

Robert Bifulco, Jr.
(June 2009)

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Syracuse University, Public Administration, 2001
Fields: Public Finance, Budgeting and Financial Management; Social Policy

M.P.A., Syracuse University, 1994
Field: Social Policy

M.A., Rice University, Philosophy, 1993
Thesis Topic: Political liberalism and the neutrality thesis

B.A., Bucknell University, *Cum Laude*, 1989
Major: Philosophy Member *Phi Beta Kappa*

CURRENT POSITION

Associate Professor, Department of Public Administration, Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Syracuse University

POSITIONS HELD

2008 - Associate Professor, Department of Public Administration, Syracuse University
2007-2008 Associate Professor, Department of Public Policy, University of Connecticut
2004-2007 Assistant Professor, Department of Public Policy, University of Connecticut
2001-2004 Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Connecticut
2001-2002 Research Scholar, Center for Child and Family Policy, Duke University
1997-2001 Research Associate, Center for Policy Research, Syracuse University
1997-2000 Teaching Assistant, Syracuse University, M.P.A. Program
1996-1997 Budget Analyst, Erie County Division of Budget and Finance, Buffalo, NY
1994-1996 Education Program Analyst, New York State Education Department, New York, NY

AREAS OF INTEREST

Education policy
School segregation
Program evaluation
State & local government finance

FULL-LENGTH PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

“Can Interdistrict Choice Boost Achievement: Evidence from Connecticut’s Interdistrict Magnets” (with C. Cobb & C. Bell). *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*, in-press.

“The Influence of Performance-Based Accountability on the Distribution of Teacher Salary Increases.” *Education Finance & Policy*, in-press.

“The Effects of Public School Choice on Those Left Behind” (with H. Ladd & S. Ross). *Peabody Journal of Education*, Spring 2009, pp. 130-149.

“Public School Choice and Integration” (with H. Ladd & S. Ross). *Social Science Research*, March 2009, pp. 71-85.

“School Choice, Racial Segregation and Test-Score Gaps: Evidence from North Carolina’s Charter School Program.” (with H. Ladd). *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, Winter 2007, pp. 31-56.

“Institutional Change and the Coproduction of Public Services: The Effect of Charter Schools on Parental Involvement” (with H. Ladd). *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*, October 2006, pp. 553-572.

“The Impacts of Charter Schools on Student Achievement: Evidence from North Carolina” (with H. Ladd). *Education Finance and Policy*, Winter 2006, pp. 50-90. .

“District Level Black-White Funding Disparities in the United States: 1987-2002” *Journal of Education Finance*, Fall 2005, pp. 172-197.

“Do Whole-School Reforms Boost Student Performance: Evidence from New York City” (with W. Duncombe and J. Yinger). *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, Winter 2005, pp. 47-72.

“Addressing Selection Bias in Quasi-Experimental Evaluations of Whole-School Reform: A Comparison of Methods.” *Evaluation Review*, October 2002, pp. 545-572.

“Measuring School Efficiency: An Evaluation of Methods Using Simulated Data” (with S. Bretschneider). *Economics of Education Review*, December 2001, pp. 417-429.

“Identifying Low-Performance Schools” (with S. Ammar, W. Duncombe, and R. Wright). *Studies in Educational Evaluation*, September 2000, pp. 259-287.

OTHER PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

“The Truth About Charter Schools: Results from the Tar Heel State” (with H. Ladd). *Education Next*, Fall 2005, pp. 60-66.

“Response to Comment on Estimating School Efficiency” (with S. Bretschneider). *Economics of Education Review*, December 2003, pp. 635-638.

BOOK CHAPTERS

“Charter Schools.” (with K. Bulkley). In *Handbook of Research in Education Finance and Policy*, edited by H. Ladd and E. Fiske (Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, 2008).

“Charter Schools in North Carolina.” (with H. Ladd). In *Charter Schools: What Fosters Growth and Outcomes*, edited by M. Berends, M. Springer, and H. Walberg (Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, 2007), pp. 195-220.

“Can Whole-School Reform Improve the Productivity of Urban Schools: The Evidence on Three Models.” In *Fiscal Policy in Urban Schools*, edited by C. Roelke and J. King Rice (Information Age Publishing, 2002), pp. 11-36.

“Evaluating School Performance: Are We Ready for Prime Time” (with William Duncombe). In *Developments in School Finance, 1999-2000*, edited W. Fowler, Jr. (National Center for Educational Statistics, 2002), pp. 9-28.

OTHER PUBLICATONS

Review of *Spin Cycle: How Research is Used in Policy Debates: The Case of Charter Schools* by Jeffrey R. Henig. *Journal of Economic Literature*, June 2009.

