

Robert D. Ebel

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Summary of Work History

At Present.

- Consultant on intergovernmental and subnational state and local public finance
- Affiliated Senior Research Associate, International Center for Public Policy, International Center for Public Policy, Andrew Young School of Policy Studies of the Georgia State University (Atlanta, Georgia, USA)

2018. Adjunct Professor, Capital University of Business and Economics, Beijing

2003- 2016. Visiting Professor, the Central European University/Summer Session, Budapest

2015-2016. Executive Director, Connecticut State and Local Tax Study Panel

2009-2014. Professorship, University of the District of Columbia (2009-2012) and consultant research including activities for the World Bank Global Center on Conflict and Violence, the Horn Economic and Social Policy Institute (HESPI), and the United Nations Commission on Africa (UNECA).

2006-2009. Deputy Chief Financial Officer and Chief Economist, Washington, DC. Directed a staff responsible for a wide range of activities including presentations on the Washington economy before Fitch, Moody's and Standard and Poor's; making quarterly revenue estimation for a unitary state and local government; writing of fiscal notes on all permanent legislation that comes before the legislative council, and directing research and analysis of the Washington, DC economy.

2005-2006. Senior Fellow, Urban Institute/Brookings Institution Tax Policy Center.

2005-2009. Chair of the Steering Committee of the Local Government and Public Service Reform Initiative (Soros Foundation/ Open Society Institute, Budapest).

1993-2005. Activities included Lead Economist and Director, World Bank Institute program on *Public Finance and Intergovernmental Relations, and Local Public Financial Management*: established, administered, budgeted, and directed the WBI program in knowledge development and capacity building sustainable public finance policy. [Copy of Swiss Development Agency External Evaluation Study (No. ESO2) available on request]. For the period 2002-2004 served as the Special World Bank Technical Representative to the Peace Consultations between the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement/Army (SPLM/A).

1998. Chair, District of Columbia Tax Study Commission (while in DC on leave from the University of Hawai'i).

1994/95-1999/2000. Executive Director, National Tax Association

1989-1993. Director of Public Finance Research, United States Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (ACIR).

1985-1987. Legislative Assistant, US. Senator David Durenberger (R-MN). Washington/United States Senate

1983- 1984. Executive Director, Minnesota Tax Study Commission, St. Paul.

1980-1983. Supervisory Economist and Deputy Director, Division of Public Finance and Economic Development, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Washington, DC.

Other: Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner, Washington Shaw/Logan Circle District (General Elections, 1980-1982; 1994-98)

Other Academic & Training Activities

Expert consultant with World Bank Libya/ Intergovernmental finance and local public financial management (2019- 2022).

Faculty, Joint Vienna Institute (IMF and Austrian Ministry of Finance), 2012, 2013. Lectures on Fundamentals of Intergovernmental Relations (fiscal decentralization, federalism), Intergovernmental Grants, and Subnational Debt and Borrowing.

Professor of Economics and Public Administration, University of the District of Columbia, 2010 -2012

Adjunct Professorships: American University Graduate School of Public Policy; New York University Wagner School George Mason University School of Public Policy/MPP, and Southern African Tax Institute/ SATI (Pretoria).

Department of Economics, University of Hawai'i (Tenured). 1972-78. Includes time on-leave to direct the DC Tax Revision Commission

Series Editor (Annual, 1984-1996). *Research in Urban Economics*. Greenwich, CT: JAI Press

Other Lead Activities

World Bank Technical Representative to the Peace Consultations between the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement, under auspices of the Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD), Nairobi Kenya (Consultations were hosted by the Government of Kenya in Karen, Machakos, Naivasha 2002-04).

Technical Representative for the African Union, Inter Sudanese Peace Talks on Darfur, under the auspices of the African Union. Consultations hosted by the Government of Nigeria (Abuja, Nigeria, 2006).

Member, Steering Committee and Chair, Board of Directors, Local Government and Public Service Reform Initiative, Open Society Institute/Soros Foundation, Budapest, Hungary, 2003–2009.

World Bank Representative to the Network on Federalism, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Pairs, 2002-03.

Other: Coordination and preparation of technical questionnaires on property taxation for the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), World Bank Coordinator, *Strasbourg Working Group to Coordinate Local Government Activities in Central and Eastern Europe*, organized jointly by the Council of Europe, OECD and World Bank.

Other: Member of Dissertation Committees: George Washington University and Central European University.

