

CYNTHIA S. SEARCY

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY

ATLANTA, GA

ANDREW YOUNG SCHOOL OF POLICY STUDIES

Associate Dean for Academic Innovation & Strategy

2019-PRESENT

- Lead strategic initiatives for the college that optimize curricular and student support services for undergraduate and graduate student success, including academic advising and career and alumni services
- Responsible for reimagining how the college teaches digital skills to policymakers of the future and how it will innovate within the future of learning (pedagogy, delivery, and credentials), including the infusion of data science into each of our degree programs
- Direct the development of online/hybrid degree programs and courses to support student success, including the Perimeter College Pipeline aimed at aligning first and second year courses between GSU's community college campuses and the Andrew Young School. Identify areas for courses that increase access for degree completion through blended learning and upskilling for alumni in critical fields
- Supervise the Assistant Dean for Academic Programs (one FTE), Office of Academic Assistance (seven FTEs), the Office of Graduate Career and Alumni Services (four FTEs), and Instructional Design (one FTE)

Assistant Dean for Academic Programs

2011-2019

- Modified or created undergraduate and graduate degree programs and monitored student progression and graduation through data analytics for four academic departments totaling 2,100 students (eight undergraduate majors, seven master-level degrees, and four doctoral degrees)
- Examined undergraduate and graduate admission trends to increase enrollment, devised marketing and recruitment strategies for graduate programs, and managed graduate admissions and new student orientation
- Worked at the direction of the university strategic scheduling committee to monitor course offerings to create capacity for high-need courses
- Oriented new faculty and part-time instructors to the teaching policies and procedures of the college and university
- Fostered undergraduate research opportunities, developed and led study abroad programs and international partnerships, managed college-level scholarships
- Ruled on academic exclusion appeals, academic complaints (grade appeals, professional conduct), and academic dishonesty charges
- Worked collaboratively across campus on interdisciplinary degree programs and served on the assessment committee for academic program review cycles and 2019 SACSCOC reaffirmation of accreditation

Associate Clinical Professor of Public Management & Policy

2016-CURRENT

Assistant Clinical Professor of Public Management & Policy

2012-2016

Assistant Professor of Public Management & Policy

2008-2012

Faculty Affiliations: Public Finance Cluster, Health Policy Center, Nonprofit Studies

2008-CURRENT

- Faculty Associate: Honors College, LEAD with Honors Program Director, WomenLEAD 2016-2020
- Directed a leadership development certificate (16 credit hours) for three cohorts of 10 honors students each; created courses, recruited faculty to teach the courses, managed the annual admission process of the cohorts, developed extra-curricular workshops, and recruited external partners for student internships and projects
 - Taught the inaugural section of WomenLEAD in Policy and Politics and served as a faculty associate to increase student participation in WomenLEAD and recruit women in the community to engage with students and alumni

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY **NEW YORK, NY**
 CENTER FOR HEALTH AND PUBLIC SERVICE RESEARCH SUMMER 2005
 Associate Research Scientist
 Urban Health Initiative Fiscal Analysis

CITIZENS BUDGET COMMISSION **NEW YORK, NY**
 Research Associate 1999-2003

LEGAL SERVICES OF NEW JERSEY **EDISON, NJ**
 Policy Analyst 1998-1999

EDUCATION

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY **SYRACUSE, NY**
 MAXWELL SCHOOL OF CITIZENSHIP & PUBLIC AFFAIRS 2003-2007
 Ph.D. in Public Administration
 Field Specialties: Public Finance & Budgeting, Science & Technology Policy

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY **NEW YORK, NY**
 ROBERT F. WAGNER GRADUATE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC SERVICE 1998-2000
 Master of Public Administration: Concentration in Public Policy

GEORGETOWN COLLEGE **GEORGETOWN, KY**
 Bachelor of Arts: American Studies. Minors: Biology, History, French 1991-1995
Summa Cum Laude

PUBLICATIONS

Daniel Kreisman, Todd Jones, Ross Rubenstein, Cynthia Searcy and Rachana Bhatt. 2022. The Effects of Financial Aid Loss on Persistence and Graduation: A Multi-Dimensional Regression Discontinuity Approach. *Education Finance and Policy*. 17 (2): 206-231 (journal article)

Cynthia Searcy and William Darnell. 2014. State Pension Plans in Crisis, in *Sustaining the States: The Fiscal Viability of American State Governments*, K. Willoughby and M. Rubin (eds), New York: Taylor & Francis Publishing. (book chapter)

