The proposed presenter created the original Public Policy Analyst (PPA) in 1999 at the start of a multi-year, $7M+ U.S. Department of Education (USDE) Technology Innovation Challenge grant titled Project TIPS: Teaching Interdisciplinary Problem Solving through Educational Technology. He developed TIPS for Bronx school districts, and over 600 Bronx secondary teachers successfully integrated this tool with tens of thousands of students in various content courses to analyze social problems and develop public policy solutions.

The PPA contains six basic steps: identifying a social problem, gathering evidence of its existence, identifying its causes, evaluating existing policies, developing new public policy solutions, and determining the best solution. In addition to the original standard version, the PPA developer has created several content specific versions to analyze contemporary or historical social problems in American history (e.g., racism, poverty), global history (e.g., aftermath of wars, feudalism), contemporary international issues (terrorism, world hunger), science (e.g., global warming, diseases), and language arts (e.g., problems in literature). There is also a graphics versions of the PPA for elementary students or students with learning disabilities.

In addition to the Project TIPS students in the Bronx, teachers and students in Harlem have used the PPA under multi-year USDE Javits Gifted and Talented Education Program grants developed and led by the PPA creator. He has also created a character education version of the PPA which has been used in USDE Partnerships in Character Education Program grants which he obtained for Harlem and Yonkers NY.

(If the presentation proposal is accepted, a full conference paper will be developed that described the PPA in greater detail, and the impact it has been having on teaching and learning based on the numerous evaluation reports that have been written regarding the technology challenge project, the gifted education projects, and the character education projects, all of which have successfully incorporated this technology integration tool.)