

# Robert Kelchen

University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
Professor and Department Head  
Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies

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Websites: Personal, UTK, Google Scholar profile

## Employment

Professor, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 2021–.

Associate Professor, Seton Hall University, 2019–2021.

Assistant Professor, Seton Hall University, 2013–2019.

## Education

Ph.D, Educational Policy Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2013.

M.S., Economics, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2009.

B.S., Economics and Finance, Truman State University, 2007.

## Research Interests

Higher education finance, accountability policies, student financial aid

## Book

Kelchen, R. (2018). *Higher Education Accountability*. Johns Hopkins University Press. (JHU Press, Amazon)

## Journal Articles

Kelchen, R., Ortagus, J., Rosinger, K., Baker, D., & Lingo, M. (accepted). The Relationships between State Higher Education Funding Strategies and College Access and Success. *Educational Researcher*.

Kelchen, R., Lingo, M., Rosinger, K., Baker, D., Ortagus, J., & Wu, J. (accepted). A Typology and Landscape of State Funding Formulas for Public Colleges and Universities from 2004 to 2021. *The Review of Higher Education*.

Kelchen, R., & Pingel, S. (2023). Examining the Effects of Tuition Controls on Student Enrollment. *Research in Higher Education*. (link, accepted version)

- Ortagus, J., Rosinger, K., Kelchen, R., Voorhees, N., & Chu, G. (2023). A National Analysis of the Impact of Performance-Based Funding on Completion Outcomes Among Underserved Students. *The Review of Higher Education*, 46(4), 415-452. (link)
- Rosinger, K., Ortagus, J., Kelchen, R., & Choi, J. (2023). The Impact of Performance Funding Policy Design on College Access and Selectivity. *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*. (link)
- Kelchen, R., Ortagus, J., Rosinger, K., & Cassell, A. (2023). Investing in the Workforce: The Impact of Performance-Based Funding on Student Earnings Outcomes. *The Journal of Higher Education*. (link, author's accepted version)
- Ortagus, J., Rosinger, K., Kelchen, R., Chu, G., & Lingo, M. (2023). The Unequal Impacts of Performance-Based Funding on Institutional Resources in Higher Education. *Research in Higher Education*, 64, 705-739. (link)
- Li, A. Y., & Kelchen, R. (2023). Policy Diffusion of Performance Funding Equity Metrics: Traditional Neighbor and Dyadic Survival Analyses. *Educational Policy*, 37(4), 875-909. doi: 10.1177/08959048211058439. (link)
- Kelchen, R., Ortagus, J., Rosinger, K., & Cassell, A. (2022). The Effects of State Performance Funding Policies on Student Loan Debt. *Economics of Education Review*, 91, Article 102328. (link, author's accepted version)
- Rosinger, K., Kelchen, R., Baker, D., Ortagus, J., & Lingo, M. (2022). State Higher Education Funding During COVID-19: Lessons from Prior Recessions and Implications for Equity. *AERA Open*, 8. doi: 10.1177/23328584221091277. (link)
- Rosinger, K., Ortagus, J., Kelchen, R., Cassell, A., & Brown, L. (2022). New Evidence on the Evolution and Landscape of Performance Funding for Higher Education. *The Journal of Higher Education*, 93(5), 735-768. (link)
- Rippon, L., Chen, R., Kelchen, R., & Boergers, R. (2022). A National Study on Relationship between Programmatic Factors and Athletic Training Education BOC Pass Rates. *Athletic Training Education Journal*, 17(1), 37-45. (link)
- Hu, X., Ortagus, J., Voorhees, N., Rosinger, K., & Kelchen, R. (2022). Disparate Impacts of Performance Funding Research Incentives on Research Expenditures and State Appropriations. *AERA Open*, 8(1). doi: 10.1177/23328584211071109. (link)
- Kelchen, R., & Liu, Z. (2022). Did Gainful Employment Regulations Result in College and Program Closures? *Education Finance and Policy*, 17(3), 454-478. (link, author's accepted version)
- Collier, D., Fitzpatrick, D., Dell, S., Sniderman, S., Marsicano, C., Kelchen, R., & Wells, K. (2021). We Want You Back: Uncovering the Effects on In-Person Instructional Operations in Fall 2020. *Research in Higher Education*, 63(5), 741-767. (link)
- Kelchen, R. (2021). Factors Associated with Parent and Student Debt of Bachelor's Degree Recipients. *Journal of Student Financial Aid*, 50(3), Article 5. (link)
- Kelchen, R. (2021). An Exploration of Nonresident Student Enrollment and Institutional Finances at Public Universities. *Journal of Postsecondary Student Success*, 1(1), 81-105. (link)
- Li, A. Y., & Kelchen, R. (2021). Institutional and State-Level Factors Related to Paying Back Debt Among Public, Private, and For-Profit Colleges. *Journal of Student Financial Aid*, 50(2), Article 2. (link)

