

The SAGE Handbook of Public Administration



Second Edition

Edited by
B. Guy Peters
and Jon Pierre



The SAGE Handbook of Public Administration



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Jon Pierre

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Preface to the Second Edition

Public administration and bureaucracy are as old as government itself, but despite that continuity there is also substantial change. The same is true of the academic study of public administration with its continuing interest in familiar topics such as public finance and accountability, and changing conceptions of management as well as continuing reforms of administration.

This second edition of *The SAGE Handbook of Public Administration* reflects that combination of continuity and change in public administration. It contains a number of the same chapters from the previous edition, although all those chapters have been updated to reflect changes in the discipline and in practice. In addition, there are several new chapters that address emerging issues and changes within the public sector. Every attempt was made to make this second edition a reflection of the state of the art in public administration, just as we believe the first edition was.

We want to thank a number of people who were instrumental in the completion of this second edition. First, we again appreciated the hard work and contributions of our section editors, and of the authors who have produced interesting and important contributions. We have also enjoyed working with our editors at Sage, notably David Mainwaring and Natalie Aguilera. We also should thank our readers who have provided useful feedback about the Handbook and helped in its development.

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