Honors

Elected Member. National Academy of Public Administration (United States)

World Bank President's Award for Excellence as a member of the West Bank Gaza team supporting the Middle East Peace Process, 2004.

The Steven D. Gold Award jointly presented by the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM), the US National Conference of State Legislatures, and the National Tax Association (NTA). For work that "spans the interests of scholars, practitioners, policymakers with integrity and evenhandedness." 2000.

Choice Magazine Award for Outstanding Academic Title, 2000 with co -editors with Joseph Cordes and Jane Gravelle, *The Encyclopedia of Taxation and Tax Policy, 1st Ed.* (Washington: Urban Institute Press, 1999), 452 pages.

Research in Urban Economics volume of scholarly papers Published in Honor of Robert D. Ebel in R.D. Norton, ed., *The Millennial City: Classic Readings on U.S. Urban Policy* (Stamford, Ct: JAI Press, 1999)

Honorary Member, National Tax Association

Hawai'i Policy Briefs

Charting a New Fiscal Course for Hawaii: Fiscal Architecture Approach. With James Mak. University of Hawai'i Economic Research Organization, January 29, 2020 (9 pgs.) <https://uhero.hawaii.edu/>

How Can the State Restore Fiscal Balance? With James Mak and Carl Bonham. University of Hawai'i Economic Research Organization, June 18, 2020 (10 pgs.) <https://uhero.hawaii.edu/>

Taxing Income in the New World of Teleworking. With James Mak, University of Hawai'i Economic Research Organization, May 28, 2021. <https://uhero.hawaii.edu/>

Rethinking HTA's Regenerative Tourism Fee. With James Mak, University of Hawai'i Economic research Organization, November 14, 2022. <https://uhero.hawaii.edu/>

Selected Publications and Presentations

Books and Monographs

Co-Editor and author with Joseph J. Cordes and Jane G. Gravelle, *The Encyclopedia of Taxation and Tax Policy*. 2nd Ed. Washington: Urban Institute Press, 2005 (3rd edition planned for 2023/4).

Co-Editor and Author with Michael E. Bell, *Final Report of the Connecticut State and Local Tax Study Panel* (2015-16).

Co-Editor and Author with John E. Petersen, *the Oxford Handbook State and Local Finance in the United States* (Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, 2012). Foreword by Alice M. Rivlin. *Chinese edition*: Beijing, Economic Science Press, November 2018.

Co-Editor and co-author with Richard M. Bird, *Fiscal Fragmentation in Decentralized Countries: Subsidiarity, Solidarity and Asymmetry* (Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar, 2007).

Co-Editor and co-author with Gabor Peteri, *Kosovo Decentralization Briefing Notes* (Prishtina: Kosovo Foundation for an Open Society, 2007). Albanian, English, and Serbian.

Co-editor with Richard M. Bird and Christine I. Wallich, *Decentralization of the Socialist State* (Washington D.C.: The World Bank, 1995). Summary **Reprinted** in Wallace E. Oates, ed., “The Economics of Fiscal Federalism and Local Finance” in the *International Library of Critical Writings in Economics* (Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar Press, 1998), pp. 647-717. *Chinese edition* (Beijing: World Bank).

Editor and Author, *A Fiscal Agenda for Nevada* (Reno: University of Nevada Press, 1990), 25 chapters.

Final Report of the Minnesota Tax Study Commission, Vol. 1, St. Paul: Butterworth Legal Publishers, 1985), 21 Chapters and Editor (with Therese J. McGuire), *Minnesota Tax Study Staff Papers: Vol. 2* of to accompany the *Final Report of The Tax Study Commission* (St. Paul and London: Butterworth Legal Publishers, 1985).

Current Issues in Hawaii’s Economy (with James Mak). Honolulu: Crossroads Press (1974)

Who Pays Hawaii’s Taxes? A Study of the Incidence of State and Local Taxes in Hawaii. With Robert M. Kamins. Honolulu: Social Sciences and Linguistics Institute, University of Hawaii (1975).

The Michigan Business Activities Tax: Value Added Taxation in the Subnational Economy. E. Lansing: MSU Business Studies, Graduate School of Business Administration, Michigan State University (1972)

Selected Papers

“The Size, Growth, and Composition of Government: Analysis and Evidence for Canada and the United States.” *Canadian Tax Journal*. With Francois Vaillancourt, *Canadian Tax Journal/Special Issue in Honor of Richard M. Bird* (2022)

“Subnational Borrowing & Debt Management” with Serdar Yilmaz., In Zhenhua Chen, William Bowen, and Dale Whittington, Eds. *Development Studies in Regional Science. Essays in Honor of Kingsley E. Haynes*. New York: Springer (2020).