Cynthia Searcy. 2012. Impact of the Recession on School Revenues Across the State, *Fiscal Research Center Report No. 251*, November 2012. (report)

Cynthia Searcy and Robert Bifulco. 2011. A Tale of Two Cities: Charter School Resource Allocation and Facility Financing in Albany and Buffalo. Education Finance Research Consortium Report, New York State Education Department and SUNY Albany. November 2011. (report)

- Cynthia Searcy and Katherine Willoughby. 2011. The Great Recession's Impact: The City of Atlanta's Budget. *Municipal Finance Journal*. (32:1) p.11-32. (journal article)
- James Marton, Cynthia Searcy, and Jennifer Ghandhi. 2010. Disparate Effects of CHIP Premiums on Disenrollment for Minorities, in *Current Issues in Health Economics*, D. Slottje and R. Tchernis (eds), United Kingdom: Emerald Group, p.95-110. (book chapter)
- Cynthia Searcy and William Duncombe. 2009. An Examination of the Financial Health of Georgia's Start-up Charter Schools, *Fiscal Research Center Report No. 197*, July 2009. (report)
- William Duncombe and Cynthia Searcy. 2007. Out With the Old, In With the New? A Case Study of Procurement Practices in New York State School Districts, *Journal of Public Budgeting, Accounting & Financial Management* (19:4) p.514-545. (journal article)
- William Duncombe and Cynthia Searcy. 2007. Can the Use of Recommended Procurement Practices Save Money, *Journal of Public Budgeting & Finance* (27:2) p.68-87. (journal article)
- Charles Brecher, Diana Silver, Cynthia Searcy, Beth Weitzman. 2005. Following the Money: Using Expenditure Analysis as an Evaluation Tool, *American Journal of Evaluation* (26:1) p.166-188. (journal article)
- Charles Brecher, Cynthia Searcy, Diana Silver, Beth Weitzman. 2004. What Does Government Spend on Children: Evidence From Five Cities, Center on Urban and Metropolitan Policy, The Brookings Institution, March 2004. (report)
- Cynthia Searcy, Charles Brecher and Marcia Van Wagner. 2002. No Small Change: Opportunities for Streamlining Procurement in New York City. New York, NY: Citizens Budget Commission. (report)
- Charles Brecher and Cynthia Searcy, Playing by Baseball Rules Could Aid Schools, *Newsday*, October 2, 2002. (op-ed)
- Cynthia Searcy and Charles Brecher. 2001. New York State's Competitiveness: A Scorecard for 12 States. New York, NY: Citizens Budget Commission. (report)
- Charles Brecher and Cynthia Searcy, Good's Not Enough for New York City, *New York Post*, July 20, 2001. (op-ed)
- Cynthia Searcy and Charles Brecher. 2001. New York's Competitiveness: A Scorecard for 13 U.S. Metropolitan Areas. New York, NY: Citizens Budget Commission. (report)
- Charles Brecher, Elizabeth Lynam and Cynthia Searcy. 2000. Using Collective Bargaining to Improve Public Education: Recommendations for the 2000 Negotiations With the United Federation of Teachers. New York, NY: Citizens Budget Commission. (report)

GRANTS

Data Science for Public Service Consortium Development (2021) Public Interest Technology University Network Challenge Grant	\$75,800
Principles in Microeconomics Affordable Materials Grant (2021) Affordable Learning Georgia, University System of Georgia	\$30,000
BS in Criminal Justice Online Program Development Seed Grant (2021) Office of the Provost, Georgia State University	\$70,000

College-to-Career Development Grant (2019) Office of Student Success, Georgia State University	\$10,000
New York State's Charter School Program: Regulations, Funding and Fiscal Impacts Education Finance Research Consortium, State University of New York (2008) Co-principal Investigator with Robert Bifulco (Syracuse University)	\$26,000
The Financial Health of Georgia's Charter School: Uniform Reporting (2008) University Research Services and Administration, Georgia State University Faculty Mentored Grant with Katherine G. Willoughby	\$11,000

TEACHING

Georgia State University

2008-CURRENT

Department of Public Management & Policy, Honors College

Graduate Courses

- Applied Research Methods & Statistics I
- Applied Research Methods & Statistics II
- Big Data for Public Good
- Coding in R for Policy Analytics
- Data Analysis and Visualization
- Managing Public Money
- Advanced Projects in Public Service Capstone
- Comparative Perspectives in Public Management and Policy (study abroad)

