

Mark D. Robbins

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Education B.A., Gordon College, Wenham, MA, Psychology, 1984
M.A., University of Oregon, Eugene, OR, Public Affairs, December 1994
Ph.D., Syracuse University, Public Administration, 1998
Fields: public finance, public administration theory, social policy implementation
Dissertation: "The Influence of State and Local Governments on Elderly Migration"
Dissertation Advisor: William D. Duncombe

Awards: 2004. Jesse Burkhead award for best paper published in *Public Budgeting and Finance*.
1999 – 2000 Public Administration Professor of the Year. University of Georgia Master of Public Administration Program.

Academic Experience

Department Head, Department of Public Policy, University of Connecticut. 2005 – present.

Associate Professor, Department of Public Policy, University of Connecticut. 2004 – present.
Teaching undergraduate students in Urban and Community Studies and graduate students in Public Administration.

Assistant Professor, Institute of Public Affairs and Department of Political Science. University of Connecticut 2001 – 2004. Teaching undergraduate students in Urban and Community Studies and graduate students in Public Administration.

Assistant Professor, 1998-2001. Department of Political Science. University of Georgia. Teaching public finance, budget, quantitative aids and public financial management classes to graduate students in public administration and non-profit management.

Professional Experience

Analyst, 1995, City of Eugene, Oregon

Research Consultant, 1995, Human Services Research Institute, Salem, Oregon

Director of Development, 1992-1993, Haverhill-Newburyport Human Services, Inc.

Director of Respite and Family Support Programs, 1987-1992, Haverhill-Newburyport Human Services, Inc.

Regional Director for Community Volunteer Services, 1986-1987, American Red Cross of Massachusetts Bay

Research

Refereed Articles – In print

- “State rules about the use of net interest cost and true interest cost for calculating municipal bond interest rates.” 2005. (with Bill Simonsen and Bernard Jump Jr.) *Municipal Finance Journal*. 26(1):1-25
- “Predicting municipal bond interest rates: Uses in negotiated sale pricing.” (with Bill Simonsen). 2004. *Municipal Finance Journal*. 25(2):1-12
- “Municipal Bond Auctions and Borrowing Costs.” 2004. (with Bill Simonsen and Chrissy Rocco) *Municipal Finance Journal* 25(1): 1-16.
- “The Impact of Tax Price on Spending Preferences” *Public Budgeting and Finance*. 2004. (with Bill Simonsen and Barry Feldman). 24 (3):82-97.
- “Do State Bond Banks Have Cost Advantages for Municipal Bond Issuance?” 2003. *Public Budgeting and Finance*. (With Daehwan Kim). 23(1):92-108.
- “Financial Advisor Independence and the Choice of Municipal Bond Sale Type.” 2003. *Municipal Finance Journal* (with Bill Simonsen) 24(1): 37-57
- “Factors Influencing Negotiated Sale Borrowing Costs.” 2003. *Municipal Finance Journal* (with Bill Simonsen) 24(1):1-16
- “Place Characteristics and residential location choice among the retirement-age population.” 2003. *Journals of Gerontology Series B-Psychological Science and Social Sciences*. 58(4): S244-S252 (with Bill Duncombe and Doug Wolf).
- “Reasonableness, Satisfaction and Willingness to Pay Property Taxes.” 2003. *Urban Affairs Review* (with Bill Simonsen) 38(6): 831-854
- “Measuring Citizen Preferences for Public Services Using Surveys: Does a “Gray Peril” Threaten Funding for Public Education?” 2002. *Public Budgeting and Finance* (with Bill Duncombe and Jeffrey Stonecash) 23(1): 45-72
- “The Georgia Lottery and State Appropriations: Substitution or Additional Funding?” 2002. *Public Budgeting and Finance* 22(3):89-100 (with Thomas P. Lauth)
- “Testing the Effects of Sale Method Restrictions in Municipal Bond Issuance: The Case of New Jersey” 2002. *Public Budgeting and Finance*. 22(2):40-56
- “Measuring Municipal Borrowing Costs: How Missing Cost Information Biases Interest Rate Calculations.” 2002. *Public Budgeting and Finance* 22(1):46-59 (With Bill Simonsen)

