

HEATHER M. STEPHENS
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

West Virginia University (WVU):

Director, Regional Research Institute (RRI), 2023 – Present.

Associate Professor, Resource Economics and Management, 2020 – Present

Adjunct Associate Professor, Economics, 2021 – Present

Faculty Research Affiliate, Regional Research Institute, 2015 – 2022.

Assistant Professor, Resource Economics and Management, 2015 – 2020

California State University, Long Beach (CSULB):

Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, 2012 – 2015

Director, Office of Economic Research (OER), 2012 – 2015

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Agricultural, Environmental and Development (AED) Economics, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, 2012.

- Dissertation Title: “Three Essays in Regional Economics.”
- Member of the Gamma Sigma Delta Honor Society.
- Completed microeconomics, macroeconomics, and econometrics sequences in the Department of Economics.

M.B.A., Finance and Marketing, The Ohio State University, Fisher College of Business, Columbus, OH, 2000.

- Graduated in top 5% of Class.
- Member of the Beta Gamma Sigma Honor Society and the Fisher College Pace Setters.
- Financed by the Moritz Family MBA Fund Scholarship, the W. Arthur Cullman MBA Fellowship for Excellence in Marketing, and a Fisher College Graduate Assistantship.

B.A., Public Policy Studies and Economics, Duke University, Durham, NC, 1994.

- Graduated with Honors: Cum Laude.
- Studied at London School of Economics, Spring Semester 1993.

RESEARCH

Refereed Journal Publications

Keeler, Zachary T. (PhD Graduate) and **Heather M. Stephens**. 2022. The capitalization of metro rail access in urban housing markets. *Real Estate Economics*. DOI: 10.1111/1540-6229.12411

Cary, Michael (PhD Candidate) and **Heather M. Stephens**. 2022. “Gendered Consequences of COVID-19 Among Professional Tennis Players.” *Journal of Sports Economics*. DOI: 10.1177/15270025221120591

Stephens, Heather M., Elizabeth A. Mack, and John Mann. 2022. “Broadband and Entrepreneurship: An Empirical Assessment of the Connection between Broadband Availability and New Business Activity across the United States.” *Telematics and Informatics*. DOI: 10.1016/j.tele.2022.101873.

- Haggerty, Treah, **Heather M. Stephens**, Shaylee A. Peckens, Erika Bodkins, Michael Cary (PhD candidate), Geri A. Dino, and Cara L. Sedney. 2022. "Telemedicine Versus In-Person Primary Care: Impact on Visit Completion Rate in a Rural Appalachian Population with Significant Health Disparities." *Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine* 35(3): 475-484. DOI: 10.3122/jabfm.2022.03.210518
- Taylor, Samuel (PhD graduate), **Heather M. Stephens**, and Daniel Grossman. 2022. "The Opioid Crisis and Economic Distress: Consequences for Population Change." *Journal of Regional Science* 62: 541-577. DOI: 10.1111/jors.12576.
- Hodges, Collin (PhD graduate) and Heather M. Stephens. 2022. "Does Municipal Incorporation Always Increase Property Values?" *Growth and Change* 3(1): 200-220. DOI: 10.1111/grow.12581
- Keeler, Zachary (PhD graduate), Heather M. Stephens, and Brad Humphreys. 2021. "The amenity value of sports facilities: Evidence from the Staples Center in Los Angeles." *Journal of Sports Economics* 22(7): 799-822. DOI: 10.1177/152700252111018258
- Keeler, Zachary (PhD graduate) and **Heather M. Stephens**. 2020. "Valuing Shale Development in Resource-Dependent Communities." *Resources Policy* 69: 101821. DOI: 10.1016/j.resourpol.2020.101821
- Barrett, Craig F., Joshua Lambert, Mathilda V. Santee, Brandon T. Sinn, Samuel V. Skibicki, **Heather M. Stephens**, and Hana Thixton. 2020. "Genetic, morphological, and niche variation in the widely hybridizing *Rhus integrifolia*-*Rhus ovata* species complex." *Plant Species Biology* 36 (1), 17-35. DOI: 10.1111/1442-1984.12293
- Patrick, Carlianne, and **Heather M. Stephens**. 2020. "Incentivizing the Missing Middle: The role of economic development policy." *Economic Development Quarterly* 34(2): 154-170. DOI: 10.1177/0891242420907160
- Dobis, Elizabeth A., **Heather M. Stephens**, Mark Skidmore, and Stephan F. Goetz. 2020. "Explaining the Spatial Variation in American Life Expectancy." *Social Science and Medicine* 246, 112759. DOI: 10.1016/j.socscimed.2019.112759
- Stephens, Heather M.** 2019. "Understanding U.S. College Graduate Migration." *Journal of Geographical Systems* 21(4): 509-531. DOI: 10.1007/s10109-019-00310-5
- Stephens, Heather M.** and Amanda Weinstein. 2019. "Household valuation of energy development in amenity-rich regions." *Growth and Change* 50:1375-1410. DOI: 10.1111/grow.12335
- Cai, Zhengyu, **Heather M. Stephens**, John Winters. 2019. "Motherhood, Migration, and Self-Employment of College Graduates." *Small Business Economics* 53(3): 611-629. DOI: 10.1007/s11187-019-00177-2
- Harger, Kaitlyn, Amanda Ross, and **Heather M. Stephens**. 2019. "What Matters the Most for Economic Development? Evidence from the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund." *Papers in Regional Science* 98: 883-904. DOI: 10.1111/pirs.12396
- Stephens, Heather M.** and John Deskins. 2018. "Economic Distress and Labor Market Participation." *American Journal of Agricultural Economics* 100(5): 1336-1356. DOI: 10.1093/ajae/aay065
- Goetz, Stephan, Mark Partridge, and **Heather M. Stephens**. 2018. "The Economic Status of Rural America in the President Trump Era and Beyond." *Applied Economic Perspectives and Policy* 40(1): 97-118. DOI: 10.1093/aep/ppx061

