

Eric Ohrn

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Grinnell College
Department of Economics

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Current and Past Positions

Department Chair, Grinnell College Department of Economics, 2022 – present.

Associate Professor with tenure, Grinnell College Department of Economics, 2020 – present.

Non-resident Senior Fellow, Brookings Institution, Tax Policy Center, 2023 – present.

Associate Editor, Fiscal Studies, 2022 – present.

Visiting Scholar, Opportunity and Inclusive Growth Institute, FRB Minneapolis, 2021–2022.

Education

Ph.D. Economics, University of Michigan, 2014.

M.A. Economics, University of Michigan, 2010.

B.A. Economics and Mathematics, Grinnell College, 2007.

Research

Published and Accepted

“The Effect of Corporate Taxation on Investment and Financial Policy: Evidence from the DPAD”
American Economic Journal: Economic Policy Vol. 10, No.2, May 2018 (pp. 272 - 301)

“Corporate Charitable Foundations, Executive Entrenchment, and Shareholder Distributions”
with Nicolas J. Duquette
Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization Volume 152, August 2018 (pp. 235 - 253)

“Taxes and the Location of U.S. Business Activity Abroad” with Jack Mutti
National Tax Journal 72(1), March 2019, (pp. 165 - 192)

“The Impact of Investor-Level Taxation on Mergers and Acquisitions,” with Nathan Seegert
Journal of Public Economics, Volume 177, September 2019, (pp. 1 - 19)

“The Effect of Tax Incentives on U.S. Manufacturing: Evidence from State Accelerated Depreciation Policies” **Journal of Public Economics**, Volume 180, December 2019, 104084.

“Tax Policy and Local Labor Market Behavior” with Daniel Garrett and Juan Carlos Suárez Serrato
American Economic Review: Insights, Vol. 2 No 1., March 2020, (pp. 83-100)

“Corporate Tax Breaks and Executive Compensation”
American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, Vol. 15 No. 3, August 2023, (pp. 215-55)

In Progress

“Capital Investment and Labor Demand: Evidence from 21st Century Tax Policy” with E. Mark Curtis,
Daniel G. Garrett, Kevin A. Roberts, and Juan Carlos Suárez Serrato
Revision Requested, **American Economic Review**

“Effect of International Tax Provisions on Domestic Labor Markets”
with Daniel G. Garrett and Juan Carlos Suárez Serrato

“Unintended Environmental Consequences of Investment Stimulus Policy”
with Dana C. Andersen and E. Mark Curtis

“Do Investors Value Tax Investment Incentives? Evidence from Bonus Depreciation and the Fiscal Cliff”

Grants and Awards

International Institute for Public Finance Peggy and Richard Musgrave Award
Presented to the best paper at the IIPF Annual Congress – 2021

International Tax Policy Forum Research Grant – 2022–2023

Visiting Scholar, Opportunity and Inclusive Growth Institute, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis – 2021–2022

Research Grant, Washington Center for Equitable Growth (\$55,000)
(co-PI with E. Mark Curtis and Juan Carlos Suárez Serrato) – 2019

Future of Work Research Grant, Russell Sage Foundation (\$145,050)
(co-PI with E. Mark Curtis and Juan Carlos Suárez Serrato) – 2019–2021

Early Career Research Grant, W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research – 2019

Committee for the Support of Faculty Scholarship grant, Grinnell College – 2017, 2018

Young Economist Award for papers “that stand out for their scientific quality, creativity and relevance”,
International Institute for Public Finance 2016 Annual Congress

International Tax Policy Forum Research Grant – 2015–2016

Oxford Centre for Business Taxation Annual Doctoral Meeting – Best Paper 2013

Michigan Economics Society – Award for Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor, Fall 2010

Michigan Dept. of Economics – Letters of Commendation for Excellent Teaching - Fall 2009, Winter 2010

Michigan Dept. of Economics – Summer Research Apprenticeship - 2009, 2010

Rackham Travel Grant – 2011, 2012

Phi Beta Kappa, 2007

Professional Activities

Co-organizer: Online Public Finance Seminar 2020 – 2022
<https://sites.google.com/view/pfonlineseminar/home>

Referee: Quarterly Journal of Economics, American Economic Review, American Economic Review: Insights, American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, Review of Economics and Statistics, Journal of Finance, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Development Economics, , IMF Economic Review, Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization, International Tax and Public Finance, National Tax Journal, International Economic Review, Journal of Comparative Economics, Southern Economic Journal, Small Business Economics, Journal of Corporate Finance, Quarterly Review of Economics and Finance

Presentations

2023: National Tax Association Annual Conference on Taxation (scheduled)
University of Mannheim Business School (scheduled)
LMU Munich Center for Economic Studies (CES) (scheduled)
University of California Santa Barbara
Michigan Tax Invitational, Ross Business School, University of Michigan
Grinnell College Data Seminar Series

