

Robert Bifulco, Jr.
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Department of Public Policy
University of Connecticut
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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Syracuse University, Public Administration, 2001
Dissertation: *Do Whole School Reform Models Boost Student Performance*
Fields: Public Finance, Budgeting and Financial Management; Social Policy

M.P.A., Syracuse University, 1994
Fields: Social Policy; State and Local Government Finance

M.A., Rice University, Philosophy, 1993
Thesis Topic: Political liberalism and the neutrality thesis

B.A., Bucknell University, *Cum Laude*, 1989
Major: Philosophy Member *Phi Beta Kappa*

CURRENT POSITION

Assistant Professor, Department of Public Policy, University of Connecticut

POSITIONS HELD

2004- Assistant Professor, Department of Public Policy, University of Connecticut
2001-2004 Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Connecticut
2001-2002 Research Scholar, Center for Child and Family Policy, Duke University
1997-2001 Research Associate, Center for Policy Research, Syracuse University
1997-2000 Teaching Assistant, Syracuse University, M.P.A. Program
1996-1997 Budget Analyst, Erie County Division of Budget and Finance, Buffalo, NY
1994-1996 Education Program Analyst, New York State Education Department, New York, NY
1993 Instructor, University of Houston-Clear Lake, Department of Humanities
1989-1993 University Graduate Fellow, Rice University, Philosophy Department

AREAS OF INTEREST

Education Policy; State & Local Government Finance; Program Evaluation & Policy Analysis

COURSES TAUGHT

State and Local Government Fiscal Problems (Undergraduate, MPA)
Social Policy (Undergraduate, MPA)
Analytic Tools for Public Administrators (MPA)
Program Evaluation (Undergraduate)
Public Budgeting (MPA)

FULL-LENGTH PEER REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

“School Choice, Racial Segregation and Test-Score Gaps: Evidence from North Carolina’s Charter School Program.” Forthcoming. *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management* 26(1). (With Helen F. Ladd).

“The Impacts of Charter Schools on Student Achievement: Evidence from North Carolina.” 2006. *Education Finance and Policy* 1(1): 50-90. (With Helen F. Ladd).

“Institutional Change and the Coproduction of Public Services: The Effect of Charter Schools on Parental Involvement.” 2005. *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*. Advanced Access published November 30. (With Helen F. Ladd).

“District Level Black-White Funding Disparities in the United States: 1987-2002.” 2005. *Journal of Education Finance* 31(4): 172-197.

“Do Whole-School Reforms Boost Student Performance: Evidence from New York City.” 2005. *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management* 24(1): 49-74. (With William Duncombe and John Yinger).

“Addressing Selection Bias in Quasi-Experimental Evaluations of Whole-School Reform: A Comparison of Methods.” 2002. *Evaluation Review* 26(5): 544-571.

“Measuring School Efficiency: An Evaluation of Methods Using Simulated Data.” 2001. *Economics of Education Review* 20(5): 417-429. (With Stuart Bretschneider).

“Identifying Low-Performance Schools.” 2000. *Studies in Educational Evaluation* 26(2): 259-287. (With Salwa Ammar, William Duncombe, and Ronald Wright).

OTHER PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

“Charter Schools: Troubling News from the Tar Heel State.” 2005. *Education Next* 5(4): 60-66. (With Helen F. Ladd).

“Response to Comment on Estimating School Efficiency.” 2003. *Economics of Education Review* 22(6): 635-638. (With Stuart Bretschneider).

BOOK CHAPTERS

“Charter Schools.” (Forthcoming). In Helen F. Ladd and Edward Fiske, eds., *Handbook of Research in Education Finance and Policy*. Lawrence Erlbaum Associates. (With Katrina Bulkley).

“Charter Schools in North Carolina.” (Forthcoming). In Mark Berends, Matthew Springer, and Herbert Walberg, eds., *Charter Schools: What Fosters Growth and Outcomes*. Lawrence Erlbaum Associates. (With Helen F. Ladd).

“Can Whole-School Reform Improve the Productivity of Urban Schools: The Evidence on Three Models.” 2002. In Christopher Roelke and Jennifer King Rice, eds., *Fiscal Policy in Urban Schools*. Greenwich, CT: Information Age Publishing, pp. 11-36.

