

Alexander Specht

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Economist and Policy Analyst with several years of experience in fiscal policy analysis, energy/natural resource economics, labor economics, education policy, regulatory policy, university teaching, and economic development. Currently the Associate Director of the University of Wyoming's Center for Business and Economic Analysis and faculty member of the Department of Economics. Demonstrated influence on the outcome of local, state, and national public policy debates. Research has been academically published, cited in academic journal articles, and cited in U.S. Congressional testimony and committee reports. Cited as an authority in a significant U.S. Supreme Court case, has served as an expert witness on high-profile regulatory cases, been a featured panelist and speaker at various events, and has had economic analyses featured on radio and television news shows and quoted by the press.

[See [pages 6-12](#) for publications, media coverage, expert testimony, and professional presentations].

EDUCATION

Claremont Graduate University

Ph.D. Economics, Anticipated Summer 2025

Economics Fellowship | GPA 3.96

- Lab Meetings Coordinator - Computational Social Justice Lab
- Teaching Assistant for PP 300: American Politics & Institutions
- Research Assistantship
 - Dirksen Congressional Research Grant
- Completed one year of Ph.D. coursework at George Mason University in Fairfax, VA, under a Presidential Scholarship with full tuition plus \$22,000

Claremont Graduate University

M.A. Economics, 2014

American Institute for Economic Research (AIER) Fellowship | CGU

Economics Fellowship | GPA 3.95

George Mason University

B.S. Economics, B.S. Finance, 2010

- Graduated magna cum laude with honors
- Graduating class Outstanding Academic Achievement Award in Economics

SKILLS

- University Teaching
- K-12/Higher Education
- Public Finance/Fiscal Policy
- Regulatory Affairs & Analysis
- Economics of Inflation
- Policy Analysis
- Economic Impact Analysis
- Energy Policy
- Economic Development
- Labor Economics
- Economic Forecasting
- Real Estate Market Analysis
- Ineffectively Governed Territories
- Terrorism/Counterterrorism
- Maritime Piracy
- Political Economy/Public Choice
- Survey design and analysis
- Software/Programs
 - EViews
 - IMPLAN
 - REMI
 - Stata

Harvard Kennedy School

Executive Certificate in Leading Economic Growth, 2023

HONOR SOCIETY AND PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:

American Economic Association | Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society |
National Society of Collegiate Scholars | Beta Gamma Sigma Society
| Golden Key International Honor Society

- Qualtrics

LANGUAGES

- Fluent Spanish
- Proficient French

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING, COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Associate Director, Center for Business and Economic Analysis (CBEA) | Laramie, WY | 2023 - Present

Responsibilities include continuing development and marketing of the Center; assisting government agencies and firms with analysis of local, state, and national business and economic conditions; interacting with local, state, and national media with respect to economic conditions and policies in the region; and executing economic impact projects and other specialized projects.

- Interface with private sector clients and government officials.
- Direct applied research projects from analysis to report preparation and delivery.
- Author project proposals and research agreements.
- Deliver presentations on behalf of the CBEA.

Lecturer, Department of Economics | Laramie, WY

- Instructor of Record for ECON 4520 - Public Economics - Spring 2024, Spring 2025
 - Studies the role of government within a market economy. The focus is on how governments fund and provide goods and services e. g., health care, military, education. Examines public goods, taxation, environmental challenges, effects on economic growth and stability, benefit-cost analysis, and state/local finance.
 - Support students by providing career advice, reviewing degree capstone projects and master's theses, and writing letters of recommendation for graduate school admission, jobs, internships, and university awards.
 - Course Evaluation [here](#).
- Graduate Student Committees Served On
 - Daniel Ratajczak, MS Economics (Committee Member)

Interfaced with all levels of LAEDC personnel, consulting clients, local communities, government officials, business executives and the larger external business community. Planned, designed, directed, and conducted research to aid in interpretation of economic relationships and in solution of economic problems.

Economist, Institute for Applied Economics (IAE) | Los Angeles, CA

- Conduct cost-effective and profitable economic research and analysis for government, private, education and nonprofit clients.
- Give presentations and conduct “on-the-record” press interviews.
- Prepare reports and projects for clients (research design, data collection, analysis and narrative).
- Direct efforts of department analysts as needed.
- Continually develop expertise in regional analysis, specifically economic impact analysis, including staying abreast of the newest tools, platforms and software of the trade to improve products offered by the Institute.
- Project management from proposal through delivery to ensure timely delivery of projects in good form.

