



Public Policy & International Affairs
Program

Pipeline & Partnerships Summit

PPIA x NASPAA Convening for Graduate Public Service Programs



Why This Summit Matters

For the first time, **PPIA and NASPAA are collaborating to bring Consortium schools together for a dedicated national gathering** focused on strengthening the graduate pipeline, deepening cross-school collaboration, and elevating shared strategies for recruiting and developing future public service leaders.



Elevates the Consortium Experience

Connects member schools to a national, high-profile partnership summit, reinforcing the collective strength of the Consortium.



Strengthens Recruitment & Pipeline Strategy

Provides actionable insights, trends, and tools to attract, engage, and support top undergraduate talent across all pathways.



Deepens Cross-School Partnerships

Builds stronger partnerships and peer networks among Consortium institutions, fostering alignment on best practices and shared challenges.



Shows Collective Leadership

Demonstrates the Consortium's unified commitment to leading the future of public service education, with PPIA and NASPAA as joint conveners.



Creates A Signature Annual Gathering

Establishes a defining, high-visibility moment for schools to come together around shared goals, innovations, and strategic priorities.



Mobilizes Engagement Across the Ecosystem

Brings together schools, alumni, practitioners, and partners to strengthen the graduate education pipeline and build long-term momentum.

A Name That Reflects The Value PPIA Seeks To Build

Where Consortium schools connect, learn, and advance the future of public service leadership together.

Deepens collaboration across Consortium institutions

- Builds stronger relationships and shared approaches to recruitment and student success.
 - Unites schools around collective goals for the public service talent pipeline.
-

Pipeline & Partners Summit

Strengthens the pathway to graduate public service education

- Aligns schools around a shared strategy for cultivating future public service leaders.
- Reinforces the undergraduate-to-graduate continuum that fuels the field.

Signals Elevation & Importance

- Gathering of significance
- Moment of elevation
- Convergence of people with shared purpose
- Space for high-level dialogue and connection

A Pipeline & Partnership Arc for the Summit

Each Summit session is intentionally sequenced to move Consortium schools from understanding the pipeline to strengthening strategy, and from shared insight to partnership-driven action.

The **Pipeline & Partnership Arc** captures the progression of insight and action needed to advance the graduate public-service pipeline.



Friday

Student Agenda: Summit Journey At A Glance

Leadership Arc Focus: **Who I Am** → **Who We Are Together**

	Friday Registration	Friday Session	Friday Break	Friday Evening Reception
Time	730 – 800 AM	2 - 430 PM (Break 315 – 330 PM)	315 – 330 PM	6 - 8 PM
Leadership Arc	-	Who I am		Who We Are Together
Themes	-	National trends • Shared language • Common understanding		Celebration of Journeys • Connection • Shared Purpose
Session		<p>Welcome + “State of the Graduate Public-Service Pipeline” Joint Keynote</p> <p>This keynote presents national trends, challenges, and opportunities across the graduate public-service pipeline. It establishes shared context to guide the day’s discussions.</p>	Short re-charge	<p>Evening Reception & Networking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome by PPIA Executive Director A relaxed, hosted gathering designed to bring Harvard, Michigan and Princeton cohorts into one shared community Activities may include light facilitation, cross-cohort mixers, interactive storytelling, and a Shared Purpose Wall
Outcomes	-	<p>Builds connection across cohorts</p> <p>Strengthens trust</p> <p>Surfaces policy journeys</p> <p>Sets the foundation for Friday</p>		<p>Creates a unified community</p> <p>Builds trust across cohorts</p> <p>Fosters shared purpose</p> <p>Encourages natural conversation</p>

Student Agenda: Summit Journey At A Glance

Leadership Arc Focus: **Call To Lead** → **Why I Lead**

	Friday Breakfast	Friday Keynote Speaker	Friday Session
Time	7 – 755 AM	8 – 9 AM	9 – 1015 AM
Leadership Arc		Call To Lead	Why I Lead
Themes		Vision • Public Impact • Responsibility	Purpose • Calling • Direction
Possible Session Topics	Grab & Go or buffet-style breakfast Optional conversation cards Music + welcoming slideshow Arrival check-in	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A Vision for the Next Generation of Public Leaders The landscape of public service and how rising leaders can shape it.• Why Public Leadership Matters Now More Than Ever The societal challenges demanding new voices, approaches, and courage.• Turning Personal Purpose Into Public Impact How lived experiences, values, and motivations influence leadership.• Lessons From a Life in Public Service Key decisions, turning points, and wisdom from the keynote speaker's journey.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finding Your Purpose in Public Service: Students define what drives them and why this work matters• Leadership Journeys: Lessons from Practitioners: Panel + reflection on what leadership looks like at different career stages• What Kind of Leader Do I Want to Be? Guided articulation of values, voice, and desired impact
Outcomes		Inspires vision Elevates leadership responsibility Highlights pathways Affirms each voice Motivates engagement	Clarifies motivation Surfaces key issues Reveals leadership pathways Shapes a leadership vision