Review of “The Impact of Milwaukee Charter Schools on Student Achievement.” Boulder and Tempe: Education and the Public Interest Center & Education Policy Research Unit.
<http://epicpolicy.org/thinktank/review-impact-Milwaukee-charter>

Review of *The Political Economy of Education: Implications for Growth and Inequality* by Mark Gradstein, Moshe Justman, and Volker Meier. *Economics of Education Review*, April 2007, pp. 263-264.

“Charter Schools are hurting student achievement” *Raleigh News and Observer*, August, 2004 (with H. Ladd).

CURRENT WORKING PAPERS

“The Effect of Classmate Characteristics on Individual Outcomes: Evidence from the Add Health.” (with J. Fletcher & S. Ross). Last revised June 2009.

“Budget Deficits in the States: New York.” (with W. Duncombe). Last revised April 2009.

“Legally Viable Desegregation Policies: The Case of Connecticut.” (with C. Cobb and C. Bell). Last revised April 2009.

“High School Racial Composition and Post-Secondary Outcomes: Evidence from the NELS.” (with D. Furtado & S. Ross). Last revised November 2007.

REPORTS

Achievement Analysis of Connecticut's Project Choice Early Beginnings (with C. Bell and C. Cobb). Submitted to Connecticut State Education Department, Division of Teaching and Learning, Office of School Choice, January 2009.

Evaluation of Connecticut's Interdistrict Magnet Schools (with C. Cobb and C. Bell). Submitted to Connecticut State Education Department, Division of Teaching and Learning, Office of School Choice, January 2009.

Connecticut Interdistrict Magnet and State Charter School Update (with C. Cobb and C. Esposito). Submitted to Connecticut State Education Department, Division of Teaching and Learning, Bureau of Educational Equity, December 2006.

Linking Education Funding to Student Achievement Standards. Submitted to Governor M. Jodi Rell's Commission on Education Finance, May 2006

The Promise of Charter Schools: Innovation, Organization and Performance (with H. Ladd). Final Report submitted to Smith Richardson Foundation, May 2005.

Do Whole-School Reform Programs Boost Student Performance? The Case of New York City (with C. Bourdeaux, W. Duncombe, and J. Yinger). Final Report submitted to the Smith Richardson Foundation, July 2002.

The Impact of the New York State Class Size Reduction Initiative on Teacher Resources. Submitted to the New York State Education Department, May 2001.

FUNDED RESEARCH

"Evaluation of Bureau of Educational Equity Programs." Co-Principal Investigator (with Casey Cobb and Courtney Bell). Connecticut State Department of Education. 2006-2008. (\$299,513).

"The Promise of Charter Schools: Innovation, Organization and Performance." Co-Principal Investigator (with Helen F. Ladd). Smith Richardson Foundation. 2002-2004. (\$222,809).

"Do Whole-School Reform Programs Boost Student Performance? The Case of New York City," Co-Principal Investigator (with John Yinger and William Duncombe). Smith Richardson Foundation. 2000-2002. (\$248,957).

"A Preliminary Evaluation of the New York State Class-Size Reduction Initiative," Co-Principal Investigator (with William Duncombe). New York State Education Department. 2000-2001. (\$30,000).

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

“Legally Viable Desegregation Strategies: The Case of Connecticut” *Looking to the Future: Legal and Policy Options for Racially Integrated Education in the South and the Nation*, Chapel Hill, NC, April 2, 2009.

“The Effects of Public School Choice on Those Left Behind: Evidence from Durham, NC.” *Public School Choice in a Post-Degregation World*, Storrs, CT, November 28, 2007.

“The Effects of Public School Choice on Those Left Behind: Evidence from Durham, NC” New York Federal Reserve, October 20, 2007.

“Charter Schools in North Carolina.” National Center of School Choice (NCSC) at Vanderbilt University, September 28 and 29, 2006

“Studying Achievement in Charter Schools: What Do We Know.” Annual Business Meeting of the American Education Research Association Special Interest Group: Charter School Research and Evaluation, Montreal, Canada, April 11, 2005.

“Institutional Change and the Coproduction of Public Services: The Effect of Charter Schools on Parental Involvement.” Institute of Education and Social Policy Seminar Series sponsored by Steinhardt School of Education, New York University, February 16, 2005.

“The Impacts of Charter Schools on Student Achievement: Evidence from North Carolina” *New England Study Group* sponsored by the Boston Federal Reserve, Boston, MA, April 15, 2004.

“Do Whole-School Reform Models Boost Student Performance: Evidence from New York City” *Micro-Incentives Research Center Annual Conference*, Duke University, December 7-8, 2002.

RECENT CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Budget Deficits in the States: New York” *Western Social Science Association*, Albuquerque, NM, April 16 – 18, 2009.

“Can Interdistrict Choice Promote Integration and Boost Achievement: Evidence from Connecticut’s Interdistrict Magnets” *American Education Finance Association Annual Conference*, Nashville, TN, March 19-21, 2009.