Spiller, Elisheba, **Heather M. Stephens**, and Yong Chen. 2017. “Understanding the Heterogeneous Effects of Gasoline Taxes Across Income and Location.” *Resource and Energy Economics* 50: 74-90. DOI: 10.1016/j.reseneeco.2017.07.002

Patrick, Carlianne, **Heather M. Stephens**, and Amanda Weinstein. 2016. “Where are all the self-employed women? Push and pull factors influencing female labor market decisions.” *Small Business Economics*. 46(3): 365-390. DOI: 10.1007/s11187-015-9697-2

Stephens, Heather M. and Mark D. Partridge. 2015. “Lake Amenities, Environmental Degradation, and Great Lakes Regional Growth.” *International Regional Science Review* 38: 61-91. DOI: 10.1177/0160017613496632

Spiller, Elisheba, **Heather M. Stephens**, Christopher Timmins, and Allison Smith. 2014. “The Effect of Gasoline Taxes and Public Transit Investments on Driving Patterns.” *Environmental and Resource Economics* 59(4): 633-657. DOI: 10.1007/s10640-013-9753-9

Stephens, Heather M., Alessandra Faggian, and Mark D. Partridge. 2013. “Innovative entrepreneurship and economic growth in lagging regions.” *Journal of Regional Science* 53(5): 778-812. DOI: 10.1111/jors.12019

Stephens, Heather M. and Mark D. Partridge. 2011. “Do Entrepreneurs Enhance Economic Growth in Lagging Regions?” *Growth and Change* 42(4): 431–465. (Lead Article.) DOI: 10.1111/j.1468-2257.2011.00563.x

Book Chapters

Stephens, Heather M. 2021. “A Case for Amenity-Driven Growth? The Value of Lake Amenities and Industrial Disamenities in the Great Lakes Region.” In Measuring Amenities and Disamenities in the Housing Market: Applications of the Hedonic Method edited by Joshua Hall, Kerianne Lawson, and Jacob Shia. Morgantown: Regional Research Institute, 2021.

Patrick, Carlianne, Amanda Ross, and **Heather M. Stephens**. 2017. “Designing Policies to Spur Economic Growth: How Regional Scientists Can Contribute to Future Policy Development and Evaluation.” In Regional Research Frontiers: The Next 50 Years, edited by R. Jackson and P. Schaeffer. Springer.

