

Experience Report:

Event: The International Institute of Administrative Sciences (IIAS) and the International Association of Schools and Institutes of Administration (IASIA), 28th International Congress, Nusa Dua Bali- Indonesia,. 12-17 July 2010.

Every two years, these two organizations hold a joint conference, which this was. Both are leading, international organizations in the disciplines, attended by many key persons in the discipline. This conference brings a decidedly international perspective to public administration, and attending it is important to maintaining in touch with international concerns and issues of countries around the world, which are surely different from concerns mentioned during the annual conference of the American Society for Public Administration.

Attending this conference was especially for me:

1. Per the attached invitation, I participated in the session on “Public Administration in Asia.”
2. IASIA with the UN is beginning to launch a new effort to accredit Public Administration programs in the world. This is a bit similar to the US NASPAA effort, which I know well. International accreditation will be necessary for NCCU to consider in order to ensure its international reputation
3. Many attendees spoke of new concerns in the area of public administration effectiveness that concern improved interfaces with elected and political appointees, as is also my interests. However, I received new information on dynamics concerning developing countries that both reinforce and further certain knowledge that existed.
4. While at this conference, I was able to meet Mr. Ginandjar Kartasasmita, advisor to the President of Indonesia. Based on this, I will likely go to Jakarta for interviews in connection with the newly received funding from Taiwan NSC for a project. He obviously has excellent connections to top level appointees who are needed for interviewing in this project.
5. I was able to meet and discuss with Paul Collins, Editor-in-Chief of Public Administration & Development (an SSCI-journal), the possibility of developing a symposium for us. This would provide good opportunities for scholars at NCCU.
6. I interviewed Sudiman D. Martowirejo (Director of the Senior Administration Staff College) on the topic of discretion and relations with appointees. Chung-yuang Jan, and Chun-yuan Wang, both from Taiwan, also attended. The interview lasted about 1:30 hours and was extremely helpful
7. I discussed future research cooperation with Soonhee Kim, Associate Professor of Public Administration in Syracuse University (Maxwell School), the pre-eminent program of the discipline.
8. I met Professor Masahiro Horie of GRIPS, Japan. We will likely be going to Japan for interviews and he has very valuable connections for us.
9. I also made new connections with Vietnam, Turkey, India and Pakistan which relevant to future cooperation.
10. I met with Masao Kikuchi and Jae Moon, who were recently in Taipei in connection with our major ROPPA SSCI-journal symposium,. This enabled us to continue to make progress on this key research effort.

In short, attending this conference was extremely beneficial.