CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SACRAMENTO

PPA 270:
Introduction to Collaborative Policy Making
Syllabus Version 1.0 (12 August 2012)

Fall, 2012

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Class meeting time and place:****
Tuesdays, 6-8:50, Center for Collaborative Policy (CCP), 815 S Street, first floor
Office hours: Tuesdays 5:00-6:00 at CCP, and by appointment

****NOTE**** On August 28th we will meet on campus following the PPA Pizza Party. Riverside Hall, Room 1012. http://www.csus.edu/campusmap/

OVERVIEW

This seminar is designed to explore, understand, and use the collaborative approach to policy making and governance. We will consider how this new form and practice is being used to break out of traditional “wicked” policy controversies and produce policy innovations and sometimes consensus for action. The seminar will explore the theory on which collaborative decision-making is based and examine the benefits and costs of a collaborative approach. Additionally, the course will examine various challenges to collaborative governance such as legal structures that may discourage it, the danger of cooptation, and the inattention of the mass public. The latter part of the class will focus on how to put the collaborative approach into practice.

PPA 270 is designed as the first class in a two course sequence (the other being PPA 272). Students who complete both courses with satisfactory grades will be eligible for the Collaborative Governance Certificate.

SPECIFIC LEARNING GOALS

At the end of PPA 270 it is expected that students will understand:

1. Basic theories and analysis of problems with traditional decision making methods that underlay the collaborative approach.
2. The components of the collaborative approach identified as critical by the Center for Collaborative Policy Making.
3. Common challenges that face the collaborative approach.
4. How to conduct an assessment of whether a collaborative process may or may not be appropriate.
5. The keys to effective collaboration identified by Straus.
6. The available evidence as to the gains and losses from collaboration in practice.
CONDUCT OF THE SEMINAR

This course will rely heavily on student participation. We will make regular of exercises designed to illustrate principles and give students practice in collaborative methods. Students may be asked to take the lead in facilitating class discussions. To be successful, students will need to read class materials prior to class, prepare for the exercises, and engage fully in each session.

READINGS

Two books are required and may be purchased at the Hornet Bookstore (the Mutz book can also be rented from the Bookstore). The books are as follows:


Also, you should already have, but will need for this class “Getting to Yes”.

Additionally, there are a few other readings that may be obtained as follows: 1) Center for Collaborative Policy Making materials can be downloaded from the Center’s Web site, www.csus.edu/ccp/. 2) Various other readings will be on electronic reserve at the Sacramento State library or otherwise made available in electronic form; 3) Kennedy School of Government case studies may be purchased from the case program Web site, http://www.ksgcase.harvard.edu/.

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Multiple assessment methods will be used in the course. There will be a short written assignment due the second week and a paper on interest and positional based bargaining due in the fifth week. There will also be an open book examination during the first portion of class on October 11. Additionally, there will be a major group project in which students will analyze a real world effort at collaboration. Students will identify projects to analyze and also help to establish ground rules for the group assignment. There will be an individual take-home final examination. I will also assess general class participation including exercises and class discussion.
Assignment due dates are specified in the class schedule section at the end of this syllabus.

Course grades will be determined in accordance with the following weights:

- Final exam 25%
- Midterm exam 25%
- Group project 20%
- Paper 15%
- Class participation 10%
- Short assignment on failure to collaborate 5%

MAKE-UP ASSIGNMENTS AND MISSED CLASSES

Except under unusual circumstances, late assignments will not be accepted. At my discretion, a student who misses a deadline may be given a make-up assignment. Whether or not a penalty will be assessed depends on the reason (e.g., a family emergency constitutes a good reason; a competing requirement for another course does not).

You should inform me prior to class if you must miss class on a specific day. Except under very unusual circumstances, a student who misses three classes will be penalized one entire grade (e.g., a B+ for the course will become a C+) and a student who misses more than three classes will receive a failing grade.
CLASS SCHEDULE

Part One: Collaboration Overview and Theory

AUGUST 28. START TIME 7:00 PM, SO YOU CAN GET FREE PIZZA: PPA PIZZA PARTY IN ALUMIN GROVE FROM 5:30 PM TO 7:00PM!!
ONLY TIME WE MEET ON CAMPUS: ROOM 1012, RIVERSIDE HALL (SOUTH OF GUY WEST BRIDGE)
Introduction: Collaboration & Deliberation… Not Always Well Done


SEPTEMBER 4. Why Does the Old, Non-Collaborative Approach Endure?
Assignment Due: short analysis of failure to collaborate

Read: 1) “Lead Poisoning, Part B,” Kennedy School of Government Case Study, Harvard University, C-124.0; 2) Eugene Bardach, Getting Agencies to Work Together, chapter 1

SEPTEMBER 11. The Roots and Aims of the Collaborative Approach

Read: Judith E. Innes and David E. Booher, Planning with Complexity: An Introduction to Collaborative Rationality for Public Policy “ (Routledge, 2010), chapters 1 & 2

Guest Speaker: David Booher, CCP

SEPTEMBER 18. Elements of a Collaborative Approach

Guest Lecturer: David Booher, CCP

Read: 1) DIAD model, Five Stages of Collaborative Decisions on Policy Issues, and Conditions for Authentic Dialogue (download from CCP Web site); 2) Roger Fisher, William Ury, and Bruce Patton, Getting to Yes – Negotiating Agreement without Giving In

SEPTEMBER 25: Deeper into One of the Theories Underlying the Collaborative Approach: Interest Based Negotiation

Paper Due: analysis of interest and positional bargaining

Guest Speaker: Dennis Bowker

Part Two: Challenges to Effective Collaboration

OCTOBER 2. Challenge: Open Meeting Laws

Read: 1) Lauri Diana Boxer-Macomber, “Too Much Sun? Emerging Challenges Presented by California & Federal Open Meeting Legislation to Public Policy Consensus-Building Processes” (download from CCP Web site); 2) other materials related to open meeting laws to be provided; 3) “California Welfare Reform,” Kennedy School of Government Case Study, Harvard University, 782.0

Guest Speaker: Patrick Pulupa, State Water Resources Control Board

OCTOBER 9. Challenges: Pseudo-Collaboration, Cooptation, Conflicts with Traditional Democratic Institutions, etc.

Mid-Term Exam during first part of classes


OCTOBER 16. Challenge: the Willingness of the Public to Get Involved, Part 1


OCTOBER 23. Challenge: the Willingness of the Public to Get Involved, Part 2


Guest Speaker: Kamyar Guivetchi, California Department of Water Resources

OCTOBER 30: So, What Exactly Does Collaboration Buy Us?

Guest Speaker: José C. Henríquez, El Dorado Local Agency Formation Commission

Part Three: Nuts and Bolts of Collaboration in Practice

NOVEMBER 6: Assessing Suitability for a Collaborative Process


Guest Speaker: TBD

NOVEMBER 13: Applying Straus’ Principles, Part One


NOVEMBER 20: Group Meetings

Note: We won’t have a regular class session this week but I strongly urge groups to meet on their own in preparation for group presentations at the end of the semester

NOVEMBER 27: Applying Straus’ Principles, Part Two


DECEMBER 4. Group Presentations & Course Wrap-Up

Group project papers due

Take home final examination due electronically no later than 10:00 a.m. on Friday, December 14