- Ortagus, J., Kelchen, R., Rosinger, K., & Voorhees, N. (2020). Performance-Based Funding in American Higher Education: A Systematic Synthesis of the Intended and Unintended Consequences. *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*, 42(4), 520-550. (link)
- Anderson, D. M., Broton, K. M., Goldrick-Rab, S., & Kelchen, R. (2020). Experimental Evidence on the Impacts of Need-Based Financial Aid: Longitudinal Assessment of the Wisconsin Scholars Grant. *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, 39, 3, 720-739. (link)
- Kelchen, R. (2020). Does the Bennett Hypothesis Hold in Professional Education? An Empirical Analysis. *Research in Higher Education*, 61(3), 357-382. (link, pre-publication version)
- Kelchen, R. (2019). Do High Cohort Default Rates Affect Student Living Allowances and Debt Burdens? An Empirical Analysis. *Journal of Student Financial Aid*, 49(1), Article 3. (link)
- Kelchen, R., Rosinger, K., & Ortagus, J. (2019). How to Create and Use State-Level Policy Data Sets in Education Research. *AERA Open*, 5(3), 1-14. doi: 10.1177/2332858419873619. (link)
- Kelchen, R. (2019). Exploring the Relationship between Performance-Based Funding Design and Underrepresented Student Enrollment at Community Colleges. *Community College Review*, 47(4), 382-405. (link, pre-publication version)
- Kelchen, R. (2019). An Empirical Examination of the Bennett Hypothesis in Law School Prices. *Economics of Education Review*, 73, Article 101915. (link, pre-publication version)
- Twombly, L. A., Rizzolo, D., Chen, R., & Kelchen, R. (2019). Factors That Influence Job Choice at the Time of Graduation for Physician Assistant Students. *Journal of Physician Assistant Education*, 30(1), 34-40. (link)
- Kelchen, R. (2019). Do Nonresident Students Affect Prices for In-State Students at Public Colleges? *Teachers College Record*, 121(2), 1-27. (link)
- Kelchen, R. (2018). Do Financial Responsibility Scores Affect Institutional Behaviors? *Journal of Education Finance*, 43(4), 417-439. (link) (JEF's article of the year, 2018)
- Kelchen, R. (2018). Do Performance-Based Funding Policies Affect Underrepresented Student Enrollment? *The Journal of Higher Education*, 89(5), 702-727. (link)
- Kelchen, R., & Webber, D. A. (2018). Examining the Interstate Mobility of Recent College Graduates. *Educational Researcher*, 47(3), 213-215. (link)
- Kramer II, D. A., Holcombe, M. R., & Kelchen, R. (2018). The Costs and Consequences of Excess Credit Hours. *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*, 40(1), 3-28. (link)
- Kelchen, R., Goldrick-Rab, S., & Hosch, B. (2017). The Costs of College Attendance: Examining Variation and Consistency in Institutional Living Cost Allowances. *The Journal of Higher Education*, 88(6), 947-971. (link)
- Kelchen, R., & Li, A. Y. (2017). Institutional Accountability: A Comparison of the Predictors of Student Loan Repayment and Default Rates. *The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 671, 202-223. (link)
- Kelchen, R. (2017). The Distributional and Cost Implications of Negative Expected Family Contributions. *Journal of Student Financial Aid*, 47(1), 4-24. (link)
- Kelchen, R. (2017). Campus-Based Financial Aid Programs: Trends and Alternative Allocation Strategies. *Educational Policy*, 31(4), 448-480. (link)

