

PHUONG NGUYEN

(updated September 2025)

School of Planning and Public Affairs, University of Iowa

phuong-nguyen@uiowa.edu

EDUCATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

1. Higher Education

Syracuse University, NY, USA, 2006-2010, Public Administration, Ph.D.

Advisor: John Yinger

Duke University, NC, USA, 2004-2006, Public Policy, MPP

Foreign Trade University, Vietnam, 1994-1999, International Economics, BS

Vietnam National University - Ho Chi Minh City, 1994-1998, English, BA

2. Professional and Academic Positions

Full Professor, 7/2024, School of Planning and Public Affairs (SPPA), University of Iowa

Associate Director, 9/2023-present, SPPA

Director of Graduate Studies, 2020-present, SPPA

Director of MPA Program, 2019-present

Associate Professor, 7/2017-present, SPPA

Senior Research Fellow, 7/2017-, Social and Education Policy Research Program, Public Policy Center (PPC), University of Iowa

Senior Research Fellow, 7/2017-8/2023, Health Policy Research Program, PPC

Assistant Professor, 1/2011-6/2017, SPPA

Assistant Professor, 1/2011-6/2017, Social and Education Policy Research Program, PPC

Graduate Associate, 2007-2010, Center for Policy Research, Syracuse University

Research Assistant, 2006-2007, Moynihan Institute of Global Affairs, Syracuse University

Teaching Assistant, 2005-2006, Sanford School of Public Policy, Duke University

Research Assistant, Summer 2005, Center for Child and Family Policy, Duke University

Specialist, 1999-2004, Vietnamese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Freelance Interpreter (Consecutive and Simultaneous), 2000-2004

Translator, 1999-2004, Fulbright Economics Teaching Program, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Teacher of English, 1995-2004, English language training centers in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

3. Honors and Awards

Best Paper Award, Midwest Public Affairs Conference, June 2022

[Curriculum Innovation Award](#), the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning and the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, 2018

Distinguished Research and Development Award, International Association of Assessing Officers, 2013 (for the *National Tax Journal* article)

Jean Flanigan Outstanding Dissertation Award, Association for Education Finance and Policy, 2012

Maxwell Dissertation Fellowship, 2009-2010

Research Assistantship, Syracuse University, 2006-2009

U.S. Department of State Fulbright Scholarship, 2004-2006

Teaching Assistantship, Duke University, 2004-2006

Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs Scholarship for the International Summer School, Oslo University, Norway, Summer 2001

RESEARCH

1. Publications

- Choi, Yoon-Jung and Phuong Nguyen-Hoang. Forthcoming. [The Effects of Tax Increment Financing on Local Income and Income Surtax Base: Evidence from Iowa School Districts.](#) *Growth and Change*
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong, Trang Hoang, and Josie Schafer. Forthcoming. The Cost of Development: How TIF Relates to Property Values Across Nebraska School Districts. *Economic Development Quarterly*
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong. 2025. Local Autonomy in Education Finance in a Mixed Economy: The Case of Vietnam. *Public Finance Review*, 53(2): 226-261.
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong and Joydeep Roy. 2025. "Does All-Mail Voting Matter for School Budget Elections?" *Applied Economics Letters*, 32(5): 686-692.
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong, Pengju Zhang and Bart Hildreth. 2024. "Which survey to report? A Revisit to the 1934 Survey of Public Finance Scholars." *National Tax Journal*, 77(3): 533-564.
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong and Yoon-Jung Choi. 2024. "The Effects of Property Tax Levy Limits on School Infrastructure Assets and Expenditures: The Case of New York," *Public Finance and Management*, 23(1-2): 74-93.
- Choi, Yoon-Jung, and Phuong Nguyen-Hoang. 2024. "The Impact of Tax Increment Financing on Business Entries and Exits in Iowa," *Economic Development Quarterly*, 38(2): 100-112.
- Bao, Juan, Leo Sun, Phuong Nguyen-Hoang, and Elizabeth Momany. 2024. "Exploring the Effect of Anti-immigration Rhetoric on Emergency Department Use by Undocumented Adults," *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health*, 26(1):110-116.

- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong and Angie Nga Le.ⁱ 2023. "The Short-Term Effects of the Shift from Prior-Year to Current-Year Enrollment on School Inputs in Arizona," *AERA Open*, 9(1): 1-14.
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong, and Bich Tran. 2023. Financing preprimary education: How Vietnamese provinces allocate scarce resources. *Public Finance and Management*, 22(2): 163-182.
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong and Peter Damiano. 2023. "How do School Districts Use State Aid for Capital Expenditures? The Case of Iowa." *Journal of Education Finance*, 48(4): 405-426.
- Phung, Trang M.T., Quoc N. Tran, Phuong Nguyen-Hoang, Nhut H. Nguyen, and Tho H. Tran. 2023. "The Role of Learning Motivation on Financial Knowledge among Vietnamese College Students." *Journal of Consumer Affairs*, 57(1): 529-563.
- Zhang, Pengju, and Phuong Nguyen-Hoang. 2023. "Home Rule and Municipal Revenue Stability: New Evidence from Texas." *Public Budgeting & Finance*, 43:38-60.
- Roy, Joydeep, and Phuong Nguyen-Hoang. 2022. "School Enrollments During the COVID-19 Pandemic: The Case of New York." *Economics Letters*, 219(110792).
- Zhang, Pengju, Phuong Nguyen-Hoang, and Na Chen. 2022. "The Impact of Home Rule on Municipal Boundary and Fiscal Expansion: Evidence from Texas." *Journal of Regional Science*, 62:1442-1466.
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong, Trang M. T. Phung, Nhut H. Nguyen, Kien D. Cao, and Tho H. Nguyen. 2022. "Aspirations for Careers in State-Owned Enterprises: Evidence from a Low Middle-Income Country." *International Journal of Public Administration*, 45(5): 412-426.
- Askelson, Natoshia M, Patrick Brady, Youn Soo Jung, Phuong Nguyen-Hoang, Grace Ryan, Carrie Scheidel, and Patti Delger. 2022. "Using Predicted Marginal Effects to Assess the Impact of Rurality and Free and Reduced Lunch Eligibility on School-Based Nutrition Intervention." *Evaluation and Program Planning*, 92(202072).
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong, and Pengju Zhang. 2022. "Cap and Gap: The Fiscal Effects of Property Tax Levy Limits in New York." *Education Finance and Policy*, 17(1): 1-26 (Lead Article).
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong, and John Yinger. 2021. "How Salience and Framing Alter the Behavioral Impacts of Property Tax Relief." *Public Finance and Management*, 20(2): 112-149.
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong. 2021. "The Fiscal Effects of Tax Increment Financing on Rural School Districts: The Case of Iowa" *AERA Open*, 7(1): 1-17.
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong. 2021. "Is Tax Increment Financing a Fiscal Bane or Boon?" *Journal of Planning Education and Research*, 41(1): 94-105.
- Askelson, Natoshia M, Patrick Brady, Grace Ryan, Carrie Scheidel, Patti Delger, Phuong Nguyen-Hoang, and Youn Soo Jung. 2021. "Implementation and Outcome Evaluation of a Team

ⁱ The main portions of the studies were conducted while the co-authors were graduate students.

