

Randall Reback

Professor and Chair, Economics Department

Last Updated: May, 2021

Mailing Address:
Barnard Economics
3009 Broadway
New York, NY 10027

Office:
1014 Milstein Center
212-854-5005
rreback@barnard.edu
<http://www.columbia.edu/~rr2165>

Education

- University of Michigan; Ann Arbor, Michigan
Ph.D. in Economics, 2003. Dissertation Adviser: Julie Berry Cullen.
Dissertation Title: “Public Finance in General Equilibrium: The Case of Education”
M.A. in Economics, 2000.
- Stanford University; Stanford, California
M.A. in Social Science Research in Education, 1997.
B.A. with Honors in Economics, 1997.

Professional Experience in Higher Education

Barnard College, *Chair of Economics Department*, July 2020-present.
Barnard College, *Professor of Economics*, July 2017-present.
Barnard College, *Tow Associate Professor of Economics*, July 2016-June 2017.
Barnard College, Department of Economics, *Associate Professor*, July 2011-June 2016.
Columbia University, Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, *Faculty Member*, December 2012-present.
Northwestern University, Institute for Policy Research, *Visiting Scholar*, Sept 2012-May 2013.
Columbia University Population Research Center, *Faculty Member*, July 2011-present.
Teachers College, *Honorary Professor of Economics and Education*, 2004-present.
Columbia University, Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy, *Faculty Fellow*, 2005- present.
Barnard College, Department of Economics, Assistant Professor, July 2003-June 2011.

Professional Experience in Elementary Education

Ravenswood Public School District, East Palo Alto, CA. *Fifth Grade Teacher*, 1997-98.

Academic and Professional Honors

- CesIFO Research Network Fellow, Economics of Education Research Group, 2015-present
- Mental Health Services Research New Investigator Award, (National Institute of Mental Health), 2005.
- American Education Finance Association, Jean Flanigan Outstanding Dissertation Award, 2005.
- University of Michigan, Campus-wide Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation Award, Honorable Mention
- National Center for Childhood Health and Human Development, Graduate Student Fellowship, ‘99-‘03.
- Population Studies Center Research Fellowship, University of Michigan, ‘99-‘03.
- University of Michigan, Rackham Dissertation Fellowship, Fall 2002.
- Firestone Medal for Best Undergraduate Economics Thesis, Stanford University, 1997.
- Stanford-in-Government Fellow, U.S. Department of Education, 1996.

Courses Taught *American Well-being; Economics of Education; Child Health, Behavior, and Learning; Econometrics; Statistics for Economics; Spatial Analysis in Urban Economics; Intergenerational Equity and Domestic Economic Policy; Introduction to Microeconomics; Economics Senior Thesis*

Graduate Dissertation Committees

Sabine Zander (2021); Takeshi Yanagiura (2020); Josefa Aguirre-Brautigam (2019); Yuxin Lin (2019); Eric Chan (2018); Jennifer Sallman (2018); Elizabeth Kopko (2017); Jaunelle Pratt-Williams (2016); Elizabeth Davidson (Dissertation Sponsor, 2016); Veronica Minaya (2016); Robert Shand (2015); Eri Hoshino (2015); Parita Suaphan

(2014); Charles Ogundimu (2014); Kristin Bucceri (2013); Peter Crosta (2013); Michelle Hodara (2012); Chad D'Entremont (2012); Mina Dadgar (2012); Maham Mela (2012); Yu Zhang (2011); Amrit Thapa (2011); Sung-woo Cho (2010), Evan Borkum (2010), Yinghua He (2010); Stefanie Mischner (2010); Suguru Mizunoya (2009); Joshua Goodman (2009); Heather L. Schwartz (2009); Moumié Maoulidi (2009); Dongshu Ou (2008); Milagros Nores (2006); Saeyun Lee (2006); Laila Haider (2004).