Associate Economist

- Managed research projects and worked in partnership with other members of the IAE staff conducting applied economic research, analysis and report development, preparation, and delivery.
- Staff forecasting expert responsible for producing short and long-term economic forecasts for multiple reports.
- Responsible for quarterly forecasts provided to Los Angeles County.
 - Forecasted the county unemployment rate, Consumer Price Index, taxable sales, median home prices, and home sales.
- Presented the IAE’s research to outside organizations and provided interviews to the press on a variety of high-profile economic topics.
- Answered questions regarding the state of the local economy and provided timely policy advice and analysis to a number of key local government officials including a member of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, the Los Angeles Mayor’s Office Director of Small Business & Entrepreneurship, and the Los Angeles Mayor’s Office Director of Economic Policy.
- Worked closely with the Institute’s Director to formulate the department’s annual strategic plan.

INDEPENDENT EDUCATION CONSULTANT

2018–Present

Conducts high-impact research on a variety of topics in K-12 and higher education for leading nonprofit organizations. Topics of research include reading foundational skills, professional learning in K-12 education, returns to college selectivity, and standardized test score differentials. Managed consultants as part of a project to develop teacher training materials for a new curriculum to be adopted by an inner-city public school district.

English Learners Success Forum (ELSF)

- Working on a 2023-2024 project for ELSF providing recommendations on surveys and other impact collection tools, and rebuilding surveys and tools as needed.

Student Achievement Partners (SAP)

- Worked on a 2021 project for SAP researching what practices and interventions – inclusive of personalized learning approaches – accelerate reading mastery and close learning gaps in literacy to help students in grades K-8 achieve college and career readiness.
 - Created a tracking system that organized over 800 studies considered for inclusion in the report.
 - Conducted an equity analysis of the researchers cited in the report which closely proxied for author self-reporting of their demographic information.
 - Conducted an analysis of student and school characteristics for each experimental study that was cited in the report.
- Served as principal author/researcher on a 2022 project funded by Carnegie Corporation of New York studying the professional learning landscape. The study reviews what professional learning is currently being offered and how it is being offered. The study has been used to help design online professional learning that is guided by research evidence.

College Board

- Worked as a research consultant (2019-2020) on a project focused on advancing fundamentally the academic performance and social capital of African-American students at all income levels.
 - Conducted a rigorous analysis of the economic returns to college selectivity.
 - Achieved findings that indicated that the economic returns to college selectivity are likely major/career-specific for most students. In addition, concluded that efforts to steer qualified minority and other low-income students towards more selective universities would likely result in significant returns to these students.
 - Conducted research estimating various characteristics of regional metro area populations for the purpose of selecting high-leverage locations to hold regional focus groups.
 - Conducted an analysis of standardized test score differentials by test taker demographic characteristics.

Other clients include: Great Minds, Liben Education Consulting, and StandardsWork.

AMERICAN ACTION FORUM

Fiscal Policy Fellow | Washington, DC | 2018

Conducted timely, targeted research analyzing a variety of fiscal policy issues for a policy institute. Topics of research and analysis included the federal budget process (specifically the Budget Control Act, the budget resolution, and the Conrad Rule), federal government spending on disaster relief, the multiemployer pension crisis, and labor statistics for use in job forecasting.

- Coauthored research on the multiemployer pension crisis with a specific focus on the contagion effect and withdrawal liability.
- Research on the 2011 Budget Control Act was used in written Testimony to the U.S. House Committee on the Budget.

MARYLAND PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Regulatory Economist, Energy Analysis and Planning Division | Baltimore, MD | 2017-2018

Performed economic, policy and regulatory analyses, prepared and delivered testimony as an expert witness at judicial and legislative-style hearings, made presentations, and undertook projects and studies for the Commission's consideration. Developed a comprehensive understanding of Maryland's electric utility sectors, including financial and economic principles, regulatory and industry practices, business operations, legal environment, and customer behavior.

