

March 2012

Kathryn A. Foster, Ph.D.

Research leave, 2011-2012:

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Education

Ph.D., Princeton University (Woodrow Wilson School), Public and International Affairs, 1993.

Princeton Wilson Fellow, 1991-1993.

Dissertation: "Special Districts and the Political Economy of Metropolitan Service Delivery."

Winner, 1994 APPAM Ph.D. Dissertation Award, Association of Public Policy Analysis and Management.

M.C.P., University of California, Berkeley, City and Regional Planning, 1981.

California Planners Foundation Award for highest academic rank in graduating class.

B.A., Johns Hopkins University, Geography and Environmental Engineering, 1979.

Degree awarded with university and department honors.

Selected to *Omicron Delta Kappa* (National Leadership Honor Society) and *Omicron Delta Epsilon* (International Economics Honor Society).

Continuing Education

The Center for Philanthropy at Indiana University, July 2011

Certificate of Completion for intensive one-week course in Principles and Techniques of Fundraising.

Academic Appointments

Visiting Fellow, Brookings Institution (October 2011-present)

During a one-year visiting fellow position I am researching and writing on the governance of cross-state regions and continuing a book project on metaphors for metropolitan governance.

Director, University at Buffalo Regional Institute (September 2005-August 2011)

As chief executive officer, I directed the strategic development and daily operations of a major university-based research and policy center at the University at Buffalo, State University of New York. As director I articulated the institute vision, managed eight to ten professional staff, forged and sustained internal and external relationships, raised and stewarded funds for a unit with an annual operating budget of roughly \$1 million, led intellectual and entrepreneurial project initiatives, served as chief media spokesperson, performed quality control, and represented the institute to university administrators, donors, clients, and partners in corporate, academic, government, philanthropic, and civic communities. Under my leadership the institute became a premier full-service center and regional asset for objective, evidence-based, actionable analysis on regions, governance, economic development, and binational relations.

Department Chair, (2003-2005); Associate Chair for Undergraduate Education and Director of Undergraduate Studies (2001-2002), University at Buffalo Department of Urban and Regional Planning

As department chair, I was responsible for excellence, efficiency and equity for programs serving graduate students (master's level Urban and Regional Planning degree, roughly 100 students) and undergraduate students (bachelor's level Environmental Design major and minor degrees, roughly 125 students). My portfolio encompassed the full menu of departmental management, with final responsibility for strategic planning, accreditation, curriculum design, admissions and recruitment, financial aid awards, budget allocations and finance for an annual budget of roughly \$1 million, annual performance reviews for full-time faculty (11) and staff (2), hiring and professional mentoring for adjunct faculty (16), capital facilities, and forging and maintaining strong relations with other departments, school and university administrators, faculty, students, parents, alumni, and external constituents. As associate chair for undergraduate education, I carried a full teaching load and had primary oversight of bachelor's level education, lower-division pre-major courses, admissions and retention, adjunct faculty selection, advising, and special events. I retained these duties upon assuming the chair position.

Director of Research, University at Buffalo Regional Institute (formerly Institute for Local Governance and Regional Growth) (1997-2003)

As the inaugural institute director of research, I strategized and implemented research-based programming for a newly formed university based center on regions and governance. In collaboration with professional staff and external partners, I developed the applied research agenda, trained staff and graduate assistants, coordinated and carried out projects, represented findings to the media, and delivered a full schedule of presentations to regional audiences. A key achievement was **formulating, directing, and lead-authoring a major award-winning civic undertaking**, *State of the Region: Performance Indicators*

for the Buffalo Niagara Region in the 21st Century, a project involving over 200 community leaders and solidifying the institute as the region's premier center for high-quality, engaged public scholarship.

Visiting Fellow, Harvard University, Taubman Center for State and Local Government, Kennedy School of Government (sabbatical year appointment, 2000-2001).

Researched and wrote on issues of governance and authored *Regionalism on Purpose* (2001), a prominent monograph still in publication.