- Kelchen, R. (2016). An Analysis of Student Fees: The Roles of States and Institutions. *The Review of Higher Education*, 39(4), 597-619. (link)
- Goldrick-Rab, S., Kelchen, R., Harris, D. N., & Benson, J. (2016). Income Inequality in Higher Education: Experimental Evidence on the Impact of Financial Aid on College Completion. *American Journal of Sociology*, 121(6), 1762-1817. (link)
- Kelchen, R. (2016). Who Enrolls in Competency-Based Education? An Examination of the Demographics and Finances of CBE Programs. *The Journal of Competency-Based Education*, 1(1), 48-59. (link)
- Kelchen, R., & Stedrak, L. J. (2016). Does Performance-Based Funding Affect Colleges' Financial Priorities? *Journal of Education Finance*, 41(3), 302-321. (link)
- Magnuson, K., Kelchen, R., Duncan, G., Schindler, H., Shager, H., & Yoshikawa, H. (2016). Do the Effects of Early Childhood Education Programs Vary by Gender? A Meta-Analysis. *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*, 36, 521-536. (link)
- Kelchen, R. & Goldrick-Rab, S. (2015). Accelerating College Knowledge: A Fiscal Analysis of a Targeted Early Commitment Pell Grant Program. *The Journal of Higher Education*, 86(2), 199-232. (link)
- Kelchen, R. & Jones, G. (2015). A Simulation of Pell Grant Awards Using Prior Year Financial Data. *Journal of Education Finance*, 40(3), 253-272. (link)
- Kelchen, R. (2015). Financial Need and Income Volatility among Students with Zero Expected Family Contribution. *Journal of Student Financial Aid*, 44(3), 179-201. (link)
- Kelchen, R. (2014). Federal College Ratings: A Primer and Potential Implications. *Journal of College Admission*, 225, 12-15. (link)

## Working Papers

- Everett, A., Rosinger, K., Baker, D., Kim, H., Kelchen, R., & Ortagus, J. *Tennessee's Burden: How Students Apply for Financial Aid Within One Southern State*. InformEd States. (link) Revise and resubmit.
- Kelchen, R., Ritter, D., & Webber, D. *The Lingering Fiscal Effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Higher Education*. Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia Consumer Finance Institute. (link)

## Book Chapters

- Kelchen, R. (2023). Do Changes in State Higher Education Appropriations Affect Public Research University Productivity? P. 279-304 in J. A. Delaney (Ed.), *Volatility in State Spending for Higher Education*. American Educational Research Association.
- Kelchen, R., & Natow, R. (2023). Federal Policy and Policy Making for Higher Education. P. 235-259 in M. N. Bastedo, P. G. Altbach, & P. J. Gumport (Eds.), *American Higher Education in the 21st Century: Social, Political, and Economic Challenges (5th Ed.)*. Johns Hopkins University Press.
- Kelchen, R. (2021). University Rankings and the Third Mission of Higher Education. P. 163-170 in E. Hazelkorn & G. Mihut (Eds.), *Research Handbook on University Rankings: Theory, Methodology, Influence and Impact*. Edward Elgar Publishing.
- Finkelstein, M., & Kelchen, R. (2017). Higher Education Systems and Institutions, United States of America. In P. N. Teixeira & J. Shin (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of International Higher Education Systems and Institutions*. Springer. (link)

Kelchen, R. (2016). Federal Mechanisms for Improving College Match: Information, Aid, and Accountability. P. 179-198 in A. P. Kelly, J. S. Howell, & C. Sattin-Bajaj (Eds.), *Matching Students to Opportunity: Expanding College Choice, Access, and Quality*. Harvard Education Press.

Kelchen, R. (2016). Student Loans: A Brief History, the Current Landscape, and Impacts on Society. P. 173-198 in J. L. DeVitis & P. A. Sasso (Eds.), *Higher Education and Society*. Peter Lang.

Goldrick-Rab, S., & Kelchen, R. (2015). Making Sense of Loan Aversion: Evidence from Wisconsin. P. 307-371 in K. Hollenbeck & B. Hershbein (Eds.), *Student Loans and the Dynamics of Debt*. W. E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research.

## External Funding Received

Arnold Ventures, \$346,420 (provisionally approved). *Examining the Most Recent OBF Data to Consider the Impact of Updated OBF Policy Designs and ROI*. August 1, 2023–July 31, 2025. (other PIs: Junghee Choi, Justin Ortagus, and Kelly Rosinger)

Lumina Foundation, \$250,000. *Creating More Equitable State Higher Education Funding Policies*. August 1, 2023–July 31, 2025. (other PIs: Justin Ortagus and Kelly Rosinger)

Arnold Ventures, \$224,091. *Examining the Growth of Master's Degree Programs*. May 1, 2023–December 31, 2024.

