2025 Portland State University Center for Public Service 2026 Annual Report

Who We Are

Housed within the College of Urban and Public Affairs' Mark O. Hatfield School of Government, the **Center for Public Service (CPS)** is known for its "pracademic" approach, which blends academic research and applied experience. CPS builds the capacity of local government leaders and organizations while also creating opportunities for graduate students to gain real-world experience.

The faculty, students, staff, and community partners affiliated with CPS share a common mission: to synthesize the Hatfield School of Government's teaching, research, and practical knowledge to build leadership capacity and improve the effectiveness of public service professionals and organizations. Three general types of activity comprise these efforts:

- Training, education, and other talent-building programs, often co-produced and custom-tailored for the specific needs of the public service professionals and organizations whom we serve.
- Applied research and consulting services that help leaders and citizens better understand and solve key social challenges through leadership and innovation.
- Academically-grounded, practice-centered knowledge created through research, real-world application, and publication.

CPS is home to the following named institutes and units:

- **The Institute for Tribal Government** (ITG) serves elected tribal governments and also provides training to local, state, and federal government agencies and others who are interested in learning about tribal government.
- **Community Environmental Services** (CES) draws on 30 years of experience with waste management, using cutting-edge research and best practices to help organizations reduce, reuse, recycle, and rethink waste.
- **The Nonprofit Institute** (NPI) supports the Oregon nonprofit sector so that it can fulfill its promise of bringing people together to build a more just, inclusive, and sustainable society.
- **The Elections & Voting Information Center** (EVIC) is a non-partisan academic research center whose research leads are co-located at Portland State University and Reed College in Portland, Oregon. EVIC searches for common sense, non-partisan solutions to identified problems in election administration backed by solid empirical evidence.



(Front row, L-R): Yachi Iisako, Jenesy Gabrielle Burkett Fox, Rica Perez, Meghan Reints, Erica Fulton, Dan Bihn, Ayush Pawar; Second row: Chelle Parks, Meaghan Lingo, Masami Nishishiba, Ciara McGlynn, Margaret Banyan, Rebecca Hawk; Back row: Elizabeth Gaar, Jennifer Allen, Beth Gilden, Paul Manson, Brandon Kurtz, Sara Saltzberg, Rick Williams, Mike Gleason, Peter Chaillé

Mission, Vision, and Values

Our mission is to build the leadership and effectiveness of public service professionals and organizations by leveraging the Hatfield School of Government's teaching, research, and service-related activities.

Our vision is to enhance the legitimacy of–and citizen trust in–public service institutions and the people who work in them.

The following **core values** are foundational in all we do: Community & Public Service, International Cooperation & Respect for Diversity, Fairness, Equity & Social Justice, Civic Engagement, and Sustainable Development.

Our Impact in Numbers

How We Achieve Impact

CPS delivers impact across three core areas: Public Service Leadership Development, Public Service Organization Capacity Development, and Contributions to the Public Service Field.

PUBLIC SERVICE LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

- Professional certificates
- Custom programs
- Coaching and mentoring
- Student engagement (paid opportunities to work on our project teams to apply their coursework in response to current community needs)

PUBLIC SERVICE ORGANIZATION CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

- Public service fellowships to develop talent
- Local government on-demand services: interactive training, applied research services, and customized consulting support on a range of topics from governance and planning to sustainability and environmental services.
- Tribal and indigenous community direct support (customized training and technical assistance) and support for professionals whose work is set in Indian Country (government, industry, nonprofit, and academic partners)
- International partnerships, ranging from intensive trainings to yearlong exchanges with local government officials and scholars

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FIELD OF PUBLIC SERVICE

- Applied research
- Publications

35 Projects

Supporting municipalities and nonprofits across the Pacific Northwest and internationally.

416 Training Participants

CPS' education and training portfolio engaged 416 participants, developing capacity of individuals throughout all stages of their career.

11 Public Service Fellows

Nine Hatfield Resident and Public Service Fellows completed their 8-month projects working with government agencies and nonprofit organizations and two Oregon Summer Fellows completed their 10-week fellowship.

29 PSU Students Employed

As part of our goal to give students paid opportunities to gain relevant work experience, CPS and its units employed 29 graduate and undergraduate employees, including 9 Graduate Research Assistants (GRAs).