- Conducted research and analysis, producing written reports providing policy recommendations to the Commission regarding gas and electric supplier and broker licensing, renewable energy facility certificates, civil penalties for violations, [surcharges](#), and certificates of public convenience and necessity. Defended recommendations on behalf of the technical Staff in front of the Commission in a live-streamed, public setting.
- Directed Standard Offer Service procurement auctions for the Public Service Commission.
- Served as Staff expert on PJM Interconnection, a major regional transmission organization, and Organization of PJM States, Inc.
- Served as Staff expert witness regarding energy procurement strategies by municipal electric systems (Berlin, Hagerstown, Thurmont).
- Analyzed data reported by Maryland energy utilities and suppliers and produced reports and recommendations for the Commission's consideration.
- Conducted an analysis of expenditures and a cost/benefit analysis for participating Maryland Utilities' use of EmPower Funds and programs resulting in additional efficiencies and streamlined processes.

PACIFIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Research Fellow | San Francisco, CA | 2016

Executed targeted research and evaluation for a policy institute designed to champion economic growth and opportunity for all individuals.

- Conducted high-impact research on the potential effects of the EPA's proposed Clean Power Plan.
- Conducted research on the marginal welfare cost of increased government revenues.
- Conducted an exhaustive study and analysis of U.S. defense policy.

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

Presidential Scholar | Fairfax, VA | 2014-2015

Explored topics related to the systems-theoretic approach to political economy.

- Pioneered a systems-theoretic approach to the study of international political economy.
 - Showed how a systems-theoretic approach can be applied to several topics of interest to the international political economist including war, alliances, hegemony, and international trade relations.

CLAREMONT GRADUATE UNIVERSITY

Private Tutor / Lecturer / Teaching Assistant | Claremont, CA | 2013-2016

- Tutored four Ph.D. candidates in preparation for their Microeconomics qualifying/comprehensive examinations, with all students successfully passing their exams.
- Lecturer for a graduate-level Public Finance course.
- Assisted with course material and delivered lectures for a graduate-level Managerial Economics course.

AMERICAN LAND TITLE ASSOCIATION (ALTA)

Intern | Washington, DC | 2010-2011

Collected, refined, organized, updated, and analyzed membership data.

- Directed research and analysis on title insurance regulations for the Department of Government and Regulatory Affairs.
- Developed and maintained a digital system to collect, organize, and refine membership information for ALTA.
- Collaborated with staff members to edit documents, letters, and speeches and provided administrative support in the production of ALTA publications for members.

PUBLICATIONS

MOST RECENT ACADEMIC RESEARCH

Published

Book Chapters

Blemings, B., DeAngelo, G., Smith, T., & **Specht, A.** (November 2023). [Public Security Enhances the Effectiveness of Private Security in Reducing Maritime Piracy Harm](#). In Blackstone, E., Hakim, S., & Meehan, B. (Eds.) [Handbook on Public and Private Security](#). Competitive Government: Public Private Partnerships Book Series. Springer.

A noteworthy context in which private and public security interact is on the high seas where vessels face danger from maritime pirates. This paper is likely the first to quantify the relationship between public security in aiding private security to enhance the safety of passing vessels, as measured by the likelihood of boarding and hijacking respectively.

Specht, A., S. Paul, & McWhorter, D. (forthcoming June 2025). [Losing Out by Winning the Prize: The Winner's Curse and Competition for Political Privilege](#). In Aliende, I. (Ed.) *Applied Behavioral Economics: Theory, Method and Practice*. Nova Science Publishers.

Peer-Reviewed Research

Algara, C., & **Specht, A.** (2024). [The Role of State and National Institutional Evaluations in Fostering Collective Accountability Across the U.S. States](#). *Political Research Quarterly*, 77(4), 1294-1313.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/10659129241265118>.

The manuscript presents the first contemporary model to assess the role that state and national institutional evaluations (presidential, gubernatorial, state legislative, and congressional) play in shaping state legislative results.

An additional key contribution of the manuscript is introducing state-level dynamic multi-level regression and post-stratification (MRP) estimates of presidential, congressional, gubernatorial, and state legislative approval. No other published work does this when studying state legislative elections. Most existing analyses only examine how objective performance measures relate to seat change. However, one voter may approve of the legislature because it stimulated the economy, while another may disapprove of its handling of education. State legislative approval could then better capture how voters' opinions relate to the seat change than does existing research.

Select Research in Preparation

Specht, A. & McWhorter, D. Coase in the Courts: Formal Legal Institutions as Transactions Cost-Economizing Devices.

Specht, A., D. Ratajczak, & McWhorter, D. [A Historical Analysis of Political Polarization in the United States Supreme Court.](#)

Specht, A. Public Sentiment as a Leading Indicator of Terrorists Attacks.

