Gary A. Wagner

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University of Louisiana at Lafayette
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Current Position

- Acadiana Business Economist/BORSF Eminent Scholar Endowed Chair in Economics
- University of Louisiana at Lafayette, 2018-

Editorial Positions

- Editor-in-Chief, *Public Finance Review*, 2021 - present.
- Co-Editor, *Contemporary Economic Policy*, 2020 - 2026.
- Guest Editor, "Symposium on Local Taxation." *Public Finance and Management*, 2012.

Expert Panel Participation

- Fannie Mae Home Price Expectations Survey, 2026-
- Survey of Professional Forecasters, Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, 2013-2015, 2018-

Past Positions

- Vice-President & Senior Regional Officer, Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, 2016-2018
- Regional Economic Advisor, Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, 2015-2016
- Professor of Economics, Old Dominion University, 2011-2015
- Professor of Economics, University of Arkansas-Little Rock, 2008-2011
- Associate Professor of Economics, University of Arkansas-Little Rock, 2006-2008
- Associate Professor of Government, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, 2005-2006
- Assistant Professor of Economics, Duquesne University, 2001-2005
- Assistant Professor of Economics, University of Arkansas-Little Rock, 2000-2001

Other Relevant Experience

- Research Fellow, Center for Financial Research, FDIC, 2024-
- Director, Public Choice Society, 2024-
- Visiting Professor of Economics, Macquarie University (Australia), November 2024.
- Visiting Professor of Economics, Aarhus University (Denmark), August 2024.
- Associate Director, Economic Forecasting Project, Old Dominion University, 2011-2015.
- Co-Editor, State of the Region Report, Old Dominion University, 2013-2015.
- Governor's Council of Economic Advisors (Arkansas), 2008-2011.
- Visiting Scholar, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, July 2003.

Education

- Ph.D., Economics, West Virginia University, 1999
- M.A., Economics, West Virginia University, 1998
- B.A., Economics and Political Science, Youngstown State University, 1995

Honors/Awards

- 2026, Research Excellece Award, College of Business, UL Lafayette.
- 2015, Highly Commended Paper, *Journal of Entrepreneurship and Public Policy*.
- 2009, Balsley-Whitmore Research Grant, University of Arkansas at Little Rock.
- 2005, Outstanding Paper Award for best paper published in *Public Finance Review*.
- 2005, Apple Polishing Teaching Award, Duquesne University.
- 2004, Runner-up for Musgrave Prize for best paper published in the *National Tax Journal*.
- 2003, Presidential Scholarship Award, Duquesne University.
- 2003, School of Business Distinguished Research Award, Duquesne University.
- 2002, Faculty Research Grant, School of Business, Duquesne University.
- 2000, A.J. Dadisman Award for Outstanding Doctoral Research, West Virginia University.
- 1999, Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher, Department of Economics, WVU.

Refereed Journal Articles

Levine-Schur, Ronit and Gary A. Wagner (2026). "Evaluation of Kelo's Economic and Political Impact: Theory and Evidence." Forthcoming in *Journal of Empirical Legal Studies*.

Sobel, Russell S., Gary A. Wagner, and Peter T. Calcagno (2026). "The Political Economy of State Economic Development: A Path to Unproductive Entrepreneurship." *Small Business Economics*. Link

Callais, Justin T., Peter T. Calcagno, and Gary A. Wagner (2026). "Net Productive Entrepreneurship: State and MSA-Level Indices, 2002—2019." *Applied Economics Letters*. Link

Levine-Schur, Ronit and Gary A. Wagner (2026). "Evaluation of Kelo's Economic and Political Impact: Theory and Evidence." *Yale Journal on Regulation*. Link

Callais, Justin T., Vincent Geloso, Alicia Plemmons, and Gary A. Wagner (2025). "Institutions Matter: Economic Freedom and Income Mobility." *Economic Modelling*. Link

