



### **Letter from the ASPA President**

As ASPA's 2019-2020 president, I want to congratulate the Section on International and Comparative Administration (SICA) on beginning this Occasional Paper Series.

Organizations and their leaders throughout the public policy and public administration profession are grappling with the biggest challenges of our time: infrastructure, governance, leadership and management, public finance and social equity. Each has both a local and global context, making it even more important that minds around the world engage in thoughtful dialogue to produce viable solutions that cross boundaries and translate among frameworks.

I applaud SICA for identifying and producing this Series as a contribution toward these conversations and I look forward to learning from featured authors' insights and expertise as we work to make a difference in our profession.

Already, I am encouraged to read this first folio, focusing on technology's contributions to administration; the role of NGOs in some of the most troubled—or far-flung—regions of the world; and research's power and impact on the profession.

I am personally drawn to the articles reflecting back on my Peace Corps days and close work with USAID, among other international NGOs, in shaping efforts in Namibia. These are critical comparative concerns that, when addressed, can have wide-reaching implications within and beyond the field. Equally important, they bridge the academic-practitioner dichotomy with their focus on the interplay between theory and practice, each serving as an important piece of the bigger puzzle that is public administration.

I look forward to future editions' papers and encourage experts throughout our profession to keep a close eye on the pieces that are published in this Series. What is global is local; what happens on the other side of the world will visit a region near you soon—and their solutions may be yours, as well.

I wish you the best of luck with the Series and we at ASPA are proud to help you launch this first edition!

-- Paul Danczyk, Ph.D., 2019-2020 President,  
*American Society for Public Administration.*