Associate Professor (1999-present) and **Assistant Professor** (1993-1998), **University at Buffalo Department of Urban and Regional Planning**.

Performed full complement of faculty duties, including research, teaching, advising, and public and university service. From 1993-1997, I was Faculty Advisor for the Graduate Planning Students Association. Starting in 1997, my faculty duties coincided with Regional Institute research leadership.

Research Fellow, Princeton University, Center for Domestic and Comparative Policy Studies (1991-1993).

Researcher, University of Texas at Dallas, Department of Political Economy (1986-1987).

With Dr. Brian J. L. Berry, co-produced a successful National Science Foundation grant proposal on long-wave trends in urbanization.

Lecturer, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, Department of City and Regional Planning (1983-1986).

Prior Professional Appointments

Physical Planning Officer, Ministry of Natural Resources and Energy, Kingdom of Swaziland (*United States Peace Corps*) (1987-1989). Coordinated regional plan preparation program, trained Swazi planners, and assisted with computerization of the department during a multi-year international public service experience.

Analyst, Local Agency Formation Commission, County of San Luis Obispo, California (1981-1985). Analyzed fiscal, political, and services impacts of boundary changes and government reorganizations for towns and special districts.

Scholarly Interests and Investigations

Interests

governance; regions; regional leadership and decision making; cross-boundary and cross-sector (public, private, nonprofit, academic) relations

Current Investigations

“Governing Cross-State Metropolitan Regions.” Study of and recommendations for governance in regions that cross state or national lines

“Metaphors for Metropolitan Governance.” Examination of models of governance (European Union, National Football League, Iroquois Confederacy, University of California, Roman Catholic Church, General Motors, and the Internet) to draw insights and lessons for metropolitan regions

“Building Resilient Regions.” Research emanating from active participation in the MacArthur Foundation Research Network on Building Resilient Regions. I am associate director and co-PI for the network with extensive leadership duties, including direction of the governance sub-group

Selected Grants and Fellowships

As director of the University at Buffalo Regional Institute from 2005 to 2011, I led institute efforts to raise \$500,000-\$700,000 annually from external sources, primarily foundations, governments and the private sector, totaling over \$3.4 million as of July 2011. Information on these projects is available at <http://regional-institute.buffalo.edu>. Additional grants activity as principal investigator or co-principal investigator includes:

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| 2012-2013 | MacArthur Foundation , Phase III: “Building Resilient Regions” (<i>co-grantwriter, associate director, co-PI, chair of the governance sub-group</i>). Two-year research completion and implementation phase with national research team, \$1.2 million over two years; Foster sub-contracts to be determined |
| 2007-2011 | MacArthur Foundation , Phase II: “Building Resilient Regions” (<i>co-grantwriter, associate director, co-PI, chair of the governance sub-group</i>). Multi-year grant with national research team; \$3.2 million over three years, online at http://brr.berkeley.edu ; Foster sub-contracts: \$423,725 |
| 2006 | Interdisciplinary Research Development Fund, University at Buffalo (<i>PI, coordinator, co-grantwriter</i>). “Four Seasons: The Experience of Mid-life and Older Adults in the Binational Buffalo Niagara Region,” \$40,000 |
| 2004-2006 | MacArthur Foundation , Phase I: “Building Successful Regions”(co-PI). Eighteen-month planning grant with national research team, \$400,000 |

Selected Publications and Scholarly Presentations

I have presented scholarly work more than 100 lectures and conferences, including invited addresses at MIT, Cornell University, Brookings Institution, Harvard University, University of Pittsburgh (Wherrett Lecture on Innovation in Local and Regional Governance), University of California at Berkeley, Federal Reserve Bank

of St. Louis, Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, and University of Birmingham (U.K.)

Book

Kathryn A. Foster. 1997. *The Political Economy of Special-Purpose Government*. Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press.

Recent Monographs, Book Chapters and Journal Articles

Kathryn A. Foster and William R. Barnes. 2012. "Reframing Regional Governance for Research and Practice." *Urban Affairs Review* 48(2): 273-284. DOI: 10.1177/1078087411428121.