Callais, Justin T., Vincent Geloso, Alicia Plemmons, and Gary A. Wagner (2025). "Baumol's Migrants: Productive and Unproductive Entrepreneurship and Between-MSA Migration." *European Journal of Political Economy*. Link

Anastasi, Sebastian, Alex Marsella, Vitor Melo, E. Frank Stephenson, and Gary A. Wagner (2025). "Short-term Rental Bans and the Hotel Industry: Evidence from New York City." *European Journal of Political Economy*. Link

Miller, Stephen, Gary A. Wagner, and Alicia Plemmons (2025). "Employment Effects of Minimum Wage Indexing: Establishment Evidence from Oregon Restaurants." *Economic Inquiry*. Link

Mitchell, David T., Todd Nesbitt, and Gary A. Wagner (2024). "Relationship Lobbying Through Repeated Contributions: A Humanomics Approach." *Public Choice*. Link

Bennett, Daniel L., Gary A. Wagner, and Michael Araki (2024). "Labor Market Reform as an External Enabler of High-Growth Entrepreneurship: An Institutional Contingency Perspective." *Journal of Business Venturing*. Link

Wagner, Gary A. and Javier Portillo (2024). "Cashing in on Cultural: Local Employment Effects of State Cultural District Designation." *Journal of Cultural Economics*. Link

Wagner, Gary A. and Hyun Ji Lee (2024). "Does broadband affect local economic outcomes less than we thought? Micro evidence from Louisiana." *Contemporary Economic Policy*. Link

Araki, Michael, Daniel L. Bennett, and Gary A. Wagner (2023). "Regional Innovation Networks & High Growth Entrepreneurship." *Research Policy*. Link

Wagner, Gary A. and Jonathan C. Rork (2023). "Does State Tax Reciprocity Affect Interstate Commuting? Evidence from a Natural Experiment." *Regional Science & Urban Economics*. Link

Wagner, Gary A. and Timothy M. Komarek (2022). "How Does Municipal Governance Structure Affect Innovation and Knowledge Diffusion? Evidence from U.S. Metro Areas." *Economics of Governance*. Link

Humphreys, Brad and Gary A. Wagner and John C. Whitehead and Pamela Wicker (2022). "Willingness to Pay for Policies to Reduce Health Risks from COVID-19: Evidence from U.S. Professional Sports." *Health Economics*. Link

Komarek, Timothy M. and Kyle Butts and Gary A. Wagner (2022). "Government Contracting, Labor Intensity, and the Local Effects of Fiscal Consolidation: Evidence from the Budget Control Act of 2011." *Journal of Urban Economics*. Link

Sobel, Russell S. and Gary A. Wagner and Peter T. Calcagno (2022). "The Political Economy of State Economic Development Incentives: A Case of Rent Extraction." *Economics & Politics*. Link

Wagner, Gary A. and Douglas E. Walker (2021). "Did Video Gaming Expansion Boost Municipal Revenues in Illinois?" *Southern Economic Journal,* 88, 649-679. Link

Portillo, Javier E. and Gary A. Wagner (2021). "Do Cultural Districts Spur Urban Revitalization: Evidence from Louisiana." *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization,* 188, 651-673. Link

Wagner, Gary A. and Erick M. Elder (2021). "Campaigning For Retirement: State Teacher Union Campaign Contributions and Pension Generosity." *European Journal of Political Economy,* 68, 101991. Link

Komarek, Timothy and Gary A. Wagner (2021). "Local Fiscal Adjustments from Depopulation: Evidence from the Post-Cold War Defense Contraction." *National Tax Journal* 74(1), 9-43. Link

Komarek, Timothy and Gary A. Wagner (2020). "The Distributional Effects of Job Loss From Fiscal Consolidation: Evidence from The Budget Control Act of 2011." *Economics Letters* 106, 109515. Link

Wagner, Gary A. and Jamie Bolgona Pavlik (2020). "Patent Intensity and Concentration: The Effect of Institutional Quality on MSA Patent Activity." *Papers in Regional Science,* 99(4), 857-898. Link

