

Erik C. Ness

Institute of Higher Education
206 Meigs Hall
University of Georgia
Athens, GA 30602

Phone: (706) 542-0573
Fax: (706) 542-2370
E-mail: eness@uga.edu

<https://ihe.uga.edu/directory/people/erik-c-ness>

Education

- Ph.D. Vanderbilt University, 2006
Education Policy
- M.A. Loyola University Chicago, 2001
Comparative International Education
- B.A. North Carolina State University, 1996
Political Science

Academic and Professional Experience

University of Georgia, Institute of Higher Education

Associate Professor of Higher Education, 2013-present

Assistant Professor of Higher Education, 2009-2013

Graduate Coordinator, 2011-present

Courses taught:

Higher Education in the United States (EDHI 8010)

State Systems in Higher Education (EDHI 8700)

Seminar in Higher Education (EDHI 8890)

Qualitative Research in Higher Education (EDHI 8930)

Introduction to Research in Higher Education (EDHI 8990)

Critical Issues: Theories of the Public Policymaking Process (EDHI 9020)

Strategy and Management in Higher Education (EDHI 9210)

Policy Studies in Higher Education (EDHI 9500)

HOPE and Higher Education (First Year Odyssey Seminar)

Research Use, Alternative Facts, & Fake News (First Year Odyssey Seminar)

University of Pittsburgh, School of Education

Assistant Professor, Department of Administrative and Policy Studies, 2006-2009

Coordinator, Higher Education Management program, 2008-2009

Courses taught:

Introduction to Higher Education Administration (ADMPS 2131)

Special Topics: State Higher Education Policy (ADMPS 3089)

Higher Education Academic Program Management (ADMPS 3130)

Tennessee Higher Education Commission

Policy, Planning, & Research Division

Associate Director, 2003-2005

Academic Affairs Division

Graduate Research Associate, 2001-2003

Research Grants

William T. Grant Foundation (PI, with D. Tandberg & W. Del Pilar Co-PIs), RFP for Use of Research Evidence, LOI submitted 2021

Evidence Use in State Higher Education Efforts to Advance Race-Conscious Policies (\$900,000)

RAND Corporation & U.S. Department of Defense (sub-award pending, \$55,000), 2021-22

National Guard Youth ChalleNGe and Job ChalleNGe: Metrics for Success

Arnold Ventures & State Higher Education Executive Officers Association (SHEEO) (PI, with Sean Baser), 2020-21

State Authorization Landscape and Process: An inventory and examination (\$23,312)

William T. Grant Foundation (PI, with J.C. Hearn Co-PI), RFP for Understanding the Acquisition, Interpretation, and Use of Research Evidence in Policy and Practice, 2013-2017

The Distinct Role of Intermediary Organizations in Fostering Research Utilization for State College Completion Policy (\$350,000)

University of Georgia, Office of the Vice President for Research, Faculty Research Grants Program (FRG), 2010-2011

Use of Research Evidence in State Higher Education Finance Policy (\$10,302)

Spencer Foundation, 2009-2010

Research Utilization in the Adoption of State Merit Aid Programs (\$39,626)

Falk Foundation (Co-PI, with R. Bangs, L. Davis, W. Elliot), 2008

Forecasted outcomes and costs of three basic options for the Pittsburgh Promise
University of Pittsburgh, Center on Race and Social Problems (\$25,000)

The Pittsburgh Foundation (Co-PI, with R. Bangs, L. Davis, W. Elliot), 2008

Pittsburgh Promise eligibility rates by race, gender, and income
University of Pittsburgh, Center on Race and Social Problems (\$25,000)

Lumina Foundation for Education, 2005-2006

ASHE/Lumina Dissertation Fellowship (\$14,000)

Publications (* indicates current or former student)

Books

Jungblut, J., Maltais, M., Ness, E., & Rexe, D. (Eds.). (forthcoming, 2021). *Comparative Higher Education Politics: Policymaking in North America and Europe*. Higher Education Dynamics series. Springer.

Ness, E.C. (2008). *Merit Aid and the Politics of Education*. New York: Routledge.

Book Chapters

Ness, E.C., Collins, H.* , & Birac, B.* (forthcoming, 2022). Governing and funding higher education. In L. Cohen-Vogel, J. Scott, & P. Youngs (Eds.). *Handbook of Education Policy Research, 2nd Volume*. AERA

Ness, E.C. & Baser, S.* (forthcoming, 2021). Interest groups in higher education policy in the U.S. In Jungblut, J., Maltais, M., Ness, E., & Rexe, D. (Eds.). *Comparative Higher Education Politics: Policymaking in North America and Europe*. Higher Education Dynamics series. New York: Springer.

Jungblut, J., Maltais, M., Ness, E., & Rexe, D. (forthcoming, 2021). Comparing higher education politics in different contexts. In Jungblut, J., Maltais, M., Ness, E., & Rexe, D. (Eds.). *Comparative Higher Education Politics: Policymaking in North America and Europe*. Higher Education Dynamics series. New York: Springer.

Ness, E.C., Rubin, P.G.* , Gándara, D.* , & Hearn, J.C. (forthcoming, 2021). Political Volatility in State Commitment to College Completion Efforts. In J. Delaney, W. Doyle, & D. Tandberg (Eds.), *Volatility in State Spending for Higher Education*. Washington, DC: AERA Books.