- "A Dynamic Model of Citizen Preference Revelation" 2002. *Public Budgeting Accounting and Financial Management* 14(3):445-462 (With Bill Simonsen)
- "Using Data Envelopment Analysis to Evaluate the Performance of Municipal Bond Issuers." 2002. *State and Local Government Review* 34(1): 20-28 (With Bill Simonsen)
- "The Influence of Jurisdiction Size and Sale Type on Municipal Bond Interest Rates: An Empirical Analysis." 2001. *Public Administration Review*. Vol 61 No. 6. pp. 709-717 (With Bill Simonsen and Lee Helgersen)
- "Retire to Where? A discrete choice model of residential location." 2001. *International Journal of Population Geography*. Vol 7:281-293. (With Bill Duncombe and Douglas Wolf).
- "Is TIC Always the Most Appropriate Cost of Capital Measure?" 2001. *Municipal Finance Journal*. 22(2): 1-14 (With Bill Simonsen and Bernard Jump, Jr.)
- "Debt Diligence: How states manage the borrowing function." 2001. *Public Budgeting and Finance*. 21(2): 88-105. (With Casey Dungan)
- "Do Debt Policies Make a Difference in Finance Officers' Perceptions of the Importance of Debt Management Factors?" 2001. *Public Budgeting and Finance* 21(1): 87-102. (With Bill Simonsen and William P. Kittredge)
- "Maturity Structure and Borrowing Costs: The Implications of Level Debt Service." 2000. *Municipal Finance Journal*. 21(3): 40-60 (With Bill Simonsen and Bernard Jump, Jr.)
- "The Influence of Fiscal information on Preferences for City Services." 2000. *Social Science Journal*. 37(2): 195-214. (With Bill Simonsen)
- "The Benefit Equity Principle and Willingness to pay for City Services." 1999. *Public Budgeting and Finance*. 19 (2):90-110. (With Bill Simonsen)
- "Does it Make any Difference Anymore? Competitive Versus Negotiated Municipal Bond Issuance," 1996. *Public Administration Review*. 56(1): 57-64. (With Bill Simonsen)

Book

Citizen Participation in Resource Allocation. 2000. Boulder, CO. Westview Press. Series: Urban Policy Challenges. Editor: Terry Nichols Clark. (With Bill Simonsen).

Book Chapters and Commentary

"Management and Performance Outcomes" in *State Government in Linking Up: How Governance and Management Matter to Performance*. Laurence E. Lynn, Jr. and Patricia W. Ingraham, Editors [peer reviewed] (with Donahue, Amy K; Willow S. Jacobson, Ellen Rubin, and Sally C. Selden).

- “An Approach to Bond Pricing.” 2003. *Municipal Finance Journal*. 23(2):44-46
- “Municipal Securities.” 2003. *Encyclopedia of Public Administration and Public Policy*. New York. Marcel Dekker. pp. 795-799 –peer reviewed (with Bill Simonsen)
- “Debt Affordability.” 2003. *Encyclopedia of Public Administration and Public Policy*. New York. Marcel Dekker. Pp.308-312 –peer reviewed (with Bill Simonsen)
- “Lessons from Research on Municipal Bond Issuance.” 2002. *Municipal Finance Journal*. 23(2):1-13
- “Municipal Bond Issuance: Can research help?” 2000. *Municipal Finance Journal*. 21(3): vi-ix
- “What’s Wrong and What Should be Done? Comments on the Case Study” 2000. *Public Productivity and Management Review*. 23 (3): 399-407.
- "Introduction to the Special Issue on Governance." 1998. *Social Science Journal*. 35(4): 477-491. (with Lisa S. Nelson and Bill Simonsen)
- “Municipal Bonds: Security,” 1997. *International Encyclopedia of Public Affairs and Administration*. Boulder, CO. Westview Press.

