Major strategic issues of PSG 9:**

- Curriculum development in the different public sector disciplines.
- New job requirements in public sector organisations and consequences for teaching and training.
- Follow-up of teaching developments regards to Bachelor and Master Programs in the light of the Bologna declaration.
- Strengthening PhD education, coordination of existing programs and activities.
- Professional training of higher civil servants.
- Didactical aspects of teaching PA (e.g. case studies, simulations games, distance learning, ICT tools, etc).
- Issues of evaluation and accreditation of public sector programs.
- Trends of Europeanization in public sector education, intensification of collaboration with partner institutions in Eastern and Southern Europe.
- Academic cooperation with third countries in the context of the European Neighbourhood policy.

#### **Next steps to further establish PSG 9:**

- Establishment of a mailing list of interested persons (search of PA, PP, PM teaching staff in the various schools and universities in Europe and beyond); contacts via existing list servers.
- Set-up of a website of the PSG.
- Establishing relations to other existing groups and associations in the field, e.g. with the PA-teaching group of Nispacee, with the pedagogical network of the International Summer school Network of MPA programs, and with US networks (e.g. with NASPAA or Academy of Management).
- Continuing the work of the PhD task force.
- Contributing to the development of the Euro Mediterranean academic network for good governance (Polibius project).

**Some ideas for the 2007 meeting in Madrid (for complete information, see call for applications in Annex 2):**

PSG 9 should offer more focused sessions with substantial topics which are attractive as well for young academics (for presenting scientific papers) as for experienced teachers (for a more open debate). We will promote the participation of interested academic officials with responsibilities in the management of academic programs (deans, directors of departments...), what will reinforce the applied and practical orientation of the Study Group. At least one or two sessions may be "Poster Sessions" to present experiences from different schools and programs in a less time consuming way. Participation of officials and professional schools will be particularly welcome in the Madrid conference. In tune with the thematic orientation of the Conference, PSG 9 will actively promote the participation of non European scholars and experts. Main themes for the conference will be:

- Coping with diversity issues in education and training (framework topic of EGPA 2007).
- Experiences with the new two-level education system of BA and MA degrees (post Bologna).
- Adjusting curricula to new requirements of tasks and positions in the public sector (e.g. new ethical challenges, eGovernment, public-private convergence etc).
- Strengthening PhD training.
- Capacity building programs.
- International transfer of practices and knowledge through education and training.

## ANNEX 1

Christoph Reichard & Carlos Conde

30.8.06

### **SCHEDULE OF PSG 9 “PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND TEACHING”**

#### **Session 1: 7<sup>th</sup> September 2006, 8.30 – 10.00: Education for Public Administration and Management in Europe**

- Introduction by Christoph Reichard (Potsdam University) – Carlos Conde (Granada University).
- Lucica Matei (National School of Political Studies and Public Administration) “Europeanisation of Higher Education in the Area of Administrative Sciences in Romania” (paper presentation).
- Joaquim Ferraz (Universidade do Minho) - José Enrique Varela (Universidade de Vigo) “Public Administration Teaching: Comparative Study of Portugal and Spain” (paper presentation).
- Renate Meyer & Gerhard Hammerstein (CEMS faculty group “Public Management and Governance”), “Public Management Teaching in the European context”.

#### **Session 2: 7<sup>th</sup> September 2006, 10.30 – 12.00: Didactical Aspects of Teaching Public Administration and Management**

- Roberta W. Walsh (Florida Gulf Coast University) “Exploring the Case Study Method as a Tool for Teaching Public Administration in a Cross-National Context: Pedagogy in Theory and Practice” (paper presentation).
- Bruno Broucker, Annie Hondeghem (Leuven University): “The Effectiveness of Educational Programmes in Public Management. Transfer of Knowledge in the Public Sector” (paper presentation).
- Peter Bogason (Roskilde University) - Marleen Brans (Leuven University) “Making Public Administration Teaching and Theory Relevant. A review of conversations among scholars and professionals”.

#### **Session 3: 7<sup>th</sup> September 2006, 13.15 – 14.45: Platform for Master programs on Public Administration and Management**

Debate and exchange of experiences between representatives of European post-graduate programs in Public Administration and Management. General topic: future requirements and job specifications for public administrators/managers. Each program will present some highlights about the basic structure and design of its curriculum in advance; some common framework to be prepared.

Participating programs:

- MPA of the Erasmus University Rotterdam (Harry Daemen) [to be confirmed]
- MPA of the Southbank University London (Chrissie Oldfield) [to be confirmed]
- MEPP of University of Leuven (Valérie Pattyn)
- MPA of the University of Bern (Reto Steiner)

- MPM of the Bocconi University Milan (Emanuele Vendramini)
- MPM and MEGA of Potsdam University (Werner Jann or Christoph Reichard)
- Executive Master in e-Governance. École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (Gianluca Misuraca) [to be confirmed]

**Session 4: 8<sup>th</sup> September 2006, 9.00 – 10.30:  
Strengthening PhD education in the field of Public Administration and Management**

Platform for debating experiences: how to improve and to systematize PhD education.

