

STEPHANIE LEISER
Ford School of Public Policy
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CURRENT POSITION

- Lecturer IV, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, University of Michigan
- 2016 – present (Promotion from Lecturer III to IV effective September 2019)
 - Faculty Affiliate and Leader of Local Fiscal Health Project, Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy
 - Microeconomics Instructor, Public Policy and International Affairs Program
 - Areas of interest: public finance, state and local government, tax policy, budgeting, financial management, business taxation

EDUCATION

- 2014 **Ph.D. Public Policy and Management**, University of Washington
Dissertation: *Essays on State Business Tax Incentives and Policy Diffusion*
Chair: Justin Marlowe
- 2012 **M.S. Public Policy and Management**, University of Washington
- 2005 **Master of Public Policy**, University of Michigan
Accelerated B.A./M.P.P. Program
- 2004 **B.A. Economics** with High Distinction, University of Michigan

PREVIOUS POSITIONS

- 2014-2015 Lecturer, Daniel J. Evans School of Public Affairs, University of Washington.
- 2010-2012 Editorial Assistant, *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*.
- 2005-2009 Tax Policy Analyst, Michigan House of Representatives. Lansing, MI

TEACHING

- Ford School of Public Policy, University of Michigan**
- F19-20 Economics for Public Affairs (Pub Pol 554)
- W16, 18-21 Budgeting and Financial Planning (Pub Pol 715)
- F16-18 Topics: Current Issues in Tax Policy (Pub Pol 495, 475/750)
- Su16-20 Microeconomics, Public Policy and International Affairs program

Evans School of Public Affairs, University of Washington

- Sp15 Current Issues in Tax Policy (PBAF 599)
 W15 Nonprofit Financial Management (PBAF 553, with Jennifer Bright)
 F14 Public Budgeting & Financial Management (PBAF 522, with Justin Marlowe)
 Su 12, 14 Introduction to Microeconomics and Public Policy (PBAF 499)
 Su13 Evans School Math Camp

Teaching Assistantships

- F12-13 Public Budgeting & Financial Management (PBAF 522), University of Washington
 Sp13 Quantitative Analysis II (PBAF 528), University of Washington
 F04 Public Sector Economics (Pub Pol 744, with Jim Hines), University of Michigan

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- Leiser, Stephanie & Sarah Mills. (2019) Local Government Fiscal Health: Comparing Self-Assessment to Conventional Measures. *Public Budgeting & Finance*, 39 (3), 75-96.
 Leiser, Stephanie. (2017) The Diffusion of State Film Incentives: A Mixed-Methods Case Study. *Economic Development Quarterly*, 31 (3), 255-267.
 Leiser, Stephanie. (2017) The Diffusion of State Tax Incentives for Business. *Public Finance Review*, 45 (3), 334-363.
 Leiser, Stephanie & Justin Marlowe. (2011) The Great Recession's Impact on the City of Seattle's Budget. *Municipal Finance Journal*, 32 (1), 143-161.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

- “Perceptions of Local Government Fiscal Health and Fiscal Stress: Evidence from Quantile Regressions”—with Shu Wang, Michigan State University (Under review)
 “Property Taxation of Wind Energy”
 “Duration Dependence in Policy Diffusion Studies”

PROJECTS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- 2020 Public Engagement Faculty Fellow (UM Office of Academic Innovation)
 Local Government COVID-19 Fiscal Strategy and Resource Guide (2020) Sponsored by the Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy
 - Editor and organizer
 - Author, “Strategies for Short-Term Cash-Flow Borrowing” (with Steven Norton)
 - Presented Resource Guide materials at a series of webinars hosted by the Michigan Department of Treasury
 2019 Road Scholars participant (UM Office of Government Relations)
 Leiser, Stephanie & Jason Morgan. (2019) “Using the State Drinking Water Revolving Fund to Facilitate Lead Service Line Replacement in Michigan: Case Studies and Recommendations.” Graham Sustainability Institute, University of Michigan.

Project team (2018 – 2019). Facilitating compliance with Michigan’s revised Lead and Copper Rule. University of Michigan Water Center/Graham Sustainability Institute. Funded by C.S. Mott Foundation.

Leiser, Stephanie. (2014) “Effective Budget Communication.” International City/County Management Association. *InFocus Reports*, 45 (6).

POPULAR PRESS ARTICLES

July/August 2020. COVID-19 and the impact on township revenues. *Township Focus – Michigan Townships Association*. (with Jill Roof)

March 20, 2020. Coronavirus response suffers when local government is starved. *The Hill*. (with Tom Ivacko)

March 27, 2020. Stimulus package will remain half-baked unless local governments get more of the dough. *The Conversation*.