Publications

- “Fifty Ways to Leave a Child Behind: Idiosyncrasies and Discrepancies in States’ Implementation of *NCLB*” (w/ Elizabeth Davidson & Jonah Rockoff & Heather Schwartz). *Educational Researcher* 44(6), 2015.
- “Buying Their Votes? A Study of Local Tax-Price Discrimination,” *Economic Inquiry* 53(3), 2015.
- “Under Pressure: Job Security, Resource Allocation, and Productivity in Schools under *NCLB*” (w/ Jonah Rockoff and Heather L. Schwartz). *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy* 6(3), August 2014.
- “True for Your School? How Changing Reputations Alter Demand for Selective U.S. Colleges.” (w/ Molly Alter). *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis* 36(1), March 2014.
- “The Fiscal Impacts of Charter Schools: Lessons from New York” (w/ Robert Bifulco), *Education Finance and Policy* 9(1), Winter 2014.
- “Jockeying for Position: Strategic High School Choice under Texas’ Top Ten Percent Rule” (w/ Julie Cullen & Mark Long), *Journal of Public Economics* 97, January 2013.
- “Mobility, Housing Markets, and Schools: Estimating the Effects of Interdistrict Choice Programs” (w/ Eric Brunner & Sung-woo Cho), *Journal of Public Economics* 96, August 2012.
- “Schools’ Mental Health Services and Young Children’s Emotions, Behavior, and Learning,” *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management* 29(4), Autumn 2010.
- “Noninstructional Spending Improves Noncognitive Outcomes: Discontinuity Evidence from a Unique Elementary School Counselor Financing System,” *Education Finance & Policy* 5(2), 2010.
- “Demand (and Supply) in an Inter-district Public School Choice Program,” *Economics of Education Review* 27(4), August 2008, pp. 402-416.
- “Teaching to the Rating: School Accountability and the Distribution of Student Achievement,” *Journal of Public Economics* 92, June 2008, pp. 1394-1415.
- “Tinkering Toward Accolades: School Gaming under a Performance Accountability System.”, (with Julie Berry Cullen). Chapter 1, *Advances in Applied Microeconomics*, vol. 14, edited by Timothy J. Gronberg & Dennis W. Jansen, Elsevier, 2006.
- “Entry Costs and the Supply of Public School Teachers.” *Education Finance & Policy* 1(2), Spring 2006, pp. 247-265.
- “House Prices and the Provision of Public Services: Capitalization under School Choice Programs.” *Journal of Urban Economics* 57(2), March 2005, pp. 275-301.
- “The Impact of College Course Offerings on the Supply of Academically Talented Public School Teachers.” *Journal of Econometrics* 121, July 2004, pp. 377-404.

Non-Peer-Reviewed Publications

- “Investments in Student Health and Mental Health in California’s Public Schools”, Getting Down to Facts II, PACE/Stanford University, <https://gettingdowntofacts.com/> 2018
- “No Child Left Behind Act (*NCLB*)” in the SAGE Encyclopedia of Educational Research, Measurement, and Evaluation; edited by Bruce Frey, 2018.

“Review of *New York City’s Children First*,” National Education Policy Center, June 2014,
<http://nepc.colorado.edu/thinktank/review-NYC-children-first>

“Tales from the Other Side of Education Finance: Other Districts’ Schools, Other Pathways into Teaching, and Other People’s Preferences,” policy brief, *Education Finance & Policy* 2(3), Summer 2007, pp. 301-317.

Working Papers

- Does Access to Health Care Affect Teen Fertility and High School Dropout Rates? Evidence from School-based Health Center Openings (w/ Michael Lovenheim & Leigh Wedenoja)
- Primary Health Care Access and Children’s Educational Achievement (w/ Tamara Lalovic Cox)
- Keeping up with the Joneses’ School District: Fiscal Spillovers between Local Governments

Other Work in Progress

- Teacher Perceptiveness and Student Learning
- Stealing from Students and Taxpayers

Grants

- Spencer Foundation Grant. "Where Health Policy Meets Education Policy: The Emergence and Impacts of School-based Health Centers in New York City." 2012-14, \$38,270.
- Institute for Education Sciences (U.S. Dept. of Education) Grant, “The Effects of *No Child Left Behind* on School Services and Student Outcomes,” (with co-PI Jonah Rockoff), 2009-12, \$806,586. Produced research papers, as well as a national data sharing website: <http://www7.gsb.columbia.edu/nclb/>
- Spencer Foundation Grant, “The Effects of *No Child Left Behind* on School Services and Student Outcomes,” (with co-PI Jonah Rockoff), 2008-10, \$205,175.
- AERA/NSF/Institute for Education Sciences Research Grant, “The Financing, Provision, and Consequences of School-site Mental Health Services for Young Children in the United States,” 2006-08, \$34,162.
- ISERP Seed Grant, “The Effects of *No Child Left Behind* on School Services and Student Outcomes,” 2006-08, \$5,000.
- American Education Finance Association, New Scholar Grant, “Entry Costs and the Supply of Public School Teachers.” 2002-3, \$3,000.
- Office of Tax Policy Research, Small Research Grant, 2001, \$1,000. “Political Economy of Local School Revenues.”
- American Education Finance Association, Roe L. John’s Grant, 2001 and Will Myers Grant, 2002, (Travel).