Grants

Clean Industry

CPS is working with the City of Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability and partners across business, government, nonprofits, and community organizations to transform Portland's industrial sector—reducing carbon emissions, advancing inclusive economic growth, and expanding clean and circular industrial practices that benefit local communities. CPS supports the collaboration through partnership development, collaborative funding, project development, and evaluation and reporting to track progress and impact. We currently have two active grants supporting this work:

Clean Industry Community Program: A five-year investment from the Portland Clean Energy Fund to move industrial decarbonization from planning to implementation. The program funds feasibility studies and demonstration projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, air pollution, and waste while creating workforce and community benefits. CPS supports program and partnership development and leads overall measurement and evaluation.
Project team: Beth Gilden (PI), Dr. Sahan Dissanayake, Dr. Randall Bluffstone, and Graduate Research Assistant Rohan Khanvikar.

EPA Pollution Prevention Grant: Toxics Prevention in the Columbia Corridor: The Toxics Prevention in the Columbia Corridor (TPCC) program uses a university-community-industry partnership to help industrial businesses reduce air toxics and carbon emissions. Community partners help identify facilities and opportunities, while pollution prevention experts work with participating businesses to develop solutions. Business and Engineering students then work alongside businesses, CPS, and faculty advisors to develop implementation plans for pollution prevention projects.
Project team: Beth Gilden (PI) and Dr.Elliott Gall.

The Sustainability and Climate Commission Youth Program

As part of Portland's new form of government, a Sustainability and Climate Commission was created, with four seats reserved for youth voices. CPS Sustainability and Resilience Manager Beth Gilden worked with the commission coordinator to develop a program to ensure that youth commissioners have the resources to participate fully and have their voices heard, not tokenized. In the fall, CPS led a seminar-style course on Sustainability and Climate Governance taught by Dr. Peter Chaillé, as well as a mentorship program led by former state Senator Jackie Dingfelder (PhD) that paired advanced PSU students with youth commissioners throughout their service.



Ciara McGlynn gathers community input for the ODOT Triennial Highway Safety Plan project

Project team: Beth Gilden (PI), Dr. Peter Chaillé, Dr. Jackie Dingfelder, Brandon Kurtz

The Oregon Agricultural Labor Standards Study

Mandated by House Bill 2548 (2025), CPS, in collaboration with Oregon State University, is conducting the Oregon Agricultural Labor Standards Study. The study collects information directly from Oregon farmworkers and farm employers about labor standards, working conditions, and access to workplace protections identified in House Bill 2548 (2025). Led by Dr. Masami Nishishiba, a team of faculty, researchers, graduate research assistants, and staff are conducting this project. It will continue through early 2027 and culminate in a final report to the Oregon Legislature.

Project team: Dr.Masami Nishishiba (PI), Dr. Jennifer Martinez-Medina, Dr. Susana Beltran-Grimm, Dr. Peter Chaillé, Dr. Rafeel Wasif, Carolina Toro Morales, Noe Rodriguez, Andrea Baeza, Brandon Kurtz, Erica Fulton

ODOT Triennial Highway Safety Plan

Led by Dr. Margaret Banyan, CPS partnered with the Transportation Research and Education Center (TREC) and the Oregon Department of Transportation's Transportation Safety Office (ODOT-TSO) on a federally required Triennial Highway Safety Plan. In its first year of a multi-year grant, the project established a comprehensive Community Engagement Plan, grounded in a best-practices review, to ensure Oregon's safety programs are equitable, responsive to local needs, and focused on reducing traffic fatalities and serious injuries. The team implemented year-one public engagement activities, including engaging residents throughout the state, providing analysis of comments, and drafting the



An official ballot rests on a table

three-year Triennial Highway Safety Plan,

Project team: Dr. Margaret Banyan (PI), John MacArthur (Co-I, TREC), Dr. Peter Chaillé, Ciara McGlynn, Rica Perez, Jenesy Gabrielle Burkett Fox

Port of Portland Waste Minimization Technical assistance

Since 2003, Community Environmental Services has worked with the Port of Portland to facilitate their Waste Minimization Program, which aims to reduce the amount of landfill-bound waste by implementing innovative waste reduction programs and projects that align with the Port's Zero Waste Plan.