Working Papers, Professional Reports and Research Notes

- Simonsen, Bill; Mark Robbins and Bill Kittredge. 2001. “How Debt Managers View Debt Policies” *Public Policy Research Notes*. Carl Vinson Institute of Government, University of Georgia. Volume 5. April.
- William Duncombe, Mark Robbins and Douglas Wolf. 2000. “Chasing the Elderly: Can State and Local Governments Attract Recent Retirees?” Aging Studies Program Paper No. 22. Center for Policy Research, Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs. Syracuse University. Syracuse, NY.
- Robbins, Mark D. 1995. “A Survey of Local Government Public Affairs: Report to the City of Eugene” April. Report.
- Kimmich, Madeline, Mark D. Robbins, Mary Coacher and Binnie Lehew. 1995. “Decategorization as a Strategy for Comprehensive Community-Based Planning: Lessons Learned in Implementation” Human Services Research Institute. Salem, OR. June.

Research Grants/Contracts

Department of Homeland Security (NSF). 2004. "Safe Cities: Technological Needs of Emergency Responders." \$300,000. Co-Principal Investigator (with Kenneth Dautrich).

Department of Homeland Security (NSF). 2005: Regional Technology Integration Initiative: Citizen Willingness to Pay for Terrorism Preparedness and Response." \$958,000 Principal Investigator.

SAIC/Hicks and Associates. 2006. "High Threat City Analysis" (Willingness to pay taxes). \$118,750. Principal Investigator.

Current Research

"Ignorance, Ideology and Willingness to Pay Taxes." (with Bill Simonsen)

"The Persistence of NIC" (with Bill Simonsen and Bernard Jump, Jr.)

"Fairness or Preference? Evaluating MWBE use and set asides" (with Bill Simonsen)

"Public Perceptions of the Value of Public Education: Non-users' Willingness to pay Taxes." (with Dana Balter).

"Citizens and Resource Allocation: Improving Decision Making with Interactive Web Based Citizen Participation" (with Bill Simonsen and Barry Feldman)

Service

Invited Lectures

"Which Way to Market? Competitive Versus Negotiated Bond Sales" presented to the Government Finance Officer's Association 48th Annual National Conference. June 15, 2004. Milwaukee, WI. (with Bill Simonsen)

"Using Web Based Technology to Reveal Citizen Preferences" presented to the Connecticut chapter of the American Society for Public Administration. February, 2004. West Hartford, CT.

"Understanding Municipal Bond Research" presented to the National Association of Independent Financial Advisors. October 7, 2002. San Francisco.

"Fairness or Preference: Exploring MWBE underwriting firms" presented at "Promoting New and Small Businesses in the Inner City: Improving the Environment and Obtaining Funds," Joseph C. Cornwall Center for Metropolitan Studies, Rutgers University. May 10th, 2002. Newark, NJ.

"Lessons from Research on Bond Banks" presented to the 2002 Virginia Local Government

Infrastructure Financing Conference. May 7-8, 2002. Virginia Beach.

“Lessons from Research on Municipal Bond Issuance” presented to the National Association of Independent Financial Advisors. October 11, 2002. New Orleans.

“Lessons from Research on Municipal Bond Issuance” presented to the Georgia Municipal Association. May, 2000. Savannah, GA.

Academic Institution

Institute of Public Affairs, University of Connecticut. Interim director of Center for Policy Analysis and Management for academic year 2001-2002.

Institute for Non Profit Organizations. University of Georgia. Faculty member in a new interdisciplinary program conferring masters degrees in non profit management. 2000-2001.

Public Administration Advisory Committee. Department of Political Science. University of Georgia. 1999 -2001.

Member (provisional) Graduate Faculty of University of Georgia. Served on dissertation committees for students in public administration and political science.

Professional Service

Award: “Best Section Coordinator” Western Social Science Association. 2001. (with co-coordinator Bill Simonsen)

Panel coordinator and moderator, Annual Conference of the Association for Budgeting and Financial Management, 1998, 1999. Annual Conference of the Western Social Science Association, 1999, 2000.

