

**UNCG**  
UNIVERSITY  
NETWORK for  
COLLABORATIVE  
GOVERNANCE

2020 Virtual Conference

## Reimaginings:

What world do we want and how can collaborative governance help us get there?

### FRIDAY OCT 16

12noon - 3pm Eastern  
Opening Workshop  
and Opening Panel"

4pm - 6pm Eastern  
Informal Network Get  
Together

### FRIDAY OCT 23

12noon - 3pm Eastern  
Panel and Lightning  
Talks

4pm - 6pm Eastern  
Annual Membership  
Business Meeting and  
Subcommittee Updates

### FRIDAY NOV 13

12noon - 3pm Eastern  
Open Space

4pm - 6pm Eastern -  
Closing Discussions

via ZOOM (all times are Eastern)

## FRIDAY OCT 16

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### **12noon - Opening Workshop**

"Building a Relational Infrastructure of Civity for Anti-Racist Collaborative Governance"

### **1:30pm - Break**

### **1:45pm - 3pm Opening Panel**

"When Anti-Racism meets Neutrality. A University Based Center's Ongoing Transformational Journey"

### **4pm - 6pm Informal Network Get Together**

## FRIDAY OCT 23

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### **12noon - Panel**

"Building Community Resilience through Dialogue and Network Weaving"

### **1:pm - BREAK**

### **1:15pm - 3pm 6 Lightning Talks**

### **4pm - UNCG Annual Membership Business Meeting**

**4:30pm - 6pm - Subcommittee Updates**  
Teaching / Training  
Scholarship / Research  
Practice / Engagement

## FRIDAY NOV 13

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### **12noon - 3pm - Open Space**

Aspirational UNCG work for 2021

### **4pm - 6pm - Closing Discussions**

Reflections on 2020 election and what it means for our field



via ZOOM (all times are Eastern)

# FRIDAY OCT 16

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## **12noon - Opening Workshop**

"Building a Relational Infrastructure of Civity for Anti-Racist Collaborative Governance"

*Palma Strand, David Campt, Malka Kopell*

Racism, a system of advantage and disadvantage based on race, is deeply rooted in our culture and institutions – government and business, non-profit and community organizations. At the core of systemic racism lies social acceptance of racialized practices and outcomes in which people of color are exploited, marginalized, and excluded. Collaborative governance is key to developing system-based strategies and policies for dismantling systemic racism, which is structural, institutional, interpersonal, internalized, and epistemological – truly a “wicked problem.” This collaborative governance must be anti-racist, making the invisible system of racism visible and replacing it with relational infrastructure in which white people are de-centered and people of color are valued, heard, and affirmed as mattering to the society at large. This Opening Session Zoom-Meeting Workshop connects civity “we all belong” relational infrastructure with authentic anti-racism work for white people – and connects both to just and equitable collaborative governance. In this session, we will combine breakout one-on-one interactions that give participants the experience of authentic, anti-racism relationship-building with perspectives on how understanding racism as systemic makes collaborative governance more urgent than ever.

## **1:45pm - Opening Panel**

"When Anti-Racism meets Neutrality. A University Based Center's Ongoing Transformational Journey"

*Kristen Wright, Laurel Singer, Manuel Padilla, Andrea Cano*

For almost two decades, The National Policy Consensus Center (NPCC) embraced its identity as a neutral forum for advancing collaborative problem solving. Over the last four years, however, the program has worked intensely to consider what equity, social justice, and anti-racism means in the context of their work and in all aspects of its organization. This workshop will trace that journey and some of the key actions taken toward working to transform the Center’s culture. In telling our story, we will consider 1. the personal (emotional, psychological, and cultural) elements of antiracism within an organization, 2. The evaluation of organizational structures and policies that intersect with antiracism, and 3. The methods and assumptions of collaborative governance that impact equity in practice. In addition, we will explore the potential ‘transformation points’ that any organization may have to pass through in order for structural and culture change to happen towards racial justice, outlining what might be called our theory of change. As part of the story telling, this workshop will share about a partnership program in development that engages BIPOC practitioners and NPCC staff in a co-learning model. The program aspires to evaluate and adapt collaborative governance practices to be more responsive, inclusive and effective in antiracism, build relationships between practitioners, and increase diversity among the network of collaborative governance practitioners.