Wagner, Gary A. and Erick M. Elder (2020). "A Simple Measure of Pension Generosity." *Applied Economics Letters* 27(19), 1581-1586. Link

Wagner, Gary A. and Timothy Komarek and Julia Martin (2017). "Is the Light Rail 'Tide' Lifting All Property Values? Evidence from Hampton Roads, VA." *Regional Science and Urban Economics* 65, 25-37. Link

Elder, Erick M. and Gary A. Wagner (2016). "Can Public Pensions Fulfill Their Promises? An Examination of Pennsylvania's Two Largest Public Pensions." *Municipal Finance Journal* (3), 1-22. Link

Elder, Erick M. and Gary A. Wagner (2015). "Political Effects on Pension Underfunding." *Economics & Politics* 27(1), 1-27. Link

Bruce, Don and Jon Rork and Gary A. Wagner (2014). "State Income Tax Reciprocity Agreements and Small Businesses." *Journal of Entrepreneurship and Public Policy* 3(1), 118-140. Link

Elder, Erick M. and Gary A. Wagner (2013). "Revenue Cycles and Risk-Sharing in Local Governments: An Analysis of State Rainy Day Funds." *National Tax Journal* 66(4), 939-960. Link

Erick, Elder M. and Gary A. Wagner (2012). "A Simple Approach to Balancing Government Budgets Over the Business Cycle." *Applied Economics Letters* 19(7), 677-681. Link

Rork, Jon and Gary A. Wagner (2012). "Is There a Connection Between Reciprocity and Tax Competition?" *Public Finance Review* 40(1), 86-115. Link

Pan, Jie and Gary A. Wagner (2011). "The Effects of State Tax Preferences on the Living Arrangements and Welfare of the Elderly." *Internal Advances in Economic Research* 17(2), 193-210. Link

Garrett, Thomas A. and Gary A. Wagner (2009). "Red Ink the Rearview Mirror: Local Fiscal Conditions and the Issuance of Traffic Tickets." *Journal of Law & Economics* 52(1), 71-90. Link

Rork, Jon and Gary A. Wagner (2008). "Do Regions Matter in Interjurisdictional Competition? Evidence from State Taxation." *Economics Letters* 101(2), 116-118. Link

Jordan, Meagan M. and Gary A. Wagner (2008). "Revenue Diversification in Arkansas Cities: The Budgetary and Tax Effort Impacts." *Public Budgeting & Finance* 28(3), 68-82. Link

Wagner, Gary A. and Erick M. Elder (2007). "Revenue Cycles and the Distribution of Shortfalls in U.S. States: Implications for An 'Optimal' Rainy Day Fund." *National Tax Journal* 60(4), 727-742. Link

Wagner, Gary A. and Erick M. Elder (2007). "How Well Are Eight District States Prepared for the Next Recession?." *FRB St. Louis Regional Economic Development* 3(2), 75-87. Link

Garrett, Thomas A. and Gary A. Wagner and David C. Wheelock (2007). "Regional Disparities in the Spatial Correlation of State Income Growth." *The Annals of Regional Science* 41(3), 610-618. Link

Wagner, Gary A. and Russell S. Sobel (2006). "State Budget Stabilization Fund Adoption: Preparing for the Next Recession or Circumventing Fiscal Constraints." *Public Choice* 126(1-2), 177-199. Link

Garrett, Thomas A. and Gary A. Wagner and David C. Wheelock (2005). "A Spatial Probit Analysis of State Banking Regulation." *Papers in Regional Science* 84(4), 575-595. Link

Wagner, Gary A. and Erick M. Elder (2005). "The Role of Budget Stabilization Funds in Smoothing Government Expenditures Over the Business Cycle." *Public Finance Review* 33(4), 439-465. Link

Wagner, Gary (2004). "The Bond Market and Fiscal Institutions: Have Budget Stabilization Funds Reduced State Borrowing Costs?." *National Tax Journal* 57(4), 785-804. Link