In *The Libya Fiscal Decentralization Dialogue: Entering the 2020s*. Edited by Michael G. Schaeffer, Maroua Lassoued, and Zied Ouelhazi (World Bank, September 2019/Tunis). Chapter 2. “The Libya Fiscal Decentralization Dialogue: Entering the 2020s.” With Michael G. Schaeffer; Chapter 5: Libya’s Fiscal Architecture: An Intergovernmental Perspective. With Zied Ouelhazi: Chapter 6: “Sorting Out Expenditure Assignments in Libya.” <http://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/889311615360771327/pdf/Proceedings-of-the-Libya-Local-Government-Forum.pdf>

“An Economist View of Access to Justice User Fees: Who Should Pay?” *An Essay in the Proceedings of the Liman Colloquium on Fines, Fees and Bail* (New Haven: Yale Law School, 2018).

“The Role of User Charges and Fees in Funding Infrastructure Services in the United States” with Yameng Wang, in Richard M. Bird and Enid Slack, eds., *Financing Infrastructure: Who Should Pay?* Kingston and Montreal: McGill-Queen’s University Press (2017).

Intergovernmental Revenue Assignment in a Fragile State: Somalia. World Bank (2017, Nairobi).

“State General Business Taxation One More Time: CIT, GRT of VAT?” with LeAnn Luna and Matthew Murray (*National Tax Journal*, December 2016).

“Multitier Monitoring of Infrastructure: Top Down and Bottom Up” with Ha T.T. Vu in *Decentralization and Infrastructure in the Global Economy: From Gaps to Solutions*. Essays in Honor of Dana Weist. Jonas Frank and Jorge-Martinez-Vazquez, Eds. Abington, UK and New York: Routledge, 2016.

“Outlook for Fiscal Sustainability of the States” with Marilyn Marks Rubin in *Sustaining the States: The Fiscal Viability of American State Governments*, Marilyn Marks Rubin and Katherine Willoughby, Eds. New York: CRC Press/Taylor Francis Group, 2014.

“The Great Recession: Impacts and Implications for State and Local Governments in the United States” with John E. Petersen and Ha T.T. Vu. *Municipal Finance Journal* (Spring/Summer, 2013)

“Intergovernmental Finances in a Decentralized World” with Abdu Muwonge, in Catherine D. Farvacque-Vitkovic and Mihaly Kopanyi, Eds. Chapter 1 in *Municipal Finance* (Washington: World Bank, 2014).

“Infrastructure Monitoring and Development” with Ha T.T. Vu. (2014). In Jonas Frank and Jorge-Martinez-Vazquez, Eds. *Decentralizing Infrastructure*. Routledge Publishing

Decentralized Governance as a Strategy for Peacemaking. With Simona Ross and Asbjorn Wee. World Bank Working Paper, Global Center on Conflict, Security, and Development, 2012.

Popular Participation & Decentralization in Africa, with Stephen Commins, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2010. www.uneca.org

Egyptian Intergovernmental Relations and Fiscal Decentralization, with Khaled Z Amin, World Bank Policy Paper for the *Egypt Public Expenditure Review*, 2006.

Modernizing the Property Tax in Egypt, with A.M. Abdel –Rahman, Peter Mullins, and Lawrence Walters (March 2006), Washington, DC: International Monetary Fund/Fiscal Affairs Department/FAD.

“Fiscal Federalism and National Unity”, with Richard M. Bird, in Ehtisham Ahmad and Giorgio Brosio, eds. *Handbook of Fiscal Federalism*. Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar Press, 2006.

“Value Added Tax, US States”, with Laura Kalambokidis, and “Value Added Tax, National”, with Alain Tait and Tuan Minh Le, Essays in *The Encyclopedia of Taxation and Tax Policy*. Cordes, Ebel and Gravelle, Eds., Washington, DC: Urban Institute Press. 2005

“On the Measurement and Impact of Fiscal Decentralization,” with Serdar Yilmaz, in Jorge Martinez-Vazquez and James Alm, eds., *Public Finance in Developing and Transition Countries, Essays in Honor of Richard M. Bird* (Northampton, MA and Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar Press, 2003). Also available as World Bank Policy Research Working Paper No. 2089.

Pre-2003 Publication List Available Upon Request