Arnold Ventures, \$152,568. *What Happens to Colleges on Heightened Cash Monitoring?* May 1, 2023–July 31, 2024.

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, \$406,372. *The Landscape of Local Funding Sources for Community Colleges*. August 1, 2022–July 31, 2024. (other PIs: Dominique Baker, Justin Ortagus, and Kelly Rosinger)

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, \$549,947. *Equity and Effectiveness of State Higher Education Funding Policies*. August 1, 2020–December 31, 2022. (other PIs: Dominique Baker, Justin Ortagus, and Kelly Rosinger)

William T. Grant Foundation, \$25,000. *Building New Evidence for Designing Performance-Based Funding Policies to Reduce Inequality*. June 1, 2020–May 31, 2021. (other PIs: Justin Ortagus and Kelly Rosinger)

Arnold Ventures (\$270,240) and the Joyce Foundation (\$103,350). *A Proposal to Analyze the Effects of Variations in Performance-Based Funding Policies on Student Access, Success, and Labor Market Outcomes*. August 1, 2019–July 31, 2021. (other PIs: Justin Ortagus and Kelly Rosinger)

William T. Grant Foundation, \$204,528. *Examining the Impact of Variations in Performance-Based Funding Policies on Reducing Inequality in Student Outcomes*. December 1, 2018–August 31, 2020. (other PIs: Justin Ortagus and Kelly Rosinger)

AccessLex Institute/Association for Institutional Research, \$32,322. *Response to Federal Loan Policy Changes: Examination of the Bennett Hypothesis in Professional School Prices*. March 1, 2017–March 31, 2018.

## Research Reports

Levin, J., Baker, B., Lee, J., Atchison, D., & Kelchen, R. (2022). *An Examination of the Costs of Texas Community Colleges*. Regional Education Laboratory Southwest. ([link](#))

Kelchen, R. (2022). *State Funding Approaches for Public Colleges and Universities in the Midwest*. Midwest-ern Higher Education Compact. (link)

Kelchen, R. (2022). *The Need for Better Data on Online Program Outcomes*. (link)

Rosinger, K., Shamekhi, Y., Choi, J., Voorhees, N., Ortagus, J., & Kelchen, R. (2021). *Performance Funding for Higher Education: Current Evidence, Unanswered Questions, and How New Data Can Inform Policy*. InformEd States. (link)

Conroy, E., Goldrick-Rab, S., Kelchen, R., Welton, C., & Huelsman, M. (2021, April). *The Real Price of College: How Using the Negative Expected Family Contribution Can Better Support Students*. Philadelphia, PA: The Hope Center for College, Community, and Justice. (link)

Blagg, K., Blom, E., Kelchen, R., & Chien, C. (2021). *The Feasibility of Program-Level Accountability in Higher Education*. Washington, DC: Urban Institute. (link)

Rosinger, K., Ortagus, J., Baker, D., Kelchen, R., Lingo, M., Choi, J., & Wu, J. (2020). *State Snapshots of Funding for Public Colleges and Student Financial Aid: California, Florida, and Texas*. InformEd States. (link)

Kelchen, R. (2020). *Using Earnings Metrics for Accountability*. Washington, DC: Higher Learning Advocates. (link)

Kelchen, R. *Examining the Feasibility of Empirically Predicting College Closures*. (link)

Baker, D., Rosinger, K., Ortagus, J., & Kelchen, R. (2020). *Trends in State Funding for Student Financial Aid*. InformEd States. (link)

Kelchen, R., Ortagus, J., Baker, D., & Rosinger, K. (2020). *Trends in State Funding for Public Higher Education*. InformEd States. (link)

Kelchen, R. (2020). *Examining the Distribution of Negative Expected Family Contributions*. Washington, DC: National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators. (link)

Blom, E., Washington, K., Rainer, M., Chien, C., & Kelchen, R. (2020). *IPEDS Finance User Guide*. Washington, DC: Urban Institute. (link)

Rosinger, K., Ortagus, J., Kelchen, R., Cassell, A., & Voorhees, N. (2020). *The Landscape of Performance-Based Funding in 2020*. InformEd States. (link)

Kelchen, R., Ortagus, J., Rosinger, K., Brown, N., & Voorhees, N. (2019). *Profiles of State Performance-Based Funding Policies: Missouri, New York, and Tennessee*. InformEd States. (link)