Project Team: Sara Saltzberg (PI), Dr. Peter Chaillé (Co-I), Maria Jaiyeola, Noah Crawford, Allison Kirkpatrick, Emily Murkland, Jenesy Gabrielle Burkett Fox, Yachi Iisako, and CES student staff.

City of Portland Single Family Weight Study

Community Environmental Services continued to serve as the primary data-collection partner for the City of Portland's waste management strategy, planning the re-launch of the Single Family Weight Study to collect waste weight data and inform residential rate-making processes.

Project Team: Dr. Peter Chaillé, Beth Gilden, David Archuleta, Surya Joshi, Kervelle Baird

Elections Trust Initiative Local Election Official Survey

The 2025 Local Election Official Survey was used to pilot a series of new election administration questions. A burgeoning new area for election administration is the use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (GAI). The survey also tested new measures on administrative burden and public trust perceptions. The survey included four university and independent research teams, continuing to provide a critical data infrastructure tool for the field. In 2026, the team developed a series of new collaborative data tools on the web to build out the survey with more teams. This has created a new collaborative foundation for future survey research heading into the 2026 midterm election season.

Project Team: Dr. Paul Manson (PI), Ciara McGlynn, with collaborator and EVIC Founding Director, Dr. Paul Gronke

Oregon Voter Confidence Survey

In a partnership with the Center for Trusted and Transparent Elections at UC San Diego, the Elections & Voting Information Center team developed a new survey of Oregon voters to assess their confidence in elections. The research team co-produced the survey with the Oregon Association of County Clerks, the professional association that serves election offices statewide. At their annual meeting, County Clerks and Election Directors helped craft and test survey questions. Our survey was fielded as a survey experiment in December of 2025, testing how different communication tools can bolster confidence in elections. Using two videos from election offices, we found that videos by election administrators do improve public confidence. This is especially important, as our survey also found broader concerns about elections in Oregon. This work identifies the efficacy of one tool for election offices to use to build trust in elections.

Project Team: Dr. Paul Manson (PI), Ciara McGlynn, with collaborator and EVIC Founding Director, Dr. Paul Gronke

Pollution Prevention Grant: Environmental Justice Through Safer and Sustainable Products

The continued grant works with Native American-owned and -serving businesses to develop sustainable procurement plans and assistance to switch to safer, more sustainable products. The project, a partnership between CPS' Community Environmental Services unit, CPS' Institute on Tribal Governance, the Northwest Native American Chamber of Commerce, and the Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Council, provides technical assistance, including a culturally relevant sustainable product curriculum, industry-specific procurement resources, and support for implementing new technologies and webinars, co-created with community members, to Native-owned and -serving businesses.

Project Team: PI: Beth Gilden, Rica Perez, with Direlle Calica, Chrissa Wilkie, and Serina Fast Horse

Consulting Projects

Oregon E-Government Survey Program

Led by CPS Senior Fellow Jillian Girard, PhD, this project completed the fourth phase of a collaborative effort with Tyler Oregon to enhance the State of Oregon's E-Government Program. The initiative focused on synthesizing quantitative and qualitative data from three previous research phases to triangulate findings and develop specialized communication tools. A primary component of this phase was expanding outreach to rural Oregonians through a targeted survey of 500 residents and in-depth interviews to better understand their unique digital challenges and successes. The team delivered a comprehensive set of materials, including web content, academic articles, and presentations for the EPAB board.

Project team: Dr. Jillian Girard, Diane Odeh, Carl Christiansen, Elisabeth Greene

DEQ's Cleanup 2050 Vision

The Institute for Tribal Government, in partnership with National Policy Consensus Center's Oregon Kitchen Table, is collaborating with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to craft the Cleanup 2050 Vision for the state's Environmental Cleanup Program. This initiative focuses on deepening community engagement by aligning with the values of Oregonians and fostering strong partnerships, with a dedicated emphasis on communities disproportionately affected by environmental hazards and the nine federally recognized Tribes in Oregon. ITG is leading the Tribal consultation and engagement. ITG's contribution involves educating DEQ personnel on Tribal governance and facilitating engagement sessions with Tribal nations to ensure their specific priorities are foundational to the resulting 2050 Vision and Action Plan.

