

Andrew Simon

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

University of Virginia Frank Batten School of Leadership & Public Policy Assistant Professor of Public Policy and Economics	2024-Present
University of Chicago and Australian National University Department of Economics Postdoctoral Scholar	2021-2024

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Economics, University of Michigan, 2021
M.A. Economics, University of Michigan, 2017
B.A. Economics and Mathematics, Cornell University, 2013

PUBLICATIONS AND ACCEPTED PAPERS

“[Why is Math Cheaper than English? Understanding Cost Differences in Higher Education](#)” with Steven Hemelt, Kevin Stange, Fernando Furquim, and John E. Sawyer. *Journal of Labor Economics* 39, no. 2 (2021): 397-435.

“[Optimal Minimum Wage Setting in a Federal System](#)” with Matthew Wilson. *Journal of Urban Economics*. 123 (2021): 103336.

“[Toward an Understanding of Tax Amnesty Take-up: Evidence from a Natural Field Experiment](#)” with Patricia Gil, Justin Holz, John List, and Alejandro Zentner. *Journal of Public Economics*. 239 (2024): 105245.

“[Grads on the Go: Measuring College-Specific Labor Markets for Graduates](#)” with Johnathan Conzelmann, Steven Hemelt, Brad Hershbein, Shawn Martin, and Kevin Stange. Forthcoming, *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*.

“[College Choice, Private Options, and the Incidence of Public Investment in Higher Education](#)” with John Bound. Forthcoming, *Journal of Human Resources*.

“Measuring Racial Educational Disparities Over Time amongst Top Achievers” with Udit Karna, Min Sok Lee, John List, and Haruka Uchida. Forthcoming, *Nature*.

WORKING PAPERS

“Costly Centralization: Evidence from Community College Expansions.” Submitted.

“Minimum Wages and Racial Differences in Hiring: Theory and Evidence from a Field Experiment” with Alec Brandon, Justin Holz, and Haruka Uchida. Revisions requested *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*

“Racial Inequality in Property Tax Appeals: Evidence from Field Experiments with Homeowners and Assessors” with Justin Holz, and David Novgorodsky.

“Skills, Majors, and Jobs: Does Higher Education Respond?” with Johnathan Conzelmann, Steven Hemelt, Brad Hershbein, Shawn Martin, and Kevin Stange. Submitted.

“Public Good Perceptions and Polarization: Evidence from Higher Education Appropriations” with Reuben Hurst, and Michael Ricks.

SELECTED WORK IN PROGRESS

“Mobility and the Distributional Implications of State Divestment in Higher Education” with John Bound, Soyoun Han, and Shwetha Raghuraman.

“The Allocation of State Appropriations Across Academic Departments” with Kevin Stange and Travis Triggs.

“The Economics of Grant Giving” with Luigi Butera, Sofie Cairo, Faith Fatchen, Anne-Sophie Lassen, and John List.

“Mis-measuring Unemployment” with Justin Holz, Faisal Kattan, and John List.

OTHER WRITING

“[Why the US minimum wage system is well-designed to handle the country’s economic diversity](#)” with Matthew Wilson. *USApp – American Politics and Policy Blog* (25 Jun 2021).

“[Major Differences: Why some degrees cost colleges more than others](#)” with Steven Hemelt, Kevin Stange, Fernando Furquim, and John E. Sawyer. *Education Next*, 22(2), 8-16.

“[Minimum Wage Increases Reduce Racial Disparities during Hiring](#)” with Alec Brandon, Justin Holz, and Haruka Uchida. Policy and Research Brief. Kalamazoo, MI: W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research.

“[New Data Show How Far Graduates Move from Their College, and Why It Matters](#)” with Johnathan Conzelmann, Steven Hemelt, Brad Hershbein, Shawn Martin, and Kevin Stange. Policy and Research Brief. Kalamazoo, MI: W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research.

“[How Higher Education Responds to Labor Demand](#)” with Johnathan Conzelmann, Steven Hemelt, Brad Hershbein, Shawn Martin, and Kevin Stange. Policy and Research Brief. Kalamazoo, MI: W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research.

“College Majors and Programs: Choices and Returns” with Johnathan G. Conzelmann, and Stephanie Owen

Book chapter for *AEFP 2025 Live Handbook on Education Finance and Policy Research*

TEACHING

University of Virginia:

LPPA 3650: Economics of Public Policy

Spring 2025

University of Michigan:

Graduate Student Instructor, Econ 398: Strategy

Winter 2019

Graduate Student Instructor, Econ 251: Introduction to Statistics and Econometrics II

Fall 2018

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Sloan Foundation (\$213,506)	2023-25
John Mitchell Lab, ANU (\$95,000)	2022-23
W.E. Upjohn Institute Early Career Research Award (\$5,000)	2022
Russell Sage Foundation Presidential Grant (\$35,000)	2022-23

University of Michigan:

Training Program in Causal Inference in Education Policy Research	2016-2021
Department of Economics, Graduate Research Award	Fall 2020
Rackham Graduate Student Candidate Research Grant	Winter 2020
Rackham Travel Grant	Fall 2019
Rackham Graduate Student Precandidate Research Grant	Summer 2017
Department of Economics Summer Research Fellowship	Summer 2016
William Haber Predoctoral Fellowship	2015-2016

PRESENTATIONS

2024: Harvard University; National Bureau of Economics Research—Public Economics Spring Meeting; National Bureau of Economics Research—Real Estate Summer Institute; Treasury (Office of Tax Analysis); University of Maryland; University of Pittsburgh; University of Virginia; National Tax Annual Conference

2023: Association for Education Finance and Policy Annual Conference; Nebraska Labor Summit; National Bureau of Economics Research—Economics of Education Spring Meeting; Society of Labor Economics Annual Conference; Michigan Tax Invitational; International Institute of Public Finance Annual Congress; Advances in Field Experiments Conference; Australia National University; University of Sydney; The Melbourne Institute; National Tax Association Annual Conference.

2022: JILAEE Conference; University of Chicago (Chicago Experiments; Political Economy Lunch); Institute for Research on Poverty Summer Research Workshop (University of Wisconsin); Advances in Field Experiments Conference; National Tax Association Annual Conference

2021: Arizona State University; University of Chicago; University of Texas- Dallas; Treasury (Office of Tax Analysis); Urban Economics Association Annual Meeting

2020: University of Wisconsin; Urban Economics Association Annual Meeting; National Tax Association Annual Conference

2019: Urban Economics Association Annual Meeting; National Tax Association Annual Conference

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Referee: American Economic Journal: Applied Economics; American Economic Journal: Economic Policy; Economic Journal; Education Finance and Policy; Economics of Education Review; Industrial Relations; International Economic Review; Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization; Journal of Policy Analysis and Management; Journal of Political Economy; Journal of Political Economy: Microeconomics; Journal of Public Economics; Journal of Urban Economics; National Tax Journal; Nature; Quarterly Journal of Economics; Scientific Data

Discussant: Urban Economics Association Annual Meeting, 2019, 2021; National Tax Association Annual Conference, 2019, 2022, 2023, 2024; International Institute of Public Finance Annual Congress 2023.

Conference reviewer: Association for Education Finance and Policy Annual Conference 2024

Mentorship: AEA Committee on the Status of LGBTQ+ Individuals in the Economics Profession (2023-2025); UVA EdPolicyWorks (2024-2025)

Other: Economics for Everyone (E4E) lecturer (2024)

Last Updated: January 2025