August 8, 2018. Capital gains and why they matter – a tax expert explains. *The Conversation*.

December 21, 2017. Will Americans finally start fighting back against tax cuts for the rich? *The Conversation*. Republished by *The Washington Post*.

November 28, 2017. Taxpayers want more fairness. GOP plan to ‘reform’ the tax code doesn’t deliver. *The Conversation*.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND MEDIA

May 11, 2020. Interviewed by WWJ Detroit on COVID-19 effect on local governments.

May 11, 2020. Interviewed for Michigan Municipal League’s Review Magazine

February 20, 2020. Interviewed on Stateside (Michigan Radio) on Governor Whitmer’s road bonding program

December 12, 2018. Interviewed by *Governing’s* Alan Greenblatt for “Not Just Power Grabs: Lame-Duck Lawmakers Are Rushing Many Controversial Bills”

March 28, 2018. Invited panelist, Tax Reform Town Hall. Hosted by State Representative Robert Wittenberg. Berkley, MI

March 20, 2018. Invited speaker, “How Will Americans React to Tax Cuts for the Wealthy?” Hosted by Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, University of Michigan

January 13, 2018. Invited panelist, Tax Reform Town Hall. Hosted by U.S. Representative Debbie Dingell and members of the Michigan Legislature. Taylor, MI

January 11, 2018. Radio interview, “How Americans Judge Tax Reform” on *Top of Mind with Julie Rose*, BYU Radio

November 14, 2017. Invited presentation on “Tax Reform” Ford School Domestic Policy Corps

November 7, 2017. Interviewed by *Michigan Daily* for “Here’s how the proposed tax bill could impact college affordability”

March 2, 2015. Invited Presentation on “Understanding Tax Expenditures” Horizon House, Seattle, WA

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

- 2020 “Perceptions of Local Government Fiscal Health and Fiscal Stress: Evidence from Quantile Regressions.” Public Finance Seminar Series. University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI
- 2019 “How do Local Governments Perceive Fiscal Health?” Association for Budgeting and Financial Management (ASPA) Annual Conference. Washington, D.C. (with Shu Wang)
- 2019 “The Taxation of Wind Energy.” Renewable Energy Policy Initiative Workshop. University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI
- 2019 “Local Government Fiscal Health: Do subjective self-assessments match ‘the numbers’?” Seminar on Finance, Law, and Policy. University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI
- 2018 “Local Government Fiscal Health: Comparing Self-Assessments to Conventional Measures” Public Finance Seminar Series. University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI
- 2017 “Conceptualization of local government fiscal health: Comparing self-assessments to conventional measures” Ford School of Public Policy. University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI
- 2016 “The Diffusion of State Film Incentives: A Mixed-Methods Case Study.” Public Finance Seminar Series. University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI
- 2014 “The Diffusion of State Tax Incentives for Business.” Evans School of Public Affairs Research Seminar Series. Seattle, WA
- 2014 “The Diffusion of State Tax Incentives for Business.” Association for Budgeting and Financial Management Annual Conference. Grand Rapids, MI.
- 2013 “The Diffusion of State Film Incentives.” Public Management Research Association Annual Conference. Madison, WI.
- 2013 “The Diffusion of State Film Incentives.” Evans School of Public Affairs Research Seminar Series. Seattle, WA.
- 2010 “The Great Recession’s Impact on the City of Seattle’s Budget.” (with Justin Marlowe) Association for Budgeting and Financial Management Annual Conference. Omaha, NE.

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2019 Nominee for Golden Apple Teaching Award, University of Michigan
- 2015 Michael Curro Award, Association for Budgeting and Financial Management
- 2013 University of Washington Presidential Dissertation Fellowship
- 2013 Research Travel Award, Evans School of Public Affairs/Graduate School Fund for Excellence and Innovation, University of Washington
- 2004 Harold D. Osterweil Prize in Economics, University of Michigan

SERVICE

Ford School: BA Program Committee (2019-2020, 2020-2021), Research & Policy Engagement Committee (2018-2019), Faculty Judge: Case Competition @ Ford (2018)

Manuscript Reviewer: *Public Budgeting & Finance, Policy Studies Journal, State Politics & Policy Quarterly, Public Finance Review, Journal of Urban Affairs, Contemporary Economic Policy, Economic Development Quarterly*

Textbook Reviewer: Sharon Kioko and Justin Marlowe *Financial Strategy for Public Managers*. Rebus Community for Open Textbook Creation.

Updated January 6, 2021