ITG Project Team: Serina Fast Horse, Direlle Calica, Chrissa Wilkie

Community Environmental Services

Community Environmental Services (CES) applied its student-centered project model to a diverse portfolio of regional projects, strengthening waste management capacity and advancing environmental work across the Pacific Northwest. Key initiatives included:

Multifamily Indicator Project: CES completed a comprehensive study with Metro, evaluating garbage and recycling services at 362 multifamily properties to measure progress toward the 2030 Regional Waste Plan and ensure equitable waste services. The study employed a team of over 10 interdisciplinary student project assistants who conducted detailed field assessments, providing metrics for future waste management strategy refinements.



Community Environmental Service students conduct a waste cleanup at the Port of Portland

Metro Recycle at Work (RAW) Program: CES implemented Metro's RAW program in Fairview and Troutdale, serving as the primary technical liaison between Metro and local business owners and property managers. The initiative delivered specialized technical assistance, site-specific compliance education, and resources to the commercial and multifamily sectors to ensure adherence to regional waste standards and increase diversion rates.

City of Beaverton Recycling Contamination Reduction Community Outreach: A team of two outreach student staff reached over 10,000 apartment units across 190 properties by distributing thousands of educational materials, conducting 72 contamination surveys, and providing tailored sorting feedback to residents.

City of Portland Multifamily Compost Program: CES began a multi-round compost pilot program, coordinating future collection and sorting of 25-pound samples of compost and garbage from 25 multifamily sites across the city to examine how infrastructure impacts contamination and participation.
CES Project team: Dr. Peter Chaillé, Yachi Iisako, and student staff: Maria Jaiyeola, Ryan Backer, Nathan Kim, Michelle Parks, David Archuleta, Sierra Choyce, Angel Lovemore, Kervelle Baird, Muna Osman, Quinlan Bohannon, Brendan Finnigan, Xinyi Xu, Thomas Wrisley, Noah Crawford, Edwin Mutimba, Tapiwa Chabikwa, Bhavana Marpadaga, Bruna Marpadaga, Ayush Pawar, Surya Joshi, and Josie Moynette.

FaithBridge Portland Program Evaluation

The Nonprofit Institute (NPI) conducted a comprehensive external program evaluation of FaithBridge Portland's Live Again Healing Curriculum, a faith-based trauma recovery program serving Black women and Women of Color. The evaluation systematically assessed the effectiveness and

impact of the Crystal Gatherings workshops and the Live Again curriculum to strengthen program delivery and demonstrate outcomes to funders and stakeholders.

Project team: Dr. Rafeel Wasif and Diane Odeh

Compensation Studies

CPS conducted four compensation studies for local government jurisdictions–City of North Bend, City of Silverton, and Sunrise Water Authority –, delivering data-driven research to establish equitable and competitive personnel management systems. The project team collected and validated detailed data, including salary schedules, personnel policies, insurance premiums, and leave accruals. This required a detailed screening of job descriptions to ensure comparable tasks and requirements were accurately matched. The final deliverables consisted of comprehensive data tables and a summary report that provided adjusted compensation results and specialized data comparisons.

Project team: Dr. Eileen Casey White and Bob Winthrop with project associate Sara Spiers and student staff Erica Lesser and Kate Ialovenko

City of Bonita Springs Land Use Workshop

CPS Research Dr. Margaret Banyan delivered a land use workshop to the City of Bonita Springs

Project team: Dr. Margaret Banyan.

City of Bonita Springs Comprehensive Study

Through a collaborative partnership, CPS worked with the City of Bonita Springs to update its comprehensive plan and land development codes to ensure full alignment with state law and the community's long-term vision. Led by Dr. Margaret Banyan, the project team conducted population and demographic research that was reviewed by the Population Research Center, facilitated civic engagement sessions with stakeholders, and drafted new goals, objectives, and policies to reflect current legislative requirements and municipal practices. The team held one-on-one meetings with City Council members and presented proposed amendments to the Local Planning Agency and the public. These updates will help the City manage future growth effectively by providing a clear, modernized regulatory framework for land development and resource allocation. The project will continue through 2027.

