

David J. Helpap

Department of Public and Environmental Affairs
Political Science I Public Administration
University of Wisconsin-Green Bay
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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Political Science

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, August 2012

Dissertation: Principles of Municipal Budgeting? A Reexamination of the Debate over the Principles and Proverbs of Public Administration

M.A., Political Science

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, May 2008

Masters Paper: The Town Debate: Annexation, Growth, and Charter Townships

B.S., Political Science

University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, May 2006 (Magna Cum Laude)

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Associate Professor of Public and Environmental Affairs (Political Science)

University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, 2018-present

Assistant Professor of Public and Environmental Affairs (Political Science)

University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, 2012-2018

Areas of Interest: state and local government; public budgeting and finance; public policy; public management; rural politics and management; intergovernmental relations

Graduate Courses Taught: Social Research Methods; Public and Nonprofit Budgeting and Financial Management; Applied Concepts for Practitioners, MPA Capstone Seminar

Undergraduate Courses Taught: State and Local Government; Public Policy Analysis; Public and Nonprofit Budgeting; Regulatory Policy and Administration; Service in the Public Sector; Introduction to Public and Nonprofit Service, Introduction to Public Administration; American Government and Politics; Introduction to Public Policy; SimCity Civics (freshman seminar)

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

Chair, Public Administration undergraduate program

University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, August 2022-present

Chair, Department of Public and Environmental Affairs

University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, August 2019-January 2022

PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

Helpap, David J. 2025. "Addressing the Challenges of Rural Local Governments: Perceptions of State Assistance." *Publius: The Journal of Federalism* 55(1): 89-111.

Helpap, David J. 2023. "Assessing and Addressing the Challenges of Rural Local Governments." *State and Local Government Review* 55(4): 322-332.—Awarded the 2023 Best Field Note for *State and Local Government Review*.

Helpap, David J. 2022. "Providing Public Goods in Rural America: The Role of the Professional Public Administrator." *Public Administration Quarterly* 46(2): 110-128.

Helpap, David J. 2019. "Public Management in Rural Local Governments: An Assessment of Institutional Differences and Implications." *State and Local Government Review* 51(1): 6-18.

Helpap, David J. 2017. "Assessing Public Expenditures in Small Towns: Beyond Roads and Fire Engines." *State and Local Government Review* 49(2): 75–86.

Helpap, David J. 2017. "Guiding the Public Sector: Assessing the Use of Recommended Practices in the Budgeting Process." *International Journal of Public Administration* 40(7): 559–574.

Helpap, David J. 2015. "Explaining the Use of Recommended Practices and Guidelines: The Case of Public Budgeting." *Public Administration Quarterly* 39(2): 259–294.

Weinschenk, Aaron C., and David J. Helpap. 2015. "Political Trust in the American States." *State and Local Government Review* 47(1): 26–34.

BOOK REVIEWS

Helpap, David J. 2016. "The Importance and Complexity of Assessing Urban Fiscal Health" (Review of Richard M. Bird and Enid Slack's *Is Your City Healthy? Measuring Urban Fiscal Health*). *State and Local Government Review* 48(3): 208-216.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS AND UNDER REVIEW

Public-Nonprofit Partnerships in Rural Communities: Perceptions of Local Public Officials (in progress)

Paying for Public Goods in Rural Communities: The Role of Intergovernmental Aid (in progress).

GRANTS AND AWARDS

University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, Grants in Aid of Research, 2020, \$900

Student Nominated Teaching Award, Finalist, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, 2018.

National Residence Hall Honorary Region, State, and Institution Faculty/Staff "Of the Month" Award, March 2016.

Student Nominated Teaching Award (Early Career), University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, 2014, \$100.

University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, Advanced Online Teaching Fellow, 2014, \$2,000.

University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, Starter Online Teaching Fellow, 2014, \$1,500.

University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, Teaching Scholar, 2013-2014, \$1,000.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Researcher, Economic Development Specialist

Public Policy Forum (Wisconsin Policy Forum), April 2010-August 2012

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Research Intern

Public Policy Forum (Wisconsin Policy Forum), June 2009-October 2009

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Administrative Intern

Village of Richfield, April 2007-January 2009

Richfield, Wisconsin

Contract Researcher

Wisconsin Towns Association, May 2006-October 2006

Shawano, Wisconsin

POLICY PAPERS AND RESEARCH REPORTS

Warner, Lora, David Helpap, and Ryan Sievert. 2017. "Safe and Stable Housing for Brown County Consumers: Needs and Policy Options." UWGB Center for Public Affairs.

Warner, Lora, Aaron Weinschenk, David Helpap, and Jenell Holstead. 2016. "Brown County LIFE Study." UWGB Center for Public Affairs.

Helpap, David, and Renee Christensen. 2014. "Connecting the Dots: Public Performance and Financial Trends in Brown County and the City of Green Bay." UWGB Center for Public Affairs.

Peterangelo, Joe, Rob Henken, and David Helpap. 2012. "Pathways to Employment: Exploring the Activities and Resources of Milwaukee's Workforce Development System." Public Policy Forum, Milwaukee, WI.

