

Jonathan C. Rork

Department of Economics
Reed College
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Research and Teaching Interests: Public Finance, Urban and Regional Economics, Microeconomic Theory, American Economic History

Education

Ph.D. Economics, Stanford University, 1999

A.B with Honors in Applied Mathematics-Economics, Brown University, 1994

Publications

1. The Paradox of HBCU Graduation Rates (with E. Gordon RC '19, Z. Hawley, and R. Kobler RC '20), *Research in Higher Education*, forthcoming.
2. Protecting the Vulnerable or Ripe for Reform? State Income Tax Breaks for the Elderly—Then and Now (with B. Brewer and K.S. Conway), *Public Finance Review*, July 2017, 45(4), 564-94.
3. How Has Elderly Migration Changed in the 21st Century? What the Data Can – And Can't – Tell Us (with K.S. Conway), *Demography*, August 2016, 53, 1011-25.
4. Yardstick Competition and Property Tax Limit Overrides: Revisiting Proposition 2 ½ (with Z. Hawley), *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, May 2015, 52, 93-107.
5. Does Aid to States Aid the States? (with Z. Horvath RC '13 and B. Moore RC '13), *Growth and Change*, June 2014, 45(2), 333-361.
6. State Income Tax Reciprocity Agreements and Small Business (with D. Bruce and G. Wagner), *Journal of Entrepreneurship and Public Policy*, 2014, 3(1), 118-140. (Named a Highly Commended Paper of 2014 by JEPP)
7. The Case of State Funded Higher Education Scholarship Plans and Interstate Brain Drain (with Z. Hawley), *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, March 2013, 43(2), 242-49.
8. The Genesis of Senior Tax Breaks (with K.S. Conway), *National Tax Journal*, December 2012, 65(4), 1043-68.
9. No Country for Old Men (and Women): Do State Taxes Drive Away the Elderly? (with K.S. Conway), *National Tax Journal*, June 2012, 65(2), 313-356.
10. Competition and Reciprocity: Is There a Connection? (with G. Wagner), *Public Finance Review*, January 2012, 40(1), 86-115.
11. Earmarking and the Business Cycle: The Case of State Spending on Higher Education (with R. Bhatt and M. Walker), *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, July 2011, 41(4), 352-359.
12. The Changing Roles of Disability, Veteran and Socioeconomic Status in Elderly Interstate Migration (with K.S. Conway), *Research on Aging*, May 2011, 33(3), 256-285.
13. 40 Years of 'Going with the Flow'—A Comparison of Interstate Elderly Migration Over Time and Between the (I)PUMS and Full Census Data (with K.S. Conway), *Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences*, November 2010, 65B(6), pp. 767-771.

14. Why Buy What You Can Get For Free? The Effect of Foreign Direct Investment on Patent Rates in US States (with T. Ford), *Journal of Urban Economics*, July 2010, 68(1), pp. 72-81.
15. Your Place in Space: Classroom Experiment on Spatial Location Theory (with M. Bergman, D. Mateer, M. Reksulak, R. Wilson and D. Zirkle), *Journal of Economic Education*, Fall 2009, 40(4), pp. 405-421.
16. (Small) Business Activity and State Economic Growth: Does Size Matter? (with D. Bruce, J. Deskins and B. Hill), *Regional Studies*, March 2009, 43(2), pp. 229-245.
17. Yardstick Competition and Toll Revenues: Evidence from US States, *Journal of Transport Economics and Policy*, January 2009, 43(1), pp. 123-139.
18. Income Tax Breaks for the Elderly: How Did We Get Here? (with K.S. Conway), *Public Policy and Aging Report*, Fall 2008, 18(4), pp. 1, 33-39.
19. Do Regions Matter in Interjurisdictional Competition? Evidence from State Taxation (with G. Wagner), *Economics Letters*, November 2008, 101(2), pp. 116-118.
20. Income Tax Preferences for the Elderly (with K.S. Conway), *Public Finance Review*, September 2008, 36(5), pp. 523-562.
21. Considering the Source: Does the Country of Origin of FDI Matter to Economic Growth? (with T. Ford and B. Elmslie), *Journal of Regional Science*, May 2008, 48(2), pp. 329-357.
22. Foreign Direct Investment, Economic Growth and the Human Capital Threshold: Evidence from U.S. States (with T. Ford and B. Elmslie), *Review of International Economics*, February 2008, 16(1), pp. 679-690.
23. Roads to Ruin? A Spatial Analysis of State Highway Expenditures (with D. Bruce, D. Carroll and J. Deskins), *Journal of Public Budgeting & Finance*, Winter 2007, 24(4), pp. 66-85.
24. State “Death” Taxes and Elderly Migration—The Chicken or the Egg? (with K.S. Conway), *National Tax Journal*, March 2006, 59(1), pp.97-128.
25. Copycat Gaming: A Spatial Analysis of State Lottery Structure (with R. Brown VC’04), *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, November 2005, 35(6), pp. 795-807.
26. Getting What You Pay For: The Case of Southern Economic Development, *Journal of Regional Analysis & Policy*, 2005, 35(2), pp. 37-53.
27. Lotto Nothing? The Budgetary Response to State Lotteries (with S. Fink VC’03 and A. Marco), *Applied Economics*, December 2004, 36(21), pp. 2357-2367.
28. Diagnosis Murder: The Death of State ‘Death’ Taxes (with K.S. Conway), *Economic Inquiry*, October 2004, 42(4), pp. 537-559.
29. Coveting Thy Neighbors’ Taxation, *National Tax Journal*, December 2003, 56(4), pp. 775-787.
30. The Importance of Self-Selection in Casino Cannibalization of State Lotteries (with S. Fink VC’03). *Economics Bulletin*, September 2003, vol. 8(10), pp. 1-8.