Kelchen, R. (2018). *Exploring Key Questions: Program-Level Repayment for Higher Education Accountability*. Washington, DC: Higher Learning Advocates. (link)

Kelchen, R. (2018). *Adjusting COA and EFC for Living Costs*. Oakland, CA: The Institute for College Access and Success. (link)

Kelchen, R., & Pingel, S. (2018). *Postsecondary Tuition Capping and Freezing*. Boulder, CO: Education Commission of the States. (link)

Espinosa, L. L., Kelchen, R., & Taylor, M. (2018). *Minority Serving Institutions as Engines of Upward Mobility*. Washington, DC: American Council on Education. (link)

Kolbe, T., & Kelchen, R. (2017). *Identifying New Metrics Using IPEDS Finance Data*. Washington, DC: National Postsecondary Education Cooperative. (link)

- Kelchen, R. (2017). *Higher Education Accreditation and the Federal Government*. Washington, DC: Urban Institute. (link)
- Kelchen, R. (2017). *Tuition Control Policies: A Challenging Approach to College Affordability*. Minneapolis, MN: Midwestern Higher Education Compact. (link)
- Kelchen, R. (2017). *A Review of College Promise Programs: Evidence from the Midwest*. Minneapolis, MN: Midwestern Higher Education Compact. (link)
- Kelchen, R. (2016). *Education Under Review*. Washington, DC: The Chronicle of Higher Education. (link)
- Kelchen, R. (2015). *Proposing a Federal Risk-Sharing Policy*. Indianapolis, IN: Lumina Foundation. (link)
- Kelchen, R. (2015). *Exploring the Topic of Indirect Costs to Today's Higher Education Students*. Washington, DC: American Council on Education. (link)
- Goldrick-Rab, S., Kelchen, R., & Hosch, B. (2015). *Information, Accountability, and College Costs: The Need for Standardized Living Cost Calculations in Higher Education*. Madison, WI: Wisconsin HOPE Lab. (link)
- Kelchen, R. (2015). *The Landscape of Competency-Based Education: Enrollment, Demographics, and Affordability*. Washington, DC: American Enterprise Institute. (link)
- Goldrick-Rab, S., Kelchen, R., & Houle, J. (2014). *The Color of Student Debt: Implications of Federal Loan Program Reforms for Black Students and Historically Black Colleges and Universities*. (link)
- Kelchen, R. (2014). *Moving Forward with Federal College Ratings: Goals, Metrics, and Recommendations*. Madison, WI: WISCAPE. (link)
- Kelchen, R., & Jones, G. (2013). *A Tale of Two Income Years: Comparing Prior-Prior Year and Prior-Year Through Pell Grant Awards*. Washington, DC: NASFAA. (link)
- Goldrick-Rab, S., & Kelchen, R. (2013). *No Money Left Behind: Loan Aversion and College Success among Pell Recipients*. Washington, DC: HCM Strategists.
- Hillman, N., Kelchen, R., & Goldrick-Rab, S. (2013). *Recommendations for the Effective and Equitable Implementation of Performance-Based Funding for Wisconsin Higher Education*. Madison, WI: WISCAPE. (link)
- Kelchen, R. & Harris, D. (2012). *Can "Value Added" Methods Improve the Measurement of College Performance? Empirical Analyses and Policy Implications*. Washington, DC: HCM Strategists. (link)
- Goldrick-Rab, S. & Kelchen, R. (2012). *New Experimental Evidence on the Impacts of the Need-Based Wisconsin Scholars Grant on College Persistence*. Madison, WI: Wisconsin Scholars Longitudinal Study. (link)

## Reviews and Short Pieces

- Liu, Z., & Kelchen, R. (2022). Does Free College Influence Underrepresented Student Enrollment? *Teachers College Record*.
- Kelchen, R. (2022). The Lasting Effects of the Pandemic on Graduate and Professional Education. *Journal of Student Financial Aid*, 51(1). (link)
- Kelchen, R. (2020). Performance-Based Funding Produces Mixed Results. *Education Next*, 20(1), 69-74. (link)
- Kelchen, R. (2019). Merging Data to Facilitate Analyses. *New Directions for Institutional Research*, 181, 59-72. (link, original submission)

Stedrak, L. J., & Kelchen, R. (2015). New Jersey (State of the States 2015). *Journal of Education Finance*, 41(2), 253-254. (link)

Kelchen, R. (2014). National Direct Student Loans/Perkins. P. 335-337 in D. Brewer & L. Picus (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of Education Economics and Finance*. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications.

