

MICHAEL HURWITZ

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[Google Scholar](#)

EDUCATION

- | | |
|------|---|
| 2011 | HARVARD UNIVERSITY, Ed.D. in Quantitative Policy Analysis |
| 2002 | THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY, M.S. in Meteorology |
| 2000 | WILLIAMS COLLEGE, B.A. in Chemistry |

WORK EXPERIENCE

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| | COLLEGE BOARD |
| 2018- | Executive Director |
| 2016-18 | Senior Director |
| 2015-16 | Policy Research Scientist |
| 2011-15 | Associate Policy Research Scientist |
| | CONSORTIUM ON FINANCING HIGHER EDUCATION (COFHE) |
| 2008-11 | Senior Research Analyst |
| | AMERICAN INSTITUTES FOR RESEARCH (AIR) |
| 2004-06 | Research Analyst |
| | BLOOMSBURG UNIVERSITY |
| 2002-03 | Visiting Lecturer of Meteorology |

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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|-----------|---|
| 2017 | Adjunct Professor, George Washington University-Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration, Econometrics (MA/PHD) |
| 2008-2010 | Teaching Fellow, Harvard Graduate School of Education, Integrating Perspectives on Education: First-year Doctoral Proseminar (EdD) |
| 2008 | Teaching Fellow, Harvard Graduate School of Education, Microeconomics: A Policy Tool for Educators (EdM/EdD) |
| 2002-2003 | Full Time Visiting Lecturer in Meteorology, Bloomsburg University, Introductory and Intermediate Meteorology (BA/BS), Year-Long Course Load (4/4) |

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

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| 2010 | Harvard University Dean's Summer Research Fellowship |
| 2006-10 | Harvard University Presidential Fellowship |
| 2000-01 | American Meteorology Society Department of Naval Research Fellowship |
| 2000 | American Institute of Chemists Achievement Award |
| 1998 | American Chemical Society Division of Polymer Award in Recognition of Outstanding Achievement in Organic Chemistry |
| 1996 | National Merit Finalist, High School Valedictorian (Highest GPA in Class) |

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

32. Bloem, Michael D., Xiaowen Hu, & Michael Hurwitz. 2026. "Understanding Variation in Post-College Earnings: Evidence from the U.S. Department of Education's College Scorecard," *Education Finance and Policy*, forthcoming.

31. Smith, Jonathan, Joshua Goodman, & Michael Hurwitz. 2025. "The Economic Impacts of Access to Public Four-Year Colleges," *The Journal of Human Resources*, forthcoming.
30. Howell, Jessica, Michael Hurwitz, Samuel Imlay & Greg Perfetto. 2023. "Educational Context Matters: The Importance of Environmental Information in College Admissions," In *College Admissions and Admissions Testing in a Time of Transformational Change*, Edited by Kurt F. Geisinger, Routledge Press: New York, NY.
29. Mabel, Zack, Michael Hurwitz, Matea Pender & Brooke White. 2023. "The Effects of Delivering Personalized Course Recommendations at Scale on Advanced Placement Participation and Performance," *Education Finance and Policy*, 18(1): 74-96.
28. Mabel, Zack, Jessica Howell, Michael Hurwitz & Greg Perfetto. 2022. "Diversifying Selective Colleges: The Effects of Standardizing Applicant High School and Neighborhood Information on College Admissions and Enrollment," *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*, 44(3): 505-531.
27. Bastedo, Michael N., D'Wayne Bell, Jessica Howell, Julian Hsu, Michael Hurwitz, Greg Perfetto & Meredith Welch. 2022. "Admitting Students in Context: Field Experiments on Information Dashboards in College Admissions," *Journal of Higher Education*, 93(3): 327-374.
26. Smith, Jonathan, Jessica Howell & Michael Hurwitz. 2022. "The Impact of College Outreach on High Schoolers' College Choices-Results from Over 1,000 Natural Experiments," *Education Finance and Policy*, 17(1), 105-128.
25. Avery, Christopher, Benjamin L. Castleman, Michael Hurwitz, Bridget T. Long & Lindsay C. Page. 2021. "Digital Messaging to Improve College Enrollment and Success," *Economics of Education Review*, 84: 102170.
24. Altmejd, Adam, Andres Barrios-Fernandez, Marin Drlje, Joshua Goodman, Michael Hurwitz, Dejan Kovac, Christine Mulhern, Christopher Neilson & Jonathan Smith. 2021. "O Brother, Where Start Thou? Sibling Spillovers on College and Major Choice in Four Countries," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 136(3): 1831-1886.
23. Gurantz, Oded, Jessica Howell, Michael Hurwitz, Cassandra Larson, Matea Pender & Brooke White. 2021. "A National-Level Informational Experiment to Promote Enrollment in Selective Colleges," *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, 40(2): 453-479.
22. Gurantz, Oded, Michael Hurwitz & Jonathan Smith. 2020. "Sibling Effects on High School Exam Taking and Performance," *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, 178: 534-549.
21. Mabel, Zack, C.J. Libassi & Michael Hurwitz. 2020. "The Value of Using Early-Career Earnings Data in the College Scorecard to Guide College Choices," *Economics of Education Review*, 75: 1-16.
20. Park, Jisung, Joshua Goodman, Michael Hurwitz & Jonathan Smith. 2020. "Heat and Learning," *American Economic Journal- Policy*, 12(2): 306-339.

