

Building Strong
Communities
Through
Collaborative
Governance



NPCC's **Oregon's Kitchen Table** is one of four finalists for the *Innovations in Public Engagement in Government Award* from the Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation at the John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University.

The National Policy Consensus Center Is Hiring a Director

Work with Us

The National Policy Consensus Center (NPCC) is part of the Hatfield School of Government at Portland State University. NPCC's new Director will have primary responsibility for leading, managing, and providing direction and overall administration for the programs, activities, and professional services undertaken and provided by the Center. The Director will supervise and lead Center staff to achieve success and foster a culture of creativity and high-level performance at the individual and organizational level. The Director will inherit a strong and stable management team and professional staff that bring years of experience to support NPCC activities.

The Center's yearly budget is approximately \$3.0 million, with about half coming from State of Oregon General Funds and the remainder coming from fee-for-service contracts, mostly with federal, state, and local government agencies, and some private foundation/government grants. The Center has 14 full-time staff positions and 8 part-time staff. The budget has been stable for the last few years and is expected to be stable into the future.

Our Work

NPCC is an applied research and development center specializing in collaborative and democratic governance. It serves the state of Oregon and also serves as a national lab to develop and implement best practices. NPCC is working to fully develop a robust spectrum of collaborative governance activities to improve governance and outcomes for communities and their leaders.

Our Work (Continued)

The Center houses and partners with a number of programs and projects including the following:

Oregon Solutions. While members of a community may agree about the need or opportunity for a desired project, they may be uncertain about how to align or leverage resources in order to move from concept to implementation. Oregon Solutions provides a system for aligning public, private, and nonprofit sector resources to make community solutions a reality.

Oregon Consensus. Solving Oregon's problems requires collaboration. Oregon Consensus (OC) resolves differences by uniting communities, government, and businesses to find new approaches to public issues. OC designs and facilitates neutral, transparent dispute resolution processes that foster balanced participation and durable agreements.

Oregon's Kitchen Table. This statewide program is a permanent online platform that sets the table for all Oregonians to weigh in on our most urgent public issues, as well as participate in civic crowdfunding and Oregonian-to-Oregonian micro-lending.

Research and Development Program. This initiative works with all NPCC programs to test new applications for collaborative governance approaches and techniques. The current focus is on cross-sector approaches to addressing poverty in Oregon.

Academic Programs. NPCC is in the process of planning a Graduate Certificate in Collaborative Governance in partnership with Portland State University's Division of Public Administration. Classes will begin in the fall of 2015. A continuing education certificate program is also planned. NPCC also has an active internship program.

Oregon Regional Solutions Program. NPCC is a partner in the Regional Solutions program, which focuses on solving problems and seizing opportunities for locally-identified projects that require integration of state agency work and funding. Representatives from five state agencies are co-located in Regional Solutions Centers across the state in six universities and community colleges.



Learn More about NPCC's Programs, and Local, Statewide, and National Projects

Each year, NPCC works on dozens of projects related to collaborative governance, conflict resolution, and implementation of community sustainability projects. Topics include economic development, education, health care, natural resources, and more. For information about our accomplishments and current projects, visit the following websites:

- Oregon Solutions
www.orsolutions.org
- Oregon Consensus
www.oregonconsensus.org
- Oregon's Kitchen Table
www.oregonskitchentable.org
- Research and Development Program in Partnership with Kitchen Table Democracy
Contact Beverly Stein beverlystein@pdx.edu
- Conflict Resolution Internship Program
www.pdx.edu/npcc/internships
- Graduate Certificate in Collaborative Governance (*under development*)
Contact Mari Saint-Pierre msaint2@pdx.edu
- Oregon Regional Solutions Program
www.oregon.gov/gov/admin/regional-solutions/Pages/default.aspx



The Ideal Candidate

NPCC is looking for an effective leader and experienced administrator with a track record of fostering collaboration on public issues. The ideal candidate will be approachable, creative, and flexible, with a reputation for integrity.

We are looking for an individual who communicates openly and encourages a team-management approach. NPCC will also benefit from a Director who promotes diversity in hiring and brings an equity focus to the Center's collaborative projects.

Competitive candidates will be able to demonstrate a successful record of building partnerships and collaborations with a wide variety of communities and constituencies. Because we serve the entire state, the ideal candidate should be familiar with urban and rural issues and their interdependency.

