



NATIONAL ACADEMY OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

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THE COLLABORATION PROJECT: Working Together to Drive Innovation in Government

The daunting challenges that face the nation in the 21st century establish the need for the transformation of government and demand fundamental changes in how federal agencies should meet these challenges.

-- *David M. Walker, Comptroller General & Fellow of the National Academy*

We at the National Academy are convinced that collaborative technology has the potential to transform government in America, to tap into the expertise of people outside the hierarchy of any single agency or department, to make government more transparent, and to open the door to a broader array of experts focused on solving a particular problem or to citizens who want to contribute to making government work better.

-- *Jennifer Dorn, President & CEO, National Academy of Public Administration*

The Promise of Collaboration

The challenges facing government today are unprecedented. What's more, the risks associated with mission failure have never been higher. Yet as public administrators, we've tended to do things in much the same way as we've always done, hoping that through hard work and sheer determination, we will see a different result. But there is also a need for vision.

In the case of technology, that vision lies in the unique convergence right now between the need to do the work of government in a fundamentally different way and our ability to make that happen through collaboration tools that have only recently emerged. But in order to use these tools to effectively drive change, we must get smarter collectively.

The Collaboration Project

That's why we're launching The Collaboration Project, an independent forum of government leaders committed to leveraging collaborative technology to solve complex problems. With the support of dedicated staff and access to the National Academy's distinguished Fellows, subject matter experts, and leadership, the Collaboration Project will convene members in person and via the Project's virtual collaboration space to share best practices, lighthouse cases, white papers and leadership tools for implementation.

Right now is the proving ground for web 2.0 in government, and it is vitally important during this incubation period that we get it right. The National Academy has a long history of looking across government to identify key issues and trends while working with leaders to help navigate and operationalize change. We are convinced that collaborative technology has the potential to transform government in this country, and our goal is to jumpstart the adoption of this big idea into a somewhat alien culture. The benefits will redefine what's possible in government.

The Collaboration Project: A Community of Innovators

We are currently seeking founding members with inspiration, vision and commitment to join us in moving this important initiative forward. For more information, please contact:

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