



Crossing Boundaries in Public Management and Policy: The International Experience (Routledge Critical Studies in Public Management)

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In the 21st century governments are increasingly focusing on designing ways and means of connecting across boundaries to achieve goals. Whether issues are complex and challenging – climate change, international terrorism, intergenerational poverty– or more straightforward - provision of a single point of entry to government or delivering integrated public services - practitioners and scholars increasingly advocate the use of approaches which require connections across various boundaries, be they organizational, jurisdictional or sectorial.

Governments around the world continue to experiment with various approaches but still confront barriers, leading to a general view that there is considerable promise in cross boundary working, but that this is often unfulfilled. This book explores a variety of topics in order to create a rich survey of the international experience of cross-boundary working. The book asks fundamental questions such as:

- What do we mean by the notion of crossing boundaries?
- Why has this emerged?
- What does cross boundary working involve?
- What are the critical enablers and barriers?

By scrutinizing these questions, the contributing authors examine: the promise; the barriers; the enablers; the enduring tensions; and the potential solutions to cross-boundary working. As such, this will be an essential read for all those involved with public administration, management and policy.

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Review

This book's critical examination of crossing boundaries?organizational, jurisdictional, sectoral, international?is vital reading for those unsatisfied with typical discussions of collaboration and network management. The questions addressed in this volume demonstrate that overcoming such boundaries is the signature governing issue of our time.

Michael McGuire, Indiana University, USA

A rich and satisfying collection that rewards the continuing policy and scholarly interest in the theory and practice of cross boundary working by drawing on international experiences, detailed cases and innovative methods to offer new insights on fundamental questions.

Helen Sullivan, University of Melbourne, Australia

This book assembles a diverse and inter-disciplinary set of contributions highlighting the importance of 'boundaries' as sites of ambiguity, conflict and potential in the theory and practice of international public policy and management. It represents a valuable and thought-provoking addition to the existing literature on this important subject.

Paul Williams, Cardiff Metropolitan University, UK

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