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Assistant Professor
Department of Political Science
Eastern Michigan University
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EDUCATION

- Aug. 2005, Ph.D. in Public Administration, University of Georgia (UGA)
 - Specialization: Public Finance and Budgeting
 - Dissertation: *Property Tax Relief, Additional Revenue, or Tax Mimicking? The Adoption and Effects of the General Purpose Local Option Sales Tax in Georgia Counties*
 - Committee: Laurence O’Toole (Chair), Thomas Lauth, Dan Durning, Jerome Legge, and Yilin Hou
- Sept. 1998 ~ Mar. 2000, doctoral student of Urban Planning, Tongji University
- Mar. 1997, Master in Urban Planning, Tongji University
- June 1993, Bachelor in Urban Planning, Tongji University

FIELDS OF RESEARCH

- Public finance and budgeting
- Public and nonprofit financial management
- Public management and performance
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS) application in public affairs
- Chinese Administration and Policy

TEACHING INTERESTS

- Budgeting and finance sequence:
 - Politics of public budgeting (undergraduate)
 - Public fiscal administration (master/doctoral)
 - State and local finance (master/doctoral)
 - Public and nonprofit financial management (master/doctoral)
- Research methods sequence:
 - Research methods in public administration (undergraduate/master)

- Data applications in public administration (master)
- Data analysis and statistics (master/doctoral)
- GIS-related sequence:
 - Spatial thinking in public affairs (undergraduate/master)
 - GIS and spatial analysis in public administration (master/doctoral)
- Public administration and policy:
 - Public administration/management (undergraduate/master)
 - Organizational theory (undergraduate/master)
 - Public policy analysis (master)
 - Public policy implementation (master)
 - Public policy evaluation (master/doctoral)
 - State and local government (undergraduate)
 - Public administration internship (undergraduate/master)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, School of Arts and Science, Eastern Michigan University (EMU), since Aug. 2005
- Education Program Specialist, Carl Vinson Institute of Government, University of Georgia, June 2002 ~ July 2005
- Research Assistant, Department of Political Science, School of Arts and Science, University of Georgia, Sept. 2000 ~ May 2002
- Research and Teaching Assistant, Department of Urban Planning, School of Architecture and Urban Planning, Tongji University, Sept. 1998 ~ Mar. 2000
- Assistant Urban Planner, Xiamen Academy of Urban Planning & Design (Xiamen, China), Sept. 1993 ~ July 1998

HONORS, AWARDS, AND GRANTS

- Faculty Development Scholarship for Course Design, EMU, 2006
- Scholarship for the SPACE program (Spatial Perspectives on Analysis for Curriculum Enhancement), University of California, Santa Barbara (Funded by the National Science Foundation), 2006
- Academic Service Learning Fellowship, EMU, 2006
- Provost's Research Award for New Faculty, EMU, 2005
- Collins Award for the Outstanding Paper by a Ph.D. Student, the Southeastern Conference of Public Administration (SECoPA), 2004
- Graduate School Assistantship, UGA, 2000 ~ 2002
- Guanghua Award for Outstanding Doctoral Student, Tongji University, 1999

- Biennial Award of Outstanding Urban Planning Project, Fujian Province, 1999
- Chinese Academy of Urban Planning & Design Scholarship, Tongji University, 1997

PUBLICATIONS IN ENGLISH

- “Motivations, Obstacles, and Resources: The Adoption of the General Purpose Local Option Sales Tax in Georgia Counties,” *Public Finance Review*, 2005 (33), 721-746.
- “Morality Policy and Unintended Consequences: China’s ‘One Child’ Policy,” with Jerome S. Legge, *Chinese Public Administration Review*, 2004 (3), 30-45.
- Book Chapter, “Expenditures and Revenues of US Governments,” in *Handbook of Governmental Accounting*, edited by Frederic Bogui, New York, NY: Marcel Dekker Inc. (forthcoming)

PUBLICATIONS IN OTHER LANGUGES

- Multiple book chapters, in *National Historical Cities in China* (in Chinese), edited by Chinese National Ministry of Construction & Chinese National Bureau of Heritage, Chinese Youth Publishing House, Dec. 2002
- Multiple book chapters, in *Historic Cities in China* (in Japanese), edited by Zixuan Zhu et al, Kajima Institute Publishing Co., July 2001
- “The Marginal-information View of Historic District Preservation,” selected into *Proceedings of International Seminar on Conservation and Development of Historic Cities in Northeastern Asia* (in Chinese), 1998
- “The Value Conception of Historic Preservation – Toward Sustainable Resources, Environment, and Benefits,” *Urban Planning Forum* (in Chinese), 1999 (1)
- “Preservation and Renewal of Historic Districts,” *New Architecture* (in Chinese), June 1998