Helpap, David, Rob Henken, and Joe Peterangelo. 2011. "Assembling the Parts: An Examination of Milwaukee's Economic Development Landscape." Public Policy Forum, Milwaukee, WI.

Henken, Rob, David Helpap, Vanessa Allen, and Melissa Kovack. 2010. "Local Government Indicators: How is Local Government Performing?" Public Policy Forum, Milwaukee, WI.

Henken Rob, Vanessa Allen, Doug Day, and David Helpap. 2010. "Should It Stay or Should It Go: Exploring the Potential for Structural Reform in Milwaukee County Government." Public Policy Forum,

Milwaukee, WI—Winner of the 2011 Government Research Association “Most Effective Education” category.

Helpap, David, and Jeff Schmidt. 2009. “Public Schooling in Southeastern Wisconsin: 2008-2009.” Public Policy Forum, Milwaukee, WI.

Helpap, David. 2008. “Village of Richfield Comprehensive Park, Outdoor Recreation and, Open Space Plan.” Village of Richfield, Wisconsin.

Helpap, David. 2006. “Annexation Protection and Town Growth: A Comparison of Annexation Policies in Wisconsin and Michigan.” Wisconsin Towns Association, Shawano, WI.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Addressing the Challenges of Rural Local Governments: Perceptions of State Assistance.” Paper presented at the 2023 Midwest Political Science Association National Conference, Chicago, IL.

“Providing Public Goods in Rural America: The Role of the Professional Public Administrator.” Paper presented at the 2021 Midwest Political Science Association National Conference (virtual).

“Repaving Main Street: Assessing the Provision of Public Goods in Small Communities.” Paper presented at the 2018 Midwest Political Science Association National Conference, Chicago, IL.

“Assessing Public Expenditures in Small Communities: Beyond Roads and Fire Engines.” Paper presented at the 2016 Midwest Political Science Association National Conference, Chicago, IL.

“Toward a Better Budget: An Assessment of Financial Indicators and the Use of Recommended Budgeting Practices and Guidelines among Local Governments.” Paper presented at the 2015 Midwest Political Science Association National Conference, Chicago, IL.

“Explaining the Use of Recommended Practices and Guidelines: The Case of Municipal Budgeting.” Paper presented at the 2014 American Society for Public Administration Annual Conference, Washington, DC.

“Municipal Budgeting during Challenging Economic Conditions: Assessing the Use of Recommended Practices and Guidelines.” Paper presented at the 2012 Midwest Political Science Association National Conference, Chicago, IL.

“It’s the Economy Mr. Mayor: Examining Retrospective Economic Voting and Mayoral Elections.” Paper presented at the 2010 Midwest Political Science Association National Conference, Chicago, IL.

“The Michigan Town Debate: Annexation Protection, Growth, and Charter Towns.” Paper presented at the 2008 Midwest Political Science Association National Conference, Chicago, IL.

INVITED TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

“Loneliness, Connection & Community” Door County Talks. February 2023.

“Business Connects Webinar: Election Preview” Manitowoc County Chamber of Commerce. October 2022.

“Why Does the DMV Hate Me? Myths and Realities of Bureaucracy and Regulations” UWGB Lifelong Learning Institute. September 2019; February 2019.

“Creating Public Policy in States: The Role of Interest Groups, Think Tanks, and Ideology.” UWGB Lifelong Learning Institute. November 2018; April 2018; November 2017.

“The Use and Uselessness of Regulations” UWGB Philosophers’ Café. September 2015.

“Toward a Better Budget: Assessing the Use and Value of Recommended Budgeting Guidelines.” Wisconsin Government Finance Officers Association Winter Conference. December 2015.

“Assessing Brownfield Redevelopment Strategies among Local Governments: Lessons from Public Budgeting.” UWGB Natural and Applied Sciences Seminar Series. October 2014.

THESES AND HONORS PROJECTS

Thesis Committee Chair, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay

Megan Hoff (2020); Morgan Pemberton (2017); Saja Al-Quzweeni (2015); Stephanie Suchecki (2015)

Thesis Committee Member, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay

Kayla Billet (2018); Candace Kraft (2017); Jacob Eggert (2015); Whitney Passint (2015); Chris Caldwell (2014)

Undergraduate Honors Project Advisor

Clare Martell (2020); Tara Sellen (2019); Kendra Schmeling (2019); Mikayla Becherer (2018); Jessica Danen (2018); Hanna Mierow (2017); Dan Wortiska (2017); Pam Parish (2016); Gina Vlach (2016); Randall Tranowski (2014)

WORKSHOPS

High Impact Practices Camp/Workshop

National Association of System Heads and the Center for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning at University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, January 2019/May 2019.

Council on Undergraduate Research Institute

Council on Undergraduate Research Customized Institute at University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, May 2015.

Faculty Development Conference

Center for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning at University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, January 2015.

Grant-Writing Strategies: A Skill Building Workshop

Center for Public Affairs at University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, May 2013.

Faculty Development Conference

Center for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning at University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, January 2013.