**via ZOOM (all times are Eastern)**

# FRIDAY OCT 23

## 12noon - Panel

### "Building Community Resilience through Dialogue and Network Weaving"

*Rick Morse, Lydian Altman, Sylvia Burgess, Christy Shi Day*

A little over a year ago, the Z. Smith Reynolds foundation funded the Eastern Carteret County collaborative, a group of community leaders and external advisors (including faculty from the UNC School of Government). The goal of the project is community capacity building to build partnerships across the many small, rural coastal communities in the regional, for the ultimate purpose of building community resiliency. The effort involves network weaving, engaging in dialogue about diversity and inclusion, and otherwise building bridges of understanding and connection that can help this region that was devastated two years ago during Hurricane Florence come together and build individual and collective resiliency. The work has had to adjust due to COVID-19 and the lifting up of racial justice issues in 2020. Our collaborative team of advisors, Morse and Altman (UNC); Forrest Toms & Sylvia Burgess (One Step at a Time Consulting); Patrick Jeffs (NC Center for Resiliency) along with local project coordinators, Barbara Garrity-Blake and Christy Shi Day feel we have learned some lessons of interest to UNCG.

## 1:00 - BREAK

## 1:15 - Lightning Talks

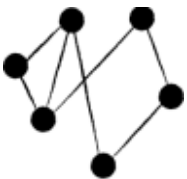
### 1:15 - Group A (followed by discussion)

- "Teaching Across Continents and Time Zones" - *Laurel Singer with colleagues from Eastern University of Finland: Dr. Lasse Peltonen, Dr. Irmeli Mustalahti, Emma Luoma*
- "Priorities for UNCG Value in Teaching and Training" - *John Stephens*
- "From public participation to consensus building in the Wyoming Teton Range"- *Jessica Western*

## 2:05 - BREAK

### 2:10 - Group B (followed by discussion)

- " Utilizing a Convening Role and Adopting New Practices to Assess Economic Impacts Connected to Idaho's Changing Climate" - *Megan Foster*
- "Community Voices for Health in Monroe County, Indiana" - *Lisa Amsler*
- "Learning from Responses to COVID-19: Improving Preparedness, Recovery, and Resilience in Washington State" - *Michael Kern*



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## **"Teaching Across Continents and Time Zones" - Laurel Singer with colleagues from Eastern University of Finland: Dr. Lasse Peltonen, Dr. Irmeli Mustalahti, Emma Luoma**

In response to the ban on travel imposed by COVID 19, a residential course hosted by Eastern University of Finland for an international cohort of students and co-taught with instructors from the National Policy Consensus Center at Portland State University went on line. Rather than the anticipated 20 students, the course attracted over 40 students working on various time lines. This lightning talk will feature the course instructors speaking to the challenges, opportunities, and lessons learned in teaching this unique course using the zoom venue.

## **"Best Use of Teaching/Training Exchange Time - Three Paths"- John Stephens**

A conversation starter with polling on three main delivery methods:

- A) "Show me the resources" - concentrate on getting written, audio and visual material online and let people find things for themselves;
- B) "Gather together in real time" - regular webinars examining practices and lessons in teaching and training. Positive: supports interaction. Negative: more time to develop and limited participation(?)
- C) "The Doctor is In" - intensive 2 to 4 person consultations with one person in the lead, but all with experience and questions/ideas on a T and T topic. Positive: deeper interaction and can target the topic/need. Negative: Limited participation, may not be recorded for later use.

## **"From public participation to consensus building in the Wyoming Teton Range" - Jessica Western**

Due to Covid-19 a public engagement process had to shift to a Zoom format. This facilitator who used to hate all things virtual, online or otherwise not done in person, got her act into gear and along the way found that technology can actually help people find consensus.