Co-chair and co-founder: Section on Public Finance and Budgeting. Western Social Science Association. Section coordinator (2001, 2002, 2003 with Bill Simonsen)

Guest editor, *Municipal Finance Journal* (Vol. 21, No. 3)

Examiner: Government Finance Officer’s Association accreditation exam (1999).

Manuscripts reviewed for: *Public Budgeting and Finance*, *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*, *National Tax Journal*, *State and Local Government Review*

Community Service

Board member, Chair of finance committee (2000-2001); Member, finance and audit committees (1998-1999): American Red Cross of Northeast Georgia. Vice Chairman and Board member: American Red Cross of Greater Newburyport (1989-1993).

Conference Presentations

- “Positive Externalities of Public Education.” Paper presented at the Public Finance and Budgeting Section of the 45th Annual Meeting of the Western Social Science Association, April, 2004. With Dana Balter.
- “Understanding Preferences for Front Yard Services.” Paper presented at the Public Finance and Budgeting Section of the 45th Annual Meeting of the Western Social Science Association, April, 2004. With Bill Simonsen and Barry Feldman.
- “Ignorance, Ideology, and Willingness to Pay Taxes.” Paper Presented at the Urban Affairs Association Annual Conference, Washington, DC, March 2004. With Bill Simonsen.
- “The Impact of tax Price on Spending Preferences II.” Paper presented at the National Business and Economics Society Annual Meeting, Kona Hawaii, March 2004. With Bill Simonsen and Barry Feldman. Nominated for best conference paper.
- “The Impact of tax Price on Spending Preferences I.” Paper presented at the Association the Association of Budgeting and Financial Management, 15th Annual Conference, Washington, D.C. October, 2003. With Mark Robbins and Barry Feldman.
- “Citizenship and taxes: Understanding the connection between notions of citizenship and support for taxes.” Paper presented at the 44th Annual Meeting of the Western Social Science Association. April, 2003 (with Bill Simonsen)
- “Predicting municipal bond interest rates: Uses in negotiated sale pricing.” Paper presented at the 44th Annual Meeting of the Western Social Science Association. April, 2003 (with Bill Simonsen)
- “Citizens and resource allocation: A Use of web based technology.” Paper presented at the 44th Annual Meeting of the Western Social Science Association. April, 2003 (with Bill Simonsen)
- “Understanding the effects of MWBE firms underwriting municipal bonds.” Financial Management Association European Conference. June 8, 2002. Copenhagen, Denmark. (with Bill Simonsen)
- “Lessons from Research on Bond Banks” presented to the 2002 Virginia Local Government Infrastructure Financing Conference. May 7-8, 2002. Virginia Beach.
- “Fairness or Preference? Are Interest Rates Different for Municipal Bonds Underwritten by Minority or Women Owned Municipal Bond Underwriting Firms? (Part III)” Paper invited and presented at the Rutgers University Cornwall Center for Metropolitan Studies Conference on Promoting New and Small Businesses in the Inner City: Improving the Environment and Obtaining Funds, May, 2002. With Bill Simonsen.
- “State Government Rules About the Use of Net Interest Cost and True Interest Cost for Calculating Municipal Bond Interest Rates.” 44th Annual Meeting of the Western Social Science Association. April, 2002. Albuquerque, NM. With Bill Simonsen and Bernard Jump Jr.
- “Fairness or Preference? Are Interest Rates Different for Municipal Bonds Underwritten by Minority or Women Owned Municipal Bond Underwriting Firms? (Part II)” Paper presented at the Public Finance and Budgeting Section of the Western Social Science Association, April, 2002. With Mark Robbins.

State Government Laws and Rules About Municipal Bond Interest Rate Calculations, Bernard Jump Jr., Mark Robbins and Bill Simonsen. 44th Annual Meeting of the Western Social Science Association. April, 2002. Albuquerque, NM.