2022: American Economics Association Annual Meeting
Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis
Society of Labor Economists Annual Meeting
National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) Public Economics Spring Meeting

2021: University of British Columbia
Oxford University
National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) Business Taxation in a Federal System Conference
National Tax Association Annual Conference on Taxation
VATT Institute for Economic Research

2020: University of Munich
National Tax Association Annual Conference on Taxation
Western Economic Association Annual Meeting

2019: The World Bank
Federal Reserve Board of Governors
Utah State University
National Tax Association Annual Conference on Taxation

2018: National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) Taxation of Business Income Conference
U.S. Treasury Office of Tax Analysis Research Conference
National Tax Association Annual Conference on Taxation
Conference of Macroeconomists from Liberal Arts Colleges

2017: Wesleyan University Economics Seminar
Lyon College Omicron Delta Epsilon Invited Speaker
International Institute for Public Finance Annual Congress
National Tax Association Annual Conference on Taxation

2016: Duke University Department of Economics Public Finance Seminar
National Tax Association Annual Conference on Taxation
International Institute for Public Finance Annual Congress
Michigan Tax Invitational, Ross Business School, University of Michigan
National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) Universities' Conference on State Business Taxation
ITPF & IIEL Conference on the Taxation of Intellectual Property in a Global Economy

2015: Grinnell College Data Seminar Series
Oxford Centre for Business Taxation Academic Symposium
National Tax Association Annual Conference on Taxation
Midwest Economics Association Annual Meeting

2014: Invited Presentation: US Department of the Treasury, Office of Tax Analysis
National Tax Association Annual Conference on Taxation
Michigan Tax Invitational Ross Business School University of Michigan

2013: National Tax Association Annual Conference on Taxation
Invited Presentation: US Department of the Treasury, Office of Tax Analysis
U of M Public Finance, U of M Corporate Finance

2012: U of M Public Finance, Midwest Economics Association Annual Meeting

2011 and prior: U of M PFFLS, U of M Informal Labor

Selected Teaching Experience

Professor – Grinnell College 2014–Present
ECN 111: Introduction to Economics
ECN 250: Public Finance
ECN 326: Introduction to Financial and Managerial Accounting
ECN 327: Corporate Finance
ECN 395: Seminar in Causal Inference Techniques
ECN 375: Seminar in Corporate Taxation
TUT 101: First Year Tutorial: The Rise and Fall of American Manufacturing

College Service

- 2023: Faculty Representative to the Finance Committee, Board of Trustees
Chair of the Economics Department
- 2022: Faculty Representative to the Finance Committee, Board of Trustees
Chair of the Economics Department
- 2021: Social Studies Division Personnel Committee Representative
Grinnell College Benefits Committee
Grinnell College Ombuds Office Advisor Committee
Grinnell College Division Personnel Committee
Phi Beta Kappa, Beta of Iowa Chapter President
- 2020: Grinnell College Benefits Committee
Grinnell College Ombuds Office Advisor Committee
Grinnell College Division Personnel Committee
Phi Beta Kappa, Beta of Iowa Chapter President
- 2019: Grinnell College Benefits Committee
Grinnell College Ombuds Office Advisor Committee
Phi Beta Kappa, Beta of Iowa Chapter President
- 2018: Grinnell College Benefits Committee
Grinnell College Ombuds Office Advisor Committee
Phi Beta Kappa, Beta of Iowa Chapter Vice President
- 2016: Co-Chair Grinnell College Scholarship Selection Committee
Phi Beta Kappa, Beta of Iowa Chapter Committee Member
- 2015: Grinnell College Scholarship Selection Committee
Grinnell College Apparel Purchasing Committee
Workshop on Teaching with Technology and Technology Studies
Phi Beta Kappa, Beta of Iowa Chapter Committee Member

Media & Policy Engagement

- 2022: Harvard Law School Forum on Corporate Governance, October 12, 2022
Tax Policy Center Tax Vox Blog, May 10, 2022
- 2019: The Washington Post, February 13, 2019
Bloomberg Opinion, February 15, 2019
The Hill (op-ed), March 7, 2019
The Wall Street Journal: Real Time Blog, Feb. 20, 2019
Bloomberg Tax, December 17, 2019
- 2018: Research included in the Economic Report of the President, February 1, 2018
Marginal Revolution, www.marginalrevolution.com, May 2, 2018
- 2017: Marginal Revolution, www.marginalrevolution.com, October 26, 2018
- 2016: Research presented at House Finance Committee Hearing on Business Tax Policy

Additional Research Work Experience

- Research Assistant* - Prof. James Hines, Department of Economics, UofM. Fall 2010.
- Summer Research Apprenticeship* with Prof. James Hines, Department of Economics, UofM. Summer 2010.
- Summer Research Apprenticeship* with Prof. David Lam, Department of Economics, UofM. Summer 2009.