Garrett, Thomas A. and Gary A. Wagner (2004). "State Government Finances: World War II to the Current Crisis." *Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis Review* , 9-25. Link

Sobel, Russell S. and Gary A. Wagner (2004). "Expressive Voting and Government Redistribution: Testing Tullock's Charity of the Uncharitable." *Public Choice* 119(1-2), 143-159. Link

Wagner, Gary (2003). "Are State Budget Stabilization Funds Only the Illusion of Savings? Evidence from Stationary Panel Data." *Quarterly Review of Economics & Finance* 43(2), 213-238. Link

Wagner, Gary (2001). "Political Control and Public Sector Savings: Evidence from the States." *Public Choice* 109(1-2), 149-173. Link

Wagner, Gary A. and Tod S. Porter (2000). "Location Effects in the Determination of Beginning Teacher Salaries: Evidence from Ohio." *Education Economics* 8(2), 109-127. Link

Wagner, Gary A. and Russell S. Sobel (2000). "New Empirical Evidence of the Role of Interest Groups in Influencing the Size and Growth of Government." *Journal of Public Finance and Public Choice* 28(2-3), 83-100. Link

Sobel, Russell S. and Gary A. Wagner (1998). "On the Determinants of Congressional Bill Sponsorship and Voting Behavior with an Application to Government Growth Theories." *Journal of Public Fiance and Public Choice* 17(2-3), 89-115. Link

Other Publications, Comments, and Research Reports

Callais, Justin and Javier Portillo and Gary A. Wagner (2023). "Brewing Value? On the Impact of Local Breweries on Nearby Rentals." In *The Geography of Beer: Policies, Perceptions, and Place*. Edited by Mark Patterson and Nancy Hoalst-Pullen. Springer.

Elder, Erick M. and Gary A. Wagner (2023). "Rainy Day Funds." In *New Perspectives on State Government Fiscal Challenges*. Edited by John Merrifield and Barry Poulson. Rowman & Littlefield.

Wagner, Gary A. and Stephen Barnes (2022). "The Economy of Louisiana." In *The Party is Over: The New Louisiana Politics*. Edited by Pearson Cross and Christie Maloyed. Louisiana State University Press.

Wagner, Gary A. (2018). "Rust and Renewal: A Cincinnati Retrospective." *Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland*.

Wagner, Gary A. and C. Luke Watson (2014). "Economics of Early Childhood Development Programs." In *The State of Early Childhood in Virginia*. Edited by Angela Eckhoff and Pete Baker. Virginia Early Childhood Policy Center, Old Dominion University.

Agarwal, Vinod B. and Gary A. Wagner (2013). "It Could Have Been (Much) Worse." In *State of the Region*. Edited by James V. Koch. Regional Studies Institute at Old Dominion University, 4-35.

Agarwal, Vinod B. and Gary A. Wagner (2013). "Our Housing Market Turns the Corner." In *State of the Region*. Edited by James V. Koch. Regional Studies Institute at Old Dominion University, 38-55.

Wagner, Gary A. and Vinod B. Agarwal (2013). "Coal: A Very Important Economic Engine in Hampton Roads." In *State of the Region*. Edited by James V. Koch. Regional Studies Institute at Old Dominion University, 58-73.

Agarwal, Vinod B. and Gary A. Wagner (2012). "Gathering Steam: The Regional Economy Recovers (Slowly)." In *State of the Region*. Edited by James V. Koch. Regional Studies Institute at Old Dominion University, 4-43.

Wagner, Gary A. (2012). "How Much is Too Much? Comparing Inequality and the Cost of Living in Hampton Roads to New York City." In *State of the Region*. Edited by James V. Koch. Regional Studies Institute at Old Dominion University, 46-67.

Wagner, Gary A. (2010). "Commentary on Can State and Local Governments Rely on Alternative Tax Sources?" *Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis Regional Economic Development* 6(1), 102-107.

