

STATEMENT OF VALUES

2024

THE CHALLENGE

TODAY, INSTITUTIONAL TRUST is dangerously low, the nation is divided along partisan lines, and a rapidly changing world has produced new challenges and raised new questions about the value of government. Our nation needs public service leaders who are collaborative, creative, strategic, and deft in their pursuit and implementation of solutions. As members of the Deans Summit, we are united in establishing and furthering shared values for public impact, and cognizant that we must change to become more responsive to our students, faculty, alumni, staff, and citizenry.

OUR COMMITMENT

WE WILL KEEP PACE with the accelerated rate of change taking place from the neighborhood level to the global commons; equip the next generation of leaders to tackle the world's most difficult challenges; promote data-based decision making, innovation, collaboration; and advance public policies that prioritize democracy, tolerance, diversity, and inclusion. As schools of public service, we will play a stronger convening role on our individual campuses to bridge academic thinking and public action.

To meet the challenges of today, we will hold ourselves accountable for ensuring that our programs evolve to address myriad tensions pulling at our democracy. While our immediate priority as deans and directors is serving our individual school communities, we recognize that—as a collaborative network—we have the responsibility and wherewithal to influence the future of public service writ large.

We aspire towards the following principles and organize our collaborative efforts to advance them:

- 1. Increase the socioeconomic, racial, and ethnic diversity of public service leadership, at all levels of government;**
- 2. Empower collaboration across disciplines, sectors, ideologies, and party lines in pursuit of solutions to the complex challenges of our time;**
- 3. Instill a national culture of service and commitment to advance the common good;**
- 4. Protect the core values upon which a stable democracy is based, including equity, equality, representativeness, accountability, transparency, respect, truth, and just administration of the rule of law;**
- 5. Assist in the implementation of policies grounded in evidence and leveraging cutting-edge technology;**
- 6. Expand civic participation; and**
- 7. Ensure leaders in all sectors meaningfully engage with the communities and citizens they serve.**

IN PURSUIT OF THESE GOALS, we stand ready to think big, take risks, and adapt our educational offerings to meet our nation's evolving governance needs. By harnessing our powers as collaborative institutions, we are well-positioned to be a leading source for best practices, solutions, and talent for the public sector.