

Sharon Leigh Wrobel

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EDUCATION

- 1995 – 2005 **University of Texas at Dallas**
Richardson, Texas
Doctor of Philosophy in Political Economy – August, 2005
Dissertation Title: *The Effectiveness of Language Minority Education Programs in a Large Texas School District: A Longitudinal Case Study*
Dissertation Committee: Paul Tracy (Committee Chair);
Richard Scotch; Paul Jargowsky; Sheila Pineres

Master of Science in Applied Sociology - August, 2000
- 1988 - 1995 **Arizona State University**
Tempe, Arizona
Master of Public Administration - May, 1995
Bachelor of Arts in Sociology - December, 1991

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2017– present **Associate Professor - Department Chair**
Department of Public and Nonprofit Administration
University of Memphis
Memphis, TN
- 2013 – 2016 **Associate Professor/ MPA Graduate Coordinator/
Graduate Certificate in Local Government
Management Coordinator**
Department of Public and Nonprofit Administration
University of Memphis
Memphis, TN
- 2010-2013 **Assistant Professor/ MPA Graduate Coordinator/
Graduate Certificate in Local Government
Management Coordinator**
Division of Public and Nonprofit Administration
University of Memphis
Memphis, TN

- 2006 – 2010 **Assistant Professor** – Public Policy & Administration
Institute of Government
University of Arkansas at Little Rock
Little Rock, AR
- 2006 – 2007 **Teaching Faculty** – Policy Analysis
University of Arkansas Clinton School of Public Service
Little Rock, AR
- 2004 – 2006 **Visiting Assistant Professor** - Public Administration, Political
Science, and Criminal Justice
Department of Political Science
Georgia Southern University
Statesboro, GA
- 2000 - 2004 **Assistant Professor** - Public Policy & Administration
Department of Political Science
Western Illinois University
Macomb, IL
- 1998 - 2000 **Research Associate** - Texas Schools Project
Green Center for the Study of Science and Society
University of Texas at Dallas
Richardson, TX
- 1995 - 1998 **Teaching Fellow** - Government and Politics
School of Social Sciences
University of Texas at Dallas
Richardson, Texas
- 1996 - 1997 **Associate Faculty** - Government
Social Sciences Department
Collin County Community College - Spring Creek
Plano, Texas

REFEREED ARTICLES

Jordan, M., Chapman, D., and Wrobel, S. (2014) Rich Districts, Poor Districts: The property tax equity impact of Arkansas school finance equalization. *Journal of Public Finance and Management*.

Wrobel, S. (2012). From Threat to Opportunity: A Head Start Program's Response to State-funded Pre-K. *Journal of Health and Human Services Administration*.

Wrobel, S. and Howard, J. (2011). [No Child Left Behind: Perceptions and Challenges for Rural Arkansas Educators](#). *Midsouth Political Science Review*.

Howard, J., Wrobel, S., and Nitta, K. (2010). [Implementing Change in an Urban School District: A Case Study of the Reorganization of the Little Rock School District](#). *Public Administration Review*.

Nitta, K., Holley, M., and Wrobel, S. (2010). [A Phenomenological Study of School Consolidation](#)." *Journal of Research in Rural Education*.

Nitta, K., Wrobel, S., Howard, J., and Eddings, E. (2009) [Leading Change in an Urban School District: Understanding a Failed District Reorganization Using Kotter's Eight-Step Model](#). *Public Performance & Management Review*. 32:3; March, 2009.

Nitta, K., Holley, M., and Wrobel, S. (2008). [A Phenomenological Study of School Consolidation](#)." *Education Working Paper Archive*. Fayetteville, AR. April 8, 2008.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Wrobel, S. (2010) [Making the Grade: Status of Achievement for African American Youth in Elementary and Secondary Education Systems of the State of Georgia](#). In *African Americans in Georgia: A Reflection of Politics and Policy in the New South*, ed. Pearl K. Ford. Mercer University Press.

PAPERS & CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

"Meeting Stakeholder Needs Through Interdisciplinary and Interdepartmental Degree Options: Opportunities, Roadblocks, and Logistics" (with Simmons, C. A., Menifield, C. E., Wrobel, S. L., & Moon, C. D). Panel presented at the *Annual Conference for the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration*. Atlanta, GA, October 10-13, 2018.