“Evaluating School Performance: Are We Ready for Prime Time.” 2002. In William Fowler, Jr., ed., *Developments in School Finance, 1999-2000*. Washington, DC: National Center for Educational Statistics, pp. 9-28. (With William Duncombe).

BOOK REVIEWS

Review of *The Political Economy of Education: Implications for Growth and Inequality* by Mark Gradstein, Moshe Justman, and Volker Meier forthcoming in *Economics of Education Review*.

ARTICLES UNDER REVIEW

“The Influence of Performance-Based Accountability on the Distribution of Teacher Salary Increases.” Submitted to *Economics of Education Review*.

OP-EDS

“Charter Schools are hurting student achievement” *Raleigh News and Observer*, August 29, 2004 (with Helen F. Ladd).

REPORTS

Linking Education Funding to Student Achievement Standards. Report submitted to Governor M. Jodi Rell’s Commission on Education Finance, May 2006

The Promise of Charter Schools: Innovation, Organization and Performance (with Helen F. Ladd). Final Report submitted to Smith Richardson Foundation, May 2005.

Do Whole-School Reform Programs Boost Student Performance? The Case of New York City (with Carolyn Bourdeaux, William Duncombe, and John Yinger). Final Report submitted to the Smith Richardson Foundation, July 2002.

The Impact of the New York State Class Size Reduction Initiative on Teacher Resources. Report commissioned by and submitted to the New York State Education Department, May 2001.

FUNDED RESEARCH

“Evaluation of Bureau of Educational Equity Programs.” Co-Principal Investigator (with Casey Cobb and Helen F. Ladd). Connecticut State Department of Education. 2006-2008. (\$299,513).

“The Promise of Charter Schools: Innovation, Organization and Performance.” Co-Principal Investigator (with Helen F. Ladd). Smith Richardson Foundation. 2002-2005. (\$222,809).

“Do Whole-School Reform Programs Boost Student Performance? The Case of New York City,” Co-Principal Investigator (with John Yinger and William Duncombe). Smith Richardson Foundation. 2000-2002. (\$248,957).

“A Preliminary Evaluation of the New York State Class-Size Reduction Initiative,” Principal Investigator (with William Duncombe). New York State Education Department. 2000-2001. (\$30,000).

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

“Charter Schools in North Carolina.” National Center of School Choice (NCSC) at Vanderbilt University, September 28 and 29, 2006

“Studying Achievement in Charter Schools: What Do We Know.” Annual Business Meeting of the American Education Research Association Special Interest Group: Charter School Research and Evaluation, Montreal, Canada, April 11, 2005.

“Institutional Change and the Coproduction of Public Services: The Effect of Charter Schools on Parental Involvement.” Institute of Education and Social Policy Seminar Series sponsored by Steinhardt School of Education, New York University, February 16, 2005.

“The Impacts of Charter Schools on Student Achievement: Evidence from North Carolina” *New England Study Group* sponsored by the Boston Federal Reserve, Boston, MA, April 15, 2004.

“Do Whole-School Reform Models Boost Student Performance: Evidence from New York City” *Micro-Incentives Research Center Annual Conference*, Duke University, December 7-8, 2002.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Can School Choice Promote Racial Integration?” *Association of Public Policy Analysis and Management Fall Conference*, Madison, WI, November 3, 2006.

“The Influence of Performance-Based Accountability on the Distribution of Teacher Salary Increases.” *American Education Finance Association Annual Conference*. Denver, CO, March 25, 2006.

“School Choice, Racial Segregation, and Test Score Gaps: Evidence from North Carolina’s

Charter School Program.” *American Economic Association Annual Meeting*, January 8, 2006.

“School Choice, Racial Segregation, and Test Score Gaps: Evidence from North Carolina’s Charter School Program.” *Association of Public Policy Analysis and Management Fall Conference*, Washington, DC, November 3, 2005.

“Race and Charter Schools: Evidence from North Carolina.” *American Education Finance Association Annual Conference*, Louisville, KY, March 17, 2005.