19. Boatman, Angela, Michael Hurwitz, Jason Lee & Jonathan Smith. 2020. "The Impact of Prior Learning Assessments on College Completion and Financial Outcomes," *The Journal of Human Resources*, 55(4): 1161-1193.
18. Hurwitz, Michael & Meredith Welch. 2018. "Crossing the Finish Line Decade Follow Up: The Influence of the SAT and High School Grades on College Completion," In *Measuring Success: Testing, Grades, and the Future of College Admissions*, Edited by Buckley, Jack, Lynn Letukas, & Ben Wildavsky, Johns Hopkins Press: Baltimore, MD.
17. Hurwitz, Michael & Jason Lee. 2018. "Grade Inflation and the Role of Standardized Testing," In *Measuring Success: Testing, Grades, and the Future of College Admissions*, Edited by Buckley, Jack, Lynn Letukas, & Ben Wildavsky, Johns Hopkins Press: Baltimore, MD.
16. Hurwitz, Michael & Jonathan Smith. 2018. "Student Responsiveness to Earnings Data in the College Scorecard," *Economic Inquiry*, 56(2): 1220-1243.
15. Avery, Christopher, Oded Gurantz, Michael Hurwitz & Jonathan Smith. 2018. "Shifting College Majors in Response to Advanced Placement Exam Scores," *The Journal of Human Resources*, 53(4): 918-956.
14. Gurantz, Oded, Michael Hurwitz & Jonathan Smith. 2017. "College Enrollment and Completion Among Nationally Recognized High-Achieving Hispanic Students," *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, 36(1): 126-153.
13. Goodman, Joshua, Michael Hurwitz & Jonathan Smith. 2017 "Access to Four-Year Public Colleges and Degree Completion," *Journal of Labor Economics*, 35(3): 829-867.
12. Smith, Jonathan, Michael Hurwitz & Christopher Avery. 2017. "Giving College Credit Where it is Due: Advanced Placement Exam Scores and College Outcomes," *Journal of Labor Economics*, 35(1): 67-147.
11. Goodman, Joshua, Michael Hurwitz & Jonathan Smith. 2016. "The Effect of State Policy on College Choice and Match," In *Matching Students to Opportunity*, Edited by Kelly, Andrew, Jessica Howell, and Carolyn Sattin-Bajaj, Harvard University Press: Cambridge, MA.
10. Hurwitz, Michael, Preeya P. Mbekeani, Margaret M. Nipson & Lindsay C. Page. 2017. "Surprising Ripple Effects: How Changing the SAT Score-Sending Policy for Low-Income Students Impacts College Access and Success," *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*, 39(1): 77-103.
9. Goodman, Joshua, Michael Hurwitz, Jonathan Smith & Julia Fox. 2015. "The Relationship Between Siblings' College Choices: Evidence from One Million SAT-Taking Families," *Economics of Education Review*, 48: 75-85.
8. Hurwitz, Michael, Jonathan Smith, Sunny Niu & Jessica Howell. 2015. "The Maine Question: How is Four-Year College Enrollment Affected by Mandatory College Entrance Exams?" *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*, 37: 138-159.
7. Smith, Jonathan, Michael Hurwitz & Jessica Howell. 2015. "Screening Mechanisms and Student Responses in the College Market" *Economics of Education Review*, 44: 17-28.