"Memphis school blues: Poverty and lack of access to good schools" (with Elena Delavega) presented at the *Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile's 2nd International Conference on Education and Poverty*, Villarrica, Chile, March 21-23, 2018.

"A Tale of Two Alas: Public Health Responses to Zika in Cuba and Puerto Rico." presented at the *Latin American Studies Association 2018 Congress* Barcelona, Spain, May 23-26, 2018.

"Eyes, Ears...and Voices: the evolution of Comités de Defensa de la Revolución." (with Fernanda Gutierrez). Presented at the *Annual Meeting of Midwest Political Science Association* Chicago, IL, April 6-9, 2017.

"Administrative Culture and Policy Change: Organizational and Generational Differences within the Cuban Ministry of Culture." Presented at the *Southeastern Conference of Public Administration Annual Meeting*, Charleston, SC, September 30 – October 3, 2015.

“Bureaucratic Change and Economic Reform: Administrative decentralization under the 2011 Cuban Guidelines” Presented at the *Latin American Studies Association National Congress* San Juan, PR, May 27-30, 2015.

"Cuban Provincial Governance: Using industrialized versus developing models of bureaucratic decentralization." (with Rodrigo Gonzalez). Presented at the *Annual Meeting of Midwest Political Science Association* Chicago, IL, April 3-6, 2014

"Perceptions and Impact of the Memphis City/ Shelby County School District Merger." (with Michael Howell-Moroney and Charles Santo). Presented at the *2013 Southeastern Conference of Public Administration Annual Meeting* Charlotte, NC, September 25 -28, 2013.

"Bureaucratic change and economic reform: Administrative decentralization in two Cuban provinces." (with Rodrigo Gonzalez). Presented at the *2013 Southeastern Conference of Public Administration Annual Meeting* Charlotte, NC, September 25 -28, 2013.

“Memphis School Blues: Race, economics, and school disciplinary policies.” (With Elena Delavega). Accepted for presentation at the *Southeast Conference of Public Administration 2012 Annual Meeting*, Coral Springs, FL, October 3-6, 2012.

“*Predicting Graduate Success in the MPA: Ethnicity, Professional Service and the GRE*” (with Charles Menifield and Leigh Hersey). Presented at the *35th Annual Teaching Public Administration Conference*, South Padre Island, TX, May 21-23, 2012.

“The Terror Narrative: Public Policy in a Post-September 11th World” (Presenter, with Jason M. Sonnenfelt) Accepted for presentation at the *36th Meeting of the Semiotic Society of America*, Pittsburgh, PA, October 27-30, 2011.

“Policy Framing and Public Discourse: Implications of the Terror Narrative” (Presenter, with Jason M. Sonnenfelt) Accepted for presentation at the *Southeast Conference of Public Administration (SECoPA) 2011 Conference*, New Orleans, LA September 21-24.

“A House Divided: The Role of Job Commitment and Satisfaction in Employee Support for a School District Reorganization”(Presenter) Presented at the *Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association*, Chicago, IL, March 31-April 3, 2011.

“Back in the Fold or Out in the Cold: Rural Superintendents’ Respond to Obama’s Blueprint for Reform.” (Presenter) Presented at the *2011 Arkansas Political Science Association Meeting*, Little Rock, AR, March 4-5, 2011.

“From Threat to Opportunity: A Head Start Program’s Response to State-funded Pre-K.” (Presenter). Presented at the *Southeast Conference of Public Administration (SECoPA) 2010 Conference*, Wilmington, N.C. October 13-16, 2010.

“No Child Left Behind? A Rural Perspective on the Legislation.” (Presenter, with Joseph

Howard) Presented at the *Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association*, Chicago, IL, April 22-25, 2010.

“No Child Left Behind: Perceptions and Challenges for Rural Arkansas Educators.” (With Joseph Howard, Presenter). Presented at the Annual Meeting of the *Southwestern Social Science Association*, Houston, TX, March 31-April 3, 2010.

“Rich Districts, Poor Districts: The Tax Efforts of Arkansas School Districts” (with Meagan Jordan, Presenter). Presented at the *Western Social Science Association 51st Annual Conference* in Albuquerque, New Mexico. (April 15-18, 2009)

“Implementing Change in an Urban School District: A Case Study of the Reorganization of the Little Rock School District” (with Joe Howard, Presenter, and Keith Nitta). Presented at the *Western Political Science Association 2009 Annual Meeting* In Vancouver, BC. (March 19-21, 2009).