Specht, A. Dynamics of Terrorist Group Interdependence: Islamic Militant and Non-Islamic Terrorist Group Competition After the Killing of Osama bin Laden.

Specht, A. A Public Choice Analysis of Intelligence Agency Interaction.

Specht, A. [The Distortionary Effects on the Structure of Production of General Temporary Tax Cuts on Income from Heterogeneous Capital.](#)

Blemings, B. & **Specht, A.** Killing Osama Bin Laden and Islamic Terrorism: Dynamic Estimates Using Non Islamic Groups.

Specht, A. [International Political Economy: Towards a Systems-Theoretic Approach.](#)

POLICY RESEARCH

Selection of Policy Studies

[45] **Specht, A.** and Zafar, N. (2025). [Wyoming's International Trade Picture.](#) Laramie, WY: Center for Business and Economic Analysis (CBEA). Prepared for the Wyoming Business Council.

[44] **Specht, A.** and Ratajczak, D. (2025). [Evaluating the Economic Contribution of the Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County for 2024.](#) Laramie, WY: Center for Business and Economic Analysis (CBEA). Prepared for the Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County.

[43] **Specht, A.** and Ratajczak, D. (2025). [Evaluating the Potential Disconnect Between the Cost of Public Services](#)

and the Willingness of Residents to Pay: A Survey of Wyoming Counties. Laramie, WY: Center for Business and Economic Analysis (CBEA). Prepared for the Wyoming Business Council.

[42] **Specht, A.**, Brown, T., and Ratajczak, D. (2025). [Evaluating the Potential Economic Impact of the Halleck Creek Rare Earth Mine for Wyoming \(2025-2032\)](#). Laramie, WY: Center for Business and Economic Analysis (CBEA). Prepared for American Rare Earths.

[41] **Specht, A.**, Brown, T., and Ratajczak, D. (2025). [Evaluating the Potential Economic Impact of the Halleck Creek Rare Earth Mine on Albany County, Wyoming \(2025-2032\)](#). Laramie, WY: Center for Business and Economic Analysis (CBEA). Prepared for American Rare Earths.

[40] **Specht, A.** and Ratajczak, D. (2025). [Evaluating the Potential Disconnect Between the Cost of Public Services and the Willingness of Residents to Pay: A Survey of Wyoming Municipalities](#). Laramie, WY: Center for Business and Economic Analysis (CBEA). Prepared for the Wyoming Business Council.

[39] **Specht, A.**, Brown, T., and Ratajczak, D. (2025). [Evaluating the Potential Economic Impact of the Halleck Creek Rare Earth Mine on Platte County, Wyoming \(2025-2032\)](#). Laramie, WY: Center for Business and Economic Analysis (CBEA). Prepared for American Rare Earths.

[38] Specht, A., Zafar, N., Ratajczak, D., and Broadhurst, B. (2025). [2025 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice for the City of Cheyenne, Wyoming](#). Laramie, WY: Center for Business and Economic Analysis (CBEA). Prepared for the Housing & Community Development Division, City of Cheyenne Mayor's Office to meet reporting requirements as outlined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development..

[37] Zafar, N., **Specht, A.**, & D. Cooley. (2024). [The Potential Impact of a Western Regional Transmission Organization \(RTO\) with Implications for Wyoming](#). Laramie, WY: Center for Business and Economic Analysis (CBEA). Prepared for the Wyoming Business Council.

[36] **Specht, A.**, D. Ratajczak. (2024). [Evaluating the Economic Impact of Goshen County's Economic Development Retail Sales Tax for the Period FY 2019 - FY 2023](#). Prepared for Go Goshen.

[35] Holland, M., B. Kirkland & **Specht, A.** (2024). [The Scope and Economic Impact of Wyoming's Film Economy](#). Prepared for the Wyoming Arts Alliance.

[34] Holland, M., B. Kirkland & **Specht, A.** (2024). [The Scope and Economic Impact of Wyoming's Arts and Culture Economy](#). Prepared for the Wyoming Arts Alliance.

- Study featured in [Wyoming Artscapes Magazine](#) and [Kiowa County Press](#).

[33] **Specht, A.**, D. Ratajczak & Zafar, N. (2024). [Gap Analysis for the Wyoming Quantum Supply Chain](#). Prepared for the University of Wyoming Physics and Astronomy Department.

[32] Zafar, N. & **A. Specht**. [The Migration and Workforce Dynamics in Wyoming: Who is Our Customer?](#) Prepared for the Wyoming Business Council. Prepared for the Wyoming Business Council.