Ness, E.C., Hearn, J.C., & Rubin, P.G.* (2018). The SHEEO and Intermediary Organizations. In D. Tandberg, R. Hanna, & B. Sponsler (Eds.), *The State Higher Education Executive Officer and the Public Good*. New York: Teachers College Press.

Hearn, J.C. & Ness, E.C. (2017). The ecology of state higher-education policymaking in the U.S. In D. Palfreyman, T. Tapper, & S. Thomas (Eds.), *Toward the Private Funding of Higher Education: Ideological and political struggles*. New York: Routledge.

Ness, E.C., Tandberg, D.A., & McLendon, M.K. (2015). Interest Groups and State Policy for Higher Education: New conceptual understandings and future research directions. In M. B. Paulsen (Ed.), *Higher Education: Handbook of Theory and Research, Vol. XXX* (pp.151-186). New York: Springer.

Ness, E.C. (2010). The Role of Information in the Policy Process: Implications for the examination of research utilization in higher education policy. In J.C. Smart (Ed.), *Higher Education: Handbook of Theory and Research, Vol. XXV* (pp. 1-49). New York: Springer.

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Hammond, L.D.* , Ness, E.C., & Rubin, P.G.* (under review). "There is no equal": A comparative case study of completion policy non-adoption in the Carolinas. *Journal of Higher Education*.

Toutkoushian, R.K., Riffe, K.* , & Ness, E.C. (under review). How Do Faculty Select between Defined Benefit and Defined Contribution Retirement Plans? A Qualitative Investigation. *Journal of Education Finance*.

- Ness, E.C., Rubin, P.G.* & Hammond, L.D.* (Online First). Complete College America and the evolution of a policy network. *Higher Education*. <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10734-020-00619-x>
- Hammond, L.D.* , Adams, P.* , Rubin, P.G.* , & Ness, E.C. (Online First). A rhetorical analysis of intermediary organization documents on college completion policy. *Educational Policy*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0895904819888231>
- Rubin, P.G.* & Ness, E.C. (Online First). State Higher Education Governing Agencies and the Knowledge Brokering Process: Investigating their role as multi-facing organizations in the United States. *Higher Education Policy*. <https://doi.org/10.1057/s41307-019-00155-z>
- Tiller, L.* & Ness, E.C. (2020). Georgia Leads: Exploring a Statewide Leadership Engagement Effort. *Journal of Higher Education Outreach and Engagement*, 24(1), 1-15.
- Gándara, D.* & Ness, E.C. (2019). Ideological Think Tanks and the Politics of College Affordability in the States. *Journal of Higher Education*, 90(5), 717-743.
- Gándara, D.* , Rippner, J.A.* , & Ness, E.C. (2017). Exploring the ‘How’ in Policy Diffusion: National Intermediary Organizations’ Roles in Facilitating the Spread of Performance-Based Funding Policies in the States. *Journal of Higher Education*, 88(5), 701-725.
- Ness, E.C. & Gándara, D.* (2014). Ideological Think Tanks in the States: An inventory of their prevalence, networks, and higher education policy activity. *Educational Policy*, 28(2), 258-280.
- Ness, E.C. & Tandberg, D.A. (2013). The Determinants of State Capital Expenditures for Higher Education: How capital project funding differs from general fund appropriations. *Journal of Higher Education*, 84(3), 329-362.
- Ness, E.C. & Lips, A.J.A.* (2011). Marketing Merit Aid: The response of flagship campuses to state merit aid programs. *Journal of Student Financial Aid*, 41(1), 4-17.
- Tandberg, D.A. & Ness, E.C. (2011). State Capital Expenditures for Higher Education: “Where the politics really happens.” *Journal of Education Finance*, 36(4), 394-423.
- Ness, E.C. & Mistretta, M.A.* (2010). Merit Aid in North Carolina: A case study of a “non-event.” *Educational Policy*, 24(5), 703-734.
- Zhang, L. & Ness, E.C. (2010). Does State Merit-based Aid Stem Brain Drain? *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*, 32(2), 143-165.
- Ness, E.C. (2010). The Politics of Determining Merit Aid Eligibility Criteria: An analysis of the policy process. *Journal of Higher Education*, 81(1), 33-60.
- Ness, E.C. & Mistretta, M.A.* (2009). Policy Adoption in North Carolina and Tennessee: A comparative case study of lottery beneficiaries. *Review of Higher Education*, 32(4): 489-514.

Ness, E.C. & Tucker, R. (2008). Eligibility Effects on College Access: Perceptions of Tennessee's Merit Aid Program. *Research in Higher Education*, 49(7), 569-588.

Ness, E.C. & Noland, B.E. (2007). Targeted Merit Aid: Implications of the Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship Program. *Journal of Student Financial Aid*, 37(1), 7-17.

McLendon, M.K. & Ness, E.C. (2003). The Politics of State Higher Education Governance Reform. *Peabody Journal of Education*, 78(4), 66-88.

Monographs and Policy Reports

Ness, E.C. & Baser, S. (forthcoming, 2021). State Authorization Landscape and Process: An inventory and examination. SHEEO.

Toutkoushian, R.K., Sanford, P., Riffe, K. *, & Ness, E.C. (July 2018). How Do Faculty Select between Defined Benefit and Defined Contribution Retirement Plans? TIAA Institute.

Ness, E.C., Deupree, M. *, & Gándara, D. * (November 2015). Campus responses to outcomes-based funding in Tennessee: Robust, aligned, and contested. Final report to Tennessee Higher Education Commission & Ford Foundation.