Kelchen, R. (2013). Review of "Getting to Graduation: The Completion Agenda in Higher Education." *Journal of Student Financial Aid*, 43(1), 55-58. (link)

## Selected Public Writing

Kelchen, R. (2023, August 27). "America's Best Bang for the Buck Colleges" *Washington Monthly*.

Kelchen, R. (2023, June 14). "The Haves and Have-Nots of Higher Education." *The Chronicle of Higher Education*.

Kelchen, R. (2022, August 24). "Biden Just Forgave Some Student-Loan Debt. Now What?" *The Chronicle of Higher Education*.

Kelchen, R. (2022, June 20). "Wrecking the College Pecking Order." *Washington Monthly*.

Kelchen, R. (2022, March 29). "Improving Outcomes Data for Online Programs." *Inside Higher Ed*.

Kelchen, R. (2021, January 13). "Federal Financial Aid for College Will Be Easier to Apply For—And a Bit More Generous." *The Conversation*.

I also blog occasionally at Kelchen on Education.

## Presentations

**2023:** Association for the Study of Higher Education (scheduled), IPEDS State Data Conference, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education's Legislative Advisory Council

**2022:** AccessLex, Association for the Study of Higher Education, Bipartisan Policy Center, Higher Education Financial Wellness Alliance, Hope Center, Opportunity America, Oregon Legislature task force, Postsecondary National Policy Institute, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

**2021:** Association for Education Finance and Policy, Association of College Counselors in Independent Schools, Association of Community College Trustees, Bipartisan Policy Center, Education Writers Association, Hunt-Kean Institute, NASPA: Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education Region II, Postsecondary National Policy Institute, University of Pennsylvania

**2020:** American Enterprise Institute, Association for Education Finance and Policy, Association for Institutional Research IPEDS training group, Association for the Study of Higher Education, Association of College and University Housing Officers-International, Bipartisan Policy Center, Brookings Institution, Coalition of State University Aid Administrators, Education Writers Association, Future Trends Forum, Higher Education Strategy Associates, Hunt Institute, National Association of State Administrators and Supervisors of Private Schools, New Jersey Association for Institutional Research, Postsecondary National Policy Institute, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education



**2019:** Association for Education Finance and Policy, Association for the Study of Higher Education, Association of Governing Boards of Colleges and Universities, Association of Public and Land Grant Universities, Bipartisan Policy Center, Education Finance Council, Education Writers Association, Hunt-Kean Leadership Fellows Higher Education Summit, IREG Observatory on Academic Ranking and Excellence, National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, New Jersey Affordability Working Group, Old Dominion University, Postsecondary National Policy Institute, Real College, Seton Hall University Board of Regents, SHEEO Higher Education Policy Conference

**2018:** American Educational Research Association, Association for Collaborative Leadership, Association for Education Finance and Policy, Association for the Study of Higher Education, Association of Public and Land Grant Universities, Brookings Institution, Cooper Union, Education Finance Council, IPEDS State Data Conference, IPEDS technical review panel, Lawlor Group Summer Seminar, Lumina Foundation, NASFAA Forward 50 meeting, Postsecondary National Policy Institute, Real College, The Institute for College Access and Success, University of Illinois

**2017:** AccessLex Legal Education Research Symposium, Association for Education Finance and Policy, Association for Institutional Research IPEDS training group, Association for the Study of Higher Education, IPEDS State Data Conference, IPEDS technical review panel, National Postsecondary Education Cooperative, Seton Hall University Board of Regents, State Higher Education Executive Officers Association conference

**2016:** ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, Association for Education Finance and Policy, Association for Institutional Research IPEDS training group, Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, Education Writers Association, Institute for Enrollment Management, Midwestern Higher Education Compact, National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine

**2015:** American Educational Research Association, American Enterprise Institute, Arizona State University Institutional Design Frontiers Summit, Association for Education Finance and Policy, Association for the Study of Higher Education, Business-Higher Education Forum, Education Writers Association, Investigative Reporters and Editors, Louisiana State University, National Association for College Admission Counseling, Student Financial Aid Research Network, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, U.S. Department of Education Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance, Yes We Must Coalition