Other Publications

Pipa, Anthony F., Heather M. Stephens, and Natalie Geismar. 2022. “Defining distress: Lessons from the Federally Chartered Regional Commissions.” The Brookings Institution. <https://www.brookings.edu/research/defining-distress-lessons-from-the-federally-chartered-regional-commissions/>

Rae, Alasdair, Stephen Hincks, and **Heather M. Stephens**. 2017. “The role of open access in a changing academy: reflections on a new publishing paradigm.” *Regional Studies, Regional Science* 4(1): 42-48. DOI: 10.1080/21681376.2017.1308063

Faggian, Alessandra, Elizabeth Mack, and **Heather M. Stephens**. 2013. “Editorial: Special issue on Current Issues in Regional Development.” *International Regional Science Review* 36(3): 263-266. DOI: 10.1177/0160017613485243

Total citations based on Google Scholar (as of January 2023): 824.

Revise and Resubmit

Keeler, Zachary (PhD graduate) and **Heather M. Stephens**. “What Matters for Lagging Regions? The Role of Entrepreneurship and Industrial Diversity in Distressed Areas.”

Stephens, Heather M., Elena Irwin, and Mark D. Partridge. “How do pollution and other environmental disamenities affect business location?”

Under Review

Cary, Michael (PhD student) and **Heather M. Stephens**. “Economic, Environmental, and Technical Gains from the Kyoto Protocol: Evidence from Cement Manufacturing.”

Hodges, Collin (PhD graduate), **Heather M. Stephens**, and Cara Sedney. “Individual and Community Characteristics of the Opioid Crisis in West Virginia.”

Working Papers

Chen, Zhongfei, Fanglin Chen, **Heather M. Stephens**, Mark D. Partridge, and Anping Chen. “How harmful is air pollution? An evaluation of health effects of PM2.5 in China.”

Dobis, Elizabeth and **Heather M. Stephens**. “Do Urban-Rural Interactions Matter for Economic Vitality in U.S. regions?”

Patrick, Carlianne, **Heather M. Stephens**, and Amanda Weinstein. “Born to Care (or Not Care): How Gender Role Attitudes Affect Occupation Choice.”

Stephens, Heather M., Zachary Keeler (PhD graduate), and Mark D. Partridge. “Employment Effects and Business Opportunities from COVID-19.”

Taylor, Samuel (PhD graduate) and **Heather M. Stephens**. “Impact of Large Scale Water Contamination on Population Change.”

Wadsworth, Allyssa (WVU Economics PhD graduate) and **Heather M. Stephens**. “The Attraction of Health Care and Urban and Natural Amenities: Is it really retirees who move for these benefits?”

Works in Prep

Research on how a spouse’s employment risk affects women entrepreneurs (with Sisi Zhang).

Research on the spatial distribution of labor force participation (with Steven C. Deller).

RESEARCH GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS (FUNDED)

Research contract with the Brookings Institution to examine the impact of U.S. regional commissions. Funding: \$15,000. Timeframe: May to November 2021.

“ARC Coal Industry Ecosystem (CIE) Analysis Extensions.” Appalachian Regional Commission. Co-Investigator. Funding: \$499,913 (Stephens’ portion: \$79,749). Timeframe: 2019–2021.

“City Transportation and Air Pollution in China.” International Cooperation Grant, Jinan University, 2018-XJCG030. Funding: 30,000 RMB. Timeframe: 2018.

Big XII Faculty Fellowship. Provided funding for collaboration with faculty at Oklahoma State University. Funding: \$2500. Timeframe: 2017–2018.

“Rural America and the Economic Impacts of Energy, the Environment, Entrepreneurship, and Health Care.” Hatch Project, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 2017–2022.

“NE1749: Enhancing Rural Economic Opportunities, Community Resilience, and Entrepreneurship.” Official Station Representative, Multi-State Hatch Project, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 2017–2022.

“NE1049: Community Health and Resilience.” Official Station Representative, Multi-State Hatch Project, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 2017.

USDA Economic Research Service (ERS) Visiting Scholar. Worked with USDA economists on research and gained access to data worth approximately \$200,000. Timeframe: 2016–2017.

“Understanding U.S. College Graduate Migration.” Early Career Grant Scheme, Regional Studies Association (a UK-based international membership organization). Principle Investigator. Funding: \$15,000. Timeframe: 2013–2015.