“The Influence of Performance-Based Accountability on the Distribution of Teacher Salary Increases.” *Association of Budgeting & Financial Management*. Chicago, IL, October 23-25, 2008.

“Can Interdistrict Choice Promote Integration and Boost Achievement: Evidence from Connecticut’s Interdistrict Magnets” *American Education Research Association*, New York, NY, March 26, 2008.

“High School Racial Composition and Post-Secondary Outcomes: Evidence from the NELS.” *Association of Public Policy Analysis and Management*, Washington, DC, November 10, 2007.

“The Effects of Public School Choice on Those Left Behind: Evidence from Durham, NC.”
American Education Finance Association Annual Conference, Baltimore, MD, March 23, 2007.

“Can School Choice Promote Racial Integration?” *Association of Public Policy Analysis and Management Fall Conference*, Madison, WI, November 3, 2006.

“The Influence of Performance-Based Accountability on the Distribution of Teacher Salary Increases.” *American Education Finance Association Annual Conference*. Denver, CO, March 25, 2006.

“School Choice, Racial Segregation, and Test Score Gaps: Evidence from North Carolina’s Charter School Program.” *American Economic Association Annual Meeting*, January 8, 2006.

“School Choice, Racial Segregation, and Test Score Gaps: Evidence from North Carolina’s Charter School Program.” *Association of Public Policy Analysis and Management Fall Conference*, Washington, DC, November 3, 2005.

COURSES TAUGHT

Quantitative Aids: Program Evaluation, MPA, Syracuse University
Spring 2009

Urban Policy, MPA, Syracuse University
Fall 2009

Public Budgeting, MPA, Syracuse University
Summer 2006, Summer 2007, Summer 2009

Cost-Benefit Analysis, 2-Day Seminar for Legislative Analysts, University of Connecticut
Spring 2008

Capstone Project, MPA, University of Connecticut
Spring 2008

Policy Analysis, MPA, University of Connecticut
Spring 2007; Spring 2008

Program Evaluation, Undergraduate, University of Connecticut
Spring 2004; Spring 2006

State and Local Government Fiscal Problems, Undergraduate/MPA, University of Connecticut
Spring 2003; Spring 2004

Analytic Tools for Public Administrators, MPA, University of Connecticut
Fall 2002; Fall 2003; Fall 2004; Fall 2005; Fall 2006; Fall 2007

Social Policy, Undergraduate/MPA, University of Connecticut
Fall 2002; Spring 2003; Fall 2004; Spring 2005; Spring 2006

DEPARTMENTAL AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

MPA Committee, Department of Public Administration, Syracuse University,
Fall 2008-present

Search Committee, Urban & Community Studies Director, University of Connecticut,
Fall 2007 – Spring 2008

Promotion and Tenure Committee, Department of Public Policy, University of Connecticut,
Fall 2007

Undergraduate Programs Director, Department of Public Policy, University of Connecticut,
Fall 2006-Spring 2008

University Interdepartmental Courses & Curriculum Committee, University of Connecticut,
Fall 2006-Fall 2007

MPA Admissions Committee, Department of Public Policy, University of Connecticut,
Spring 2006, 2007

Executive Committee, Department of Public Policy, University of Connecticut,
Fall 2005-Spring 2008

Organizer of Department of Public Policy Speaker Series, University of Connecticut,
Fall 2004-Spring 2008

College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Courses & Curriculum Committee, University of
Connecticut, Fall 2004-Spring 2008

MPA Curriculum Committee, Department of Public Policy, University of Connecticut,
Fall 2002-Spring 2008

Tri-Campus Urban & Community Studies Faculty Committee, University of Connecticut,
Fall 2002-Spring 2008

HONORS AND AWARDS

Distinguished Professor, Department of Public Policy, University of Connecticut, 2008. Voted
by graduate students in the department.

American Education Research Association's Outstanding Reviewer Award Recipient, selected by
editors of *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*, 2007

American Education Finance Association Jean Flanigan Outstanding Dissertation Award, March
2003

National Center for Education Statistics/American Education Finance Association New Scholars
Program Award, \$3,000, March 2001

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

Senior Associate, Education Finance and Accountability Program, Center for Policy Research, Syracuse University.

Referee for *Eastern Economic Journal*, *Economic Inquiry*, *Economics of Education Review*, *Education Economics*, *Education Next*, *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*, *Education Finance and Policy*, *Education Policy Analysis Archives*, *Field Methods*, *Journal of Education Finance*, *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, *Journal of Politics*, *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*, *Journal of Public Economics*, *National Tax Journal*, *Public Administration Review*, *Social Science Quarterly*

Reviewer for Smith-Richardson Foundation Domestic Public Policy Program.

Member of American Education Finance Association, American Educational Research Association, Association of Budgeting and Financial Management, Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management.