PAPERS UNDER REVIEWED BY PROFESSIONAL JOURNALS

- “Fiscal Illusion or Rational Choice? Long-term Effects of Earmarked Revenue on Property Tax Relief,” Zhirong Zhao and Changhoon Jung, submitted to *Public Budgeting and Finance*
- “Who gets ‘LOST’? Local Option Sales Taxes and Fiscal Disparities among Localities: Evidence from Georgia,” Zhirong Zhao and Yilin Hou, submitted to *Public Budgeting and Finance* (Positively reviewed, being prepared for second submission)
- “Determinants of Intergovernmental Cooperation in American Cities and Counties,” Changhoon Jung and Zhirong Zhao, submitted to *International Review of Administrative Sciences*

RECENT PRESENTATIONS

- “Spatial Thinking in Public Affairs: A Course Outline and Example Modules,” the Workshop of Spatial Perspectives on Analysis for Curriculum Enhancement, Aug. 6, 2006, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA
- “Applications of Spatial Analysis in Public Finance and Budgeting,” the Workshop of Spatial Perspectives on Analysis for Curriculum Enhancement, Aug. 1, 2006, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA
- “Management, Performance, and School District Bond Ratings: Evidence from Texas,” with Wenli Yan, the Second Conference on Empirical Studies of Organizations and Public Management (Organized by Kenneth Meier and Laurence O’Toole), May 5-6, 2006, College Station, TX
- “Tax Mimicking among Counties: The Georgia Case,” the annual conference of the Western Social Science Association, April 19-22, 2006, Phoenix, AZ
- “Who Gets ‘LOST’? Local Option Sales Taxes and Fiscal Disparity,” with Yilin Hou, the annual conference of Association for Budgeting and Financial Management (ABFM), Nov. 10-12, 2005, Washington D.C.
- “What Determine Ratings of School District Bonds: The Texas Case,” with Wenli Yan, the annual conference of Association for Budgeting and Financial Management (ABFM), Nov. 10-12, 2005, Washington D.C.
- “Fiscal Illusion or Rational Choice? The Effects of the General-Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) in Georgia Counties.” the annual conference of the Public Finance and Budgeting Section of Western Social Science Association (WSSA), Apt. 13-16, 2005, Albuquerque, NM
- “Property Tax Burden, Fiscal Stress, or Tax Mimicking: The Adoption of General Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) in Georgia Counties,” the annual conference of Association for Budgeting and Financial Management (ABFM), Oct. 7-9, 2004, Chicago, IL
- “Motivations, Obstacles, and Resources: The Adoption of the General Purpose Local Option Sales Tax in Georgia Counties,” the Southeastern Conference for Public Administration (SECoPA), Oct. 3-5, 2004, Charlotte, NC
- “Public Management and Community Support: Managerial Priorities Matter,” the Conference on Empirical Studies of Organizations and Public Management (Organized by Laurence O’Toole and Kenneth Meier), Nov. 26-27, 2002, Athens, GA
- “Morality Policy and Unintended Consequences: China’s ‘One Child’ Policy,” the annual conference of the Southern Political Science Association Convention (SPSA), Nov. 7-9, 2002, Savannah, GA