"Leveraging natural amenities for sustainable development in the Great Lakes region." National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Ohio Sea Grant Program. Co-Principle Investigator with Mark Partridge and Elena Irwin. Funding: \$180,000, plus match. Timeframe: 2010–2013.

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

Conference Presentations

Western Economic Association International Conference: 2015; 2022.

European Regional Science Association (ERSA) Annual Congress, 2021 (virtual).

Southern Regional Science Association Meeting (SRSA): 2010, 2011, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 (canceled), 2021 (virtual).

Regional Science Association International (RSAI): 2020 (postponed), 2021 (virtual).

Applied Social Sciences Associations (ASSA) Annual Meeting: 2018, 2021 (session organizer: virtual).

North American Meetings of the Regional Science Association International (NARSC): 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 (virtual).

Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA) Annual Meeting: 2011, 2018, 2019, 2020 (session organizer: virtual).

Federal Reserve Community Development Research Conference: Renewing the Promise of the Middle Class: 2019. Audience included researchers, policymakers, and community development professionals.

American Real Estate and Urban Economics Association International Conference: 2018.

Regional, Urban, and Spatial Economics (RUSE) Meeting: 2018.

Regional Studies Association North American Conference: 2016.

National Tax Association Annual Conference on Taxation: 2015.

US Association for Energy Economics (USAEE)/International Association for Energy Economics (IAEE) North American Conference: 2015. (Attendees include academic and non-academic professionals.)

Urban Economics Association Meeting: 2014.

Lincoln Scholars Program, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, Cambridge, Massachusetts: 2014 (Invited Presentation).

Rural Wealth Creation and Livelihoods: A National Conference and Conversation: 2011. Participants included economic development practitioners, researchers, and policymakers.

Invited Seminar Presentations

University of Tübingen, Germany (2022); University of Maine (2020); Pennsylvania State University (2019); Regional Research Institute (RRI), West Virginia University (2018); Oklahoma State University (2017); University of Akron (2016, 2012); Jinan University, Guangzhou, PRC (2016); University of Southern California (2014); New Mexico State University (2012); University of Alaska Anchorage (2012); Washington State University (2012); John Glenn School of Public Policy, The Ohio State University (2012); Denison University (2011); Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs, Ohio University (2010).

MEDIA COVERAGE

“Economist: Gas Tax Holiday Doesn’t Make Sense.” By Eric Douglas. West Virginia Public Broadcasting. June 14, 2022. <https://www.wvpublic.org/economy/2022-06-14/economist-gas-tax-holiday-doesnt-make-sense>

“What’s behind the high gas prices? Three WVU experts talk to The Dominion Post.” By David Beard. The Dominion Post. June 11, 2022. <https://www.dominionpost.com/2022/06/11/whats-behind-the-high-gas-prices-three-wvu-experts-talk-to-the-dominion-post/>

“Raising W.Va. Labor Force Participation To National Average Would Means Thousands More Workers.” By Eric Douglas. West Virginia Public Broadcasting. February 7, 2022. <https://www.wvpublic.org/economy/2022-02-07/raising-w-va-labor-force-participation-to-national-average-would-means-thousands-more-workers>

“Labor Force Participation Continues To Lag In W.Va.” By Eric Douglas. West Virginia Public Broadcasting. October 26, 2021. <https://www.wvpublic.org/government/2021-10-26/labor-force-participation-continues-to-lag-in-w-va>

“West Virginia’s census response rate third lowest in country.” By Anthony Conn. WCHS (online article and local television story, Charleston, WV). May 15, 2020. <https://wchstv.com/news/local/west-virginias-census-response-rate-third-lowest-in-the-country>

“West Virginia Chamber of Commerce release 12-point recovery plan.” By Joe Buchanan. WDTV (online article and local television story, Bridgeport, WV). April 29, 2020. <https://www.wdvt.com/content/news/West-Virginia-Chamber-of-Commerce-release-12-point-recovery-plan-570024361.html>

“Some States’ Unemployment Claims Surged as National Rate Fell.” By Gwynn Guilford. The Wall Street Journal. April 23, 2020. <https://www.wsj.com/articles/some-states-unemployment-claims-surged-as-national-rate-fell-11587681889>

“How long will it take for small businesses to recover from pandemic?” By Suzanne Elliott. The Dominion Post. April 18, 2020. <https://www.dominionpost.com/2020/04/18/how-long-will-it-take-for-small-businesses-to-recover-from-pandemic/>

