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COMPACTHRONICLES Conference 2020 Scoop!

# COMPACTHRONICLES CAME, SAW & CONQUERED!

## 2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE REFLECTION

*Yes, our greatness as a nation has depended on individual initiative, on a belief in the free market. But it has also depended on our sense of mutual regard for each other, of mutual responsibility. The idea that everybody has a stake in the country, that we're all in it together and everybody's got a shot at opportunity. Americans know this. We know that government can't solve all our problems - and we don't want it to. But we also know that there are some things we can't do on our own. We know that there are some things we do better together.*

**BARACK OBAMA, 44th President of the United States of America**

(Speech, Aug. 7, 2006)



# PRESIDENT'S CORNER

DR. KRISTIE ROBERTS - LEWIS

Welcome to the inaugural edition of COMPA's newsletter! The newsletter is designed to highlight COMPA activities and spotlight the work of COMPA's members. COMPA is committed to "serving and assisting public administrators, students and other professionals involved in public service, while promoting excellence in the field of public administration." We are actively engaged in conference planning and invite you to join us for the 49th Annual COMPA Conference, February 26-29, 2020 in Peachtree City, GA. This year's conference theme is "2020 Vision: Refocusing, Reforming & Restoring Public Service Values and Governance." This year's theme is timely and a call to action for public service leaders to embody and exemplify the four core values espoused by ASPA; accountability and performance, professionalism, ethics and social equity in our service to the profession and to the citizenry. The 2020 conference theme highlights the courageous work of those who despite the political, social and economic climax are using their voice, their research and their efforts to positively affect and make a significant difference in their respective spheres of influence, their communities and the nation. For more information about the conference and to register, please visit our website at [www.compaspanet.org](http://www.compaspanet.org) or contact the 2020 COMPA Host Committee at [compa2020host@gmail.com](mailto:compa2020host@gmail.com).

Finally, I want to acknowledge and congratulate former COMPA President and distinguished COMPA member, Dr. Blue Wooldridge on his retirement from Virginia Commonwealth University. We echo the sentiments of VCU who noted that, "Wooldridge has been a stalwart force for equity and inclusion in every realm of his academic life — whether in the Wilder School, the university or the community as a whole." Blue has been a trailblazer in the field of equity and is a nationally recognized scholar on social equity and financial management in the field of public administration. Concomitantly, Blue has extensive service to the field of public administration, is a NAPA fellow, is the recipient of numerous awards and served on various committees to promote diversity and inclusion. Congratulations Blue on all your accomplishments and for all you have done for COMPA and to advance the field of public administration; we salute you and wish you well in your future endeavors!

# CONFERENCE REFLECTION 2019

## Baltimore



On May 5, 2019, scholars, practitioners, and practitioners from across the nation convened for an invigorating three days to advance the science and art of Public Administration. The theme that guided the presentations and discussions for this year's conference was, "A Call to Action: The Public Administration Seat at the Decision-Making Table". It served as a timely reminder for Public Administrators to be mindful about that which they are called to do; serve. Public Administrators ought to be conveyors of social justice and equity and fierce advocates for their constituents as they represent both the vivacious and the voiceless in every decision-making opportunity.

The presentations mirrored the diverse nature of the discipline and the various interests of the presenters. Attendees engaged in riveting dialogue centered on major challenges in areas such as:

- Public Budgeting & Finance
- Global Public Administration & Immigration
- Nonprofit Management & Leadership
- Higher Education Administration
- Social Equity and Justice
- Disparities (Healthcare, Housing, Education, Employment)
- Infrastructure & Urban Planning
- Citizen Participation & Engagement

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The conference culminated with the stimulating "L. Frances P. Liddell Student Policy Debate" which is in its 11th year. This policy debate afforded young professionals, undergraduate and graduate students in Public Administration, Public Policy, Public Affairs, and related programs the opportunity to present and defend positions on current public policy issues. Participants were given the opportunity to meet with Congressman Bennie Thompson (U.S. Representative for Mississippi's 2nd congressional district) at the Rayburn House Office Building in Washington, DC.





**L. FRANCES P. LIDDELL**  
STUDENT POLICY DEBATE 2019

**MAR 7**

"THE PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION SEAT AT THE DECISION MAKING TABLE"

HILTON BWI AIRPORT  
1739 W. Nursery Rd / Linthicum Heights, MD 21090

**TOPICS**

CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE / HEALTHCARE / CRIMINAL JUSTICE / IMMIGRATION / DOMESTIC POLICY / MILITARY INTERVENTION / ECONOMICS / POLITICS & ETHICS / EDUCATION / RACE RELATIONS / ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES / SOCIAL POLICY / ETHICS & MORALITY / VOTING REGULATIONS / INTERNATIONAL-FOREIGN POLICY / GUN VIOLENCE

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT  
Dr. L. Frances P. Liddell at (601) 668-2518 or by email at francesliddell@bellsouth.net

*"This was my first time attending a COMPA conference, and I am glad that I attended. I was able to network with like-minded people who looked like me. This conference challenged my way of thinking and exposed me to research that I had not heard before. I was able to meet published authors whose research I will continue to study and use for my own learning and research. I participated in the L. Frances P. Liddell Public Policy Student Debate. This was another first for me, as I have never competed in a formal debate. After much trepidation, I persevered, and I am pleased that I was a member of the winning team. I cannot wait until the next conference. I will attend that, as a Master of Public Administration graduate. I hope to have some research of my own to present, and hopefully inspire new attendees the same way I was."*

Ashley Natt | North Carolina Central University | Master of Public Administration Candidate

## A Tradition of Excellence

This year COMPA was held in conjunction with the 2019 American Society of Public Administrators (ASPA) Conference March 8-12 in neighboring Washington, DC. We are elated and want to congratulate two of COMPA's members who received prestigious awards during ASPA's conference for their exemplary and outstanding service to the field.



**Susan Gooden, Ph.D.**, interim dean and professor of public administration and policy at the L. Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs at Virginia Commonwealth University, was honored with the *Joan Fiss Bishop Leadership Award*. The award is presented by the Section on Women in Public Administration (SWPA), and celebrates Dr. Gooden's and past honorees' impact on "women's lives through the promotion of increased participation of women in the public service profession; a defined contribution to increased involvement in the public sector; and a commitment to the profession through current or past ASPA membership."

**Blue Wooldridge, D.P.A.**, professor emeritus at the L. Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs at Virginia Commonwealth University, received the Paul V. Van Riper Award for Excellence in Service. "The award honors a nationally recognized leader and innovator in the practice and teaching of personnel administration."



## A Call to Action

We all have an investment in the development of the field of public administration, and we need to hear the voices of everyone. COMPA 2020 will be held in Atlanta, GA February 26-29, 2020. If COMPA 2019 was any indication of our commitment to public service and advancement of the field, then COMPA 2020 is guaranteed to be a great event!

# CONFERENCE OF MINORITY PUBLIC ADMINISTRATORS (COMPA)



## *2020 Conference Theme*

## *2020 Vision: Refocusing, Reforming & Restoring Public Service Values and Governance*



COMPA 2020 will host a dynamic group of speakers who are making a difference in the field of public administration around the country and we look forward to meeting you there!

**February 26-29, 2020**

**Crowne Plaza Hotel Atlanta SW Peachtree City  
201 Aberdeen Parkway  
Peachtree City, GA 30269**

Early Bird Registration: \$250 Faculty/Practitioners; \$300 after January 14, 2020  
\$160 Students

Conference Hotel Rate: \$112 per night

For more information visit: [www.compaspanet.org](http://www.compaspanet.org)