Ness, E.C. & Nabawanuka, J.W. * (2010). State Capital Spending on Higher Education. In E.A. Houck (Ed.), *2010 Education Policy Papers* (pp. 13-23). Educational Policy and Evaluation Center, College of Education, University of Georgia.

Tandberg, D. & Ness, E.C. (2009). State Capital Expenditures for Higher Education: Politics and the Economy. University of Houston Law Center, Institute of Higher Education Law and Governance, Monograph Series, 09-10.

Lips, A.J.A. * & Ness, E.C. (2009). The Diffusion of the Bologna Process to the American States. *International Studies in Education*, 10(2), 45-50. (Institute for International Education Studies, University of Pittsburgh)

Ness, E.C. (2007). Class of 2007 Senior Opinions Survey: Implications for College Access, College Choice, and the PROMISE Scholarship Program. Charleston, WV: West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission.

Ness, E.C. & Mistretta, M. * (2007). Policy Adoption in North Carolina and Tennessee: A comparative case study of lottery-funded education programs. University of Houston Law Center, Institute of Higher Education Law and Governance, Monograph Series, 07-11.

Ness, E.C. (2005). Overview of Fall 2004 Recipients of the Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship Program. Nashville, TN: Tennessee Higher Education Commission.

Book Reviews

Ness, E.C. (2011). [Review of the book *Privatizing the Public University: Perspectives from across the Academy*]. *Higher Education*, 61(1), 219-221.

Ness, E.C. (2008). [Review of the book *Higher Education at a Crossroads*]. *Teachers College Record*, August 25, 2008. Published electronically at <http://www.tcrecord.org/content.asp?contentid=15352>.

Presentations

Refereed Conference Presentations

Ness, E.C., & Baser, S. (proposed, 2021). State Authorization Landscape and Process: An inventory and examination. Annual Conference of the Association for Education Finance and Policy, Virtual.

Ness, E.C., Baser, S., & Dean, M. (November 2020). State Authorization Landscape and Process: An inventory and examination. Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, New Orleans, LA.

Ness, E.C., Baser, S., & Hammond, L.A. (March 2020). "It's obvious they're trying to dictate behavior": Advocacy Philanthropy & College Completion. Annual Conference of the Association for Education Finance and Policy, Fort Worth, TX.

Ness, E.C. (Symposium with Sean Baser, Denisa Gándara, Chris Marsicano, & Sam Snideman). (November 2019). Lobbying and political action. Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Public Policy Forum, Portland, OR.

Hammond, L. & Ness, E.C. (November 2019). "There is No Equal": A Comparative Case Study of Completion Policy Non-adoptions in the Carolinas. Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Council of Public Policy & Higher Education, Portland, OR.

Jungblut, J., Ness, E.C., & Rexe, D. (June 2019). Comparative Higher Education Politics - Policymaking in North America and Western Europe. International Conference on Public Policy, Montréal, Canada.

Ness, E.C., Rubin, P.G., Hammond, L.A. (April 2018). Becoming a "Game Changer": Complete College America's Evolving Network and Growing Role in Higher Education. Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, New York, NY.

Gándara, D., & Ness, E.C. (November 2017). Framing college affordability across the ideological divide. Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Houston, TX.

Hammond, L.D., Adams, P., Rubin, P.G., & Ness, E.C. (November 2017). A bridge to somewhere: A rhetorical analysis of intermediary organization documents on college completion policy. Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Houston, TX.

- Rubin, P.G., Ness, E.C., Hearn, J.C., & Rippner, J. (November 2017). Governors and higher education: Investigating their role in the statewide college completion policy process. Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Houston, TX.
- Ness, E.C., Rubin, P.G., Hammond, L.D. (November 2017). Complete College America and the evolution of a policy network. Fall Research Conference of the Association of Public Policy Analysis and Management [APPAM], Chicago, Illinois.
- Ness, E.C. (Symposium with Deanna Rexe, Jens Jungblut, Theresa Shanahan, Martin Maltais, & Glen Jones). (May 2017). The politics of higher education policy – A transatlantic comparison. Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Society for the Study of Higher Education, Toronto, Canada.
- Ness, E.C., Hearn, J.C., & Rubin, P.G. (May 2017). Intermediaries in state higher education: A typology of organizations influencing college completion efforts. Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Antonio, Texas.
- Ness, E.C. (Symposium with Deanna Rexe, Jens Jungblut, Theresa Shanahan, Martin Maltais). (May 2016). Energizing Higher Education Policy Research: Unpacking actors and institutions in the policy process. Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Society for the Study of Higher Education, Calgary, Canada.
- Rubin, P., Ness, E.C., Hagood, L., & Linthicum, K. (April 2016). Reconceptualizing State Higher Education Agencies as Multi-facing Organizations: A principal-agent perspective. Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Washington, DC.
- Ness, E.C., Hearn, J.C., Rubin, P., Gándara, D., Spencer, T., Hagood, L., & Linthicum, K. (November 2015). State Policy Cultures as a Mediating Factor in Higher-Education Policy Debates: An Examination of College-Completion Policies in Five States. Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Denver, CO.
- Ness, E.C. (Symposium with Jim Hearn, Denisa Gándara, David Longanecker, David Tandberg, and Brian Sponsler). (November 2015). Scholars, Intermediaries, and State College Completion Policy: An interactive discussion of research-policy connections. Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Public Policy Forum, Denver, CO.
- Ness, E.C., Rubin, P., Gándara, D., & Spencer, T. (April 2015). Intermediary organizations and state college completion policy: Examining the supply and demand of research use. SIG: Research Use. Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Chicago, IL.
- Gándara, D., Rippner, J., & Ness, E.C. (April 2015). Exploring the “how” in policy diffusion: A national intermediary organization’s role in the spread of college completion policies in the states. Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Chicago, IL.
- Ness, E.C., Deupree, M., & Gándara, D. (April 2015). Campus responses to outcomes-based funding in Tennessee: Robust, aligned, and contested. Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Chicago, IL.