Kathryn A. Foster. 2012. "In Search of Regional Resilience." In *Building Resilient Regions: Urban and Regional Policy and Its Effects*, edited by Nancy Pindus, Margaret Weir, Howard Wial, and Harold Wolman, pp. 24-59. Washington, D.C.: Brookings Institution Press.

Kathryn A. Foster. 2011. "Professing Regional Resilience." In *Resilience and Opportunity: Lessons from the U.S. Gulf Coast after Katrina and Rita*, edited by Richard Mizelle, Amy Liu, Allison Plyer, and Roland V. Anglin. Washington, D.C.: Brookings Institution Press, pp. 17-27.

Kathryn A. Foster. 2011. "A Region of One's Own." In *Regional Planning in America: Practice and Prospect*, edited by Ethan Seltzer and Armando Carbonell. Cambridge, Mass.: Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, pp. 55-82.

Kathryn Bryk Friedman and **Kathryn A. Foster.** 2011. *Environmental Collaboration Across International Boundaries: Lines That Separate or Ties That Bind?* Washington, D.C.: IBM Center for the Business of Government.

Kathryn A. Foster. 2010. "Challenges Ahead for U.S. Regional Planning Governance." *Town Planning Review* 81 (5): 485-503.

Rolf Pendall, **Kathryn A. Foster** and Margaret Cowell. 2010. "Resilience and Regions: Building Understanding of the Metaphor." *Cambridge Journal of Regions, Economy and Society* 3 (1): 71-84.

Research-based Website

Kathryn A. Foster. 2011. "Resilience Capacity Index." Data, maps and findings from original quantitative research on the resilience capacity of 361 U.S. metropolitan regions, online at <http://brr.berkeley.edu/rci>.

- Extensive media coverage, including articles in the *Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal*, *Ventura County (CA) Star*, *Houston Business Journal*, *The Nashville Ledger*, *Star Tribune* (Rochester, MN), *Record Searchlight* (Redding, CA), and *Press Register* (Alabama Gulf Coast); online coverage from the *Insurance Journal* (www.insurancejournal.com), CBS Interactive (interview at www.smartplanet.com), and the National League of Cities (www.nlc.org)

Recent Short Pieces and Commentary

Kathryn A. Foster. 2012. "Eight Offerings from the Academic Stacks." *Citewire.net*, distributed electronically, March 5.

Kathryn A. Foster. 2012. "Ready to Be Resilient." *Crisis Response Journal* 7(4): 30-31.

Kathryn A. Foster. 2011. "Being Different Together." *Citewire.net*, distributed electronically, November 5.

Thomas Gais and **Kathryn A. Foster.** 2011. "Education Gives Innovation a Lift" (op-ed), *Newsday* (July 22).

Kathryn A. Foster. 2011. "Higher Education a Smart Investment for Region" (op-ed), *Buffalo News* (June 23), A10.

Stan Lundine, **Kate Foster** and Sam Hoyt. 2008. "New York's Local Governments Can Find Efficiency, If They Want To" (op-ed), *Buffalo News* (May 4): A10.

Selected Public and Sponsored Research

As Director (2005-2011) and Director of Research (1997-2003) of the University at Buffalo Regional Institute), I have been Principal Investigator (PI) or co-PI on an extensive portfolio of public research, developing proposals, providing intellectual direction, authoring, editing, and presenting work publicly. Publications are available online at <http://regional-institute.buffalo.edu>.

Buffalo Promise: Community Needs Assessment of the Buffalo Promise Neighborhood (2011).

PI for research yielding a data-based community needs assessment (48 pp., illustrated) to support a major community effort (\$67,155); report used as the basis for a proposal that secured a \$6 million implementation grant from the U.S. Department of Education for the Buffalo Promise Neighborhood.

How SUNY Matters: Economic Impacts of the State University of New York (2010-2011).