Student Agenda: Summit Journey At A Glance

Leadership Arc Focus: **How Leadership Works**

	Friday Break	Friday Session	Friday Break	Friday Lunch
Time	1015 - 1030 AM	1030 – 1145 AM	1145 – 12 PM	12 – 1 PM
Leadership Arc	How Leadership Works			
Themes		Decision-Making • Collaboration • Communication		Informal Connection • Cross-cohort Conversation • Peer Support
Possible Topics	Coffee Stretch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership Practice Lab: Students work in teams to solve a scenario with imperfect information • The Art of the Short Brief: Students learn to communicate crisply and compellingly • Strategic Collaboration: An exercise on building coalitions and navigating differing viewpoints 	Transition time to Lunch	Key moment for networking + informal reflection. Reflection cards Why does public service matter to me? Discussion with alumni guests
Outcomes		Builds real-world judgment Strengthens collaboration Sharpens communication Boosts confidence in complexity		Builds informal connections Sustains energy between sessions Reinforces learning Supports cross-cohort reflection

Student Agenda: Summit Journey At A Glance

Leadership Arc Focus: **Preparing For Opportunity** → **Where I'm Going**

	Friday Session	Friday Break	Friday Expo
Time	1 – 230 PM		3 – 5 PM
Leadership Arc	Preparing For Opportunity		Where I'm Going
Themes	Readiness • Confidence • Story Strength		Graduate Schools • Employers • Internships • Networking
Possible Topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understanding Graduate Program Pathways: How public service degrees align with different public service goals• Crafting a Professional Intro: Students refine a concise introduction that communicates their strengths and aspirations• Turning Your JSI Experience Into a Career Narrative: How to translate academic work into language employers and graduate programs understand	<p>Participants prepare for the Exposition</p> <p>Transition time</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Expo: Pathways to Graduate Education, Internships, and Public Service Careers: This is the capstone experience
Outcomes	<p>Understands degree-to-career pathways</p> <p>Builds professional presence</p> <p>Tells a strong professional story</p> <p>Navigates the Expo with confidence</p>		<p>Connects participants to schools and employers</p> <p>Opens access to real opportunities</p> <p>Strengthens professional networks</p> <p>Expands understanding of career pathways</p>

Washington DC: Lower Net Deficit, Higher Value

While Washington DC still operates at a loss, it avoids the additional ~\$27K deficit PPIA would incur at a JSI host site (see appendix for details). PPIA covers full costs of Summit, including air and hotel.

000s (thousands)	Revenue	Expense	Net Revenue
Washington DC	\$ 87.25	\$ 116.90	(\$ 29.65)
JSI host site	\$ 27.38	\$ 84.25	(\$ 56.87)
Impact relative to DC	\$ 59.87	(\$ 32.65)	(\$ 27.22)

Why DC Makes Financial Sense

- **Generates 3x the revenue (DC: \$87K vs. JSI: \$27K)**
- Higher school participation since Consortium school partners are already in DC for NASPAA Conference
- Easier for employers & alumni to attend
- Higher sponsor visibility at the Expo

Why JSI Host Sites Increase Cost

- **Adds an extra \$27K in costs** compared to Washington DC
- Fewer schools = lower value
- Harder for partners to justify separate travel
- Reduced student visibility

Recommended Actions

Confirm Support For PPIA Hosting The Summit In Washington DC

Because DC reduces the net deficit, increases participation, aligns with NASPAA, and delivers higher value

Provide Feedback on Proposed Programming Themes

Help shape a shared Summit experience that reflects JS priorities

Elevate Employer & Alumni Outreach Through Your School's Networks

Your engagement boosts career exposure and amplifies student opportunity

Appendix: Detailed Overview

000s (thousands)	Registration	Sponsor	Revenue	Air	Transport	Hotel	Food	Rooms / Audio	Logistics	Expense	Net Revenue
Washington DC	\$ 68.75	\$ 18.50	\$ 87.25 ¹	\$ 44.17	\$ 10.98	\$ 25.3	\$ 10.41	\$ 13.89	\$ 12.16	\$ 116.90	(\$ 29.65)
JSI Host Site ²	\$ 23.38	\$ 4.00	\$ 27.38	\$34.49	\$10.98	\$ 25.3	\$ 12.27	\$ 6.38	\$ 7.04	\$ 84.25	(\$ 56.87)
Impact relative to DC ³	\$ 45.37	\$ 14.50	\$ 59.87	(\$ 9.68)	0	0	\$ 1.86	(\$ 5.12)	(\$ 7.51)	(\$ 32.65)	(\$ 27.22)

1. Washington DC generates 3X revenue than a JSI Host Site

2. JSI host sites provide 2.5 days of programming and two nights of lodging, with nightly rates at approximately 50% of Washington, DC hotel costs.

3. These figures show the financial difference relative to hosting in Washington, DC. For example, choosing **DC would generate \$59,870 more in revenue, while hosting at a JSI location would add \$32,650 in additional expenses.** However, the stronger revenue performance in DC more than offsets the higher costs.