“The Impacts of Charter Schools on Student Achievement: Evidence from North Carolina” *Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting*, New Orleans, LA, November 22, 2004.

“Can Institutional Changes Stimulate Participation? The Effect of Charter Schools on Parental Involvement” *Association of Public Policy Analysis and Management Fall Conference*, Atlanta, GA, October 30, 2004.

“Can Funding Disparities Explain the Black-White Test Score Gap?” *Association of Budgeting and Financial Management Annual Conference*, Chicago, IL, October 8, 2004.

“Can Funding Disparities Explain the Black-White Test Score Gap?” *Western Social Science Association Annual Conference*, Salt Lake City, UT, April 24, 2004 (with Anna Lukemeyer).

“Can Funding Disparities Explain the Black-White Test Score Gap?” *American Education Finance Association Annual Conference*, Salt Lake City, UT, March 12, 2004 (with Anna Lukemeyer).

“The Impacts of Charter Schools on Student Achievement: Evidence from North Carolina” *Association of Public Policy Analysis and Management Fall Conference*, Washington, D.C., November 6, 2003.

“Can Institutional Changes Stimulate Participation? The Effect of Charter Schools on Parental Involvement” University of Connecticut Department of Political Science Colloquium, October 2003.

“Is Small Beautiful? Assessing the Costs and Benefits of Small Schools” *Association of Public Policy Analysis and Management Fall Conference*, Dallas, TX, November 9, 2002

“Whole-School Reform and Educational Productivity” *American Education Finance Association Annual Conference*, Albuquerque, NM, March 8, 2002

“Do Whole-School Reform Models Boost Student Performance: Evidence from New York City” *American Education Finance Association Annual Conference*, Cincinnati, OH, March 24, 2001.

“Do Whole-School Reform Models Boost Student Performance: Preliminary Results from New York City” *Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Fall Conference*, Seattle, WA, November 4, 2000.

“Do Whole-School Reform Models Boost Student Performance: Preliminary Results from New York City” *Association of Budgeting and Financial Management Annual Conference*, Kansas City, MO October 8, 2000.

“The Effects of Neighborhoods on the School Performance of Students in Low-Performing New York City Schools.” *American Education Finance Association Annual Conference*, Austin, TX, March 9, 2000 (with Lloyd Blanchard).

“Evaluating Education Performance: Are We Ready for Prime Time?” *National Center for Education Statistics Forum and Summer Data Conference*, Washington, D.C., July 29, 1999.

“Measuring School Efficiency: An Evaluation of Methods Using Simulated Data” *American Education Finance Association Annual Conference*, Seattle, WA, March 17, 1999.

“Using Fuzzy-Logic to Identify Low-Performance Schools” *Association of Budgeting and Financial Management Annual Conference*, Washington, D.C., November 7, 1998 (with William Duncombe).

HONORS AND AWARDS

American Education Finance Association Jean Flanigan Outstanding Dissertation Award,

March 2003

National Center for Education Statistics/American Education Finance Association New Scholars Program Award, \$3,000, March 2001

DEPARTMENTAL AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Undergraduate Programs Director, Department of Public Policy	Fall 2006-present
University Interdepartmental Courses & Curriculum Committee	Fall 2006-present
Department of Public Policy Representative to College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Courses & Curriculum Committee	Fall 2004-Fall 2006
Organizer of Department of Public Policy/Urban and Community Studies Speaker Series	Fall 2004-present
MPA Committee, Department of Public Policy	Fall 2004-present
Undergraduate Program Committee, Department of Public Policy	Fall 2004-present
Tri-Campus Urban & Community Studies Faculty Committee	Fall 2002-present

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

Referee for *Economic Inquiry*, *Economics of Education Review*, *Education Economics*, *Education Next*, *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*, *Education Policy Analysis Archives*, *Field Methods*, *Journal of Education Finance*, *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*, *National Tax Journal*, *Public Administration Review*

Reviewer for Smith-Richardson Foundation Domestic Public Policy Program.

Affiliated Faculty, Education Finance and Accountability Program, Center for Policy Research, Syracuse University.

Member of American Education Finance Association, American Educational Research Association, Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management.