Denning, Shea Riggsbee and Gary A. Wagner (2007). "The Property Tax." In *County and Municipal Government in North Carolina*. Edited by David L. Lawrence. University of North Carolina, 46-67.

Wagner, Gary A. (2006). "Financing Government: Revenue Variability and the Role of Rainy Day Funds." *Popular Government* 71(3), 24-30.

Sobel, Russell S. and Gary A. Wagner (2005). "Expressive Voting and Redistribution." In *Encyclopedia of Public Choice*. Edited by C.K. Rowley and F. Schneider. Kluwer Academic Publishers, 569-571.

Sobel, Russell S. and Gary A. Wagner (2003). "Cyclical Variability in State Government Revenue: Can Tax Reform Reduce It?" *State Tax Notes* 29(3), 569-576.

Funded Research as PI or Co-PI

- $9,300, Acadiana Home Builders Association, 2023.
- $9,400, Acadiana Planning Commission, 2021.
- $520,132, Louisiana Workforce Commission, 2018-2020.

Academic Conference and Seminar Presentations

- European Public Choice Society (2026, 2025, 2024)
- Eastern Economic Association (2021)
- International Atlantic Economic Society (2023, 2020, 2014, 2010, 2009, 2007)
- Midwest Economics Association (2001)
- National Tax Association (2014, 2013, 2012, 2010, 2008, 2007, 2005, 2004, 2001)
- Public Choice Society (2025, 2024, 2022, 2020, 2014, 2007, 2006, 2005, 2004, 2003, 2001)
- Southern Economic Association (2023, 2020, 2015, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2004, 2003, 2002, 2001, 2000, 1999)
- Western Economic Association (2026, 2020, 2015, 2012)
- College of Charleston (2024, 2023, 2019, 2016)
- Colorado State University (2023)
- North Dakota State University (2023)
- Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond (2010)
- Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis (2010, 2007)
- Oklahoma University (2001)
- Texas Tech University (2020)
- Troy University (2019)
- University of Central Arkansas (2006, 2001)
- University of North Carolina-Charlotte (2006)
- University of Missouri at St. Louis (2003)
- Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center (2003)
- Vassar College (2005)
- West Virginia University (2014, 2011, 2005, 2002)
- Wichita State University (2011)

Public Presentations

I have delivered more than 400 public (non-academic) presentations to various business, community, and governmental organizations. Below is a representative list of organizations from the past two years.

- Nashville Chamber of Commerce (Nashville, TN)
- Youngstown-Warren Chamber of Commerce (Youngstown, OH)
- New Orleans Metro Assocation of Realtors (New Orleans, LA)
- Southern Economic Development Council (Annual Conference)

- Advanced Economic Development Leadership Program (Annual Conference)
- Insured Financial Institute (Garnet Valley, PA)
- Pennsylvania Banker's Association (Annual conference)
- Acadiana Association of Realtors (Lafayette, LA)
- Middle Tennessee Industrial Development Association (Nashville, TN)
- Bradley Law Firm Economic Development Forum (Nashville, TN)
- Arts Council of Louisiana (Baton Rouge, LA)
- BEL Commission on Broadband (Baton Rouge, LA)
- Louisiana Infrastructure Technical Assistance Corporation
- Delta Regional Authority
- Acadiana Planning Commission (Lafayette, LA)
- Numerous economic outlook events

Professional Service

Ad hoc reviewer for: *Annals of Regional Science*, *Applied Economics*, *Applied Economics Letters*, *B.E. Journals in Economic Analysis & Policy*, *Canadian Public Policy*, *Contemporary Economic Policy*, *Economic Development Quarterly*, *Economics of Governance*, *Eastern Economic Journal*, *Economic Inquiry*, *Economic Modelling*, *Economics Letters*, *European Journal of Political Economy*, *Growth and Change*, *International Regional Science Review*, *Journal of Business Venturing*, *Journal of Cultural Economics*, *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, *Journal of Entrepreneurship and Public Policy*, *Journal of Law and Economics*, *Journal of Insurance Regulation*, *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*, *Journal of Public Economics*, *Journal of Regional Science*, *Journal of Risk and Undertainty*, *Journal of Urban Economics*, *Municipal Finance Journal*, *National Tax Journal*, *Papers in Regional Science*, *Pew Charitable Trusts*, *Public Budgeting and Finance*, *Public Choice*, *Public Finance Review*, *Public Finance and Management*, *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, *Research Policy*, *Review of Regional Studies*, *Social Science Quarterly*, *Southern Economic Journal*, *Southern Journal of Entrepreneurship*, *State and Local Government Review*