- Nutrition Intervention: Increasing Knowledge, Attitudes, and Preferences.” ***Health Education Research***, 36 (1): 75–86.
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong, and John Yinger. 2020. “The Flypaper Effect: Methods, Magnitudes, and Mechanisms.” ***Journal of Education Finance***, 46(2): 158–88.
- Yeung, Ryan, and Phuong Nguyen-Hoang. 2020. “It is the Journey, not the Destination: The Effect of School Travel Mode on Student Achievement.” ***Journal of Urbanism***, 13(2): 170-186.
- Yeung, Ryan, and Phuong Nguyen-Hoang. 2020. “Using Texting to Nudge Urban Public School Students to and through College.” ***Journal of Research on Technology in Education***, 52(1): 113-127.
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong. 2019. “Does the Cost-Cutting Strategy of Closing Public Schools Provide Financial Benefits? Evidence from Ohio.” ***Public Budgeting & Finance***, 39(3): 3-21.
- Yeung, Ryan, Philip Gigliotti, and Phuong Nguyen-Hoang. 2019. “The Impact of U.S. News College Rankings on the Compensation of College and University Presidents.” ***Research in Higher Education***, 60(1):1-17.
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong. 2019. “TIF and Education Funding.” In *Tax Increment Financing and Economic Development: Uses, Structures and Impact (2nd edition)*, edited by Craig L. Johnson and Kenneth A. Kriz. SUNY Press. ISBN: 978-1-4384-7497-7
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong and Ryan Yeung. 2018. “From Mother to Child: The Effects of Prenatal Maternal Passive Smoking on Academic Outcomes.” ***Journal of Public Health Policy***, 39(2): 231-244.
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong and Alexander Bogin. 2017. “Raising State Gas Tax Rates for Transportation Revenues: Navigating a Bumpy Road,” ***Journal of Planning Education and Research***, 37(2): 164-175.
- Yinger, John and Phuong Nguyen-Hoang. 2016. “Hedonic Vices: Fixing Inferences about Willingness-To-Pay in Recent House-Value Studies,” ***Journal of Benefit-Cost Analysis***, 7(2): 248-291.
- Shane, Dan, Phuong Nguyen-Hoang, Suzanne Bentler, Peter Damiano, and Elizabeth Momany. 2016. “Medicaid Health Home Reducing Costs and Reliance on Emergency Department: Evidence from Iowa,” ***Medical Care***, 54(8): 752-757.
- Yeung, Ryan and Phuong Nguyen-Hoang. 2016. “Endogenous Peer Effects: Fact or Fiction?” ***Journal of Educational Research***, 109(1): 37-49.
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong. 2015. “Volatile Earmarked Revenues and State Highway Expenditures in the United States.” ***Transportation***, 42(2): 237-256.

- Duncombe, William, Phuong Nguyen-Hoang, and John Yinger. 2015. "Measurement of Cost Differentials." In *Handbook of Research in Education Finance and Policy (2nd edition)*, edited by Helen F. Ladd and Margaret E. Goertz. Routledge.
- Bogin, Alexander and Phuong Nguyen-Hoang. 2014. "Property Left Behind: An Unintended Consequence of a No Child Left Behind "Failing" School Designation." *Journal of Regional Science*, 54(5): 788–805.
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong. 2014. "Tax Increment Financing and Education Expenditures: The Case of Iowa." *Education Finance and Policy*, 9(4): 515–540.
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong. 2014. "School District Income Taxes and School Inputs: The Case of Ohio." *Journal of Education Finance*, 40(1): 38–59.
- Eom, Tae Ho, William Duncombe, Phuong Nguyen-Hoang, and John Yinger. 2014. "The Unintended Consequences of Property Tax Relief: New York's STAR Program." *Education Finance and Policy*, 9(4): 446–480.
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong, and Ryan Yeung. 2014. "Dollars for Lives: The Effect of Highway Capital Investments on Traffic Fatalities." *Journal of Safety Research*, 51: 109–115.
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong and Yilin Hou. 2014. "Local Fiscal Responses To Procyclical Changes in State Aid." *Publius*, 44(4): 587–608.
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong, Ryan Yeung and Alex Bogin. 2014. "No Base Left Behind: The Impact of Military Base Closures on Educational Expenditures and Outcomes." *Public Finance Review*, 42(4): 439–465.
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong and John Yinger. 2014. "Education Finance Reform, Local Behavior, and Student Performance in Massachusetts." *Journal of Education Finance*, 39(4): 297–322.
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong. 2013. "Tax Limit Repeal and School Spending." *National Tax Journal*, 66(1): 117–148.
- Ross, Justin and Phuong Nguyen-Hoang. 2013. "School District Income Taxes: New Revenue or a Property Tax Substitute." *Public Budgeting & Finance*, 33(2): 19–40.
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong. 2012. "Fiscal Effects of Budget Referendums: Evidence from New York School Districts." *Public Choice*, 150(1–2):77–95.
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong. 2012. "Cost Function and its Use for Intergovernmental Educational Transfers in Vietnam." *Education Economics*, 20(1): 69–91.
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong and John Yinger. 2011. "The Capitalization of School Quality into House Values: A Review." *Journal of Housing Economics*, 20(1): 30–48.
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong and Larry Schroeder. 2011. "Budgeting in Viet Nam: Decentralized Decision-making in a Unitary State Budget Environment." in *Comparative Public Budgeting: A Global Perspective*, edited by Charles Menifield. Sudbury, MA: Jones & Barlett Learning, pages: 133–150.

- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong and Ryan Yeung. 2010. "What is Paratransit Worth?" *Transportation Research Part A*, 44(10): 841–853.
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong and Larry Schroeder. 2010. "An Analysis of Quasi-Decentralized Budgeting in Viet Nam." *International Journal of Public Administration*, 33(12–13): 698–709.
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong and John McPeak. 2010. "Leaving or Staying: Inter-Provincial Migration in Vietnam." *Asian and Pacific Migration Journal*, 19(4):473–500.
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong. 2008. "What is in it for the Poor? Evidence from Fiscal Decentralization in Vietnam." *Journal of Public and International Affairs*, 19, 69–90.
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong. 2008. "Performance Budgeting: Its Rise and Fall." *Maxwell Review*, 91–106.

2. Reports

- Reports affiliated with the Health Policy Research Program at the Public Policy Center*
- Askelson, Natoshia, Patrick Brady, Cristian L Meier, Grace Ryan, Youn Soo Jung, Phuong Nguyen-Hoang, Elizabeth Momany, Wensday Worth, Whitney Bash-Brooks and Lejla Avdic. 2019. "[Healthy Schools Healthy Students.](#)"
- Momany, Elizabeth, Peter Damiano, Phuong Nguyen-Hoang, Dan Shane, Suzanne Bentler, Jason Wachsmuth. 2018. "[Iowa Wellness Plan Evaluation: Interim Report CY 2016.](#)"
- Askelson, Natoshia, Patrick Brady, Cristian Meier, Grace Ryan, Youn So Jung, Phuong Nguyen-Hoang, Whitney Bash-Brooks, and Lejla Avdic. 2018. "[Healthy Schools Healthy Students: Evaluation Results and Recommendations.](#)"
- Momany, Elizabeth, Suzanne Bentler, Susan McKernan, Peter Damiano, Natoshia Askelson, Brad Wright, Dan Shane, and Phuong Nguyen-Hoang. 2017. "[Iowa's Marketplace Choice Summative Report: January 1, 2014-December 31, 2015.](#)"
- Momany, Elizabeth, Peter Damiano, Dan Shane, Phuong Nguyen-Hoang, Suzanne Bentler, and Jason Wachsmuth. 2017. "[Outcomes for Iowa Medicaid Chronic Condition Health Home Program Enrollees: SFYs 2012-2015.](#)"
- Momany, Elizabeth, Phuong Nguyen-Hoang, Peter Damiano, Suzanne Bentler, and Dan Shane. 2017. "[Cost Analyses of the Iowa Chronic Condition Health Home Program.](#)"
- Momany, Elizabeth, Peter Damiano, Dan Shane, Phuong Nguyen-Hoang, Suzanne Bentler, and Jason Wachsmuth. 2017. "[Evaluation of Iowa Medicaid's Integrated Health Home Program: Outcomes and Costs of Care SFYs 2013 - SFY2015.](#)"
- Momany, Elizabeth, Dan Shane, Andrew Ghattas, Peter Damiano, Suzanne Bentler, Phuong Nguyen-Hoang, and Jason Wachsmuth. 2016. "[Iowa Health and Wellness Plan Evaluation: Interim Report.](#)"

- Momany, Elizabeth, Peter C. Damiano, Suzanne E. Bentler, Brooke McInroy, Phuong Nguyen-Hoang. 2015. "[Evaluation of Iowa's Integrated Health Home: SFY 2013 - 2014.](#)"
- Momany, Elizabeth, Peter C. Damiano, Suzanne E. Bentler, Natoshia Askelson, Phuong Nguyen-Hoang, and Dan Shane. 2015. "[Summary Report of the Iowa Medicaid Medical Health Home: Evaluation of a health home program for those with chronic illnesses.](#)"
- Momany, Elizabeth, Phuong Nguyen-Hoang, Peter C. Damiano, Suzanne E. Bentler, and Dan Shane. 2014. "[Cost Analyses of the Iowa Medicaid Health Home Program.](#)"
- Momany, Elizabeth, Helen Schartz, Phuong Nguyen-Hoang, Knute Carter and Aaron Strong. 2012. "[Costs of Health Care Medicaid for Employed People with Disabilities: Effects of Employment on Health Care Costs.](#)" Public Policy Center, University of Iowa.