[31] **Specht, A.** & D. Ratajczak. (2024). [Evaluating the Potential Economic Impact of a Central Wyoming Shooting](#)

Complex in Natrona County, Wyoming. Laramie, WY: Center for Business and Economic Analysis (CBEA). Prepared for the City of Casper.

[30] Zafar, N., **Specht, A.**, & D. Cooley. (2024). [PacifiCorp's Multi-State Protocol and its Implications for Wyoming Ratepayers](#). Laramie, WY: Center for Business and Economic Analysis (CBEA). Prepared for the Wyoming Business Council.

[29] **Specht, A.**, D. McWhorter, & D. Aadland. (2024). [Evaluating the Economic Impact of Fremont County's Retail Sales Tax for Economic Development for the April 2021-September 2023 Period](#). Laramie, WY: Center for Business and Economic Analysis (CBEA). Prepared for Forward Fremont County Political Action Committee.

- Study featured in the [Lander Journal](#) and [County 10](#).

[28] **Specht, A.**, Zafar, N., & D. McWhorter. (2024). [Evaluating the Potential Economic Impact of Leveraging a Sales Tax for Economic Development in Natrona County and Hot Springs County](#). Laramie, WY: Center for Business and Economic Analysis (CBEA). Prepared for the Wyoming Business Council.

[27] Zafar, N., **Specht, A.**, & D. Cooley. (2024). [California ISO vs. Southwest Power Pool: A Comparative Analysis with Implications for Wyoming](#). Laramie, WY: Center for Business and Economic Analysis (CBEA). Prepared for the Wyoming Business Council.

[26] **Specht, A.** & D. McWhorter. (2024). [Evaluating the Potential Economic Impact of a Shooter's Complex in Casper Wyoming - A Preliminary Analysis](#). Laramie, WY: Center for Business and Economic Analysis (CBEA). Prepared for the City of Casper.

[25] **Specht, A.**, Cooley, D., & D. McWhorter. (2024). [Evaluating the Economic Impact of Grid United's Wyoming Intertie High Voltage Transmission Line](#). Laramie, WY: Center for Business and Economic Analysis (CBEA). Prepared for Grid United.

[24] **Specht, A.**, Aadland, D., & M. Holland. (2023). [Evaluating the Potential Economic Impact of Private Development in the North Platte River Park No. 2 Subdivision: A Five-Year Outlook](#). Laramie, WY: Center for Business and Economic Analysis (CBEA). Prepared for the City of Casper.

- Study [featured](#) by Oil City News and by the [Casper Star Tribune](#).

[23] **Specht, A.**, Aadland, D., & D. McWhorter. (2023). [Evaluating the Potential Economic Impact of Williams' MountainWest Overthrust Pipeline in Southwest Wyoming](#). Laramie, WY: Center for Business and Economic Analysis (CBEA). Prepared for Williams Companies Inc.

[22] Sedgwick, S, Laferriere, T., **Specht, A.**, & Dunsker, M. (2022). [California Film and Television Tax Credit Program 2.0: An Economic Impact Study](#). Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation. Prepared for the Motion Picture Association.

- Study cited by various news sources including [ABC](#), [Deadline Hollywood](#), [Variety](#), [Bloomberg Tax](#), [California Chamber of Commerce](#), [Los Angeles Daily News](#), [California Globe](#), [Hollywood Reporter](#), and the [Los Angeles Times](#).
- Study cited [multiple](#) times by the [Governor](#), [members](#) of the state legislature, well as the [California Film Commission](#) in press releases.

- Study cited in a Los Angeles City Council [resolution](#) in support of CA Senate Bill 485.
- Study cited in a [letter](#) of support for CA Senate Bill 485 signed by the mayors of nine California cities (Los Angeles, San Francisco, San Diego, Sacramento, Fresno, Long Beach, San Jose, Oakland, and Riverside).
- Study referenced in a study by the [Public Policy Institute of California](#).
- Study [cited multiple](#) times by the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz).
- Study referenced in a study by [FilmLA](#).
- Study referenced in a Hoover Institution [article](#).
- Study cited in several academic journal articles including articles in the [Seton Hall Journal of Legislation and Public Policy](#) and [Economic Development Quarterly](#).
- Study [cited](#) in Springer book titled *Intimate Capitalism: Political Economy of Labour and Culture in Creative Industries*.

