

# CYNTHIA S. SEARCY

## EMPLOYMENT

### GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY

ATLANTA, GA

ANDREW YOUNG SCHOOL OF POLICY STUDIES

Associate Dean for Academic Innovation & Strategy

2019-PRESENT

- supervise the Assistant Dean for Academic Programs (0.5 FTE), Office of Academic Assistance (seven FTEs), the Office of Graduate Career and Alumni Services (four FTEs), and Instructional Design (one FTE)
- direct the development of online/hybrid degree programs and courses to support student success, including the Perimeter College Pipeline aimed at aligning 1000-2000 level course curriculum across colleges. Identifying areas for online courses that increase access for degree completion through blended learning and upskilling for alumni in critical fields
- design data science curriculum for all degree programs in the college with an emphasis on leveraging teaching assets across departments and other institutions. Developing partnerships with local institutions for civic technology and policy analytics, including government agencies and nonprofits who aspire to build data science capacity for public service
- direct Andrew Young School Consulting program that conducts 10-week projects for governments and nonprofits with teams of graduate students and faculty advisors during fall and spring semesters. Requires identifying and scoping projects from over 50 clients for service delivery assessment, program evaluation design, best practice identification, survey design, strategic planning, fiscal analysis, policy analysis, or other applied research that concerns the public and nonprofit sectors

Assistant Dean for Academic Programs

2011- 2019

- modified or created undergraduate and graduate degree programs and monitored student progression and graduation for four academic departments totaling 2,200 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 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 university-level initiatives and interdisciplinary degree programs

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-CURRENT

- direct a leadership development certificate (16 credit hours) for three cohorts of 10 honors students each; requires creating courses, recruiting faculty to teach the courses, managing the annual admission process to the cohorts, developing extra-curricular workshops, and recruiting external partners for student internships and projects
- taught the inaugural section of WomenLEAD in Policy and Politics and serve 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

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 Gandhi. 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)

## **WORKING PAPERS**

"The Effects of Financial Aid Loss on Student Persistence and Graduation," With Daniel Kreisman, Ross Rubenstein, and Todd Jones, *Revise and Resubmit*.

## **GRANTS**

New York State's Charter School Program: Regulations, Funding and Fiscal Impacts Education Finance Research Consortium, State University of New York Co-principal Investigator with Robert Bifulco (Syracuse University)	\$26,000
The Financial Health of Georgia's Charter School: Uniform Reporting 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
- Coding in R for Policy Analytics
- Data Analysis and Visualization
- Managing Public Money
- Public Service Capstone (crosslisted with Criminal Justice Capstone)
- Comparative Perspectives in Public Management and Policy

#### *Undergraduate Courses*

- Critical Policy Issues
- 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
- GSU 1010

#### *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 Tech'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*** **SUMMER 2008**  
 Maxwell School of Citizenship & Public Affairs  
 Public Budgeting

**Syracuse University *Teaching Fellow*** **2006-2007**  
 Maxwell School of Citizenship & Public Affairs  
 Critical Issues for the United States

**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, Distance Education Council, Global Experience Implementation Committee, Honors College Executive Committee, Signature Experience Implementation Committee, Truman Scholarship Committee, Udall Scholarship Committee

**EXTERNAL SERVICE**

**Atlanta Bicycle Coalition** **2012-CURRENT**  
 Advisory Board (2019 - ), Board Chair (2016-2019), Treasurer (2012-2016)

**National Association of Charter School Authorizers** **2011, 2013**  
 Louisiana Department of Education Charter Petition Review, Team Lead  
 Washington State Charter School Commission, Finance Evaluator

**Southern Regional Education Board Doctoral Scholars Program** **2009-2011**  
 Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, Faculty Mentor

**Georgia State Charter School Commission** **2009**  
 Georgia Department of Education, Interview Panel

**Robert E. McNair Program** **2009, 2011**  
 Georgia State University, Faculty Mentor

**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**

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| <b>Outstanding Teaching Award</b>              | <b>2010</b> |
| Andrew Young School of Policy Studies          |             |
| <b>Syracuse University Dissertation Prize</b>  | <b>2008</b> |
| Excellence in Scholarship and Research         |             |
| Maxwell School of Citizenship & Public Affairs |             |