“Financing Arkansas Schools: From the *Lake View* Case and Beyond” (with Meagan Jordan, Presenter). Presented at the *20th Annual Conference of the Association for Budgeting and Financial Management*. Chicago, IL (October 23 – 25, 2008).

“Strategic Response of School Leaders to a New Management Structure.” (Presenter - with Joseph Howard, Ellen Jimmerson-Eddings, and Keith Nitta). Presented at the *American Society for Public Administration's 69th Annual Conference* in Dallas, Texas. (March 7-11, 2008)

"A Phenomenological Study of School Consolidation." (with Keith Nitta, Presenter, and Marc Holley). Presented at the *2008 American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting* in New York, NY. (March 24-28, 2008).

Education Roundtable. 2008 *Arkansas Political Science Association Meeting*. (Speaker) Fayetteville, AR.(February, 2008).

“The Issue-Attention Cycle and Executive Opportunity: An integrated approach to the War on Terror.” (Presenter - with David Connelly) Presented at the 2006 *Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting* in Atlanta, Georgia. (January 4-7, 2006)

“Multiple Messages: Teaching Research Methods for diverse student groups.” Presented at the *2005 Southeast Conference of Public Administration Annual Meeting* in Little Rock. (October 5-8, 2005).

"Civil Service Reform in a Market-based World" (with David Connelly and Ryan Taylor, Presenter) presented at the *American Political Science Association's 2003 Annual Meeting and Exhibition* in Philadelphia. (August 2003)

“Revisiting the Issue-Attention Cycle: New Perspectives and Prospects” (Presenter - with David Connelly) Presented at the *American Political Science Association's 2002 Annual Meeting and Exhibition* in Boston (August-September 2002)

“Reconsidering Comparative Public Administration: Attracting and Serving Alumni of International Service Organizations,” Presented at the 24th Annual Teaching Public Administration Conference, Arizona State University - Tempe, Arizona, February, 2001

“It’s Not Your Father’s Oldsmobile: Rethinking PA Programs for the New Millennium,”(Moderator/Presenter) 24th Annual Teaching Public Administration Conference, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona, February, 2001

"An Assessment of Bilingual Education Programs in a Large Texas School District," (Presenter - with Daniel M. O'Brien) *Association for Public Policy and Management*, New York, November, 1998.

"Regionalism Reconsidered: The Evolution of Regional Governments," Presented at the *Southwestern Social Sciences Conference*, New Orleans, LA, March 1997.

FUNDED RESEARCH and REPORTS

- 2017 The Urban Child Institute
Lifelong Initiative for Family Empowerment Year II
Co-Principal Investigator (\$284,000)
- 2016 The Urban Child Institute
Lifelong Initiative for Family Empowerment Year I
Co-Principal Investigator (\$336,000)
- 2013 Faculty Research Grant
Baseline Study of the Memphis City/ Shelby County School District Merger
Principal Investigator (\$6000)
- 2012 Porter Leath Preschool at KIPP
Preschool Program Evaluation
Principal Investigator (\$7000)
- 2012 University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Head Start / Early Head Start
2012 Comprehensive Community Assessment
Author (\$6000)
- 2011 University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Head Start / Early Head Start
2010-2011 Program Standard Monitoring Report
Author (\$2,200)
- 2010 University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Head Start / Early Head Start
2009-2010 UAMS Head Start/ Early Head Start Annual Report
Author (\$1,800)