Policy Briefs, Book Chapters, Conference Proceedings, etc.

State Merit Aid and Student Major Choice (with Z. Hawley), in *American Higher Education: Contemporary Perspectives on Policy and Practice* (ed. J.K. Rice and C. Roellke), forthcoming.

Connecticut Estate and Gift Tax (with K.S. Conway). *State Tax Notes*, May 16, 2016, 80(7), pp. 543-75. (Note this is a reprint of our work for the Connecticut Tax Study Panel)

The Consequences of State Tax Preferential Treatment of the Elderly (with K.S. Conway), in *Taxation and Migration* (ed. J. Slemrod and R. Avi-Novah), 2015, pp. 151-186.

An Exploration of Various Corporate Tax Structures in Georgia: Some Effects of Moving from a Three Factor Apportionment of Corporate Income to a Gross Receipts Tax (with L. Wheeler), in *State and Local Tax Policy: Thinking Outside the Box?* (ed. S. Wallace), 2010, pp. 131-155.

Georgia's Brain Gain (with C. McClellan). *Fiscal Research Center Policy Brief Number 194*, Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, Georgia State University, March 2009.

Distribution of the Georgia Corporate and Net Worth Tax Liabilities, 1998 and 2005 (with L. Wheeler). *Fiscal Research Center Policy Brief Number 185*, Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, Georgia State University, September 2008.

A Closer Look at Georgia's Veteran Population. *Fiscal Research Center Policy Brief Number 177*, Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, Georgia State University, May 2008.

Small Business and State Growth: An Econometric Investigation (with D. Bruce, J. Deskins and B. Hill). Office of Advocacy, Small Business Administration, February 2007.

Comparing State Income Tax Preferences for the Elderly in the Southeast. *Fiscal Research Center Policy Brief Number 140*, Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, Georgia State University, February 2007.

Geographic Breakdown of Georgia's Interstate Migration Patterns. *Fiscal Research Center Policy Brief Number 137*, Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, Georgia State University, December 2006.

State 'Death' Taxes and Elderly Migration Revisited (with K.S. Conway), National Tax Association Proceedings of the 96th Annual Conference of Taxation 2003, pp. 405-409. Reprinted in *State Tax Notes*, June 5, 2006, pp. 785-789.

The Impact of State Lotteries on State Tax Revenues (with S. Fink and A. Marco). *State Tax Notes*, March 31, 2003, 27(13), pp. 1169-1172. Reprinted in National Tax Association Proceedings of the 95th Annual Conference of Taxation 2002, pp. 391-395.

Recent Developments in State "Death" Taxes (with K.S. Conway). *State Tax Notes*, March 25, 2002, 23(12), pp.1041-46. Reprinted in *National Tax Association Proceedings of the 94th Annual Conference of Taxation 2001*, pp. 208-212.

Neighboring Influences in State Tax Determination. *National Tax Association Proceedings of the 93rd Annual Conference of Taxation 2000*, pp. 291-294.

Corporate Taxation, Firm Mobility and Factor Intensity: Lessons from the South. *National Tax Association Proceedings of the 92nd Annual Conference of Taxation 1999*, pp. 493-497.

Articles Under Review, Working Papers, and Works in Progress

Does State Tax Reciprocity Affect Interstate Commuting? Evidence from a Natural Experiment (with G. Wagner), mimeo, August 2020 (under review).

A Replication of "The Robust Relationship between Taxes and U.S. State Income Growth" (with B. Brewer and K.S. Conway), mimeo, July 2020, (revise and resubmit, *Public Finance Review*).

Do Tax Breaks for the Elderly Promote Economic Growth? (with B. Brewer and K.S. Conway), mimeo, May 2020 (under review).

Measuring Diversity in Higher Education (with Z. Hawley), in progress.