A strong candidate could come from a government agency, a nonprofit organization, or a university setting. We have a strong preference for a candidate with a history of tackling big projects with positive results—someone who has a record of getting things done. We seek a person who is viewed as politically impartial or neutral by the variety of groups we work with, while at the same time has a wide net of connections, especially in the State of Oregon. The successful candidate should also have experience working within a university atmosphere.

NPCC has a national reputation in the practice of collaborative governance. It is required that candidates will have demonstrated knowledge and experience in one or more collaborative governance approaches, including public engagement, project implementation, dispute resolution and agreement-seeking, intergovernmental collaboration, and policy development.

Since half of the Center's budget comes from fee-for-service contracts, the successful candidate will need to have an entrepreneurial mind-set, good marketing skills, and be effective at telling the Center's story.

Qualifications

Candidates should have at least seven years of progressively responsible experience in leading and managing an organization similar to NPCC. A Bachelor's degree in public policy, public administration, political science, dispute resolution, or a related field is required, and an advanced degree is strongly preferred, as is an advanced degree in law. A Ph.D. is not required. The Director's job entails considerable travel, primarily within Oregon. The selected candidate must successfully complete a background check and must have a valid driver's license.

Compensation and Benefits

The starting annual salary rate for this position will be \$110,000–\$117,000 annually depending on qualifications and experience. PSU provides an excellent benefits package, including 95% premium paid healthcare, a generous retirement and vacation package, and reduced Oregon University System tuition for an employee, spouse, domestic partner, or dependent.

How to Apply

For immediate consideration, please apply at <https://jobs.hrc.pdx.edu/postings/search> by July 6, 2015. Included with your resume should be a cover letter expressing how your interest and accomplishments align with the needs of NPCC, along with at least three work-related references. This recruitment is open until the position is filled.

Portland State University

NPCC is located within Portland State University, the College of Urban and Public Affairs (CUPA), and the Hatfield School of Government. Portland State University is Oregon's urban research university recognized for excellence in sustainability and community engagement, and is located in the heart of downtown Portland. The campus motto is "Let Knowledge Serve the City." Portland State offers more than 200 degrees with opportunities to work with businesses, schools and organizations on real-world projects and enrolls nearly 28,000 students from every state in the nation and more than 90 foreign countries. PSU provides comprehensive undergraduate education as well as professional education to thousands of Oregonians who want to update their skills or change careers, and applies research to problems of interest to the city, region, and global society.

Within CUPA are three schools: Government; Urban Planning and Public Affairs; and Community Health. While degree programs, faculty members and research institutions are associated with individual schools, all work together for a multidisciplinary and customizable education that allows students to tailor their learning to their passions.

The Hatfield School offers real-world application of studies only steps away from the classroom. Students actively engage in a variety of hands-on public service projects throughout Oregon, the nation, and the world. It has gained national prestige as one of the top 50 Public Affairs graduate programs in the nation, according to the 2012 U.S. News and World Report rankings. Whether starting or advancing a career in public service, the Hatfield School has undergraduate, graduate, PhD, certificate and continuing education programs that allow students the flexibility to tailor their education to pursue their passions.

The School is home to PSU's Criminology & Criminal Justice, Political Science and Public Administration divisions. Although the programs are distinct, their shared location affords students the opportunity for collaborative multi-disciplinary study.



NPCC Priorities and Opportunities

NPCC staff recently engaged in a strategic visioning process. Our focus for the next few years is:

- **Service Excellence.** We will continue to excel at delivering collaborative governance projects and continue our growth pattern. The Center is nationally recognized as the model for implementing the full spectrum of collaborative governance.
- **Civic Engagement.** We have expanded our civic engagement efforts, including public consultation, crowdfunding, and micro-lending, and intend to continue to develop these areas.
- **Educational Impact.** We aim to develop a Graduate Certificate in Collaborative Governance that is highly successful and recognized as a national model.
- **Culture Shift.** The Center's goal is to see applied collaborative governance reach a tipping point which changes the culture of decision-making in the state.
- **Expanded Reach.** We strive to tackle issues of statewide and national significance.
- **Equity.** We aim to successfully address equity issues in our approach to projects.