PI/co-contractor with Rockefeller Institute of Government, University at Albany, to research and produce a widely disseminated report (126 pp., illustrated) on the economic impacts of SUNY and its 64 campuses (\$262,374).

Book Smart: A Field Guide to Library System Organization for Buffalo and Erie County Public Library (2010-2011).

PI to analyze and generate a report (40 pp., illustrated) on organization and governance options for a large public library system under fiscal stress (\$54,370).

Policy Briefs (2006-2011).

Program visionary, Co-PI and Co-author for series of highly produced and widely disseminated briefs (each 4-12 pages, illustrated) on policy issues of regional salience.

- National recognition: **2007 Best Data Publications Award** from the Association of University Business and Economic Research

Regional Knowledge Network (2006-2011).

Project visionary and PI for comprehensive online website at <http://rkn.buffalo.edu> offering data, maps, and resources organized by place and topic for the Buffalo Niagara region (\$336,372).

Who's Your Economy? Buffalo Niagara Labor Market Assessment 2010 (2010).

PI for an innovative public report (48 pp. illustrated) on Western New York's labor market (\$121,921).

Pathways to Progress for the Women and Girls of Western New York (2009-2010).

PI for major research and report (118 pp., illustrated) on the status of women and girls in Western New York (\$89,000).

- Winner, **2010 Partners in Advocacy Award** from the Everywoman Opportunity Center

Partnering for Tourism in the Southtowns of Erie County (2007-2009).

Co-PI for multi-year effort for a consortium of seven rural municipalities yielding an inventory and assessment of heritage assets, survey of farm operators, tourism toolkit, and recommendations (\$70,739).

- Winner, **2009 Innovation in Regional Planning Award** from the Western New York division of the American Planning Association, June 2009.

The Difference a Decade Makes (2007)

Program visionary and PI for production of materials and an innovative report (36 pp. illustrated) to commemorate the Tenth Anniversary of the University at Buffalo Regional Institute.

- National recognition: **2008 Best Promotional Materials** from the Association of University Business and Economic Research

State of the Region: Performance Indicators for the Buffalo-Niagara Region in the 21st Century (1999-2005; online 2005-2009).

Project visionary and Co-PI for major initiative measuring and monitoring performance on over 115 community-identified indicators. Effort included multiple progress reports and indicator updates, including "Equity in Buffalo Niagara" (64 pp., illustrated, 2003).

- Baseline report (277 pp., illustrated, 1999) released at regional public event
 - o Winner, **Planning Education Award**, Upstate Chapter of the American Planning Association, 2000; Winner, **Outstanding Project Implementation Award**, Western New York division of the American Planning Association, 2000
 - o Used as **model for performance indicators work** by organizations in Washington, D.C., Chicago, Austin, Edmonton (Alberta), Boston, St. Louis, and Seattle

Selected Public and Community Service

Boards

I serve or have served on local, regional, state, national and international boards, including the World Academy of Art and Science (elected trustee and co-chair of the fundraising committee), the SUNY Global Center Advisory Council (“New York in the World”), Advisory Boards for public broadcasting stations WBFO-FM (chair) and WNED-FM, the New York State Commission on Local Government Efficiency and Competitiveness (Governor’s appointee), the New York State School Boards Association Task Force on Maximizing School Board Resources, and several Erie County (NY) planning, development or service delivery boards.

Keynote Addresses

I have given over two dozen keynote addresses to audiences within and beyond the Buffalo Niagara Region at events sponsored by civic, business and government groups. Topics include university-community relations, regional governance, demographic change, school district arrangements, the status of women and girls in the region, and regional labor market and workforce issues.

Selected Public Affairs Programs *(More than 125 presentations since 1993)*

Presenter, “Why Young Professionals—and the Communities That Want Them—Should Care About Governance.” *iForum on Connecticut’s Young Professionals – Can Communities Develop to Keep and Attract Them?* Partnership for Strong Communities, April 13, 2012

Facilitator and Moderator, “Accelerate Upstate: Focus on Higher Education.” *Accelerate Upstate*, Buffalo Niagara Partnership, Buffalo, New York, August 4, 2011.

