

Lang (Kate) Yang

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updated: July 2023

ACADEMIC POSITIONS	Associate Professor of Public Policy and Public Administration (with tenure) Trachtenberg School, George Washington University	2023-
	Assistant Professor of Public Policy and Public Administration Trachtenberg School, George Washington University	2017-2023
OTHER POSITION	Fellow, Office of Evaluation Sciences, U.S. General Services Administration	2023-
EDUCATION	Ph.D., Public Affairs, Indiana University, Bloomington	2017
	M.P.P., University of Minnesota, Twin Cities	2011
	B.A., China Foreign Affairs University, Beijing	2009
RESEARCH INTERESTS	public finance; government financial management; intergovernmental relation; fiscal transparency; education finance	
JOURNAL ARTICLES	Yang, Lang. 2023. "School District Borrowing and Capital Spending: The Effectiveness of State Credit Enhancement." <i>Education Finance and Policy</i> , forthcoming.	
	Yang, Lang and Maithreyi Gopalan. 2023. "The Effects of Campus Shooting on School Finance and Student Composition." <i>Education Finance and Policy</i> , 18(2): 277-301.	
	Yang, Lang and Ruth Winecoff. 2022. "Municipal Bond Sectoral Risk and Information Intermediation in Uncertain Times: Evidence from the COVID-19 Pandemic." <i>Public Budgeting & Finance</i> , 42(4): 34-53.	
	Yang, Lang, Laura Connolly, and Jennifer Connolly. 2022. "Is There a Glass Cliff in Local Government Management? Examining the Hiring and Departure of Women." <i>Public Administration Review</i> , 82(3): 570-584.	
	Cheng, Yuan, Lang Yang, and Shuyi Deng. 2022. "Nonprofit Density and Distributional Equity in Public Service Provision: Exploring Racial/Ethnic Disparities in Public Park Access across U.S. Cities." <i>Public Administration Review</i> , 82(3): 473-486.	
	Wang, Ziyuan, Thomas Luke Spreen, and Lang Yang. 2022. "A Replication of 'Trade Shocks and the Provision of Local Public Goods'." <i>Public Finance Review</i> , 50(3): 336-376.	
	Yang, Lang. 2022. "Fiscal transparency or fiscal illusion? Housing and credit market responses to fiscal monitoring." <i>International Tax and Public Finance</i> , 29: 1-29.	
	Yang, Lang. 2021. "Auditor or Adviser? Auditor (In)Dependence and Its Impact on Financial Management." <i>Public Administration Review</i> , 81(3): 475-487.	
	Yang, Lang and Yulianti Abbas. 2020. "General Purpose Local Government Defaults:	

- Type, Trend, and Impact.” *Public Budgeting & Finance*, 40(4): 62-85.
- Yang, Lang. 2020. “Intergovernmental Costs of Political Gridlock: Local Government Cash Flow Smoothing during State Budgetary Delays.” *Public Finance Review*, 48(1): 102-134.
- Yang, Lang. 2019. “Not All State Authorizations for Municipal Bankruptcy are Equal: Impact of Bankruptcy Authorizations on State Primary Market Borrowing Costs.” *National Tax Journal*, 72(2): 435-464.
- Yang, Lang. 2019. “The impact of state intervention and bankruptcy authorization laws on local government deficits.” *Economics of Governance*, 20(4): 305-328.
- Cheng, Yuan and Lang Yang. 2019. “Providing Public Services without Relying Heavily on Government Funding: How do Nonprofits Respond to Government Budget Cuts?” *American Review of Public Administration*, 49(6): 675-688.
- Yang, Lang. 2018. “Negative Externality of Fiscal Problems: Dissecting the Contagion Effect of Municipal Bankruptcy.” *Public Administration Review*, 79(2): 156-167.
- Yang, Lang. 2017. “Financial Management Conservatism under Constraints: Tax and Expenditure Limits and Local Deficit Financing during the Great Recession.” *Local Government Studies*, 43(6): 946-965.
- Yang, Lang and Bradley Heim. 2017. “Responsiveness of Income to Local Income Taxes: Evidence from Indiana.” *National Tax Journal*, 70(2): 367-392.
- Heim, Bradley and Lang Yang. 2017. “The Impact of the Affordable Care Act on Self-Employment.” *Health Economics*, 26(12): 256-273.
- Ross, Justin, Madeline Dinges, and Lang Yang. 2015. “Indiana’s Property Tax Caps: Old Idea, New Approach, and Surprising Incentives.” *Public Budgeting & Finance*, 35(4), 18-41.