[21] Sedgwick, S, **Specht, A.**, & Dunsker, M. Girard, A. (2022). *The Impact of Automation at the San Pedro Bay Ports in Los Angeles County*. Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation. Prepared for the County of Los Angeles, the Port of Los Angeles, and the Port of Long Beach.

- Extensively cited in a 2024 UCLA Labor Center [study](#).

[20] Sedgwick, S, **Specht, A.**, & Dunsker, M. (2022). [Commercial Real Estate Rental Debt Owed by Small Businesses in Los Angeles County: An Economic Study](#). Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation. Prepared for the County of Los Angeles.

- Responsible for the Request for Services Proposal (RFP) submitted to the county which was ultimately selected. Total contract value was \$69,820 for a length of eight weeks.
- Presented the study's findings to county officials.
- Originated the concept of marginal commercial rent debt which was first introduced in this study. This unique methodological contribution to the estimation literature calculates the additional commercial rent debt accumulated during an economic shock beyond what is accumulated during a baseline period.
- Cited in a Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors [Motion](#).

[19] Sedgwick, S, **Specht, A.**, & Dunsker, M. *The Small Business Procurement Environment in Los Angeles County: A Market Study*. (2022). Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation.

[18] **Specht, A.**, Sedgwick, S., & Dunsker, M (2022). [2022 Economic Forecast: Navigating through Continued Disruption and Uncertainty](#). Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation.

- Provided economic analyses and forecasts for the United States, California, Los Angeles County, and four [additional](#) counties in the Southern California region.

[17] Sedgwick, S, Girard, A., **Specht, A.**, & Dunsker, M. *COVID-19 and the City of Los Angeles: Transitioning from Recovery to a New Normal*. (2022). Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation. Prepared for the City of Los Angeles Workforce Development Board.

- Presented the study's findings to city officials.

[16] **Specht, A.**, & Dunsker, M. *The Impact of COVID-19 on Economic Performance and the Post-COVID-19 Economic Recovery: A Comparison of U.S. Cities*. (2022). Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation. Prepared for the City of Los Angeles Mayor's Office.

[15] Sedgwick, S, & **Specht, A.** (2022). [Preliminary Construction Impact of the La Brea Tar Pits Master Plan](#). Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation. Prepared for the La Brea Tar Pits & Museum.

[14] Sedgwick, S, **Specht, A.**, & Dunsker, M. (2022). [Proposed Healthcare Minimum Wage Increase in the City of Baldwin Park: An Economic Study](#). Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation. Prepared for the City of Baldwin Park.

- Study commissioned by the City of Baldwin for the purposes of informing the City Council decision whether to implement the proposed minimum wage by ordinance.
- Study cited in a [University of the Pacific Law Review](#) article.

[13] Sedgwick, S, **Specht, A.**, & Dunsker, M. (2022). [A Proposed Healthcare Minimum Wage Increase in the City of Long Beach: An Economic Study](#). Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation. Prepared for the City of Long Beach.

- Study commissioned by the City of Long Beach for the purposes of informing the City Council decision regarding minimum wage implementation.
 - The City Council adopted the study's recommendation to review the impact of the minimum wage after five years.
- Study cited by multiple news sources including the [Los Angeles Times](#), [Los Angeles Business Journal](#), [Long Beach Post News](#), [Press-Telegram](#), and [Signal Tribune](#).

[12] Sedgwick, S, **Specht, A.**, & Dunsker, M. (2022). [The Power of Procurement: Advancing Equity and Opportunity in Contracting for Women in Los Angeles](#). Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation. Prepared for the City of Los Angeles Mayor's Office.

- In response to the study, Los Angeles Mayor Garcetti signed [Executive Directive 35](#) requiring city departments to implement recommendations provided in the study.
- Study cited by the [Los Angeles Business Journal](#), [Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce](#), [Contractor News](#), [Spectrum News](#), [Beverly Press](#), and [The Bond Buyer](#).

[11] Sedgwick, S, Dunsker, M., **Specht, A.**, & Girard, A. (2022). [Economic Impact of Zero Carbon Hydrogen in Los Angeles County and the Greater Southern California Region](#). Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation.

[10] Sedgwick, S., **Specht, A.**, & Girard, A., Dunsker, M. (2022). [Ocean Economy 101: Emerging Educational Supply and Labor Market Demand](#). Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation. Prepared for the Center for a Competitive Workforce.