6. Hurwitz, Michael, Jonathan Smith & Jessica Howell. 2015. "Student Age and the Collegiate Pathway," *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, 34(1): 59-84
5. Hurwitz, Michael & Jessica Howell. 2014. "Estimating Causal Impacts of School Counselors Using Regression Discontinuity Designs," *Journal of Counseling and Development*, 92(3): 316-327.
4. Hurwitz, Michael. 2012. "The Impact of Institutional Grant Aid on College Choice," *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*, 34(4): 344-363.
3. Weiland, Christina, Christopher Wolfe, Michael Hurwitz, Douglas Clements, Julie Sarama & Hirokazu Yoshikawa. 2012. "Early Mathematics Assessment: Validation of the Short Form of a Prekindergarten and Kindergarten Mathematics Measure," *Educational Psychology*, 32(3): 311-333.
2. Hurwitz, Michael. 2011. "The Impact of Legacy Status on Undergraduate Admissions at Elite Colleges and Universities," *Economics of Education Review*, 30(3): 480-492.
1. Hurwitz, Michael, Daniel Ricciuto, Peter Bakwin, Kenneth Davis, Weiguo Wang, Chiuxiang Yi & Martha Butler. 2004 "Transport of Carbon Dioxide in the Presence of Storm Systems over a Northern Wisconsin Forest," *Journal of the Atmospheric Sciences*, 61(5): 607-618.

SELECTED POLICY BRIEFS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- "New Evidence on the Effect of Changes in Admissions Policies After the Pandemic" (with Michael Bloem, Ashley Edwards, Parker Goyer, Jessica Howell, Samuel Imlay & Jennifer Ma. June 2025. ([Inside Higher Ed Coverage](#))
- "College Enrollment and Retention in the Era of Covid" (with Jessica Howell, Jennifer Ma, Matea Pender, Greg Perfetto, Jeff Wyatt & Linda Young) *Research Brief*. College Board – Research. June 2021.
- "Measuring the Impact of High School Counselors on College Enrollment" (with Jessica Howell) *Research Brief*. College Board – Advocacy & Policy Center. February 2013.
- "A Review of the Causes and Consequences of Students' Postsecondary Choices" (with Matea Pender, Jonathan Smith & Jessica Howell). *Literature Brief*. College Board – Advocacy & Policy Center. October 2012.
- "College Choice: Informing Students' Trade-offs Between Institutional Price and College Completion" (with Matea Pender, Jonathan Smith & Jessica Howell). *Policy Brief*. College Board – Advocacy & Policy Center. October 2012.
- "The Role of High Schools in Students' Postsecondary Choices" (with Matea Pender, Jonathan Smith & Jessica Howell). *Research Brief*. College Board – Advocacy & Policy Center. October 2012.
- "Getting into College: Postsecondary Academic Undermatch" (with Matea Pender, Jessica Howell & Jonathan Smith). *The College Keys Compact*. College Board – Advocacy & Policy Center. May 2012.
- "Education and Certification Qualifications of Departmentalized Public High School-Level Teachers of Core Subjects: Evidence from the 2003-04 Schools and Staffing Survey" (with Beth Morton, Greg Strizek, Pia Peltola & Greg Orlofsky). *Statistical Analysis Report*. National Center for Education Statistics, Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education. August 2008.
- "Crime, Violence, Discipline, and Safety in U.S. Public Schools: Findings from the School Survey on Crime and Safety: 2003-04" (with Paul Guerino, Margaret Noonan & Sarah

- Kaffenberger). *First Look*. National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education. December 2006.
- “School Survey on Crime and Safety: 2003-04” (with Paul Guerino, Sarah Kaffenberger, David Hoaglin & Kristine Burnaska). *Data File User’s Manual*. National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education. December 2006.