“WVU economist discusses vulnerabilities that could hinder economic recovery in the state.” By Rodney Lamp. WBOY-TV Online. April 3, 2020. <https://www.wboy.com/news/health/coronavirus/wvu-economist-discusses-vulnerabilities-that-could-hinder-economic-recovery-in-the-state/>

“Tax incentives for businesses could be harmful.” The Dominion Post. March 14, 2020. <https://www.dominionpost.com/2020/03/14/tax-incentives-for-businesses-could-be-harmful/>

“Colorado homes near oil wells face lower values, new study finds.” By Aldo Svaldi. The Denver Post. December 8, 2019.

<https://www.denverpost.com/2019/12/08/colorado-homes-near-oil-wells-lower-values/>

(Also ran in The Sacramento Bee, The San Antonio Express News, and The Charleston Gazette.)

“Study shows shale development adversely affects home values.” The Dominion Post. November 18, 2019. <https://www.dominionpost.com/2019/11/17/wvu-study-shows-shale-development-has-negative-impact-on-home-values/>

“Report: Oil, Gas Drilling Impacts Housing Prices.” By Jess Mancini. The Intelligencer/Wheeling News-Register. November 20, 2019.

<https://www.theintelligencer.net/news/top-headlines/2019/11/report-oil-gas-drilling-impacts-housing-prices/>

“WVU working to help boost state’s economy.” By Steven Adams. The Weirton Daily Times. October 8, 2019. <https://www.weirtondailytimes.com/news/local-news/2019/10/wvu-working-to-help-boost-states-economy/>

“Analysts want, need legislators’ attention.” By Erin Beck. The Register-Herald (Beckley, West Virginia). October 8, 2019. https://www.register-herald.com/news/state_region/analysts-want-need-legislators-attention/article_04357f90-d17f-5e6d-a9c5-9c418219c75e.html

“The real (surprisingly comforting) reason rural America is doomed to decline.” By Andrew Van Dam. The Washington Post. May 24, 2019.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2019/05/24/real-surprisingly-comforting-reason-rural-america-is-doomed-decline/>

“WVU experts weigh in on gubernatorial debate.” By Wendy Holdren. The Register-Herald (Beckley, West Virginia). October 6, 2016. <https://wvpress.org/copydesk/insight/wvu-experts-weigh-gubernatorial-debate/>

“WVU experts react to the gubernatorial debate.” By Austin Weiford. The Exponent-Telegram (Clarksburg, West Virginia). October 4, 2016.

https://www.wvnews.com/theet/news/free/wvu-experts-react-to-the-gubernatorial-debate/article_98cf1207-1b2b-5282-9508-8f0ded9b0412.html

“Focus on Managing a Job Search as a Couple: More on Timing and Strategy.” CSWEP News. 2016 Issue II. <https://www.aeaweb.org/content/file?id=2327>

“Long Beach economy improving — but some challenges loom ahead.” By Andrew Edwards. Long Beach Press-Telegram. April 24, 2015.

<https://www.presstelegram.com/2015/04/24/long-beach-economy-improving-but-some-challenges-loom-ahead/>

“Long Beach’s middle class, then ... and now.” By Tim Grobaty. Long Beach Press-Telegram. February 28, 2015.

<https://www.presstelegram.com/2015/02/28/long-beachs-middle-class-then-and-now/>

“Cal State Long Beach graduations economic boon for businesses.” By Karen Robes Meeks. Long Beach Press-Telegram. May 20, 2014. <https://www.presstelegram.com/2014/05/20/cal-state-long-beach-graduations-economic-boon-for-businesses/>

“Long Beach’s economy needs to diversify as manufacturing diminishes, economist says.” By Andrew Edwards. Long Beach Press-Telegram. March 21, 2014.

<https://www.presstelegram.com/2014/03/21/long-beachs-economy-needs-to-diversify-as-manufacturing-diminishes-economist-says/>

“CSULB regional economic forum: more gain, some pain ahead.” By Josh Dulaney. Long Beach Press-Telegram. April 26, 2013. <https://www.presstelegram.com/2013/04/26/csulb-regional-economic-forum-more-gain-some-pain-ahead/>

OUTREACH AND BOARDS

Bureau of Economic Analysis Advisory Committee, 2021 to 2024.