Presenter, “Making Change in Upstate New York.” *Conference on the State of Upstate New York: Resiliency, Partnerships and Innovation*. Syracuse, New York, June 8, 2011.

Presenter, “How SUNY Matters.” Rockefeller Inst. of Government, Albany, New York, May 23, 2011.

Presenter and Panelist, “Dedicated Funding for the Arts.” *Partnership for the Public Good Seminar Series*, Buffalo, New York, February 15, 2011.

Presenter, “Making Big Change.” *Annual Conference on Exempt Organizations*, Lumsden & McCormick, Buffalo, New York, December 2, 2010.

Presenter and Panelist, “Cultivating a Mindset for Government Reform.” *Institute for Local Government Leadership*, sponsored by the NYS Comptroller and Cornell University, Buffalo, New York, June 10, 2010.

Presenter, “Hand to Mouth: The Face of Low-Wage Work and Economic Insecurity in Buffalo

Niagara.” *Poverty Research Workshop*, sponsored by the Partnership for the Public Good and UB Civic Engagement and Public Policy, Buffalo, New York, February 26, 2010.

Presenter, “Sizing Up Local Legislatures.” *Two-session public forum on legislative downsizing*, Town of Hamburg, New York, November 5 and November 9, 2009.

Panelist, “UB 2020 and the Architecture of Regional Resurgence.” *Conference on Economic and Land Development*, Jaeckle Fleischmann and Mugel, Buffalo, New York, October 8, 2009.

Selected SUNY, University, and School Service

Key Appointments, Boards and Committees

Advisor, WNY SUNY Economic Development Councils, 2011.

University at Buffalo/SUNY Honorary Degree Committee, 2009.

Steering Committee for Strategic Strength in Civic Engagement and Public Policy, 2007-2008; *Chair*, Committee on Governance, Strategic Strength in Civic Engagement and Public Policy, 2006-2007; Planning Committee for Strategic Strength in Civic Engagement and Public Policy, 2005-2006.

Parliamentarian to the School of Architecture and Planning Faculty, 1997-2005.

Lectures and Presentations Serving the University at Buffalo

Since 1993, I have given 2 to 3 invitational presentations per year, ranging from tenure mentorship and the keynote address for the Phi Beta Kappa initiation ceremony to regional addresses representing the university before civic, foundation and private sector audiences.

Selected Professional Service

Governing Boards

Urban Affairs Association, 2002-2005 (elected)

Chair, Alma H. Young Emerging Scholar Award Committee, 2003, 2004

Professional Associations

Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning, Regional Planning Track Chair, 2006-2009;

Committee on the Academy and Professional Practice, 2003-2005

Editorial Boards

State and Local Government Review, 2003-present

Journal of Urban Affairs, 2001-2007

Journal of the American Planning Association, 1999-2004; Best Article Awards Committee, 1999

Advisor/Program Consultant

Advisory Council Member, Center for Metropolitan Studies, University of Pittsburgh, 2012-
Resource Expert, Convening on Resilience Regions, organized by EcoTrust, Portland, Oregon, 2011
Participant, Global Dialogue on Federalism, Forum on Federations, Chicago, Illinois, 2007

External Program Reviewer

SUNY Undergraduate Program Assessment, Department of Geography and Planning, Buffalo State College, May 2004.

Peer Reviewer**Book Manuscripts**

Georgetown University Press, SUNY Albany Press, Oxford University Press

Journal Articles

Journal of the American Planning Association, *Journal of Planning Education and Research*, *Journal of Planning Literature*, *Journal of Urban Affairs*, *Journal of Regional Science*, *Environment and Planning C: Governance and Leadership*, *Growth and Change*, *Urban Studies*, *Urban Affairs Review*, *Regional Studies*, *State and Local Government Review*, *Economic Development Quarterly*, *The Regionalist*, *Public Budgeting and Finance*, *Publius*

Full academic C.V. available upon request