**BOOK
CHAPTER**

Yang, Lang. ”State intervention in local government fiscal distress.” Chapter 13 of *Research Handbook on City and Municipal Finance*, edited by Craig L. Johnson, Temirlan T. Moldogaziev, and Justin M. Ross, Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar, 2023.

**UNDER
REVIEW**

Spreen, Luke, Ziyuan Wang, and Lang Yang. “Industrial Automation and Local Public Goods.” Revise & Resubmit.

Yang, Lang, Jinhai Yu, and Xin Chen. “The Elusive Fiscal Commons: Examining Fiscal Interaction among Overlapping Governments.” Under review.

**WORK IN
PROGRESS**

Yang, Lang. “Politicians or Bureaucrats: Independence of State Auditors.”

Yang, Lang, Justin Ross, and Lanjun Peng. “Financial Reporting Quality in Local Governments.”

**OTHER
WRITING**

Lang, Yang. “State credit enhancement programs promote capital investment in low-income districts.” Brown Center Chalkboard, the Brookings Institute. Dec. 6, 2022.

Yang, Lang, Laura Connolly, and Jennifer Connolly. “Women city managers face a glass cliff as local governments are more likely to hire them when budgets are collapsing.” Phelan US Centre, London School of Economics and Political Science. March, 2022.

Yang, Lang. “Spending beyond Your Means during a Recession?” Institute of Local Government Studies, University of Birmingham, Birmingham, UK. May 2017.

Randall, Judy and Lang Yang. “[State Employee Union Fair Share Fee Calculations.](#)” Minnesota Office of Legislative Auditor, July 2013.

Bombach, Valerie and Lang Yang. “[Medical Assistance Payment Rates for Dental Services.](#)” Minnesota Office of Legislative Auditor, March 2013.

Hauer, Jodi, David Kirchner, and Lang Yang. “[Helping Communities Recover from Disasters.](#)” Minnesota Office of Legislative Auditor, March 2012.

HONORS & AWARDS

Wen Wang Award for Best Young Scholar Paper, CAAPA, 2019

Lincoln Institute Scholar, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, 2018

Dissertation Award, NASPAA, 2017

Best Student Paper Award, CAAPA, 2017

Michael Curro Student Paper Award, ABFM, 2016

Best Paper in Policy Analysis & Public Finance, ASPS Student Conference, 2016

Robert Agranoff Summer Fellowship, Indiana University, Bloomington, 2014

GRANTS

Ed Fund, “School District General Fund Balance: A Nationwide Look.” Sep. 2024 - Aug. 2025.

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, “Effects of Credit Enhancement Programs for Districts.” Sep. 2021 - Aug. 2022.

George Washington Institute of Public Policy Policy, “Financial Management Implication of Auditor Sharing and Auditor Tenure.” Sep. 2019 - May 2020.

Harriss Dissertation Fellowship (declined), Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, “Negative Externality of Fiscal Problems.” 2017.

PRESENTATIONS

2023 AEFPP

2023 Municipal Finance Conference, Office of Evaluation Sciences

2022 APPAM**, ABFM, IU Conference on Public & Environmental Affairs, UAA, AEFPP

2021 NTA, NYU Wagner (invited), ABFM, NAPA Social Equity Leadership Conference

2020 IU O’Neill (invited), APPAM, Zhongshan University (Invited), PAR Race and Gender Symposium**, DC Area Public Finance and Budgeting Seminar, Fudan University (Invited), AEFPP

2019 ABFM, Municipal Finance Conference, PMRC, University of Illinois Public Finance Conference, Public Choice Society**, ASPA, DC Area Public Finance and Budgeting Seminar

2018 APPAM*, ABFM, DC Policy Day at Georgetown University, Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board Academic Forum* (Invited), Hamilton Project Author’s Conference at Brookings* (invited), American Accounting Association Annual Conference, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy (Invited)

2017 ABFM

2016 APPAM, ABFM, Association of SPEA PhD Students Conference

2015 NTA, Conference on Innovation, Institution, and Governance at Fudan University,

Association of SPEA PhD Students Conference

2014 ABFM

*Presenter unless noted: * discussant only; ** presenter and discussant.*

PRESS

Ed Week, “[School Shootings: The Long-Term Financial Fallout](#),” April 5, 2023.