Introduction to R

Helen Bader School of Social Welfare at University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, June 2012.

SERVICE

University

Co-Chair, Internships and Work-based Learning Committee, 2024-present

Member, URSCA Advisory Council, 2024-present

Member, University Assessment Council, 2022-present.

Faculty advisor, UWGB Academic Excellent Symposium, 2012-present.

Chair, Personnel Council, 2024-2025

Member, Personnel Council, 2022-2025.

Member, Environmental Management and Business Institute (EMBI) Advisory Board, 2018-2022.

Member, Advisory Board for the Cofrin Center for Biodiversity, 2016-2022.

Volunteer, UWGB Majors Fair, 2012-2022.

Member, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay Sustainability Committee, 2014-2022.

Member, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay Sustainability Coordinator Search and Screen Committee, July 2021.

Member, University Accreditation and Assessment Committee, 2018-2020.

Chair, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay Sustainability Committee, 2019-2020.

Member, Interview Committee for the Arendt Family Travel Abroad Endowed Scholarship, 2017-2020.

Member, General Education Council, 2019-2020.

Faculty advisor, Freshman Registration and Resources (R&R), 2015-2020.

Volunteer, Freshman Move-in Day, 2013-2018.

Chair, Intercollegiate Athletics Committee, 2018.

Chair, Advisory Board for the Cofrin Center for Biodiversity, 2017-2018.

Member, Health and Safety Committee, 2016-2018.

Member, Intercollegiate Athletics Committee, 2015-2018.

Faculty representative, Campus Preview Day presentations, 2015-2018.

Member, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay Committee on Committees and Nominations, 2014-2017.

Member, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay Instructional Designer/Information Processing Consultant Search and Screen Committee, January 2016.

Member, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay Liberal Arts Essay Scholarship Committee, February 2013.

Department

Chair, Public Administration program, 2022-present.

Faculty mentor, Public Administration and Political Science majors, 2021-present.

Member, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay Public and Affairs Faculty Search and Screen Committee (Public Administration), March 2023.

Chair, Department of Public and Environmental Affairs, 2019-2022.

Member, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay Public and Environmental Affairs Faculty Search and Screen Committee (Sociology and Criminal Justice), March 2022.

Faculty coordinator, Annual Department of Public and Environmental Affairs Celebrating Students event, 2015-2019.

Faculty coordinator, Application process and awarding of annual Department of Public and Environmental Affairs scholarships, 2015-2019.

Member, Environmental Science and Policy Graduate Program Admissions/Assistantship Committee, 2012-2018.

Member, Committee to redevelop the Integrative Leadership Studies degree into a new major, Organizational Leadership, 2018.

Member, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay Public and Environmental Affairs Faculty Search and Screen Committee (Public Administration and Organizational Leadership), February 2018.

Member, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay Public and Environmental Affairs Faculty Search and Screen Committee (Political Science), February 2016.

Interim Chair, Department of Political Science, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, January 2015-May 2015.

Faculty advisor, Learn it @ Lunch lecture series, 2012-2014.

Member, Advisory Committee, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay Center for Public Affairs policy snapshot report "School Choice Vouchers in Green Bay: Factors to Consider." March 2013.

Member, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay Public and Environmental Affairs Faculty Search and Screen Committee (political science), October 2012.

Community

Topic expert, Local and national media interviews/commentary (100+ interviews), 2012-present.

Panelist, UWGB Common CAHSS "Overcoming Isolation: Improving Engagement in the Midterm Elections," October 2022.

Panelist, Project VOTE City of Green Bay mayoral debate, March 2015.

Moderator, Center for Public Affairs panel discussion "Life with Vouchers: A Community Conversation," November 2013.

Panelist, Project VOTE State Senate District 30 debate, October 2012.

Moderator, Common Cause in Wisconsin panel discussion "What ever happened to good government in Wisconsin?" October 2012.

Discipline

Manuscript Referee: *Public Administration Review*, *Public Administration Quarterly*, *State and Local Government Review*, *Public Budgeting & Finance*, *International Journal of Public Administration*, *Public Budgeting, Accounting & Financial Management*, *Social Science Journal*, *Syllabus Journal*, W.W. Norton, Routledge

Volunteer, International City/County Management Association Annual Conference, September 2011.

Planning Committee member, Wisconsin Political Science Association Conference, January 2008.

OTHER WRITING

Voelker, David J., Aaron C. Weinschenk, and David Helpap. March 23, 2025. "Americans depend on a healthy public sector." *Wisconsin State Journal*.

Helpap, David J. December 20, 2017. "Why living in a small town does not necessarily mean living with limited public services." *London School of Economics American Politics and Policy Blog* (USAPP).

Weinschenk, Aaron C. and David Helpap. September 2016. "Ask questions, be critical of campaigns." Op-ed in *Green Bay Press-Gazette*.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Society for Public Administration
American Political Science Association
Midwest Political Science Association
Wisconsin Association of Municipal/County Assistant Managers

Computing Skills: Stata, SPSS

Updated: September 2025