Grants Awarded

10/13 thru 5/14 – Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, “Yardstick Competition and Property Tax Limit Overrides; Revisiting Proposition 2 ½” (with Z. Hawley), \$30,000.

9/09 thru 6/12 – Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation, “Asignacion de Impuestos y Descentralizacion Fiscal” (with A. Esteller-More, J.Duran, P.Sorribas and L. Rizzo), €27,000.

9/09 thru 6/10 – University of Barcelona, “Asignacion de Impuestos y Descentralizacion Fiscal” (with A. Esteller-More, J.Duran, P.Sorribas and L. Rizzo), €5,000.

1/09 thru 1/10 – Georgia Research Alliance, “The Evolution of Interstate Brain Drain/Gain: Can State Policies Alter History?” (with Z. Hawley), \$14,740.

7/08 thru 6/09 – Research Initiation Grant, Georgia State University, “The Role of Reciprocity in Interstate Commuting,” \$9,900.

7/06 thru 6/08 – National Institute on Aging (via National Institutes of Health), “A Panel Study of Elderly versus Nonelderly Migration Flows and State Fiscal Policy.” (with K.S. Conway), \$30,000.

10/05 thru 10/06 -- U.S. Small Business Administration, “An Econometric Investigation of the Relationship between Small Business Activities and Economic Growth among the States: 1988 through 2002.” (with D. Bruce, J. Deskins, and B. Hill.) \$60,000.

Professional Experience

Professor, Reed College, July 2012 - present

Associate Professor, Reed College, August 2010 - June 2012

Courses taught:

Microeconomic Theory (ECON 313); Game Theory (ECON 315)

Urban Economics (ECON 358), Economics of the Public Sector (ECON 348),

Behavioral Economics (ECON 418), American Economic History (ECON 323)

Visiting Scholar, Institut d’Economia de Barcelona, January 2009

Assistant Professor, Georgia State University, June 2006 - July 2010 (tenure awarded 3/2010)

Director of Graduate Studies, June 2008 - July 2010

Honors Coordinator, AYSPS, February 2007 - September 2009

Faculty Affiliate, Fiscal Research Center, June 2006 – July 2010

Courses taught:

Microeconomics for Public Policy (PAUS 8141)

Applied Microeconomic Analysis/ Grad Micro I (ECON 8100)

Intro to Microeconomics (Honors, ECON 2106H)

Assistant Professor, Vassar College, August 2000- June 2006

Courses taught:

Senior Seminar in Urban Studies: Urban Praxis (URBS 386),

Public Finance (ECON 342), Principles of Microeconomics (ECON 101), Urban

Economics (ECON 218), American Economic History (ECON 368), Module of

Intro to Urban Studies (URBS 100)

Visiting Scholar, Brown University, Fall 2004

Assistant Professor, University of New Hampshire, August 1999-August 2000:

Courses taught:

Principles of Microeconomics (ECON 402, regular and honors)
Graduate Microeconomic Theory (ECON 977)

Instructor, Stanford University:

Public Finance (ECON 141), Intermediate Microeconomics (ECON 51)

Referee *American Economic Review*, *Applied Economics Letters*, *Contemporary Economic Policy*, *Demography*, *Eastern Economic Inquiry*, *Economic Journal*, *Economic Development Quarterly*, *Education Finance and Policy*, *Hacienda Pública Española*, *Journal of Applied Geography*, *Journal of Economic Education*, *Journal of Public Economics*, *International Tax & Public Finance*, *Journal of Regional Science*, *Journal of Urban Economics*, *National Tax Journal* (referee of the year in 2012), *Papers in Regional Science*, *Population Research and Policy Review*, *Public Budgeting and Finance*, *Public Finance and Management*, *Public Finance Review*, *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, *Regional Studies*, *Social Science Journal*, *Southern Economic Journal*

Professional Presentations

Invited Seminars

University of Alabama, Binghamton University, Carleton College, Colby College, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Furman University, Georgia State University, Hamilton College, Institut d'Economia de Barcelona, University of Nevada-Reno, University of New Hampshire, Portland State University, Rutgers University, St. Lawrence University, University of Tennessee, University of Texas at El Paso, Union College, Vassar College, Villanova University, West Virginia University

Conference Presentations & Participation

AEFP Annual Conference, 2019

National Tax Association, Spring Symposium, 2012

Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center: "Tax Reform Beyond the Beltway", 2012

Annual Conference of Taxation (National Tax Association): 1999-2003, 2005-2010

Lincoln Institute of Land Policy:

The Housing Crisis and the Effect on State and Local Governments (with Urban Institute), 2010

Urban Economics and Public Finance, 2010, 2011, 2014

Economic Perspectives on State and Local Taxes, 2009

Winter Meetings of the Econometric Society: 2002, 2004

Southern Economic Association Meetings: 2002, 2003, 2007

Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM): 2007

International Atlantic Economic Society: 2007

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities: 'The Future of Fiscal Federalism': 2005