North American Regional Science Council (NARSC) Ben Stevens Graduate Fellowship Committee, 2021 to Present.

Ohio River Valley Institute, Advisory Council, 2020 to Present.

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) for the Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development (NERCRD), based at Pennsylvania State University. Chair, 2019 to 2024. Member, 2016 to Present.

Southern Regional Science Association (SRSA). Executive Council Member, 2018 to 2021. Treasurer/Co-Executive Director, 2016 to 2018.

Media Expert for West Virginia University. October 2016 to Present.

California State University, Long Beach’s Regional Economic Forum. Annual event highlighting the challenges and opportunities in the regional economy. Attendees included business, government, and education leaders. Conducted analysis and presented the keynote address at the event. Responsible for organization of and fundraising for the event. April 26, 2013, March 21, 2014, April 24, 2015.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

West Virginia University

ARE 793B: Advanced Applied Econometrics (New PhD Class which I developed), Spring 2018, Spring 2019, Spring 2020, Spring 2022, Spring 2023 (Forthcoming).

ECON 761: Advanced Regional Economics, Spring 2022.

ARE 445: Energy Economics, Spring 2016, Spring 2017, Spring 2018, Spring 2019 (including honors), Spring 2020 (including honors), Spring 2021.

ARE 150: Agricultural and Agribusiness Economics (Microeconomics), Spring 2018, Fall 2018, Fall 2019 and Fall 2020 (including honors), Fall 2021.

ECON 201: Principles of Microeconomics, Fall 2016.

California State University, Long Beach

ECON 101: Principles of Microeconomics, Fall 2013.

ECON 333: Managerial Economics, Fall 2012.

ECON 437: Urban Economics, Spring 2013, Fall 2013, Spring 2015.

ECON 438: Regional Economics, Fall 2014.

ECON 485: Introduction to Econometrics, Spring 2013, Spring 2014, Fall 2014.

ADVISING

PhD Dissertation Committee Chair:

Completed:

Zachary Keeler, Ph.D. “Three Essays in Regional Economics.” 2021. Currently: Research Assistant Professor, Texas Tech University.

Samuel Taylor, Ph.D. “Three Essays in Applied Econometrics: Understanding Population Changes,” 2020. Currently: Assistant Director, WVU Energy Institute.

Collin Hodges, Ph.D. “Three Essays in Applied Econometrics,” 2019. Currently: Assistant Professor, University of Central Arkansas.

In progress: Michael Cary, Stacia Harper, David Nason.

PhD Dissertation Committee Member: Allyssa Wadsworth (2022; Department of Economics), Arijit Ray (2020; Department of Economics), Caleb Stair (2018), and Brianne Zimmerman (2018).

Undergraduate Advisor and Honors Advisor, West Virginia University, Fall 2015 to Spring 2022.

Undergraduate Thesis Advisor: Michelle Charochak (2016), Marissa Meltzer (2017), Hannah Lopez (2018), Tatianna Evanisko (2019), Elijah Dempsey (2019), Liam O’Hara (2019), Sullivan Moore (2020), Jack Steketee (2020 – winner of WVU Library’s award for best thesis), Tate Dixon (2020-2021), Annika Emmett (2020-2021), Andrew Lewis (2020-2021), Jude Platz (2020-2021 – winner of WVU Library’s award for best thesis), Sofia Nunez (2021-2022), Jordyn Underkoffler (2022).

Undergraduate Honors Thesis Advisor (CSULB): Alfred Leone (2014-2015), Stephanie Garcia Marquez (2015).

Editorships

Regional Science Policy and Practice. Editorial Board. November 2020 to Present.

Growth and Change. Editorial Board. December 2018 to Present.

Regional Studies, Regional Science. North American Editor, March 2015 to March 2019. Associate Editor, January 2014 to March 2015, September 2019 to Present.

International Regional Science Review. Guest Editor, Special Issue on Regional Economic Development, July 2013.

Journal Referee

Annals of Regional Science; Applied Economics Perspectives and Policy; Choices; Economic Development Quarterly; Energy Policy; Entrepreneurial Research Journal; Growth and Change; International Regional Science Review; Journal of Economic Studies, Journal of Regional Science; Land Economics, Papers in Regional Science; Real Estate Economics; Regional Science Policy and Practice; Regional Science and Urban Economics; Regional Studies, Regional Science; Resource and Energy Economics; Resources Policy; Small Business Economics; The Review of Regional Studies.