- Ness, E.C., Gándara, D., & Deupree, M. (April 2015). Inputs matter: An exploration of outcomes funding impacts on two community colleges. Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Chicago, IL.
- Ness, E.C., Gándara, D., Rubin, P., & Spencer, T. (April 2015). The distinct role of intermediary organizations in fostering research utilization in state college completion policy. Institutional Design Frontiers Summit, Arizona State University, Scottsdale, AZ.
- Gándara, D., Ness, E.C., & Deupree, M. (April 2015). Investigating campus responses to outcomes-based funding in Tennessee. Institutional Design Frontiers Summit, Arizona State University, Scottsdale, AZ.
- Ness, E.C. (Symposium with Jennifer Delaney, Kevin Dougherty, Denisa Gándara, Nicholas Hillman, Alicia Kinne, Amy Li, Trey Miller, and Travis Reindl). (November 2014). The State of Performance Funding in the States: Origin, Design, Implementation, and Effects. Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Public Policy Forum, Washington, DC.
- Gándara, D. & Ness, E.C. (April 2014). Ideological Think Tanks and the Politics of College Affordability in the States. Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Philadelphia, PA.
- Ness, E.C. (Symposium with Lorelle Espinosa, Nicholas Hillman, Zakiya Smith, Brian Sponsler, and David Tandberg). (November 2013). Literature without an audience? Conducting policy-relevant research in higher education. Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Public Policy Forum, St. Louis, MO.
- Warshaw, J. & Ness, E.C. (November 2013). Governors' Perspectives on Higher Education and Economic Development, 2003-2013: "The hinge on which our future swings." Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Public Policy Forum, St. Louis, MO.
- Milan, M.C. & Ness, E.C. (November 2012). "A No-Policy State": Research use in Pennsylvania higher education finance decisions. Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education. Las Vegas, NV.
- Ness, E.C. & Gándara, D. (November 2012). Ideological Think Tanks in the States: An inventory of their prevalence, networks, and higher education policy activity. Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Public Policy Forum, Las Vegas, NV.
- Ness, E.C. & Milan, M.C. (April 2012). The Research-Policy Connection in the Statehouse: Understanding the impact of information in higher education finance policy. Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Vancouver, Canada.
- Lacy, T.A. & Ness, E.C. (November 2011). State adoption of merit scholarship programs: The impact of lotteries on policy diffusion. Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Charlotte, NC.
- Ness, E.C. (Symposium with Jennifer Delaney, William Doyle, Shouping Hu, Laura Perna, Scott Thomas, Liang Zhang). (November 2011). Understanding the Impacts of State Merit Aid Programs from

- Multiple Perspectives. Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Charlotte, NC.
- Ness, E.C. & Tandberg, D.A. (November 2011). The Determinants of State Capital Expenditures for Higher Education: How capital project funding differs from general fund appropriations. Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Charlotte, NC.
- Taylor, B.J., Ness, E.C. & Weinstein, M.A. (November 2011). The effects of a technology transfer office: Toward causal inference with coarsened exact matching. Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Charlotte, NC.
- Ness, E.C. & Leming, H. (April 2011). State Constitutions and Higher Education: An inventory and directions for future research. Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, New Orleans, LA.
- Ness, E.C. (November 2010). Use of Research Evidence in State Higher Education Finance Policy. Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Indianapolis, IN.
- Ness, E.C. & Nabawanuka, J.W. (November 2010). Diffusion of Higher Education Finance Policy in East Africa: The spread of the dual track tuition system. Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Indianapolis, IN.
- Ness, E.C. (June 2010). Research Utilization in U.S. State-level Funding Policy: The role of intermediary organizations and implications for Europe. Annual Conference of Consortium of Higher Education Researchers (CHER), Oslo, Norway.
- Tandberg, D.A., McLendon, M.K., & Ness, E.C. (April 2010). Interests and Allocations: An Analysis of the Impact of Interest Groups on State Funding of Higher Education. Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Denver, CO.
- Ness, E.C. (November 2009). Research Utilization in the Adoption of State Merit Aid Programs. Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Vancouver, Canada.
- Ness, E.C. (Symposium with Rob Anderson, Angela Bell, Brad Curs, Jennifer Delaney, Don Heller, Liang Zhang). (November 2009). Merit Aid Reconsidered. Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Vancouver, Canada.
- Tandberg, D.A. & Ness, E.C. (November 2009). State Capital Expenditures for Higher Education: Politics and the Economy. Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Vancouver, Canada.
- Tandberg, D.A., Ness, E.C., & McLendon, M.K. (April 2009). Interest Groups and State Higher Education: A conceptual understanding and future research direction. Annual Meeting of the American Education Research Association, San Diego, CA.
- Ness, E.C. (Symposium with Don Heller, Michael McLendon, Karen Paulson, Kathleen Shaw, David Tandberg). (November 2008). Advancing a higher education agenda in the midst of competing