Eastern Economic Association Meetings: 2002

Advising

Undergraduate Theses at Reed (40)

Selorm Fefeti (2011), Robert Kahn (2011), Kelsey Lucas (2011), Mark Hintz (2012), Justin Stewart (2012), Sean Howard (2013), Su Liu (2013), Brian Moore (2013), Cameron Nilles (2013), Eric Whalen (2013), Luke Hackenberg (2015), Mathew Olson (2015), Chris Weber (2015), Dylan Vaughn (2015), Sarah Brauner (2016), Dean Young (2016), Saul Chasin (2016), Ted Sand (2016), Florin Feier (2017), JingXian Ng (2017), Helena Pedrotti (2017), Kris Droste (2017), Cooper Jackson (2018), Taylor LaPrairie (2018), Mitchell Linegar (2018), Samuel Plechot-Binder (2018), Connor Resnick (2018), Rachel Schulingkamp (2018), Maggie Davies (2018), Simue Isabel (2018), Nikhita Airi (2019), Ethan Gordon (2019), Yaseen Hashmi (2019), Luke Szatmary (2019), Gabriel Yeung (2019), Jamil Ditter (2020), Gabe Friend (2020), Frank Gaunt (2020), Ben Thomas (2020), Yuki Oyakawa (2020)

Graduate Thesis Committee (date of degree in parentheses, “*” indicates primary advisor, N at University of New Hampshire, G at Georgia State University)

Mustafa Oktem (N, 2002), Timothy Ford *(N, 2002), Ricardo Soares (N, 2006), Peter Bluestone (G, 2007), Kwame Donaldson (G, 2009), Cristian Sepulveda (G, 2010), Abdullah Khan (G, 2010), T.J. Christian (G, 2010), Spencer Brien (G, 2011), Zack Hawley* (G, 2012), Alexander Brumlik (G, 2013), Ben Brewer (N, 2017)

Undergraduate Honors Theses at Vassar (E indicates Economics, U indicates Urban Studies)

Tucker Hughes (2001, E), Edward Alexander (2002, E), Hayden Brown (2002, U), Steven McGinnis (2002, E), Stephen Fink (2003, E), Daniel Harris (2003, U), Beth Munnich (2003, U), Danielle Matthews (2004, E), Lindsey Pilver (2004, E), Heather Zaimes (2004, U), Christopher Galli (2006, E), Laura Wiles (2006, U)

Mintz Fund for Student Research in Economics at Reed (Summer)

Zachary Horvath & Brian Moore (2011), Bryan Kim & Su Liu (2012), Mat Olson & Chris Weber (2013), James LaBelle (2014), Jordan Alexander (2015), Taylor LaPrairie (2016), Samuel Plechot-Binder, Davey Reinitz & Luke Szatmary (2017), Frank Gaunt, Ethan Gordon, Uma Ilavarasan & Ryan Kobler (2018), Gabe Friend, Frank Gaunt & Daniel Spertus (2019), Max Nobel & Daniel Spertus (2020)

Ford Scholars Program at Vassar

Stephen Fink (Summer 2002), Ryan Brown (Summer 2003)

Service

Reed College

Chair, Administration Committee (2016-2018)
Director/Founder, Griffin Guides (2014-2018)
Co-Chair, Institutional Review Board (2014-2016)
Chair, Department of Economics (2014-2016)
Co-Chair, Mathematics-Economics Steering Committee (2016-2020)
Member, Steering Committee, ICPS (2018-2019)
Member, Steering Committee, Environmental Studies (2017-2018)
Chair, Division of History and Social Sciences (2014-2016)
Member, Student Life Working Group for Fall 2020 (2020)
Advisory Council, Center for Teaching & Learning (2014-)
Administration Committee (2011-2012)
Committee on Admissions and Financial Aid (2010-2012)
Junior Qualifying Exam Committee –Economics (2010-)
Secretary, Reed’s Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa (2011-2012)
President, Reed’s Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa (2012-2013, 2019-2020)

Georgia State University

Director of Graduate Studies—Economics (2008-2010)
Associate Placement Director (2008-2010)
Academic Program Committee – AYSPS (2008-2010)
Coordinator of Honors Program in Economics (2007-2009)
University Honors Program Executive Committee (2007-2009)
Economics Undergraduate Program Committee (2006-2008)

Vassar College

Member of Steering Committee for Urban Studies Major (2000-2006)

Faculty Advisor for Correlate in Public Policy (2001-2006)

President's Committee on Priorities and Planning (2005-2006)

Benefits Committee (2005-2006)

Member of Advisory Board for Career Development (2003-2006)

Committee on Quantitative Requirement (2004-2005)

Committee on Committees (2003-2005)

President, Vassar's Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa (2002-2003)

Updated: December 2020