



**American Society for  
Public Administration** *Advancing excellence in public service*

[Home](#) » [About ASPA](#) » ASPA History

Since 1939, ASPA has been the nation's most respected society representing all forums in the public service arena. It is an advocate for greater effectiveness in government, agents of goodwill and professionalism, publishers of democratic journalism at its very best, purveyors of progressive theory and practice and providers of global citizenship. ASPA leaders believe that by embracing new ideas, addressing key public service issues and promoting change at the local, federal and international levels, the society can enhance the quality of lives worldwide.

ASPA is the largest and most prominent broadly based professional association in American public administration. It has a diverse membership of approximately 8,000 practitioners, academicians and students. ASPA serves as the principal arena for linking theory and practice within the field of public administration.

In 2014, ASPA celebrated its 75th anniversary as the premier organization representing public administration professionals and scholars. [Click here for more information about that celebration.](#)

You can view the full list of people who have served as [President of ASPA here.](#)