- education agendas and shrinking resources. Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Jacksonville, FL.
- Ness, E.C. (August 2008). Utilisation and Dissemination of Information: The diffusion of postsecondary education policy in the United States. Annual Forum of the European Association of Institutional Research, Copenhagen, Denmark.
- Ness, E.C. (Panel with Don Heller, David Mundel, Brian Noland). (June 2008). Merit Based Financial Aid: Antecedents, present landscape & future direction. 25th Annual Student Financial Aid Research Network Conference, Baltimore, MD.
- Ness, E.C. & Lips, A. (June 2008). The Marketing of Merit Aid: Flagship response to state merit aid. 25th Annual Student Financial Aid Research Network Conference, Baltimore, MD.
- Ness, E.C. & Mistretta, M. (March 2008). Merit Aid in North Carolina: A case study of “non-event.” Annual Meeting of the American Education Research Association, New York, NY.
- Ness, E.C. & Mistretta, M. (November 2007). Policy Adoption in North Carolina and Tennessee: A comparative case study of lottery beneficiaries. Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Louisville, KY.
- Ness, E.C. & DeFrank-Cole, L. (June 2007). The Criteria Evolution of West Virginia’s PROMISE Scholarship Program. 24th Annual Student Financial Aid Research Network Conference, Portland, OR.
- Ness, E.C. (April 2007). Deciding who earns HOPE, PROMISE, and SUCCESS: Toward a comprehensive model of the merit aid eligibility policy process. Annual Meeting of the American Education Research Association, Chicago, IL.
- Ness, E.C. & Tucker, R. (November 2005). Perceptions of Merit-Aid Eligibility and College Access in Tennessee. Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Philadelphia, PA.
- Ness, E.C. & Tucker, R. (June 2005). An Alternative View of Merit-Based Financial Aid: The Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship Program. 22nd Annual Student Financial Aid Research Network Conference. Chicago, IL.
- Ness, E.C. & Tucker, R. (May 2005). The First Cohort of Tennessee Merit-Based Scholarship Recipients. Annual Forum of the Association of Institutional Research, San Diego, CA.
- Ness, E.C. & Tucker, R. (April 2005). The Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship Program: New Evaluations of Merit Aid Programs and College Access. Annual Meeting of the American Education Research Association, Montréal, Canada.
- Ness, E.C. & Noland, B.E. (June 2004). Targeted Merit Aid and the Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarships. Annual Forum of the Association of Institutional Research, Boston, MA.

Ness, E.C. (May 2003). The Determinants of Satisfaction with Educational Experience: How Universities and Community Colleges Differ. TENNAIR Best Paper Presentation, Annual Forum of the Association of Institutional Research, Tampa, FL.

Ness, E.C. (March 2003). How Former Colonial Powers, International Aid Agencies, and African Alliances Influence Governance in Sub-Saharan African Higher Education Systems. Annual Conference of the Comparative and International Education Society, New Orleans, LA.

Invited Presentations & Testimony

Documenting and Describing Research Methodology. University of Georgia. Public Service and Outreach (PSO) Faculty Scholarship Academy. February 1, 2021.

Intermediary Organizations and Their Role in Shaping the Use of Research Evidence in a Political Landscape. William T. Grant Foundation, Advancing the Use of Research Evidence meeting. Washington, DC. April 2, 2020 (postponed).

Major Challenges Facing Higher Education. The Spencer Foundation. Chicago, Illinois. December 12, 2019.

Postsecondary Policymaking in the 21st Century: The role of intermediaries influencing college completion efforts. ASHE Graduate Student Policy Seminar. Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Portland, OR. November 14, 2019.

Higher Education in Georgia & HOPE Scholarship. Zell Miller Leadership Institute, Zell Miller Foundation. Athens, Georgia. January 26, 2019.

The role of intermediaries influencing college completion efforts. ASHE Graduate Student Policy Seminar. Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Tampa, FL. November 14, 2018.

The SHEEO and Intermediary Organizations. State Higher Education Executive Officers [SHEEO] Annual Meeting. Park City, Utah. July 11, 2018.

Postsecondary Policymaking in the 21st Century. ASHE Graduate Student Policy Seminar. Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Houston, TX. November 8, 2017.

Graduate Student Fireside Chat. Division J: Postsecondary Education. Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Antonio, TX. April 28, 2017.

The Political Context for Research Utilization and What It Means for Brokering. William T. Grant Foundation, Advancing the Use of Research Evidence meeting. Washington, DC. February 14, 2017.

Measuring Uses of Research Evidence: Document Analysis. William T. Grant Foundation, Advancing the Use of Research Evidence meeting. Washington, DC. April 21, 2016.

Intermediaries as Active Players in the Use of Research Evidence: Advocacy groups and coalitions as intermediaries. William T. Grant Foundation, Advancing the Use of Research Evidence meeting. Washington, DC. April 21, 2016.

Campus Responses to Outcomes-Based Funding in Tennessee. Tennessee Higher Education Commission. Work Session, Fall 2015 THEC Commission Meeting, November 18, 2015.

Campus Responses to Outcomes-Based Funding in Tennessee. Formula Review Committee, Tennessee Higher Education Commission. June 4, 2015.

State and Federal Higher Education Policy. Peabody Professional Institute for Senior Professionals in Academic and Enrollment Services. Peabody College, Vanderbilt University. June 26, 2014.

Performance Funding: An Opportunity to Improve Student Outcomes (panelist with Russ Deaton and Ken Kincaid). Georgia Policy & Budget Institute, 2014 GPBI Policy Conference. January 8, 2014.