Other Professional Service

Reviewer, National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) Competitive Grants in Rural and Economic Development, 2021.

Reviewer of abstracts for the Agricultural & Applied Economics Association (AAEA) Annual Meeting, 2018-2020. Subject Leader, 2020-2022.

Multistate Hatch Project NE2249, Member, 2022 to Present.

Multistate Hatch Project NE1749, “Enhancing Rural Economic Opportunities, Community Resilience, and Entrepreneurship.” Secretary, 2019 to 2020; President 2020 to 2021; Member, 2018 to Present.

RSAI 13th World Congress Scientific Committee, 2019 to 2021.

University Service

West Virginia University

University Level:

- Advisory Board, Regional Research Institute (RRI), 2021 – 2022.
- Three Minute Thesis (3MT) Steering Committee, 2020 – 2022.

Davis College of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Design:

- Research Office and Experiment Station Advisory Board, 2021 – 2022.
- Advising Task Force, 2020 – 2022.
- Faculty Support Committee, 2019 – 2022.
- Student Research and Creative Scholarship Committee, 2016 – 2018. Co-Chair: Academic Year 2017 – 2018.

Division of Resource Economics and Management:

- Annual Review Committee, 2017 – 2019; 2020 – 2022.
- Graduate Committee, 2015 – 2021.
- Qualifying Exam Committee, 2019 – 2021.
- Second Year Paper Reviewer, 2017 – 2020.
- New Faculty Hiring Committee, Spring 2019.
- Seminar Organizer, 2016 – 2019.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- Agricultural & Applied Economics Association (AAEA)
- American Economic Association (AEA)
- North American Regional Science Council (NARSC)
- Regional Science Association International (RSAI)
- Southern Regional Science Association (SRSA)
- Urban Economics Association (UEA)

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Government Relations and Outreach Associate, Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs, Ohio University, Athens, OH, 2006–2008.

- Helped manage the Consortium for Energy, Economics, and the Environment (CE3), a university-wide interdisciplinary research consortium.
- Worked with academic researchers and regional, state, and federal officials to organize regional and statewide conferences related to energy and its potential as a tool for economic growth, especially in Appalachian Ohio.
- Wrote successful federal and foundation grant proposals.
- Provided government relations support to the School and the University.
- Mentored and supervised undergraduate and graduate students.

Executive Director, Washakie Development Association (a local non-profit economic development organization), Worland, WY, 2003–2005.

- Led this local economic development organization and managed its projects and budget.
- Wrote successful grant proposals and reports on local economic issues.
- Orchestrated the passage of a local optional sales tax to support regional development.
- Served on various local boards.

Independent Consultant, providing strategic marketing, general business, economic development, and public policy consulting services, 2002–2003.

- Clients included the Jackson Hole Chamber of Commerce (WY), the State of West Virginia, and Cinergy Corporation.

Business Development Manager, MCI, Arlington, VA, 2000–2002.

- Identified and established new consumer marketing partnerships. Responsibilities included analyzing the financial terms and negotiating the contracts.
- Ensured successful execution of new partnerships by managing: the relationship with the partner company, systems integration, coordinated marketing campaigns, financial transactions and reporting, and the communications and public relations plan strategy.
- Recipient of company leadership award for coordinating internal constituencies for the launch of a new line of business.

Legislative Assistant, Congressman Thomas C. Sawyer, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC, 1994–1998.

- Senior Advisor to the Congressman. Helped develop and implement the Congressman’s legislative agenda. Worked on issues related to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce and the House Committee on Education and the Workforce. Negotiated on the conference committee for an omnibus job training bill. Legislative successes included passage of the Congressman’s health information legislation.
- Wrote and edited legislative summaries, memos, press releases, speeches, newsletters, and letters.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Proficient with STATA, ArcGIS, SAS and MATLAB.

Worked as a seasonal Interpretive Park Ranger at Badlands National Park (2005) and on the Blue Ridge Parkway (2006).

Taxicab Driver, Blackboard Transportation, Jackson, WY, 2003.