**2014:** American Educational Research Association, Association for Education Finance and Policy, Association for the Study of Higher Education, Association of Independent Colleges and Universities in New Jersey, National Center for Education Statistics, New Jersey Collegiate Business Administration Association, Student Financial Aid Research Network, U.S. Department of Education Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance, U.S. Senate HELP Committee staff, Yes We Must Coalition

**2013:** Association for Education Finance and Policy, Association for the Study of Higher Education, Education Writers Association, National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, U.S. Department of Education

**2012:** Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators

**2011:** American Educational Research Association, Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness

**2010:** Association for Institutional Research

## Teaching Experience

University of Tennessee, Knoxville

ELPS 207: Foundations and Theories of Leadership Studies (Fall 2022)

ELPS 693: Higher Education Accreditation in Theory (Summer 2022)

HEAM 650: Finance and Budgeting in Higher Education (Spring 2022, Summer 2023)

Seton Hall University

ELMP 6101: Introduction to Higher Education (Spring 2017)

ELMP 7103: Institutional Research and Planning (Spring 2014, Fall 2016, Spring 2018)

ELMP 8890: Survey Research (Fall 2015)

ELMP 8891: Directed Research (Fall 2013, Spring 2016)

ELMP 9979/9980: Dissertation Seminar I/II (Fall 2013, Spring 2014, Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Fall 2018, Summer 2019, Fall 2019, Spring 2020)

ELMP 9993: Organization and Governance (Spring 2014, Spring 2015, Fall 2015, Fall 2016, Spring 2017, Spring 2018, Spring 2019, Fall 2019)

ELMP 9995: Financial Administration (Fall 2013, Fall 2014, Spring 2016, Fall 2017, Spring 2020)

## Dissertation Mentoring

**Dissertation committee member (Tennessee):** Ge Wu (PhD [economics], 2023)

**Dissertation chair (Seton Hall):** Guillermo de Veyga (PhD, 2016), Jonathan Stoessel (PhD, 2016), Tara Abbott (PhD, 2016), Marie Gioiosa (PhD, 2016), Judith Egan (PhD, 2016), Mariel Pagan (PhD, 2018), Kelly Childs (PhD, 2018), Ryan Westman (PhD, 2018), Michael Flanigan (PhD, 2019), Zach Romash (PhD, 2019), Sean O'Connor (EdD, 2019), Dawn Maffucci (PhD, 2019), Anna Calka (PhD, 2020), Raymond Trigg (EdD, 2020), Olga Komissarova (PhD, 2020), Jeff Levine (PhD, 2020), Daniel Hrdina (PhD, 2020), Rosalie Maiorella (PhD, 2020), Christina Pellegrino (PhD, 2020), Andrew Oni (PhD, 2020), Andrea Del Priore (PhD, 2020), David Uibelhoer (PhD, 2020), Zhuoyao Liu (PhD, 2021), Stephanie Mayer (PhD, 2021), Roberta Pughe (PhD, 2021), Joseph Fresco (EdD, 2022)

**Dissertation committee member (Seton Hall):** Kevin Iglesias (PhD, 2014), Erin Hopkins (PhD, 2014), Robert Miller (PhD, 2014), Joshua Wilkin (PhD, 2015), Lucien Costley (PhD, 2015), Stephen Deutsch (PhD, 2015), Lauren Friedman (PhD, 2016), Martina Ghussou (PhD, 2016), Hillary Morgan (PhD, 2016), Andrew Brackett (PhD, 2016), Ryan Hudes (PhD, 2016), Joseph Hearl (PhD, 2016), Irenaeus Ikhane (PhD, 2016), Wendiann Sethi (PhD, 2017), Jennifer Mezzina (EdD, 2017), Reuel Mebuin (PhD, 2017), Michael Aryee (PhD, 2017), Monica Burnette (PhD, 2017), Lauren Twombly (PhD, 2017), Daria Pizzuto (PhD, 2018), Kataryzna Grzeszczuk (PhD, 2018), Kevin Majewski (PhD, 2018), Warren Lord (EdD, 2018), Leo Pedraza (PhD, 2019), Wole Ogunkoya (PhD, 2019), Marissa Muoio (EdD, 2019), William Friel (EdD, 2019), Megan Matesic (PhD, 2020), Matthew Marino (PhD, 2020), Kyle Warren (PhD, 2020), Tristian Cox (EdD, 2020), Songa Thomas-Montford (EdD, 2020), Michelle McWeeney (PhD, 2020), Abby Saunders (PhD, 2020), Jodi Bailey (PhD, 2021), Stefanie Benson (PhD, 2021), Michael Carhart (PhD, 2021), Leslie Rippon (PhD, 2021), Nicole Gilmore (EdD, 2021), Frank Sutter (EdD, 2021), Nicole Battaglia (PhD, 2022), Dan Bender (PhD, 2022), Cassandra Graham (PhD, 2022)

## University Service

### University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Department head, Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, 2021–.