Project team: Dr. Margaret Banyan, Dr. Paul Manson

City of Bonita Springs Technical Assistance

Dr. Margaret Banyan provided professional consultation, facilitation, analysis, presentations, and written reports in the areas of land use; policy; impact fee assessment, selection, and fee study management; other land use implementation strategies. **Project team:** Dr. Margaret Banyan

Practitioners Roundtable

In response to requests from Multnomah County's leadership, the CPS convened a series of virtual roundtable discussions for Portland Metro-area jurisdictions to navigate and strategically respond to recent changes in federal Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA) policies. The project aims to facilitate information sharing and collectively identify promising DEIA policies and actions among regional partners, which include the Port of Portland, Metro, Prosper Portland, and the City of Hillsboro. CPS also provides research support, compiling summaries of the relevant federal executive orders and nationwide responses from other state and local governments.

Project team: Dr. Masami Nishishiba, Andrea Cooper, Webby Irfan, Connor Ayers, Amber Quinn

OHA Systems of Care

PSU's School of Business and CPS executed Phase Three of a project, providing planning and recommendations for the Oregon State System of Care Advisory Council (SOCAC). The work included developing a website wireframe, drafting external communications, creating a social media strategy, and producing internal collateral to educate agencies on effective outcomes. The phase concluded with a final wrap-up report that detailed all activities and analytics reporting methodologies.

Project team: Jim Beriault, Cait Ramos

University of Oregon - Institute for Tribal Government Water Equity Project

TG provided technical assistance and managed reporting for the award program funded by University's Water Equity Fund at Climate Solutions Center. The project included working individually with awardees to provide technical assistance and resources to help ensure successful implementation of their projects; developing and overseeing reporting processes for awardees; and maintaining communications with grantees for the cycle of the award.

Project team: Direlle Calica and Serina Fast Horse

Willamette Partnership

The Institute for Tribal Government collaborated with Willamette Partnership on two projects:

Federal Environmental and Energy Spending, Water Policy Research, and Outreach: In collaboration with Oregon Consensus, the Institute for Tribal Government connected with energy justice leaders and Tribal leaders in Arizona and Nevada to share resources, practices, and movement-building strategies. ITG Project team: Direlle Calica, Serina Fast Horse, Chrissa Wilke

Northwest Environmental Justice Center Technical Assistance: After the termination of the EPA grant, ITG and Willamette Partnership (WP) collaborated to support the Northwest Environmental Justice Center's operation through continued coordination with WP staff and leadership to identify opportunities, projects, services and communities that the Center can support; and provided direct technical assistance to Tribal, Indigenous, and other communities around issues related to governance, leadership, water quality, air quality, and other environmental justice issues.

Project team: Direlle Calica, Serina Fast Horse, Chrissa Wilke

The Talent Pipeline: Public Service Fellows

CPS Oregon Summer and Hatfield Resident Fellows are leading critical technical and policy initiatives within our partner sponsor agencies. Here is just a sampling of their work:

- Infrastructure Innovation: Developing an Aerial Drone Program for public works bureaus to improve safety, resource efficiency, and data quality for city infrastructure.
- Permitting & Policy Reform: Conducting rigorous evaluations of development codes and policies to streamline municipal permit processes.
- Economic Resilience: Working with county economic development teams to transform complex regional challenges into community-driven solutions.
- Waste Diversion: Facilitating regional deconstruction programs to reduce construction waste and promote material reuse.
- Inclusive Governance: Developing a practical toolkit for the League of Oregon Cities to support Oregon cities in advancing inclusive, fair, responsive, and accessible governance.

Education and Training

CPS develops public service leaders and enhances the capacity of government and non-profit organizations through a diverse portfolio of professional certificate programs, customized trainings, and academic courses. These programs focus on critical skills, adaptive leadership, and culturally responsive governance frameworks.