- 2010 University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Head Start / Early Head Start
2009-2010 Program Standard Monitoring Report
Author (\$2,400)
- 2009 University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Head Start / Early Head Start
2008-2009 UAMS Head Start/ Early Head Start Annual Report
Author (\$1,800)
- 2008 Arkansas Department of Health Infant Hearing Program
Outreach Activities Regarding Infants Lost to Follow-up Hearing Testing
Co-Principal Investigator (\$36,000)
- 2008 University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Head Start / Early Head Start
2008 Comprehensive Community Assessment
Principal Investigator (\$16,000)
- 2007 **Little Rock School District Reorganization Evaluation**
Principal Investigator (\$65,000)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Reviewer, *Public Personnel Management*, 2013 - present
 Reviewer, *Journal of Health and Human Services Administration*, 2012 - present
 Southeast Conference of Public Administration (SECoPA), *Secretary* 2011 - present
 SECoPA Site Selection Committee 2010
 SECoPA Morris W.H. Collins Award Committee, *Chair* 2011-2012
 Pi Alpha Alpha National Council 2008-2012
 Pi Alpha Alpha Chapter/Faculty Advisor Award of Excellence Committee 2011
 ASPA Midsouth-Memphis Chapter, *Treasurer* 2010- present
 Reviewer, *Journal of Research in Rural Education* 2011
 Executive Board, Arkansas Political Science Association 2008 – 2010
 Associate Editor, *Midsouth Political Science Review* 2006 - present
 Section Chair, Public Administration and Policy: Arkansas Political Science Association
 2011
 Panel Moderator, Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting - 2011
 Section Chair, Public Administration and Policy: Arkansas Political Science Association –
 2007

UNIVERSITY / COLLEGE SERVICE

Faculty Senate 2016-2017
 College of Arts and Sciences Tenure and Promotion Committee 2015-2016
 College of Arts and Sciences Professional Development Assignment Selection Committee
 2015
 College of Arts and Sciences Travel Enrichment Grant Committee 2010-2016
 College of Arts and Sciences Graduate Council 2010 - present

Faculty Judge, Graduate Student Research Forum 2007-2009
2007 UALR-Graz Internship Program, 2007
First Year Experience Planning Committee 2003 - 2004
Western Survey Research Center Planning Committee 2003 - 2004
Bureau of Cultural Affairs 2003 - 2004
College of Arts and Sciences Faculty Council 2002 – 2004
Arts and Sciences Teacher Education Committee 2000 – 2004
Faculty Development Advisory Committee 2002 - 2004
University Undergraduate Research Day Planning Committee 2003
Faculty Mentor 2001-2003
Western Organization for Women, Secretary 2001-2002

SCHOOL / DEPARTMENT SERVICE

Division of Public & Nonprofit Administration Faculty Search Committee 2017
SUAPP Ph.D. Development Committee 2014-present
SUAPP Ph.D. Curriculum Committee 2015-present
SUAPP Planning Committee 2015-2017
MPA Assessment Committee (Chair) 2013
MPA Graduate Program Advisor 2010 – present
Graduate Certificate in Local Government Management Advisor 2010 – present
Division of Public & Nonprofit Administration Faculty Search Committee 2012
Division of Public & Nonprofit Administration Faculty Search Committee 2012
Division of Public & Nonprofit Administration Director Search Committee 2011
Division of Public & Nonprofit Administration Director Search Committee 2010
College of Professional Studies Faculty Council 2008 – 2010
College of Professional Studies Curriculum Committee 2007- 2008
Faculty Advisor, Graduate Students of Public Administration 2006 -2010
MPA Faculty Committee 2004 – 2006
Student Recruitment Committee 2001 - 2004
Ad Hoc Committee on Public Administration 2000 - 2004
Curriculum Committee 2000- 2004
Faculty Advisor, Associated Students of Political Science 2000 - 2004

COMMUNITY SERVICE

President, Board of Directors, *International Outreach Educational Center* 2015 –present
Member *National Network on Cuba* 2015 – present.
Grant Reviewer, *Women's Foundation for a Greater Memphis* 2012
Executive Board Member, BCD Community Development Corporation 2008 – 2011
External Reviewer, UAMS Head Start/Early Head Start Self-Assessment 2008 - 2010
S.I.PU.E.D.E.S! Student Mentoring Program 1998-2000

AWARDS AND HONORS

College of Arts and Sciences Professional Development Assignment Spring 2015
University of Memphis Faculty Research Grant 2013
Green Center Scholar - Green Center for the Study of Science and Society, University of Texas at Dallas (1998 – 2000)

Outstanding Graduate - College of Public Programs, Arizona State University (1995)
Graduate Writing Award; College of Public Programs - Arizona State University (1995)
Kenneth MacDonald Scholarship - School of Public Affairs (1994)
Pi Alpha Alpha Honor Society
Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society