"A Model and Empirical Analysis of the Human Resources Management Function and Debt Management Function in State Governments" (with Amy K. Donahue, Willow S. Jacobson, and Ellen V. Rubin). 44th Annual Meeting of the Western Social Science Association. April, 2002. Albuquerque, NM.

"Fairness or Preference? Are Interest rates Different for Municipal Bonds Underwritten by Minority or Women Owned Business Underwriting Firms? (Part 1) 32nd Annual Meeting of the Urban Affairs Association. March 20-23, 2002. Boston, MA.

"We're just farmers: Understanding municipal bond issuer negotiating strategies." 13th Annual Conference for the Association of Budgeting and Financial Management. January 17-19, 2002. Washington, D.C. (with Bill Simonsen)

"How Managers Influence Outcomes in State Government: An Empirical Analysis of the Debt Management Function." Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Annual Research Conference. November 1-3, 2001. Washington, DC. (with Amy Donahue)

"Lessons from Research on Municipal Securities Issuance." Annual Meeting of the National Association of Independent Financial Advisors. October 11-12. New Orleans, LA.

"State debt policies and the appearance of impropriety." 43rd Annual Meeting of the Western Social Science Association. April, 2001. Reno, NV.

"Understanding local government debt issuance: Key lessons." Annual Conference of the Georgia Municipal Association. June 24-27, 2000. Savannah, GA.

"Estimating Issuer Efficiency in the Municipal Bond Market." 42nd Annual Meeting of the Western Social Science Association. April 26-29, 2000. San Diego, CA.

"Debt Diligence: How states manage the debt function." 71st Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association. November 3-6, 1999. Savannah, GA.

"Maturity Structure and Borrowing Costs: The implications of Level Debt Service" (with William Simonsen and Bernard Jump, Jr.) 11th Annual Conference for the Association of Budgeting and Financial Management. October 5-7. 1999. Washington, D.C.

"Debt Policies and Debt Policy makers: Exploring the determinants of debt policy" (with Bill Kittredge and Bill Simonsen). 41st Annual Meeting of the Western Social Science Association. April 21-24, 1999. Fort Worth, TX.

"State and Local Government Factors in the Residential Choices of the Elderly." 68th Annual Conference of the Southern Economics Association. November 8-10, 1998. Baltimore, MD.

- "Using Tax and Expenditure policies to induce elderly migration." 10th Annual Conference for the Association of Budgeting and Financial Management. November 5-7, 1998. Washington, D.C.
- "State and Local Fiscal Determinants of Elderly Migration" (with Bill Duncombe and Doug Wolf), 19th Annual Association for Public Policy and Management Research Conference. November 6-8, 1997.
- "Cost Effects of Method of Sale Restrictions of Municipal Bonds: The Case of New Jersey." 58th National Conference of the American Society for Public Administration. July 26-30, 1997. Philadelphia.
- "Diminished Capacity: The Loss of the Citizen in the Public Market". 39th Annual Conference of the Western Social Science Association. April 23-26, 1997. Albuquerque, NM.
- "Can State and Local Governments Influence Elderly Migration?" (with William Duncombe and Douglas Wolf) Center for Policy Research/NIA Aging seminar. April 17, 1997.
- "Citizen Participation in Resource Allocation Decisions: Theory and Critique". Annual Meeting of the Urban Affairs Association. April, 1996. New York City.
- "Socio-Demographic Characteristics and the Effects of Fiscal Information on Preferences for City Services and Revenues" (with William Simonsen) 37th Annual Conference of the Western Social Science Association. April 26-29, 1995. Oakland, CA.
- "Service Use, Citizen Attitudes and the Implications for Privatization" (with William Simonsen), 37th Annual Conference of the Western Social Science Association. April 26-29, 1995. Oakland, CA.
- "What Difference Does it Make? Competitive Versus Negotiated Bond Sales." (with William Simonsen), 36th Annual Conference of the Western Social Science Association. April, 1994. Albuquerque, NM.