- Testified on pension finance to Pennsylvania House Government Committee (2015)
- Co-Chair, State and Local Program, National Tax Association Spring Symposium (2013)
- Program Committee, National Tax Association Fall Conference, Providence, RI (2012)
- Editorial Board, Journal of Entrepreneurship and Public Policy, 2010-2015
- Member, Commission to Modernize State Government Finance (North Carolina, 2005)

Selected University Service

- Chair, Tenure & Promotion Committee, Moody College of Business, 2020-2022
- Chair, Faculty Management Committee, Moody College of Business, 2019-2020
- Chair, Research Committee, Moody College of Business, 2018-2020
- Chair, Promotion & Tenure Committee, College of Business, ODU, 2014-2015
- Chair, Faculty Recruiting Committee, Department of Economics, ODU, 2013-2014
- Chair, Committee on Tenure (University-level), UALR, 2011
- Chair, Faculty Peer Review Committee, Department of Economics & Finance, UALR, 2009-2011
- Chair, Department Assessment Committee, UALR, 2006-2008
- Chair, Research Committee, School of Business, Duquesne University, 2002-2004
- Member, Assurance of Learning Analytics Taskforce, College of Business, UL, 2025-
- Member, Promotion and Tenure Committee, College of Business, ODU, 2013-2015
- Member, Blanco Public Policy Director Search Committee, UL, 2018
- Planning and Budgeting Committee (University-level), UALR, 2010-2011
- Grant Reviewer, Arkansas Department of Higher Education SURF Program, 2009-2011

- Research Committee (University-level), UALR, 2009-2011
- Promotion and Tenure Committee (College-level), College of Business, UALR, 2008-2011
- Faculty Governance Document Committee, College of Business, UALR, 2006-2007
- Search Committee, Institute for Economic Advancement Executive Director, UALR, 2007-2008
- Search Committee, IEA State Economic Forecaster, UALR, 2007-2008
- Local Finance Working Group, NC State's Institute For Emerging Issues, 2005-2006
- Research Committee, School of Business, Duquesne University, 2001-2005
- Presidential Scholarship Award Review Committee, Duquesne University, 2004-2005
- Seminar Series Coordinator, School of Business, Duquesne University, 2002-2004

Teaching Experience

Undergraduate: Basic Economics (non-majors), Principles of Microeconomics, Principles of Macroeconomics, Quantitative Methods, Economic Measurement and Analytics, Sports Economics, Public Finance, Government Tax Policy, Intermediate Microeconomics, Applied Econometrics

Graduate: Econometrics I (MA Economics), Econometrics I (Ph.D. Finance), Applied Econometrics (MBA), Economic Principles (MBA, Executive MBA), Economics in Public Service (University of Arkansas Clinton School of Public Service)

International Teaching Experience: Institut Commercial de Nancy School of Management, University of Nancy (France), March 10-14, 2003. I taught a 12-hour course to undergraduate and graduate business students entitled "An Economic Interpretation of Law and the Role of Government."

Media Coverage

I have participated in more than 400 interviews with organizations such as The Economist, Bloomberg News, CNN, Wall Street Journal, Fox Business, New York Times, Boston Globe, Philadelphia Inquirer, USAToday.com, MSN Money, Popular Science, and The Guardian. I have also participated in more than 80 live television and/or radio interviews.

References

Available upon request.