State and Federal Higher Education Policy. Peabody Professional Institute for Senior Professionals in Academic and Enrollment Services. Peabody College, Vanderbilt University. June 27, 2013.

The Research-Policy Connection in the Statehouse: Understanding the impact of information in higher education finance policy. Higher Education Collaborative Seminar Series. Department of Education Policy, Organization, & Leadership. College of Education, University of Illinois. February 21, 2013.

Use of Information in State Higher Education Finance and Accountability Policy. Dean's Symposium, Shared Dreams, Separate Interests: Higher Education Finance & Accountability. College of Education, Florida State University. October 11, 2012.

State and Federal Higher Education Policy. Peabody Professional Institute for Senior Professionals in Academic and Enrollment Services. Peabody College, Vanderbilt University. June 26, 2012.

William L. Boyd National Educational Politics Workshop (mentor/panel moderator). Sponsored by Politics of Education Association (PEA), Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Vancouver, Canada. April 13, 2012.

Overview of IHE Graduate Programs for Croatian Higher Education Administrators. Visitors from Croatian Ministry of Education and University of Zagreb. April 10, 2012.

State and Federal Higher Education Policy. Peabody Professional Institute for Senior Professionals in Academic and Enrollment Services. Peabody College, Vanderbilt University. June 28, 2011.

Developing Graduate Programs for Republic of Georgia Higher Education Administrators. Visitors from Georgia National Defense Academy. March 10, 2011.

State Policy and Leadership (moderator/panelist with Don Heller and Brian Noland). ASHE Graduate Student Policy Seminar. Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Indianapolis, IN. November 18, 2010.

Different Career Paths in Public Policy and Higher Education. ASHE Graduate Student Policy Seminar. Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Vancouver, Canada. November 5, 2009.

Merit Aid Policy Adoption in North Carolina and Tennessee: A comparative case study of the politics of higher education. Institute of Higher Education, University of Georgia, Athens, GA. April 22, 2009.

College Affordability in Pennsylvania: The impact of student borrowing and rising student debt. Testimony before the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, State Board of Education & Council of Higher Education. Public Hearing on Affordability of Post-secondary Education. Community College of Allegheny County, Boyce Campus. Monroeville, PA. October 29, 2008.

Invited Panelist, Track Discussion on Governance and Leadership. Annual Forum of the European Association of Institutional Research, Copenhagen, Denmark. August 27, 2008.

The Evolution of Merit Aid: Manifestations of state investments and priorities. Higher Education Finance Roundtable, Institute of Higher Education Law and Governance, University of Houston Law Center, Houston, TX. May 19, 2008.

Class of 2007 Senior Opinions Survey: Implications for College Access, College Choice, and the PROMISE Scholarship Program. West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission, Charleston, WV. January 25, 2008.

Trends in Student Financial Aid: The proliferation of state merit-based scholarship programs. Oakland Rotary Club, Pittsburgh, PA. November 29, 2007.

State-level Merit Aid Programs. Roundtable Moderator. Public Policy Forum. Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Louisville, KY. November 7, 2007.

Job Search Strategies for ASHE/Lumina Fellows. ASHE/Lumina Foundation for Education Summer Education Policy Colloquium. Bolger Conference Center, Potomac, MD. June 18, 2007.

Preparation for and Admission to Colleges and Universities in the United States. Vivian Fowler Memorial College for Women, Lagos, Nigeria. April 27, 2007.

Developing Graduate Program for Armenian Higher Education Administrators. U.S. State Department International Visitor Leadership Program. Pittsburgh Council of International Visitors. February 26, 2007.

Deciding Who Earns HOPE, PROMISE, and SUCCESS: Toward a comprehensive model of the merit aid eligibility policy process. University of Pittsburgh, Department of Administrative and Policy Studies. March 30, 2006.

Statewide Initiatives for College Access and Success. University of Tennessee, Martin, Conference for West Tennessee Counselors, Martin, TN. September 27, 2005.

Update on Lottery Scholarship Program. Annual Conference of the Tennessee Association of Institutional Research, Nashville, TN. August 4, 2005.

Review of the Lottery Scholarship Program: Lottery Scholarship Projections and Utilization. Testimony before the Fiscal Review Committee, State of Tennessee. December 14, 2004.

Invited Class Presentations

Qualitative inquiry in higher education: Research design considerations. University of Georgia, Invited Class Lecture, EDHI 8990: Introduction to Research Methods. March 3, 2018.

State higher education policy: Qualitative research design considerations. University of Georgia, Invited Class Lecture, EDHI 8990: Introduction to Research Methods. September 15, 2015.

Qualitative approaches to higher education policy: Research design considerations. University of Georgia, Invited Class Lecture, EDHI 8990: Introduction to Research Methods. October 8, 2013.

Examining state merit scholarship adoption through the multiple streams and advocacy coalition frameworks. University of Illinois, Invited Class Lecture, EOL 577: Public Policy in Higher Education. February 20, 2013.

Research design considerations for dissertations. University of Georgia, Invited Class Lecture, Executive Ed.D. in Higher Education Administration Cohort. December 17, 2010.

Examining Public Policy Effects and the Public Policy Process: Research design considerations. University of Georgia, Invited Class Lecture, EDHI 8990: Introduction to Research Methods. November 10, 2009.

