

**Around 400 Students Around the World Compete in *Metropolitan: A Sustainable Transit Simulation***  
**Institute of Public Policy, National Law School of India University, Bangalore is a Host Site for South Asia for the Global Simulation Competition**

On February 29<sup>th</sup> Institute of Public Policy, National Law School of India University, Bangalore will host 40 graduate students from 12 universities to participate in the [2020 NASPAA-Batten Student Simulation Competition](#). Participating Universities in Bangalore are:

Indian School of Public Policy, New Delhi  
Jahangirnagar University, Bangladesh  
National Law School of India University, Bangalore  
People's Education Society University, Bangalore  
Azim Premji University, Bangalore  
St. Joseph's College, Bangalore  
O. P. Jindal School of Government and Public Policy, India  
North South University, Nepal  
Mount Carmel College, Bangalore  
International Institute of Information Technology, Bangalore  
University of Dhaka, Bangladesh  
Tribhuvan University, Nepal

This year's competition—a partnership between the University of Virginia Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy and the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA)—will connect around 400 students from 8 global host sites, including Sejong, Budapest, Bangalore, and Washington, DC. Participants in the competition will take on leadership roles in a simulated city and be challenged to implement policies that achieve the most sustainable public transit system. Developed by the [Center for Leadership Simulation and Gaming \(CLSG\)](#) at the Batten School, the simulation was built using real-world data and with the help of academic experts and practitioners in the field of transportation and sustainable policy.

“We built *Metropolitan: A Sustainable Transit Simulation* to bring sustainable city planning to life by providing participants a sense of the comprehensive thinking that this issue requires,” said CLSG Director Noah Myung. “Our students are passionate about sustainable policymaking and want opportunities to apply their knowledge. *Metropolitan* gives them that chance, challenging participants to think critically about the costs and benefits as well as primary and secondary effects of investments that can help build a more sustainable society.”

Built specifically for students of public policy, *Metropolitan: A Sustainable Transit Simulation* is a web-based experiential learning tool. Taking on roles such as City Manager, Treasurer, and Head of the Department of Transportation, players will work in teams to build sustainable public transit infrastructure in their city. To be successful, team members must

collaborate with each other while achieving individual objectives that are representative of their role. The game challenges participants to consider the personality of 5 different districts within their city, each with varying degrees of access and public transportation needs. Teams will be evaluated on their simulation scores, negotiation skills, and presentations made to regional site judges. A panel of prominent “super judges” will determine the global winning team of the entire competition who will be invited to attend the **Global Leadership Summit** in Washington, D.C. on June 7-9, 2020 hosted by the **United Nations Association of the United States of America (UNA-USA)**. Second and third place will receive a generous cash prize. [Go to our website for more information on prizes.](#)

“Simulation-based learning is an incredibly valuable tool, offering some of the most exciting, intense, and impactful learning on the planet for public affairs education,” said NASPAA Executive Director Laurel McFarland. “In the classroom, our graduate students have been trained to be problem solvers, team players, and analysts— these simulations enhance students’ abilities to tackle complex policy problems they may face in the real world. They’ll be ready to take the insights from their sustainable cities simulation experience into whatever kind of public service career they embark upon.”

This is the sixth year that NASPAA has conducted the student competition and the fourth year of them partnering with the Batten School’s CLSG to produce the simulation. Thousands of students from NASPAA’s global network have participated in the competitions with each year examining a different multifaceted policy issue. For the 2019 NASPAA-Batten Student Simulation Competition, the CLSG created a simulation in which participant teams were asked to manage a refugee influx. A team of five students from the Institute of Public Policy, National Law School of India University was adjudged as third place across the globe in this round (<https://nbsims.org/competitions/2019/>). Following the competition, CLSG developed a classroom version, which will soon be available free through their website. The simulation has already been used in university classrooms in Texas, China, and Virginia to teach important concepts about migration and integration policy, and give students a chance to hone skills in negotiation and critical thinking.

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**About NASPAA:** *The [Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration](#) or NASPAA is the global standard in public service education. It is the membership organization of graduate education programs in public policy, public affairs, public administration, and public & nonprofit management. Its over 300 members - located across the U.S. and in 24 countries around the globe - award MPA, MPP, MPAff, and similar degrees. NASPAA is the recognized global accreditor of master’s degree programs in these fields.*

**About the CLSG:** *The University of Virginia’s [Center for Leadership Simulation and Gaming](#) at the Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy prepares students for public life by allowing them to test real-world solutions in a virtual environment. The CLSG designs, develops and implements cutting edge simulations and experiments to advance education in leadership and public policy; conducts rigorous leadership and public policy research using simulations and experiments; and creates a community of scholarship where faculty,*

*researchers and students are supported in their scholarly efforts related to the methodology of simulations and experiments.*

**About IPP:** Institute of Public Policy, National Law School of India University or IPP is premier hub for research and education in the field of public policy and law in India ([mpp.nls.ac.in](http://mpp.nls.ac.in)). Since 2014, it runs two year residential programme in Master of Public Policy programme with a special focus on interfacing law and public policy. It also has an Integrated Ph.D. programme in Public Policy. Every year about 60 graduates trained in the profession of public policy lead different public service programmes of the government of India, state governments, consultancy organisation, think tanks, and research organisations.