Undergraduate Courses

- Critical Policy Issues (study abroad)
- Policy Data Analysis
- Perspectives in Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship
- WomenLead in Policy and Politics
- Honors Freshman Seminar
- Honors Interdisciplinary Seminar in Contemporary Social Justice Issues
- Honors Introduction to LEAD with Honors
- Honors Service Learning for LEAD with Honors
- Honors LEAD Practicum

Independent Studies & Practicums

- Mariana Pannell (BS PSYC), Special Needs Education Provision in Atlanta Public School Charter Schools, 2018
- Alma Walker (BS PUP), Access to Treatments for Eating Disorders for Medicaid Recipients, 2017
- Samantha Donovan (BS CJ), Prevalence and Treatment of Eating Disorders in Georgia Prisons, 2016
- Arvin Ramachandran (BS Economics), Georgia Hope Scholarship Recipients Pre-and-Post Zell, 2015
- Jeremy Gray (MPA), Review of Georgia Institute of Technology's Graduation Rates Over Three Cohorts, 2015
- Dana Chandler (BSW), Increasing Awareness & Support for Addressing Eating Disorders Using Alternative Treatments, 2014
- Whitney Davison (MPA), Affordable Care Act and Its Implications for Georgia, 2014

- Ron Shelby (PHD PUP), Directed Readings in Public Financial Management, 2013
- William Darnell (BS Economics), Financial Health of State Pension Plans, 2013
- Danielle Gray (MPA), Community Assets Mapping for the Coan Middle School Cluster, 2012
- Abby Mattera (MPP), Factors Associated with Children Walking or Biking to or From School, 2009

Honors Thesis Advisor

- Catherine Rackowiecki (BA Film), Creation of A Public Service Announcement for the International Human Trafficking Institute, May 2019
- Deshane Valesquez (IEMML), Exploring the Associations Between Child Contact and Program Participation Among Parents in Prison, 2016
- Kevin Banks (BS Public Policy), Information and Communication Technology Literacy and Employability: Exploring Workforce Readiness and Employer Expectations in the Atlanta Regional Healthcare Industry, 2016

Syracuse University Adjunct Professor
 Maxwell School of Citizenship & Public Affairs
 Public Budgeting

SUMMER 2008

Syracuse University Teaching Fellow
 Maxwell School of Citizenship & Public Affairs
 Critical Issues for the United States

2006-2007

COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Academic Programs Committee (Chair), Executive Committee, Management Committee, Policy in the Digital World Working Group, Strategic Course Scheduling Committee, Sexual Misconduct Board, AYS Strategic Planning Committee (Co-Chair), Undergraduate Research Conference Evaluation Committee (Chair), Entrepreneurship & Innovation Working Group, Committee for the Advancement of Women, Office of Institutional Effectiveness Assessment Committee, Distance Education Council, Global Experience Implementation Committee, Honors College Executive Committee, Signature Experience Implementation Committee, Truman Scholarship Committee, Udall Scholarship Committee

EXTERNAL SERVICE

Park Pride

Board Member (2021 -), Finance Committee Member

2021-CURRENT

Atlanta Bicycle Coalition

Advisory Board (2019 -), Board Chair (2016-2019), Treasurer (2012-2016)

2012-CURRENT

National Association of Charter School Authorizers

Louisiana Department of Education Charter Petition Review, Team Lead
 Washington State Charter School Commission, Finance Evaluator

2011, 2013

Southern Regional Education Board Doctoral Scholars Program

Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, Faculty Mentor

2009-2011

Georgia State Charter School Commission

Georgia Department of Education, Interview Panel

2009

Robert E. McNair Program

Georgia State University, Faculty Mentor

2009, 2011

- Georgia Charter Schools Association** **2009**
Walton Family Foundation, Grant Reviewer
- Charter Petition Review Committee** **2008-2012**
Atlanta Public Schools, Committee Member
- Renaissance 2010 Design Framework Interview Committee** **2008**
Chicago Public Schools, Office of New Schools, Committee Member

REFEREE

Global Health and the Economy, Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, Journal of School Health, Nonprofit Policy Forum, Public Budgeting & Finance, USDA Food Assistance and Nutrition Research Program

AWARDS

- Georgia State Hall of Fame** **2020**
Excellence in Service to the University During COVID Response
- Outstanding Teaching Award** **2010**
Andrew Young School of Policy Studies
- Syracuse University Dissertation Prize** **2008**
Excellence in Scholarship and Research
Maxwell School of Citizenship & Public Affairs