



ASSOCIATION FOR  
PUBLIC POLICY ANALYSIS  
& MANAGEMENT

# Annual Report 2016



APPAM debuted its Annual Report in 2014. While the feedback was positive, we tweaked it somewhat in 2015. We are continuing that process in 2016 and are striving for the perfect, concise snapshot of what APPAM was up to in the last year.

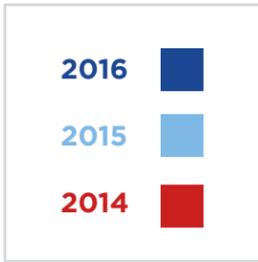
Ensuring the membership is fully informed of the Association's work, providing the membership with a better understanding of the progress APPAM is making towards its strategic goals and providing a report card on the condition of APPAM's health and strength are still the goals of this annual report. We will continue to be as transparent and forthcoming as possible as we work to make APPAM stronger and better, each and every year.



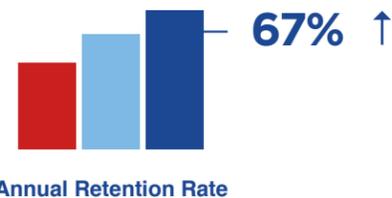
# Critical Indicators: 2014 - 2016

The APPAM leadership assesses the health of the organization by analyzing a number of factors: membership numbers, budget surpluses or deficits, JPAM performance statistics and Fall Conference statistics, among others. These measures help assess the performance of the organization, in a timely fashion and in an easily accessible format. The Critical Indicators in this report include the last 3 years of figures, for comparison. Revenue growth in 2016 was significant at 13%, the largest annual growth recorded in APPAM's history. The Fall Conference continues to fuel this growth.

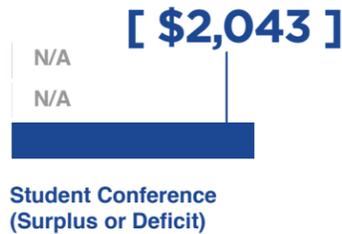
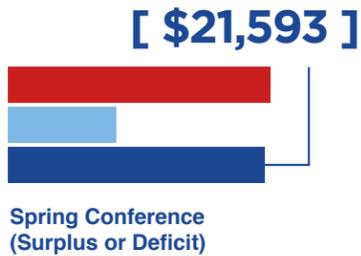
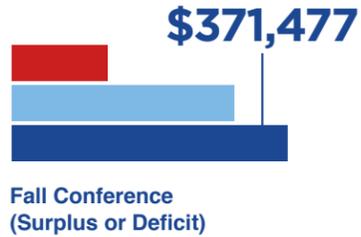
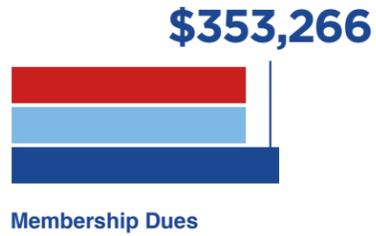
The Student Conference was added to the Critical Indicators report in 2016.



## Membership



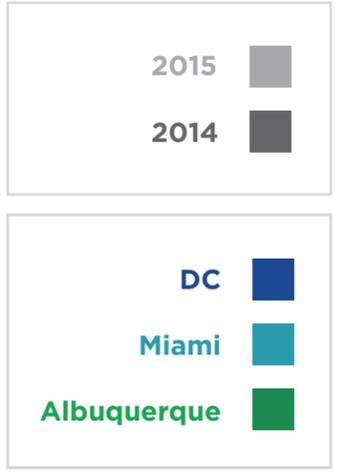
## Surplus/Deficit



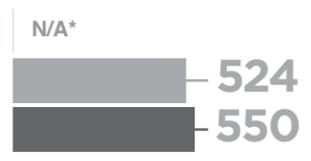
Assets (includes investment accounts only, not cash)



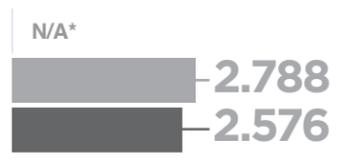
# Critical Indicators: 2014 - 2016 (continued)



## JPAM



Number of Submissions



Impact Factor

\* 2016 not available yet

## Fall Conference



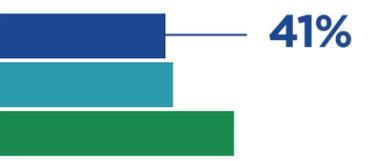
Number of Submissions



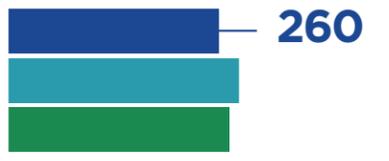
Submission Growth



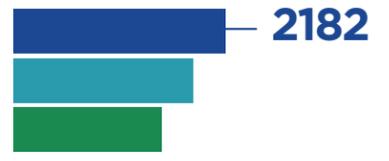
Number of Accepted Submissions



Acceptance Rate



Number of Sessions



Number of Registrants



Number Policy Areas



## Strategic Plan: 2016 – 2020

APPAM revisited its initial strategic plan in 2015, reviewed it and suggested some new goals and objectives to help guide the next 5 years of the association's work.

2016 was a year APPAM made full use of its committees and they accomplished a number of key objectives from the APPAM Strategic Plan.

To help build engagement among APPAM members and identify future leaders, APPAM invited non-Policy Council members to serve on committees. In 2016, there were 14 non-Board member volunteers serving on committees.



Review the full strategic plan and the Strategic Scorecard for 2016 [here](#).



For the full committee list and their associated tasks, click [here](#).

## Major Achievements for 2016

The APPAM leadership and staff have devoted significant time and energy to a range of activities. Here is a brief description of some of the major achievements.