2025-2026 Public Service Fellows

Professional Certificates and Executive Seminars

Professional Certificate in Program Evaluation: This virtual program, with 13 regional nonprofit and government agency leaders this past year, builds the capacity of public and non-profit professionals to conduct evaluations using a culturally responsive and equitable framework.
Program team: Dr. Jillian Girard and Diane Odeh

Certificate in Tribal Relations: Structured to improve the effectiveness of professionals working with tribal nations, this program uses cohort learning and mentorship to foster understanding of tribal perspectives, increase staff effectiveness and accountability when working in Indian Country, and improve working relationships between participants and the tribal communities with whom they work. This year's cohort included 14 participants from Tribal organizations as well as nonprofits, local, state, and federal government partners.
Program team: Direlle Calica and Serina Fast Horse

Customized Leadership Development

NOAA Fisheries West Coast Region Emerging Leaders Development Program (ELDP): This Typically, this nine-month program focuses on personal, organizational, and policy-level leadership skills through in-person and virtual sessions, individual coaching, and a mentorship pairing with a Regional Leadership Team member. For 2025-26, cohort selection the full program was deferred a year by the agency request, and CPS provided selected ELDP alumni with pilot trial runs of three new modules to be added to the program in 2026-27, and delivered sessions on Managing Transitions to West Coast Region supervisors.
Program team: Dr. Paul Manson, Sara Saltzberg, Serina Fast Horse, Direlle Calica, and Brandon Kurtz



A JaLoGoMa program participant engages in a brainstorming activity

Strengths-Based Development: CPS delivers Strengths-Based Development workshops to help public sector leaders leverage their unique talents and invest in teams' individual potential to solve complex challenges. This year, CPS provided sessions to the Upper Willamette Soil and Water Conservation District, PSU's Front-Line Student Services Units, PSU's Student Ambassadors, and the US Army Corps of Engineers Portland District**.**
Program team: Cathy LaTourette, Dr. Jennifer Allen, and Erica Fulton

US Army Corps of Engineers Portland District: Over the years, CPS has worked with the US Army Corps of Engineers Portland District on customized training, and this winter, we delivered conflict resolution sessions for their Supervisory University. In the spring, a special session on the History of the Corps, focusing on the history and purpose of the organization, was delivered to the District's Operations Division.Program team: Dr. Shawn Morford, Meaghan Lingo, and Dr. Paul Manson

National Disaster Preparedness Training Center (NDPTC): CPS continued its partnership with the Research Corporation of the University of Hawaii, supporting the National Disaster Preparedness Training Center as a point of delivery and subject matter expert. Under the renewed agreement, CPS faculty the university delivered federally-certified training courses and completed the recertification of specific NDPTC courses.
Program team: Dr. Paul Manson

Community Engagement Essentials: Held in March 2026 for members of the League of Oregon Cities, the session focused on building sustainable engagement capacity within local government, utilizing interactive planning scenarios and emphasizing the critical role of evaluation in measuring community impact.

Program team: Diane Odeh, Greg Greenway, Dr. Paul Leistner, and Gary Farnsworth

Northwest Energy Policy and the Columbia River: Offered for both graduate credit (PA 567 Energy Resources Policy and Administration) and a non-credit certificate of completion, this hybrid course explores the history, politics, and institutions related to current energy policy and administration, with a focus on the Pacific Northwest and the Columbia River Basin. The fall 2025 session was led by Bill Edmonds, Executive Director of the Northwest Power and Conservation Council and adjunct faculty in the Public Administration Department, alongside guest presenters.
Noncredit program team: Jeff Hammerlund and Brandon Kurtz with collaboration with Dr. Hal Nelson in PSU's Public Administration Department

The Smart Grid & Sustainable Communities: Offered for both graduate credit (PA 573) and a non-credit certificate of completion, this interdisciplinary course explores the technologies and business models transforming the power grid into a decentralized, climate-friendly system. The spring 2026 session was led by Angela Long, CEO of Rockcress Consulting and adjunct faculty in the Public Administration Department.
Noncredit program team: Jeff Hammerlund and Brandon Kurtz with collaboration with Dr. Hal Nelson in PSU's Public Administration Department

International Partnerships

The Center for Public Service maintains key international partnerships that advance global public service knowledge, further establishing the region's profile internationally.

Seoul Metropolitan Government (SMG) Professional Development Program:

This annual one-year professional development program, established in 2013, provides intensive training for two mid-career SMG scholars. The program includes ESL, seminars on U.S. local government, site visits, and research sessions. This year, the focus areas include urban public culture policies and museum management, and best practices for using big data and AI for urban improvement. CPS recently renewed the agreement with SMG for another three years (2025-2028).