Service to the College/University

Middle States Working Group #4 Committee Member, 2019-2020
Tenure and Promotion Committees for Economics and Education Departments: 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021
Hirschorn Prize Reviewer, 2018
Columbia University Economics Department Instructor-in-Practice Reviewer, 2017
Barnard-Columbia Urban Studies Program Faculty Committee, 2003-present.
Faculty Search Committees: Econ (‘04-05, ‘11-12, ‘14-15, ‘15-16, ’20-21), Political Science (‘13-14), Education (‘04-05, ’15-16)
Barnard Faculty Representative at Seven College Conference at Wellesley College, 11/29/10-11/30/10.
1st/2nd-year student academic adviser, 2005-06, 2007-08, 2008-09, 2010-2012.
Barnard Junior Faculty Mentor, 2011-15; 2016-present
Barnard Diversity Task Force, 2011-2012.
Barnard College Middle States Assessment Working Group, 2009-2010.
Barnard College Financial Aid Working Group, 2008-2010.
Barnard College Faculty Recorder, 2008-2009.
Barnard College Faculty Finance and Resource Committee, 2004-2006.
Barnard College President’s Faculty Advisory Committee, 2004-2006.
Student-Faculty Dessert Series Speaker, 2004 and 2005.

Barnard College Faculty Teller, 2003-04

Panelist, Columbia Political Union's Panel on Education Policy, 2014; "Manhattanville Project in the Wider Context," sponsored by Global Solutions, 2007; "Show Me the Money! Fiscal Equity and Urban Schooling," Barnard, 2005.

Guest Lecturer, Contemporary Issues in Education, Barnard, annually from 2005-2011.

Guest Lecturer, Quantitative Methods in Social Science, Columbia University, 2004, 2013.

Columbia University QMSS Master's Thesis advising: Greg Werbin '15; Antonia Wang '09; Ryan Tan '05.

Undergraduate Thesis advising (beyond normal teaching load): Eric Wang '08 (Columbia Economics); Rimma Ayzen (Barnard) '06; Sheena Gordon (Barnard) '05, Orly Kialli (Barnard) '05

Service to the Profession

Editor: *Education Finance and Policy*, July 2019-present

Associate Editor: *Education Finance and Policy*, July 2017-June 2019

Editorial Boards: *Education Finance and Policy*, 2009-2017

Education Evaluation & Policy Analysis, 2016-2018

Board of Directors: *Association for Education Finance & Policy*, 2012-15.

Program Committee Member: *Association for Education Finance & Policy*, 2012-15; 2016-2017

Association for Public Policy and Management, 2011.

Journal Article Referee: *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, *American Economic Journal:*

Economic Policy, *American Economic Review*, *American Education Research Journal*, *AERA Open*, *Journal of Applied Econometrics*, *B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis and Policy*, *Demography*, *Eastern Economic Journal*, *Economics of Education Review*, *Economic Letters*, *Economic Inquiry*, *Economic Journal*, *Economica*, *Education Economics*, *Education Evaluation & Policy Analysis*, *Education Finance & Policy*, *Educational Policy*, *Educational Researcher*, *Journal of Econometrics*, *Journal of Housing Economics*, *Journal of Human Resources*, *Journal of Mental Health Policy & Economics*, *National Tax Journal*, *Journal of Policy Analysis & Management*, *Journal of Political Economy*, *Journal of Public Budgeting and Finance*, *Journal of Public Economics*, *Journal of Regional Science*, *Journal of Urban Economics*, *Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics*, *Policy Studies Journal*, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, *Review of Educational Studies*, *Social Problems*, *Sociology of Education*, *Southern Economics Journal*, *State & Local Government Review*, *Statistics Politics & Policy*, *Agenda: A Journal of Policy Analysis and Reform*, *ANNALS of Amer. Academy of Political & Social Science*, *New Directions in Education Policy Implementation*.

Other Service:

- *Grant Reviewer:* Institute for Education Sciences; Smith Richardson Foundation; Sloan Foundation
- *Advisory Board:* RAND Research Project examining the New York City Community Schools Initiative
- *Invited Testimony:* Massachusetts House of Representatives Joint Committee on Education Hearing, invited by MA Coalition for School Counseling for comments on the costs and benefits of school counselors
- *Conference Paper Discussant:* American Economic Association, American Education Finance Association, American Education Research Association, Association for Public Policy & Management, Society of Labor Economists, Southern Economic Association, Eastern Economic Association.
- *Doctoral Dissertation Award Committee Member*, 2011, Association for Public Policy and Management.
- *Session Organizer*, American Economic Association Annual Meeting, January 2011, "School Accountability and Student Outcomes: The Impact of No Child Left Behind"
- *Discussant and Co-organizer* @ Mellon-23 Mini-conference, "Evaluating Teaching and Learning at Liberal Arts Colleges," Wellesley College, Sept. 2008.
- *Conference Submission Reviewer:* Association for Education Finance & Policy; American Educational Research Association; Society for Research on Education Effectiveness