WORKING PAPERS/WORKS IN PROGRESS

- “[Strategic Disclosure of Test Scores: Evidence from US College Admissions](#)” (with Brian McManus & Jessica Howell). Available as an Annenberg working paper. Revised and Resubmitted to *The Review of Economics and Statistics*
- “[College Enrollment Patterns After SFFA v. Harvard](#)” (with Michael Bloem, Ashley Edwards, Parker Goyer, Jessica Howell, Xiaowen Hu, Samuel Imlay, Jennifer Ma & Matea Pender). Available as an Annenberg working paper. R&R at *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*.
- “College Admissions Under Test-Optional Policies” (with Ashley Edwards & Jessica Howell)- (*work in progress*)
- “The Diverging College Trajectories of Mathematically Exceptional Men and Women: Evidence from the American Mathematics Competition” (with Christopher Avery, Glenn Ellison, Bryna Kra, Zachary Mabel & Matea Pender). – *tentative title (work in progress)*
- “Do Colleges Respond to Market-Based Incentives? Evidence from the Removal of Class Size in U.S. News Rankings” (with Jonathan Smith & Yanan Shang).-*presentation scheduled at 2026 Association of Public Policy and Management (APPAM) conference*

MEDIA

SELECTED RESEARCH COVERAGE

- The New York Times*– “How Big is the Legacy Boost at Elite Colleges?” 07/27/2023
- Inside Higher Ed*– “Who Showed Up and Who Didn’t?” 06/07/2021.
- The New York Times*– “Liberal Hypocrisy in College Admissions?” 10/27/2018
- The New York Times*– “America’s Educations ‘Deserts’ Show Limits of Relaxing Regulations on Colleges.” 08/14/2018
- The Atlantic*– “A New Call to End Legacy Admissions.” 02/14/2018
- Washington Post*– “How Much Does a College Matter in Getting a Student to Commencement?” 12/29/2017
- The Atlantic*- “A Simple Way to Bring Down College-Application Costs.” 09/11/2017
- The Hechinger Report*- “The Newest Advantage of Being Rich in America? Higher Grades.” 08/16/2017
- USA Today*- “A’s on the Rise in U.S. Report Cards, but SATs Flounder.” 08/16/2017
- Inside Higher Ed*– “High School Grades: Higher and Higher.” 07/17/2017
- Military Times*– “College Credit Exams Can Boost Chances of Graduating.” 04/24/2017
- Washington Post*– “Why Do Colleges Still Give Preference to Children of Alumni?” 04/07/2017
- Quartz*– “The Humble AP Test is Altering the Course of Millions of Americans’ Lives.” 12/10/2016
- The Chronicle of Higher Education*– “Where the College Scorecard Has Gained Traction So Far – and Where It Hasn’t.” 09/28/2016
- The Chronicle of Higher Education*– “Early Evidence: The College Scorecard Made a Difference, but Only for Some Groups of Students.” 05/13/2016

Pacific Standard– "One Simple Trick that Boosts Kids' College Graduation Rates." 02/15/2016
Ed Week – "Getting College Credit for AP Linked to On-Time Degree Completion." 05/11/2015.
The New York Times – "College for the Masses." 04/24/2015.
Ed Week – "Statewide SAT Testing in Maine Linked to Boost in College Enrollment." 02/04/2015.
Ed Week – "Former 'Redshirted' Students May Get Advanced Placement Edge, Study Finds." 09/12/2014.
The New York Times – "End College Legacy Preferences." 04/25/2014.
The Seattle Times – "From Slipping Through the Cracks to the College Track." 04/12/2014.
Inside Higher Ed – "Does Mandatory Testing Improve College-Going Rates." 03/31/2014.
The Executive Office of the President of the United States– "Increasing College Opportunity for Low-Income Students." 01/2014.
The New York Times– "Study Finds Family Connections Give Big Advantage in College Admissions." 01/08/2011.
The Huffington Post – "Legacy Students Up to 45% More Likely to be Admitted to Elite Colleges." 01/06/2011.
The Chronicle of Higher Education – "At Elite Colleges, Legacy Status May Count More than was Previously Thought." 01/05/2011.

SELECTED CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

Association for the Study of Higher Education, November 2014, November 2023
 College Board Annual Forum, October 2014, November 2015
 Southern Regional Educational Board, November 2013
 Association for Education Finance and Policy: March 2012, March 2013, March 2014, February 2015, March 2016, March 2017, March 2019, March 2022, March 2024, March 2025
 Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness: March 2012, March 2013, March 2014, September 2021, September 2023
 Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management: November 2012, November 2013, November 2014, November 2015, November 2017, November 2019, November 2022, November 2024
 Virginia 529 Group, September 2011

STATISTICAL SOFTWARE PACKAGES

SAS (Expert)
 STATA (Expert)
 SQL (Advanced)
 R (In Progress)

August 2026