College budget committee co-chair, 2021–.

Committee on reimagining University Honors, 2022.

COACHE review committee member, 2021-2022.

### Seton Hall University (selected)

Chair, Department of Education Leadership, Management and Policy, 2019-2021.

Director of higher education graduate programs, 2019.

College of Education and Human Services stewardship committee, 2018-2021.

University research grants committee, 2016-2018.

ELMP academic standards committee co-chair, 2014-2019.

## Professional Service

Associate editor, *Research in Higher Education*, 2023–.

Editorial board member: *Review of Higher Education* (2020–), *Research in Higher Education* (2019–), *Journal of Student Financial Aid* (2016–2019, 2021–)

What Works Clearinghouse certified reviewer.

Member, Competency-Based Education and Learning Research Advisory Board, 2018–2020.

Member, SHEEO State Higher Education Finance working group, 2017–2019.

Member, AAUP Committee on Economic Status of the Profession, 2015–2020.

Member, Postsecondary Value Commission research task force, 2019–2021.

Member, New Jersey's college affordability taskforce, 2019.

Conference reviewer: American Educational Research Association, Association for Education Finance and Policy, Association for the Study of Higher Education, SHEEO Policy Conference, Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness,

Journal reviewer: *AERA Open*, *American Educational Research Journal*, *American Sociological Review*, *B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis and Policy*, *Community College Review*, *Economics of Education Review*, *Education Finance and Policy*, *Educational Policy*, *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*, *Educational Researcher*, *Journal of Higher Education*, *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, *Journal of Postsecondary Student Success*, *Journal of Research on Educational Effectiveness*, *Journal of Student Financial Aid*, *Policy Reviews in Higher Education*, *Public Finance and Budgeting*, *Public Performance and Management Review*, *Research in Higher Education*, *Review of Higher Education*, *Social Forces*, *Sociology of Education*, *Teachers College Record*

Grant reviewer: Corporation for National and Community Service, National Research Collaborative on Competency-Based Education and Learning, Smith Richardson Foundation, Spencer Foundation, State Higher Education Executive Officers Association, William T. Grant Foundation

Book reviewer: Johns Hopkins University Press, Harvard Education Press, Palgrave Macmillan, Princeton University Press, Rutgers University Press

Technical review panels: Baccalaureate and Beyond, College Scorecard, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, National Postsecondary Student Aid Study

## Awards, Honors, and Affiliations

Co-founder, InformEd States. ([link](#))

Fellow, Bipartisan Policy Center.

Affiliate, Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Visiting scholar, Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia Consumer Finance Institute.

Association for the Study of Higher Education Council on Public Policy in Higher Education Excellence in Public Policy in Higher Education Award, 2023.

Robert P. Huff Golden Quill Award winner for excellence in financial aid research, National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, 2019.

Ranked in Rick Hess's annual Edu-Scholar Public Influence Rankings, 2023 ([24th](#)), 2022 ([129th](#)—partial year at UTK), 2021 ([19th](#)), 2020 ([34th](#)), 2019 ([32nd](#)), 2018 ([52nd](#))

Truman State University Echo 25 recipient (leading young alumni under the age of 40), 2022.

Seton Hall University researcher of the year, 2017–2018.

One of Third Way Education's higher education social media influencers of 2017. ([link](#))

A featured researcher in AERA's "Thank a Scientist" campaign, 2017. ([link](#))

One of *The Chronicle of Higher Education's* "15 Most Indispensable Academic Twitter Accounts," 2016. ([link](#))

AEI/Fordham Emerging Education Policy Scholar, 2015.

First Prize, Data Journalism (small newsroom), Education Writers Association, 2014.

## Media Coverage

My research and commentary is frequently covered by national media outlets, including *The Washington Post*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times*, *PBS*, *MSNBC*, and *Politico*. A summary of recent media coverage can be found [here](#).

## Professional Affiliations

American Educational Research Association

Association for Education Finance and Policy

Association for the Study of Higher Education

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<https://robertkelchen.com/cv>