### Regional Student Conference



**182**

Registrants attended

**25**

Panels

**80**

Papers/Projects Presented

**15%**

of the papers/projects were from Master's Level students

**85%**

of the papers/projects were from PhD Level students

**30**

schools across the country were represented at the conference

**65%**

of the papers on the conference agenda were from sponsoring schools

**35%**

of the papers on the conference agenda were from non-sponsoring schools

APPAM held its first ever student only conference in April at the Arlington, VA campus of APPAM Institutional Member school George Mason University. The conference was sponsored by 9 DC area schools, including: American University, College of William and Mary, George Mason University, Georgetown University, George Washington University, University of Maryland, College Park, University of Virginia, Virginia Commonwealth University, and Virginia Tech University. Masters and PhD level students presented their work on panels, with academic staff acting as chairs and discussants. There was a lunch plenary where attendees heard from a panel of policy professionals who discussed their career paths and students and academic professionals networked at a reception that wrapped up the first day.

## Major Achievements for 2016 (continued)

### International Conference



APPAM held its first international conference in June under the new model of APPAM planning the conference with an APPAM Institutional Member partner. The International Conference, *Inequalities: Addressing the Growing Challenge for Policymakers Worldwide* attracted 285 attendees to the London School of Economics. More info [here](#).

#### Overall

**66**  
Total sessions presented

**65**  
Panels

**1**  
Rountable

**3**  
Plenaries

**17**  
posters

**2**  
Exhibitors

#### Submissions

**358**  
submissions

**14**  
policy areas

**23**  
panels

**2**  
roundtables

**28**  
papers

**14**  
posters

**72%**  
acceptance rate

#### Attendees

**285**  
attendees

**55%**  
from the U.S.

**34%**  
from Europe

**11%**  
From other locations

**40%**  
members

**38%**  
non-members

**22%**  
students

Attendance at panels was unusually strong

### Equity and Inclusion Fellowships

APPAM created the Equity and Inclusion Fellowship to support the travel to the Fall Conference of students under-represented in public policy.

**87**

students applied for the fellowship

**25**

fellowships were awarded

The 25 students received a stipend for \$599, two nights lodging at the conference hotel and registration for the conference. The fellowship winners were recognized at a breakfast during the conference and all wore special ribbons on their nametags for the duration of the conference.



### Student Activities

Student activities were ramped up considerably in 2016. The Ask the Policy Experts Roundtable sessions were featured at the 2016 Spring and Fall Conferences and provided an opportunity for students to meet with experienced professionals who offered advice, discussed research projects and talked about their career paths. More formal Speed Mentoring, where **10** policy professionals were paired with **10** policy students for a **10**-minute mentoring sessions, followed.

Our Student Activities Committee (SAC) then helped created a formal Mentor Matching program, unveiled at the Fall Conference. **35** mentors were matched with students for hour-long, one-on-one mentoring sessions. The feedback was very positive, both for the students and mentors. A student lounge was also created at the Fall Conference, which offered a place for mentors and students to meet. We will increase the number of students for the Mentor Matching Program to **50** in 2017.

### Fall Conference Growth

The annual Fall Research Conference in DC had the biggest attendance to date, with 2,182 attendees. It was also the most profitable in APPAM's history, producing a \$371K surplus. The theme of the conference was *The Role of Research in Making Government More Effective* and the chair of the program was Carolyn Heinrich, Vanderbilt University.

**2,182** ↑

Registrants

**371K** ↑

Surplus

### Revenue Growth

2016 was a year of great growth in revenue for APPAM. Revenue grew by 13%, compared to 9% in 2015 and 4% in 2014.

**13%** ↑

2016

**9%**

2015

**4%**

2014

### Institutional Member Forums

APPAM partnered with two institutional members in 2016 for institutional member forums. In February, Abt Associates and APPAM co-sponsored a forum entitled, Rethinking US Food Policy. More information can be found [here](#). APPAM then partnered with MDRC in December for a forum on behavioral economics, *The Future of Applying Behavioral Science to Social Policy*. More information on this forum can be found [here](#).

### New Office, Increase in Staff

APPAM moved into a new office, across the street from its old office. The old office was shared with NASPAA and APPAM had outgrown the space. In addition to a new office, the full-time staff has increased from four to five.





## New in 2017

APPAM is already gearing up for a busy 2017. Here are a few things we are especially excited about.



### Regional Student Conference

Because of the great success of the Regional Student Conference in DC in 2016, we will have another in 2017 in DC. We will also add a CA Regional Student Conference for students on the west coast.



### Webinars

One of the key objectives of the strategic plan is to make more APPAM content available digitally. To accomplish this, webinars will be offered quarterly, on issues of importance to the APPAM membership. The first webinar focused on putting together a quality submission for the Fall Conference *Getting Accepted*. Click [here](#) for an archive of the webinar.



### Institutional Member Forums

The first Institutional Member Forum of the year will focus on state policy issues and will be held at Duke University. It is *Bridging Research and Policy: What Universities Can and Should Do* and more information can be found [here](#).



### The Data Committee

The Data Committee, a committee comprised of Policy Council members, was resurrected for 2017 (it was disbanded in 2015) and will review the statement our membership approved on open data access and create a plan for supporting this statement through affiliations, advocacy and any other means the committee feels will further the mission. The statement is below:

“

We ask our colleagues in federal, state and local governments to facilitate open access to administrative data, with appropriate protections for confidentiality, but also support for linking across datasets. We ask them to ensure that researchers have timely access to the data necessary to support research that produces benefits for the government agencies and the public. Without access to timely data, research can be compromised, contributing to inferior analysis and public policies that fail to meet the public interest.

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