- Euro-Mediterranean Dialogue for young researchers in PA, Carlos Conde (Granada University) – Valérie Pattyn (Leuven University).
- Experiences from the Netherlands Research School, Christopher Pollitt (Erasmus University)
- Experiences from a PA/PM PhD-network in Italy, Giuseppe Grossi (Siena University).
- First experiences with a PhD network of EGPA (pre-seminar in Milan experiences; Giovanni Fattori - Christoph Reichard).

**Session 5: 8<sup>th</sup> September 2006, 11.00 – 12.30:  
Accreditation and Evaluation of Academic Programs in the field of Public Administration and Management**

- Manuela Brusoni, “Management Education in Public Administration: Lessons Learned from Experience in International Accreditation” (paper presentation).
- Some experiences with accreditation of the European Association for Public Administration Accreditation (EAPAA), Theo van der Krogt, secretary general EA-PAA)
- General debate with interested representatives of academic PA/PM programs.
- Final remarks, Christoph Reichard (Potsdam University) – Carlos Conde (Granada University).

**OUT OF PROGRAM:**

Dissemination of the GIFT-MENA PROJECT (Governance institutes forum for training), a project for the reinforcement of capacities in public administration in the MENA region, Carlos Conde (Granada University)

## ANNEX 2

### *Call for Papers* **PSG 9: Public Administration and Teaching**

**Meeting at the EGPA Conference in Madrid at INAP from 19-22 September 2007**  
**general theme: Public Administration and the Management of Diversity.**

#### **Purpose:**

The PSG 9 was initiated at the EGPA Conference in Berne 2005. This Study Group tries to continue the work of the EPAN Thematic Network Project funded by the Socrates program between 1998 and 2004. PSG9 aims to be a platform for discussing and disseminating recent trends and experiences in education and training within the public sector. In particular, the study group addresses three target groups:

- Scholars and academic officials from higher education institutions interested in sharing experiences on pedagogical approaches, academic programs and institutional mechanisms for research in the field of public administration.
- Representatives from professional schools of public administration interested in establishing links with higher education and research institutions.
- Representatives from related networks, e.g. EPAN, EGPA, NISPAcee and the European Association of Public Administration Accreditation (EAPAA). PSG9 intends to extend the collaboration with other existing platforms like EFMD and several national organizations.

The PSG wants to achieve the following objectives:

- To exchange ideas, opinions and experiences about teaching and training Public Administration/Management.
- To explore current tendencies in professional training and reflect on different approaches followed by academic and professional institutions, as well as define successful systems of cooperation between academia and the professional world.
- To create a platform for academic cooperation between institutions offering programs in Public Administration: curriculum development, exchanges, joint modules, etc.
- To reinforce doctoral programs by sharing current tendencies and connecting doctoral training with research in Public Administration on a pan European level.

At the Madrid meeting it is intended to continue the debate on the general themes of public sector education and training (see below) but also to contribute to the framework topic of the 2007 conference: diversity management. A main orientation for PSG9 in the Madrid conference will be to reflect on the role of Public Administration in the context of the cooperation policies of the European Union with the rest of the world. Cooperation in education, training and research being an important tool for administrative reform and improvement of good governance practices, PSG9 will offer a platform for discussing these issues.

#### **Possible Themes:**

Participants of the PSG are invited to present contributions regarding new trends and developments in Public Administration education and training, practical experiences and cases, as well as the assessment of observed results and effects. Special attention may be given to:

- Coping with diversity issues in education and training (framework topic of EGPA 2007).
- Experiences with the new two-level education system of BA and MA degrees (post Bologna).
- Adjusting curricula to new requirements of tasks and positions in the public sector (e.g. new ethical challenges, eGovernment, public-private convergence etc).
- Strengthening PhD training.
- Training and education in capacity building programs and cooperation policies.

- Education and training as a tool for innovation and reform in the public sector.
- Academic cooperation between Europe and third countries in the field of public administration.
- Institutional mechanisms for transfer of practices and knowledge.

**Invitation:**

Participants are invited to join the Study Group and to either present a paper (see the call for abstracts below) or to contribute to the group debates by orally presenting experiences and proposals for future strategies. It is planned to offer one or two poster sessions where participants can present their teaching concepts or new experiments with teaching methods. The poster sessions are especially suitable for the presentation of academic programs in Public Administration, Management and Policy.

**Call for Abstracts and Contributions:**

Short abstracts outlining the topic and content of the proposed paper (maximum 1-2 p.) are invited up to **May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2007** to the study group convenors and to [papers@egpa2007.com](mailto:papers@egpa2007.com). Authors with accepted paper proposals will be informed by the 10<sup>th</sup> of June, 2007. Final papers are expected by 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2007 at the latest. Papers will be made available at the website of PSG 9. Interested participants who are unable to elaborate a paper are encouraged to indicate their interest to the convenors.

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