Other reports

- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong and Peter Damiano. 2016. "A Preliminary Look at Revenue and Expenditure Categories for the "Secure an Advanced Vision for Education" (SAVE) Fund during the First Seven Years."
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong, and Ryan Yeung. 2014. "[Dollars for Lives: The Effect of Highway Capital Investments on Traffic Fatalities.](#)"
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong and William Duncombe. 2012. "[Earmarked Revenues and Spending Volatility: The Case of Highway Finance.](#)"
- d'Hombres, Beatrice and Phuong Nguyen-Hoang. 2011. "[International and Time Comparisons of Inequality in Tertiary Education.](#)" World Bank.

3. Other Published Scholarly Works

- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong and Pengju Zhang. 2023. Introduction to the special issue on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on municipal taxes, Part one. *Municipal Finance Journal*, 44(1): 1-2.
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong and Pengju Zhang. 2023. Introduction to the special issue on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on municipal taxes, Part two. *Municipal Finance Journal*, 44(2): 1-2.
- Yeung, Ryan and Phuong Nguyen-Hoang. 2014. "Fixed-Effects Models." In *Encyclopedia of Education Economics and Finance*, edited by Dominic Brewer and Lawrence O. Picus. Sage.
- Nguyen-Hoang, Phuong. 2006. Review of I. Goldin and K. Reinert, Globalization for Development. *Journal of International Logistics and Trade*, 4(1), 131-133.

4. Works in Progress

- “The Effects of Tax-Increment Financing on School District Expenditures: The Case of Nebraska”
(with Trang Hoang and Josie Schafer)
- “Roads of Redemption: Analyzing the Efficiency of Convict Labor in the Development of
Florida’s Highway System during 1923-1936” (with Bart Hildreth)
- “Trends in Rural Enrollment & School Spending,” (with Joydeep Roy, a book chapter for a book
entitled *Small Yet Numerous, Isolated and Costly: Contemporary Issues in Rural
Education Finance*)
- “Local Cash Transfers and Household Debt: Evidence from Johnson County’s Direct Assistance
Program” (with David Frisvold and Christopher Odinet)

5. Funded research and submitted grant applications

Funded research

- “The effects of public libraries” (July 2023 -) – Co-PI
By the Institute of Museum and Library Services
- “Evaluation of the Johnson County Direct Assistance Program” (July 2023 -) – Co-PI
By an anonymous foundation, \$310,636
- “Implementation of the Johnson County Direct Assistance Program” (Aug 2022) – Co-PI
By the Johnson County Board of Supervisors, Iowa, \$142,470
- “Local Autonomy in Education Finance in a Mixed Economy: The Case of Vietnam” (Summers of
2019 and 2022) – PI
By the Research on Improving Systems of Education (RISE), \$10,000
- “Evaluation of the Iowa Wellness Plan” (2020-2026) – Co-PI
By the Iowa Department of Human Services, \$10,951,250
- “Public Libraries for Disaster Resilience: Assessing Libraries’ Community Impacts in Times of
Climate and Socio-Economic Crises” (2021) – Co-PI
By the University of Iowa, \$150,000
- “Evaluation of the Iowa Health and Wellness Plan” (2014-2018) – Co-PI
By the Iowa Department of Human Services, \$3,800,000
- “Does Tax Increment Financing Boost Firm Performance?” (2018) PI
Funded by the Iowa Social Science Research Center, University of Iowa, \$4,000
- “Using Texting to Nudge Urban Public School Students to and through College” (2017) – Co-PI
Funded by NYC Outward Bound Schools, \$6,000
- “Dollars for Lives: The Effects of Capital Outlay and Maintenance Expenditures on Highway
Fatalities” (2013 – 2014) – PI
By the Mid-American Transportation Center for \$114,307

“Tax Increment Financing and Education Expenditures: The Case of Iowa” (2013) – Sole Principal Investigator
 By the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, \$3,000

“Economic Impacts of Local Development Subsidies” (2013 – 2014) – Co-PI
 By the University of Iowa, \$7,000

“Earmarked Revenues and Spending Volatility: The Case of Highway Finance” (2011 – 2012) – PI
 By the Mid-American Transportation Center for \$102,513

Recent submitted-but-unfunded grants

“Minnesota State Park Visitor Survey” (2022) – Investigator
 Submitted to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

“Tracking and Assessing Regional Economic Recovery from the COVID-19 Pandemic: Patterns, Regional Competitiveness, and the Impact of EDA Assistance” (2021) – Co-PI
 Submitted to the Economic Development Administration

6. Presentations

(Presentations in italics are funded and/or invited by the organizer.)