**via ZOOM (all times are Eastern)**

## **"Utilizing a Convening Role and Adopting New Practices to Assess Economic Impacts Connected to Idaho's Changing Climate" - Megan Foster**

Assessing economic impacts connected to climate change is no easy task, particularly when the foundation of that assessment is built upon collaborative engagement in a time of limited in-person contact. How does a highly collaborative process that is dependent upon in-person meetings transition to a completely online approach? That is something the University of Idaho McClure Center for Public Policy Research is figuring out. The Idaho Climate-Economy Impacts Assessment (ICEIA) is a nonpartisan, science-based resource to help Idahoans plan for a productive, prosperous, and resilient Idaho economy. Active involvement of key stakeholder groups through the entire ICEIA process is vital to the future utilization of the assessment. The McClure Center is serving in a convening role for this assessment, bringing together researchers producing the technical documents and the stakeholders. In-person and video meetings previously held for the full team afforded limited engagement, as project members are spread across Idaho and attendance was sporadic. Online platforms have allowed us to not only facilitate meetings across cross-sections of participants, but also more one-on-one and small team meetings. As participants have gained greater familiarity with online platforms, we are finding that they are more inclined to have frequent short meetings. Moreover, the ease with which these meetings are facilitated allows collaborators to quickly address urgent issues and feel more connected with, and involved in, the project. The McClure Center's convening role has fostered rapid response and modification of our practices to those that cultivate valuable and comprehensive engagement with our researchers and stakeholders.

## **"Community Voices for Health in Monroe County, Indiana"- Lisa Amsler**

A national foundation grant is allowing the Community Justice and Mediation Center (CJAM), Bloomington Health Foundation, Indiana University, Indiana Minority Health Coalition, IU Health, Accelerate Indiana Municipalities, and other core partners to develop and test a local model for more inclusive and deliberative public engagement to support new ways for community members' voices be a part of decisions about health care, social services, and public health systems. Partners working this "Community Voices for Health in Monroe County" Indiana project include mediators, facilitators, academics, lawyers, and community problem-solvers. The current pandemic is disproportionately impacting historically underserved and under-resourced populations whose voices that have not been adequately heard in our communities. Right now, in-person public engagement may be difficult or even unsafe, but there are many ways for people to communicate. Local governments are using technology like video-teleconferencing (Zoom, Skype, Go-to-Meeting, etc.), live streaming public meetings, and recording both meetings and public comment for later view. The Sunshine Act is badly out of date, passed in the 1970s and before cyberspace. A national working group recommended amending sunshine laws to authorize deliberative public participation meetings where elected officials, public employees, and community members can more easily work together and brainstorm approaches and solutions to urgent problems (Making Public Participation Legal 2013, <https://www.nationalcivicleague.org/resources/making-public-participation-legal/>). It is time to update the legal and policy framework for collaborative governance to foster the public's voice.

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## "Learning from Responses to COVID-19: Improving Preparedness, Recovery, and Resilience in Washington State" - Michael Kern

The response to COVID-19 in Washington state, while containing many successes, has also highlighted a need for improved cross-sector collaboration and collaborative governance, systems thinking approaches, and engagement of diverse interests and perspectives, to prepare for new or recurring emergencies. The magnitude and complexity of the response requires effective crisis decision-making, and adaptive management, and further innovation to address critical needs and infrastructure gaps. The state is at a key strategic point – upcoming decisions by leaders at many levels will determine the effectiveness of our on-going response to COVID-19, and the related societal impacts. It is vital for a wide cross-section of elected and appointed officials, and other leaders, to share and understand what has been and is being learned during this pandemic, and to identify innovations that can be applied to on-going decisions, policymaking, and preparedness. The Ruckelshaus Center Advisory Board, along with the Center's faculty and staff, has engaged in vigorous discussions to identify vital initiatives that are needed for Washington to thrive into the future. The Board and the staff agreed that the Center's talents, expertise, credibility, experience with related initiatives, and location at Washington's two flagship public universities could be used to improve preparedness, recovery, and resilience in Washington state by leading an effort to identify, synthesize, integrate, and apply the knowledge and experience gained during the initial response to COVID-19. Public, private, and NGO leaders agree and are at the cusp of funding a multi-phase initiative.

**via ZOOM (all times are Eastern)**