

# **“Stop, Collaborate and Listen: The Policy of Collaborative Governance, Citizen Participation, and Innovation and Redesign in Minnesota”**

On March 16, 2012, the *Journal of Public Law and Policy* at Hamline University School of Law, in conjunction with the Hamline Law Alumni Board and the Hamline University School of Business Center for Public Administration and Leadership, hosted a symposium entitled, “Stop, Collaborate and Listen: The Policy of Collaborative Governance, Citizen Participation, and Innovation and Redesign in Minnesota.”

This symposium gathered local and national scholars, law practitioners, policymakers and government officials to address the challenges of local government occurring at the municipal and state level. The central questions addressed were how local government collaboration look in the future and what the benefits of such dialogue and collaboration among different levels of government and citizens were.

During the symposium, participants focused on creative ideas and responses to current local government challenges and ways to incorporate citizens and other governing entities more fully into dialogue, collaboration and policy decisions. Topics included:

- The newly established Collaborative Governance Council (Minn. Stat. Sec. 6.81, 2010)
- League of Minnesota Cities – Cities, Services and Funding Project – model for individual cities for citizen participation
- Local Government Redesign and Innovation Sessions
- Administrative Law barriers to collaborative governance
- Leadership in collaborative governance efforts
- Conflicts of Interest in representing local government

Keynote Speaker: Minnesota State Auditor Rebecca Otto

Guest Speakers: Professor Carmen Sirianni (Brandeis University) and Professor Lisa Blomgren Bingham (Indiana University)

Speakers: Professor Larry Bakken and Aimee Gourlay (Hamline University), Don Reeder and Rachel Walker (League of Minnesota Cities), and Lynette Slater Crandall (Dorsey & Whitney)

Panelists: Minnesota State Representatives Carol McFarlane and Paul Marquart, Tom Grundhoefer (League of Minnesota Cities), John Choi (Ramsey County Attorney), Dave Hemze (Carver County Administrator), Jack Swanson (Roseau County Commissioner), Desyl Peterson (Minnetonka City Attorney), and Kathy Lantry (President of Saint Paul City Council)

For more information on the 2012 Hamline Journal of Public Law & Policy Symposium, please contact Caitlyn Lothian, Symposium Editor at [clothian01@hamlineuniversity.edu](mailto:clothian01@hamlineuniversity.edu).