“Does Tax Increment Financing Affect Local Income and Income Tax Revenue?”
 Association for Budgeting & Financial Management, Cleveland, OH, Sept 2024

“Graduate Programs in Public Affairs in the United States: An Overview”
 For Vietnam-America Association for Public Affairs and Policy, July 12, 2023, Zoom

“Research Methods to Evaluate Education Policy”
 For the PHER project (see below for information on PHER), Sept 29, 2022, Zoom

“Voter Support for Congestion Pricing? Does Framing Matter” (with Pengju Zhang and Cleopatra Charles)
 Association for Budgeting & Financial Management, Miami FL, Sep 2022

“Introduction to John Yinger’s Scholarly Contributions to the Capitalization of Public Services and Taxes into Housing Prices”
 Conferencing Honoring John Yinger, Syracuse University, Aug 18-19, 2022

“Tax Increment Financing: Using Property Taxes to Promote Economic Development”
 Fulbright School of Public Policy and Management, Fulbright University Vietnam, July 2022

“Property Taxes: Experience in the United States and Policy Implications for Vietnam”
 School of Public Finance, University of Economics – Ho Chi Minh City (UEH), July 2022

“The Impact of Home Rule on Municipal Boundary and Fiscal Expansion: Evidence from Texas”
 (with Pengju Zhang and Na Chen)
 Midwest Public Affairs Conference, June 2022

“How do School Districts Use School Infrastructure State Aid? The Case of Iowa” (with Peter Damiano)
 National Education Finance Academy, Virtual Conference, April 2022
 Association for Budgeting & Financial Management, Washington DC, Sep 2021

“Cap and Gap: The Fiscal Effects of Property Tax Levy Limits in New York” (with Pengju Zhang)
 Association for Budgeting & Financial Management, Washington DC, Sep 2019

“Has Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Helped or Hurt Iowa Communities” (poster)
 Visualizing Equitable and Sustainable Communities in Iowa, Iowa City, April 2019

“How Does the Property Tax Cap Affect School Districts in New York?” (with Pengju Zhang)
 Association for Education Finance and Policy, St. Louis MO, March 2019

“IHU: Can Texting Be Used to Improve College Enrollment and Persistence for Urban Public School Students?” (with Ryan Yeung) (poster)
 Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, Washington DC, Nov 2018

Panelist for a special session of “Spark Innovation in Learning Design” by the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy
 Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning, Denver, Oct 2018

“Tax Increment Financing in Iowa” (Oct 2018)
 School of Urban and Regional Planning

“Is Tax Increment Financing a Fiscal Bane or Boon?” (poster)
 Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning, Denver, Oct 2017
 Urban Affairs Association, Minneapolis, April 2017

“Does Closing Public Schools Save Costs?”
Next Generation of Public Finance Conference, Georgia State University, May 2016

“Effects of School District Income Taxes on Property Values: An Unintended Consequence?”
 (with Michael Hayes)
 Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, Miami FL, November 2015
 Inequality Seminar, University of Iowa, Oct 2015
 Association for Budgeting & Financial Management, Washington DC, October 2015

“From Mother to Child: The Effects of Prenatal Maternal Passive Smoking on Academic Outcomes”
 Association for Education Finance and Policy, Washington DC, February 2015

“Tax Increment Financing and School Spending: The Case of Iowa”
Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, Cambridge MA, October 2013

“Dollars for Lives: The Effects of Capital Expenditures on Traffic Fatalities” (with Ryan Yeung)
 Association for Budgeting & Financial Management, Washington DC, October 2013

“State Aid Changes and Local Government Responses: The Case of Massachusetts”
 National Tax Association, Providence RI, November 2012

“School district income tax, school spending, and student performance: The case of Ohio”
 Association for Education Finance and Policy, Boston MA, March 2012

“No base left behind: The impact of military base closures on school district finance” (with Ryan Yeung and Alex Bogin) (poster)
 Association for Education Finance and Policy, Boston MA, March 2012

“Asymmetric responses to state education aid in Massachusetts” (poster)
 Association for Education Finance and Policy, Seattle WA, March 2011