From Node Trees and Coding Procedures to Findings and Discussion in a Journal Manuscript. University of Pittsburgh, Invited Class Lecture, ADMPS 3012: Qualitative Data Management. February 26, 2009.

State Merit-based Financial Aid and the Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship Program. University of Pittsburgh, Invited Class Lecture, ADMPS 3141: Policy Studies in Higher Education. January 10, 2008.

Policy and Praxis: Accountability in Higher Education. University of Pittsburgh, Invited Study Group Discussion, ADMPS 3003: Doctoral Core I. November 13, 2007.

State Merit-based Financial Aid and the Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship Program. University of Pittsburgh, Invited Class Lecture, ADMPS 3141: Policy Studies in Higher Education. November 7, 2006.

Theoretical Perspectives of the Decision-Making Process: Garbage cans and organized anarchy. University of Pittsburgh, Invited Class Lecture, ADMPS 3130: Higher Education Academic Program Management. March 29, 2006.

Student Advising

University of Georgia, Institute of Higher Education, 2009 – present

Ph.D. Dissertation/Comprehensive Exam Committees: * Major Professor/Advisor, (year graduated)

* Nathan Moore (2020)	Samaad Keys (2014)
* Lindsey Hammond (2020)	Dennis Kramer (2014)
* Dominique Quarles (2019)	Diane Black (2013)
* Paul Rubin (2017) – AERA Congressional Fellow	Patrick Crane (2013)
* Tiffanie Spencer (2017)	Lisette Montoto (2013)
* Denisa Gándara (2016) – Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship and AERA Minority Dissertation Fellowship	Jennifer Rippner (2013)
* Morgan Jones (2016)	Maritza Soto Keen (2013)
* Michael Trivette (2015)	Jennifer Stephens (2013)
* Rob Anderson (2014)	Leasa Weimer (2013)
* Mary Deupree (2013) – Politics of Education Association Dissertation Award Runner-up	Jennifer Nabors (2012)
* Heidi Leming (2013)	David Dial (2012)
* Wes Fugate (2012) – CASE Alice Beeman Dissertation Award Winner	Jennifer Olson (2012)
* Jaynefrances Nabawanuka (2011)	Barrett Taylor (2012)
* Adam Wyatt (2011)	Austin Lacy (2011)
Julia Butler-Mays (2020)	Theresa Wright (2011)
Andrew Crain (2020)	Janea Johnson (2010)
Josh Patterson (2020)	* Sean Baser
Anthony Jones (2019)	* Biljana Birac
Adrian Klemme (2019)	* Rob Clark
Rebecca Perdomo (2019)	* Heather Collins
Rachel Burns (2018)	* Ricky Kirby
Noble Jones (2018)	* Stan Jackson
Kristen Linthicum (2018)	* Will Richardson
Erin Ciarimboli (2017)	* David Tanner
Lori Prince Hagood (2017)	* Lori Tiller
Jeffrey Harding (2017)	Phil Adams
Xuelai Qiu (2017)	Hyejin Choi
Scott Rizzo (2017)	Matt Dean
Jarrett Warshaw (2016)	Derek Finke
Lucia Brajkovic (2015)	Hee Jung Gong
Doug Chadwick (2015)	Justin Jeffery
Lindsay Coco (2015)	Erin Leach
Kelly Ochs Rosinger (2015)	Stephen Mayfield
Rebecca Sandidge (2015)	Jillian Morn
Andrew Belasco (2014)	Maggie Parker
	Charles Sanchez
	Kelly Slaton
	Robert Stolberg

Ed.D. Dissertation/Comprehensive Exam Committees: * Major Professor, (year graduated)

* Kate Maine (2019)

* Torie Johnson (2017)

* Mumbi Okundaye (2017)	Steve McLeod (2017)
* Jeff Stein (2017)	Kerr Ramsay (2016)
* Danny Thompson (2015)	Raymond Carnley (2015)
* Beverly Cormican (2013)	Lynn Labuda (2015)
* Jacqueline Parrill (2013)	Michael Sacco (2015)
* David Snow (2013)	Ryan Foley (2013)
* Marilyn DeLaRoche (2011)	Michael Horan (2013)
* Wendy Hoffman (2011)	Makeba Morgan Hill (2013)
* Ron Newcomb (2011)	Chad Puls (2013)
* Danny Sniff (2011)	Larry Christenson (2011)
Julie Staggs (2020)	Stuart Evans (2011)
Ashley Burnside (2019)	Kathy Pharr (2011)
Lady Cox (2019)	* Marti Brick
Rebecca Gunter (2019)	* Kallan Williams
Glen Spencer (2019)	Kike Ehigiator
Juanita Hicks (2018)	Marion Fedrick
Ed Lee (2017)	

University of Pittsburgh, Department of Administrative and Policy Studies
Dissertation Committees: * Dissertation Chair, (year graduated)

* Adam Lips (2009)	Michael Giazoni (2009)
Rudolph Lurz (2017)	Bruce Neimeyer (2009)
Molly Mistretta (2013)	Shari Payne (2009)
Joseph Dietrich (2010)	David Hornyak (2007)
Jim Earle (2009)	Tom Riley (2007)

Additional Dissertation Committees:

Jens Jungblut (2016), University of Oslo, Norway (second opponent)
Stephen Owens (2017), UGA, EDAP
Christopher Marsicano (2019), Vanderbilt University
Neoma Mullens (2020), UGA, EDAP