Program team: Dr. Masami Nishishiba, Yachi Iisako, Ivy O'Neal, Errin Beck

Toyama Prefectural Government Visiting Scholar Program (Japan):

This program fosters relationships between Oregon and its sister-state, Toyama Prefecture. The mid-career professional

sent by the Toyama Prefectural Government conducts field study primarily at the Japan-American Society of Oregon (JASO) and Business Oregon, with research guidance provided by CPS. The next scholar, Shohei Sano, will arrive in early July and is scheduled for a two-year program. This year also marks the 35th anniversary of the Toyama–Oregon sister-state relationship, with a high-level delegation visit planned for summer 2026.

Program team: Dr. Masami Nishishiba, Yachi Iisako

Japanese Local Governance and Management (JaLoGoMa) Training Program:

JaLoGoMa strengthens the capacity of Japanese practitioners and students in community engagement and community-centered governance. In 2025, the six-day program was held from July 27 to August 1 under the theme "From Roots to the Future – Strengthening the Roots for Future Possibilities." Fifteen participants from the public, academic, and private sectors took part. The program combined lectures, group sessions, and site visits to local organizations. Participants engaged in applied learning through discussions and field-based activities across the Portland region. Site visits offered direct exposure to community-driven initiatives. Overall, the program fostered cross-cultural exchange and strengthened participants' capacity for community-centered governance in Japan.

Program team: Dr. Masami Nishishiba, Yachi Iisako, Natsuko Llewellyn, Dan Vizzini, Randy Bonella, Chips Janger, Saumya Kini, Yasu Yanagisawa, Yuko Solbach, and Midori Yamanaka

Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI):

CPS hosted 22 highly talented ASEAN youth leaders for a five-week program from late September through October. The program delivered a Civic Engagement curriculum focused on leadership development through academic instruction and applied learning. Fellows engaged in service projects with community organizations such as Village Gardens and Honoring Our Precious Elders (HOPE). They also met with local elected officials in Portland and Hillsboro to better understand public decision-making processes. The cohort traveled to Omaha and Washington, D.C. to explore diverse models of civic engagement across the United States. These site visits allowed Fellows to compare community development approaches in different contexts. The program concluded in Washington, D.C. with cross-cohort presentations of Fellows' action plan projects.

Program team: Dr. Masami Nishishiba(PI), Dr. Jennifer Joyalle, Yachi Iisako, Erica Fulton, Naoko Horikawa, and Chihori Ota with student ambassadors: Josie Monyette, Bhavana Marpadaga, Bruna Marpadaga, Kazia Salazar, Cesar Robles Martinez, and Grace LNU

Publications

Gronke, Paul, Paul Manson, and Michelle M. Shafer. (2025). "2024 LEO Survey: Today's Election Administration Landscape: Findings from the 2024 EVIC Local Election Official Survey." Elections and Voting Information Center.

Koski, Chris, and Paul Manson. (2026). "Not Yet Partisan: Cultural Theory Explains Attitudes about Solar Radiation Management in the US." Policy & Politics 54(4): 682–706. doi:10.1332/03055736Y2026D000000092.

Manion, Anita, David C. Kimball, Paul Manson, Paul Gronke, and Joseph Anthony. (2026). "Ballots and Beliefs: Diverging Views on Election Integrity From the Public and Officials." Politics and Governance 14: Article 11818. doi:10.17645/pag.11818.

McGlynn, C., Campbell, C. M., and Henderson, K. (2025). "Exploring Court No-Shows: Identifying Typologies of Failure to Appear." Journal of Crime and Justice, 1-24. http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/0735648X.2025.2581976

Presentations

Ciara McGlynn presented research on the effect of visitation during incarceration on post-release success at the Academy of Criminal Justice Science conference in March 2026.

Paul Manson presented research on election skepticism and pressures on election officials at the Election Science, Reform and Administration, and Pacific Northwest Political Science Association meetings. Paul also shared presentations of election administration with committees in the Alaska and Nevada legislatures.

Public Service Days

Throughout the year, CPS holds quarterly days of service when staff contribute to a local agency or nonprofit serving our community. This past year, we volunteered with the **Rebuilding Center** for our winter and spring days of service.

Contact Us

Sara Saltzberg, *Director,* Center for Public Service
ssaltz@pdx.edu (503) 725-8261
P.O. Box 751 PA-ELI, Portland, OR 97207

Portland State
Center for Public Service