“Tax limit repeal and school spending: Evidence from New York”
 Association for Education Finance and Policy, Richmond VA, March 2010

“Effects of Budget Referendums: Evidence from New York” and “Decentralized Budgeting in Viet Nam: An Overview”
 Association for Budgeting & Financial Management, September 2009

“Effects of Fiscal Decentralization on the Poor in Vietnam”
 Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, November 2008

“Use of Cost Function Analyses for Intergovernmental Educational Transfers in Vietnam”
 Association for Budgeting & Financial Management, October 2008

“What is in it for the Poor? Evidence from Fiscal Decentralization in Vietnam”
 Hawaii International Conference for Social Sciences, May 2008

“Court-Mandated Education Finance Reform in Massachusetts: A Look into its Second Phase”
 (with John Yinger)
 Association for Education Finance and Policy, April 2008

TEACHING

Courses Taught

University of Iowa – Instructor

Analytic Methods I (core)

Analytic Methods II (core)

Public Finance and Budgeting (core)

Financing Economic Development for Poverty Alleviation

Economic Development Finance

Poverty, Planning, and Public Policy

Syracuse University – Teaching Assistant

Public Budgeting (core) (2007, 2008, 2009)

Guest lectures:

Vietnam:

Overview of taxes in the course of Public Economics offered at Vietnam National University-Hanoi (December, 2022)

University of Iowa

Policy evaluations in Haifeng Qian's Public Policy Analysis (2021, 2022)

Cost analysis in Natoshia Askelson's Evaluation 1: Approaches and applications (2018)

Local public finance in Haifeng Qian's Economics for Policy Analysis (2017)

Economic efficiency of public health interventions in Nancy Thompson's Community Preventive Programs/Services (2014)

Advising Community-Based URP and MPA Capstone Projects

2024-2025: [Shared services for Burlington and West Burlington, IA](#)

Students: Vanessa Bittok, Natalie Murphy, and Shuyi Wu

2023-2024: [Beyond barriers: Rethinking policies for inclusive library services](#)

Students: Amelia DeRynck and Samantha Tamborski

2023: [Clinton Youth Substance Abuse Prevention](#)

Students: Madison Black, Camille Bonar, Payton Colbert, and Cesar Perez

2022: [Maguoketa City Council Goal Setting and Governance](#)

Students: Caleb Smith, Cami Rasmussen, and Lily Sronkoski

2020-2021: [Manchester Strategic Growth Plan](#)

Students: Nafisa Binti, Shila de Moraes, Flavia Hauss, Jack Johansen, and Parya Seif

2019-2020:

+ [Iowa City Historic Preservation Initiative](#)

Students: Nathaniel Bequeaith, Sean Hilton, Megan Schott, and Ayman Sharif

+ [Keokuk Downtown Revitalization Plan](#)

Students: Dillon Constant, Ursula Ferrier, Joshua Harris, Sarah Helmer, and Melisa Ribikawskis

2018-2019: [Downtown Webster City Strategic Plan](#)

Students: Jess Baker, Jasmine Frias, Reuben Grandon, Emily Legel, and Ryan Schweitzer

2017-2018: [Jackson County Tomorrow Strategic Plan](#)

Students: Brooke Axness, Chris Jasper, Matt Morlan, and Maggie Richardson

2016-2017: [IA Reuse Readiness: A Toolkit for Identifying and Assessing Brownfield Sites](#)

Students: Robby Caudill, Jay Fieser, and Sarah J. Gardner

2015-2016: [Housing and Equity in Iowa City](#)

Students: Eric Hawkinson and Kevin Garza

2014-2015: [Decorah Stormwater Management Plan](#)

Students: Vanessa Fixmer-Oraiz, Bailee McClellan, and Elizabeth Minor

2013-2014: [Self-Supported Municipal Improvement Districts](#)

Students: Aaron Kline, Catherine Dunn, Katie Gieszler, Peter Jordet, and Sidney Noyce

2012-2013: [Schools, Neighborhoods, and Student Outcomes in Dubuque, Iowa](#)

Students: Chris Bjornstad, Kayleigh Karlovits, Travis Kraus, Kwame Owusu-Daaku, Stephanie Schrader, and Perry Shoemaker

2011-2012: [Sustainable Dubuque 2012: Portrait of Poverty Study](#)