Campus Service

University of Georgia, Institute of Higher Education
Graduate Coordinator, 2011-present
Graduate Studies Committee, 2010-present (Chair, 2012-present)
Critical Perspectives on Race (CPR) speaker series, 2020-present (Chair)
UGA SLO Steering Committee, 2016-present
IHE Student Learning Outcomes Coordinator, 2016-present
IHE SACSCOC representative, 2020-present
UGA Summer Leadership Institute, 2019
Coordinator, Education Policy Seminar (EPS) series, 2010-2015, 2018-2019
Assistant/Associate Professor Search Committee, 2017-18 (Chair)
UGA Academic Affairs Faculty Symposium, 2015, 2019

Assistant Professor Search Committee, 2016-2017
Georgia College Advising Corps Program Director Search Committee, 2013
Assistant/Associate Professor Search Committee, 2012-2013
Assistant Professor Search Committee, 2011-2012
Secretary, 2009-2011
Strategic Planning Committee, 2010-2011
Faculty Affairs Committee, 2009-2010
Public Service and Outreach Committee, 2009-2010

University of Pittsburgh, School of Education

Faculty Associate, Center on Race and Social Problems, School of Social Work, 2008-09
Senior Research Associate, Institute for International Studies in Education, 2006-09
Rotary International, Group Study Exchange in Lagos, Nigeria, April-May 2007
Student Oral Presentation Committee, 2007
Discussant, 2007 Annual Latin American Social and Public Policy Conference

University of Pittsburgh, Department of Administrative and Policy Studies

Coordinator, Higher Education Management Program, 2008-09
Chair, National Advisory Board for Public Policy Specialization, 2008-09
Chair, Admissions Committee, 2008-09
Executive Committee, 2008-09
Curriculum Committee, 2007-09
Enrollment Management Committee, 2006-07
School Leadership Open Rank Faculty Search Committee, 2007

Professional Service

Editorial Board & Referee

Institute of Education Sciences (IES)

2015-18, Principal member, Education Systems and Broad Reform Education Research Scientific Review Panel

American Educational Research Journal (AERJ)

2016 – 2018, Editorial Board member

Education Law & Policy Review

2013 – present, Editorial Board member

Pittsburgh Studies in Comparative and International Education (Sense Publishers)

2011 – present, International Advisory Board member

Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis (EEPA)

2014 – 2016, Editorial Board member

Research in Higher Education

2009 – 2014, Consulting Editor

Ad hoc reviewer:

American Educational Research Journal
Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis
Educational Policy
Educational Researcher
Evidence & Policy
Higher Education
Journal of Higher Education
Policy Studies Journal
Research in Higher Education
Urban Education
ASHE Higher Education Report Series
Institute of Education Sciences (IES) review panel
Routledge

Professional Associations

Association for the Study of Higher Education

2013, Annual Conference Program Committee
Co-chair, Policy, Finance, and Economics section
2009, 2010, 2013 Co-Chair, ASHE Graduate Student Policy Seminar
2008, Early Career Faculty Teaching and Dissertation Advising Workshop, Council for the
Advancement of Higher Education Programs (CAHEP)
2007-2015, Annual Conference proposal reviewer
Council on Public Policy in Higher Education (ASHE Council)
2018-2019, Summer Symposium (Boulder, CO), planning committee
2009-2012, Executive Committee, Member-At-Large
2007-2015, Public Policy Forum proposal reviewer

American Educational Research Association

2011, Annual Meeting Program Committee (Division J)
Co-Chair, Section 5: Policy, Finance, and Economics (Division J)
2006-2015, Annual Meeting proposal reviewer (Divisions J & L)

Politics of Education Association (AERA SIG)

2012, William L. Boyd National Educational Politics Workshop, mentor
2007-2011, Outstanding Dissertation Award Committee (Chair, 2009-2011)
2008-2009, Annual Meetings proposal reviewer

Consulting

State Higher Education Executive Officers Association (SHEEO) & Arnold Ventures, 2021
Consultant for state authorization project (PI: David Tandberg, SHEEO)

Office of Global Engagement, University of Georgia, 2020-21
U.S. Department of State, University Partnership Program (\$250,000)
Co-PI, Ivory Coast University Partnership Initiative

State Higher Education Executive Officers Association (SHEEO), 2019
Consultant for curricular review of State Higher Education Policy Institutes

TIAA Institute, Research Grant on faculty retirement decision-making, 2017
Sub-contracted for qualitative data collection and analysis (PI: Rob Toutkoushian)

Carl Vinson Institute of Government, University of Georgia, 2014-15
Consultant on data demonstration project for University System of Georgia

Ford Foundation, Tennessee Higher Education Commission, 2013-2015
Sub-contracted for four ethnographic case studies of campus response to state outcomes-based funding formula

Carl Vinson Institute of Government, University of Georgia, 2013
Consultant on needs assessment project for graduate programs at Middle Georgia State College

U.S. Speaker and Specialist Grant, University Management and Administration, May 2011
U.S. Department of State, Bureau of International Information Programs
University of Rijeka, Croatia

The Coalition for Equity and Excellence in Maryland Higher Education, et al. v. Maryland Higher Education Commission, et al. (2010)
Sub-contracted for research and analysis on behalf of the plaintiff (PI: Rob Toutkoushian)

Pennsylvania GEAR UP Project, 2009 (resigned mid-term due to relocation to Georgia)
Statewide Advisory Board member

West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission, 2007
Commissioned report on Class of 2007 Senior Opinions Survey

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