WORKIGN PAPERS

- “GASB34 and the Indicators of Local Fiscal Sustainability,” Zhirong Zhao (Grant application to be submitted to Governmental Accounting Standards Board)
- “Resource Dependence of Human Service Nonprofits and the Economic Downturn: The Case of Detroit Metropolitan Area” Zhirong Zhao and Claudia Petrescu (Prepared for the annual conference of ARNOVA, 2007)
- “Resource Dependence and Locations of Human Services Nonprofit Organizations: An Exploratory Spatial Analysis,” Zhirong Zhao and Claudia Petrescu.
- “Coveting Thy Neighbors’ Taxation: Property tax mimicking in Georgia counties,” Zhirong Zhao (To be presented at the annual conference of National Tax Association, 2006)
- “It is the perceived that matters the most: Property tax mimicking in Georgia counties,” Zhirong Zhao (To be presented at the annual conference of Association for Budgeting and Financial Management, 2006)
- “Severe Storm Watch throughout Michigan: Financial Emergency Predictors,” Melanie Purcell and Zhirong Zhao (To be presented at the annual conference of Association for Budgeting and Financial Management, 2006)
- “What Determine Ratings of School District Bonds: The Texas Case,” Dwight Denison, Wenli Yan, and Zhirong Zhao (Prepare for journal submission)
- “Local Option Income Taxes and Fiscal Disparities among Local Governments in Michigan,” Zhirong Zhao (Supported by Provost’s Research Award for New Faculty in Eastern Michigan University)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE**At Eastern Michigan University:**

- 2006 Fall, PLSC615, “Public Financial Management”
- 2006 Fall, PLSC480, 486, “Internship of Political Science/Public Administration”
- 2006 Fall, PLSC688, “Practicum in Public Affairs”
- 2006 Spring, PLSC615, “Public Financial Management”
- 2006 Spring, PLSC480, 486, “Internship of Political Science/Public Administration”
- 2006 Spring, PLSC688, “Practicum in Public Affairs”
- 2006 Winter, PLSC 540, “Public Fiscal Administration”
- 2006 Winter, PLSC480, 486, “Internship of Political Science/Public Administration”
- 2006 Winter, PLSC688, “Practicum in Public Affairs”
- 2005 Fall, PLSC352, “Politics of Governmental Budgeting”
- 2005 Fall, PLSC480, 486, “Internship of Political Science/Public Administration”
- 2005 Fall, PLSC688, “Practicum in Public Affairs”

At University of Georgia:

- 2004 Summer, “Public Finance and Budgeting,” for Sino-American Joint Training Program in Public Administration
- 2003 Fall and 2004 Fall, “China: Governance and Development (guest speech),” for the Honors Program in University of Georgia
- 2003 Fall, “Introduction to Public Finance,” for Sino-American Joint Training Program in Public Administration
- 2002 Fall, “Budgetary Reforms,” for students in MPA Program
- 2002 Summer, “Introduction to Public Administration” for Sino-American Joint Training Program in Public Administration

At Tongji University (Shanghai, China):

- 1998 Fall and 1999 Fall, “History of Urban Development,” for undergraduate students and public official training programs
- 1999 Fall, “Introduction to Urban Planning Theory,” for public official training programs

UNIVERSITY/DEPARTMENT/COMMUNITY SERVICES

- China liaison for the Department of Political Science, EMU, 2006
 - Initiating Summer Institute of Public Policy in Jiangxi, China
 - Initiating International Exchange Programs on Public Affairs with Tianjin University, China
- Member of College Committee on Research and Sabbatical Leaves, EMU, 2006
- Director of the Political Science Internship Program, EMU, 2005 and 2006
- Lecturing at the International Week, EMU, “Civil Service Reform in the Peoples’ Republic of China,” Oct. 28, 2005
- Chair of Curriculum Committee for new Ph.D. Program of Public Administration, EMU, 2005-2006
- China liaison for the University of Georgia, 2002-2005
 - Facilitated UGA’s many China programs, especially those on public administration, public policy, and community developments
 - Coordinated and accompanied UGA President Michael Adams’ China visit
- Member of Graduate Student Problems Advisory Committee, UGA, 2001-2005
- President of Chinese Student Union, UGA, 2001~2002
- Translator for Center for International Trade and Security, UGA, 2000
- Volunteer Teacher of Chinese Language Program, UGA, 2000

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

- The Interuniversity Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPRS) Workshop, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, July 2006
- Spatial Perspectives on Analysis for Curriculum Enhancement (SPACE) Workshop, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA, August 2006

MEMBERSHIP OF PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

- American Society for Public Administration (ASPA)
- ASPA's Section on Chinese Public Administration (SCPA)
- Association for Budgeting and Financial Management (ABFM)
- Public Management Research Association (PMRA)
- American Association for Budget and Program Analysis (AABPA)

LIST OF REFERENCES

- Professor Laurence J. O'Toole, University of Georgia
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Department of Public Administration and Policy
University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602
- Professor Thomas P. Lauth, University of Georgia
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- Professor Jerome S. Legge, University of Georgia
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