Students: Daniel Babb, Jody Bailey, Shamir Banks, Tyler Dvorak, Tom Gruis, Xiao Luo, and Rose Phillips

SERVICE

1. School of Planning and Public Affairs, University of Iowa

Associate Director, 9/2023-present

Director of Graduate Studies, 2020-present

Director of MPA Program, 2019-present

MPA Steering Committee, 2019-present

Admissions Committee, 2012-2013, 2018-2020; chair 2020-present

Academic advisor for 5-8 graduate students per year

Chair, a full professor promotion review committee, 2024-2025

Member, a faculty five-year review committee, 2023-2024

Helped Prof. Charles Connerly found the MPA program, 2018-2019

Jim Harris Award Committee, 2016-2021

Faculty search committee, 2013-2014, 2021-2022

Faculty representative of Urban and Regional Planning Student Association, 2018-2020

Class visit for peer teaching evaluations, Spring 2022

Faculty tenure promotion review committee, 2017, 2018

Ad-hoc planning thesis option review committee, 2015

2. Public Policy Center and University of Iowa

Member, Michael J. Brody Award for Faculty Excellence in Service, 2024-2025

University of Iowa Judicial Commission, 2018-2021, 2022-

University of Iowa Conflict of Interest in Employment Committee, 2023-

University of Iowa Charter Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, 2023 -

Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR) Community Engaged Scholars Review Panel, 2022

Recruitment Committee for a Data Analyst Position, 2021

Summer Policy Research Program Grant Review Committee, Public Policy Center, 2019, 2021

University of Iowa Social Science Research Advisory Board, University of Iowa, 2011-2012

3. Local community

Johnson County Compensation Commission, June 2022-present

Planning & Zoning Commission, City of Coralville, IA, Jan 2017-Dec 2018, Jan 2021-Dec 2021; co-chair Jan 2019-Dec 2019; chair Jan 2020-Dec 2020

Cardinal Pointe North Homeowner Association, Vice President 2016-July 2022, President July 2022 – July 2024

Prepared for the Sustainable Iowa Land Trust (SILT) Excel spreadsheets to calculate the benefits and costs of land donations, Fall 2015

4. Scholarly community

Editorial services

Public Finance and Management, Co-Editor, Sept 2023-present

Public Finance and Management, Managing Editor, May 2022 – Aug 2023

Public Finance Review, Associate Editor, July 2022-present

Municipal Finance Journal, Guest Editor on a special issue on “The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Municipal Taxes,” published in July 2023

Public Budgeting & Finance, Editorial Board Member, Fall 2019 - 2023

Vietnam Journal of Education, Editorial Board Member, 2021 -

International collaboration

Vietnam-America Association for Public Affairs and Policy (VAPAP), founder

Vietnam International Academic Networks (VIAN) Coordinator in the Education pillar in the five-year [Partnership for Higher Education Reform \(PHER\)](#). PHER is a USAID-funded project of \$14.2 million and coordinated by Indiana University, 2022-2026

Advised on a Vietnam National University-HCMC-led graduate program to train public managers and leaders in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Referee and review services

Non-journal review services

National Science Foundation, 2024

Annual conference of the American Educational Research Association, 2024

Review of Tenure Promotion, University of Texas at Dallas, Nov 2019

Academic journals

Public finance journals

Public Budgeting & Finance; National Tax Journal; Public Finance Review; Public Finance and Management; Journal of Education Finance; Journal of Public Budgeting, Accounting, and Financial Management; Pacific Accounting Review

Education journals

Education Economics; AERA Open; Review of Educational Research; Peabody Journal of Education; Vietnam Journal of Education

Planning journals

Journal of Planning Education and Research; Annals of Regional Science; Papers in Regional Science; Journal of Urban Planning and Development; Journal of Urban Economics; Economic Development Quarterly; Journal of Housing Economics; Journal of Urban Affairs; Journal of Urbanism; Urban Affairs Review; Land Use Policy; Asia-Pacific Journal of Regional Science Urban Studies; Housing, Theory and Society

General economic and other journals

Contemporary Economic Policy; Journal of Southeast Asian Economies; Social Science Journal Bulletin of Economic Research; Health Affairs; Sage Online ; Drug and Alcohol Dependence

Others

Communications Committee, National Education Finance Academy, 4/2022 - present
Dissertation Committee for Thao Pham, College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs, University of Illinois-Chicago, July 2022 -