Bloomberg, “[State Backing of School Debt Eases Gap Between Districts: Paper](#),” November 10, 2022.

The 74 Million, “[New Study: After School Shootings, Well-Off Families Flee and Enrollment Drops. Low-Income Kids are Left to Confront the Aftermath](#),” June 1, 2021.

GWToday, “[Study: School Shootings Shatter Communities](#),” June 2, 2021.

Bond Buyer, “[Study finds non-GO bond defaults don’t impact GO ratings](#),” July 15, 2019.

Brookings, “[Muni bond defaults more common than rating agency tallies suggest](#),” July 15, 2019.

Governing, “[For Muni Bond Sales, Brand Matters](#),” August, 2018.

TEACHING

PPPA 6053 Financial Management for Public and Nonprofit Organizations
GWU 2018-

PPPA 6005 Public Budgeting, Revenue, and Expenditures
GWU 2018-

Public Policy and Public Diplomacy Summer Institute
GWU Summer19, 21

SPEA V361 Financial Management
Indiana University Fall15, Spring16

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Field Advisor, Public Budgeting and Finance, Trachtenberg School 2018-

Strategic Planning Committee, Trachtenberg School 2022-2023

Research Committee, Trachtenberg School 2018-2020, 2022-2023

Doctoral Admissions Committee, Trachtenberg School 2018-

Doctoral Program Committee, Trachtenberg School 2021-2022

Masters Program Committee, Trachtenberg School 2018-2019

Faculty reviewer, *Policy Perspectives* 2018-

Doctoral Dissertation

- Committee member, Ziyuan Wang. “State Financial Incentives and Solar Energy Adoption in the United States.”
- Examiner, Mansi Wadhwa (2023). “Bridging the Gender Gaps in Labor Markets and in Caregiving: Empirical Evidence from Two Family Leave Programs.”
- Committee member, Gabriel Royal (2023). “Three Essays on Bitcoin, Energy, and Digital Asset Public Policy.”
- Committee member, Justina Jose, Georgia State University (2022). “Essays on Public Debt Management.”

- Committee member, Qianqian Zhang (2020). “Fiscal Decentralization and Economic Growth.”
- Examiner, Yaerin Park (2020). “Participatory Budgeting and Willingness to Pay Taxes.”
- Examiner, Melissa McShea (2018). “Essays on State Tax Revenues During the Great Recession and Beyond.”

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

Manuscript review: *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, Public Administration Review, Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory, Public Budgeting and Finance, Education Finance and Policy, National Tax Journal, Regional Science and Urban Economics, Public Finance Review, Municipal Finance Journal, American Review of Public Administration, Public Management Review, Public Performance and Management Review, Local Government Studies, Social Forces, State Politics and Policy Quarterly, Journal of Public Budgeting, Accounting, and Financial Management, Chinese Public Administration Review, Journal of Public and Nonprofit Affairs, Nonprofit Management & Leadership, International Journal of Public Administration, Oxford University Press, Edward Elgar Publishing*

Organizer

- DC Area Public Finance and Budgeting Seminar, 2018-2020
- DC Public Management Consortium Meeting 2024
- ABFM Annual Conference 2026

Association for Budgeting and Financial Management

- Wildavsky Award Committee 2024
- Executive Committee 2021-2023
- Mentor Program 2019, 2022
- Posner Award Committee 2019
- Poster Award Committee 2018

Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration

- Finance Committee 2022-2025

Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management

- Proposal Review Committee 2020, 2021
- Mentor Program 2018, 2022

Public Management Research Association

- Proposal Review Committee 2019

China-America Association for Public Affairs

- Treasurer, 2024-
- Best Paper Award Committee, 2022
- Mentor Program 2020, 2021

External reviewer: Pew Charitable Trust 2019

Professional associations membership

- Association for Budgeting and Financial Management
- National Tax Association
- American Society for Public Administration
- Association for Education Finance and Policy

- Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management
- China-America Association for Public Affairs

**PRIOR
WORK**

Evaluation Specialist 2011-2013
Minnesota Office of Legislative Auditor, St. Paul, Minnesota

Evaluator 2010-2011
Metropolitan Council, St. Paul, Minnesota