[9] Ku, Kim, J.,..., **Specht, A.**, et al. (2021) [Los Angeles County's Workforce Landscape: Why Is It So Complicated for the Systems and the Individuals Who Need Services?](#) Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation. Prepared for the Smidt Foundation.

[8] Ku, Kim, J.,..., **Specht, A.**, et al. (2021) [Los Angeles County's Workforce Landscape: Opportunities and Responsibilities](#) Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation. Prepared for the Smidt Foundation.

[7] Sedgwick, S, **Specht, A.**, & Dunsker, M. (2021) [The Circular Economy and the Built Environment in the Los Angeles Region](#). Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation. Prepared for the Dutch Ministry of

Foreign Affairs.

[6] (2020). [Research Supporting Foundational Skills in Reading](#). Student Achievement Partners.

- Publication has been downloaded over 5,000 times and has been referenced in educator resources produced by state governments ([Oregon](#) and [Mississippi](#)), the [Knowledge is Power Program \(KIPP\)](#), and on college of education [websites](#).

[5] Gray, G. & **Specht, A.** (2018). ["Issues in Multiemployer Pensions: Withdrawal Liability."](#) American Action Forum.

[4] Gray, G. & **Specht, A.** (2018). ["Future Risks Confronting the Multiemployer Pension System."](#) American Action Forum.

[3] Gray, G. & **Specht, A.** (2018). ["The PBGC, Multiemployer Pensions, and the Historical Record."](#) American Action Forum.

- Cited and quoted in [Congressional testimony](#) and cited in research institute publications.
- Findings indirectly referenced in a [United States House of Representatives Committee Report](#) by quoting a [review](#) of the study by Douglas Holtz-Eakin, former Director of the Congressional Budget Office.

[2] Winegarden, W. & **Specht, A.** (2016). [The Clean Power Plan's Economic Impact: by Income Group and Local Area](#). Pacific Research Institute.

- Study was cited in a 2021 [Brief of Amicus Curiae](#) filed with the United States Supreme Court by the Commonwealth of Kentucky in State of West Virginia et al. v. Environmental Protection Agency, et al.
- Study was [academically cited](#) and cited by various news sources from all over the nation including the [San Diego Union-Tribune](#) and the [Centre Daily Times](#).

[1] Winegarden, W. & **Specht, A.** (2016). [The Clean Power Plan's Economic Impact: State by State](#). Pacific Research Institute.

- Cited in [policy studies](#).

SELECTION OF EXPERT WITNESS TESTIMONY

Specht, A. (2018). [Direct Testimony](#). Evidentiary Hearing in the Matter of the Application of Baltimore Gas and Electric Company for Approval of a Gas System Strategic Infrastructure Development and Enhancement Plan and Accompanying Cost Recovery Mechanism. Before the Public Service Commission of Maryland: Case No. 9468.

- Served as an expert technical witness on behalf of the Maryland Public Service Commission Staff reviewing and analyzing proposed revenue requirements, monthly surcharge caps, and customer bill impacts associated with Baltimore Gas and Electric's proposed \$963.3 million Strategic Infrastructure Development and Enhancement plan. Reviewed and analyzed the issue of cross-subsidization at the commercial class level and proposed an alternative methodology consistent with reducing cross-subsidies in order to achieve more efficient and equitable policy results.
- [Delivered oral testimony](#) in a judicial-style hearing.

Specht, A. (2018). [Surrebuttal Testimony](#). Evidentiary Hearing in the Matter of the Application of Baltimore Gas and Electric Company for Approval of a Gas System Strategic Infrastructure Development and Enhancement Plan and Accompanying Cost Recovery Mechanism. Before the Public Service Commission of Maryland: Case No. 9468.

Specht A. (2018). [Direct Testimony](#). Evidentiary Hearing in the Matter of the Application of Washington Gas Light Company for Authority to Increase Existing Rates and Charges and to Revise its Terms and Conditions for Gas Service. Before the Public Service Commission of Maryland: Case No. 9481.

- Served as Staff expert witness reviewing and analyzing a weather normalization study, multiple class cost of service studies, and a load research study associated with a natural gas rate case. Presented and defended a class cost of service study methodology to be used by the Commission in this and in all future rate cases.

(2017). Staff Comments on the 2017 [Semi-Annual EmPOWER Maryland Programmatic Report for the First and Second Quarters on the 2018-2020 EmPower Maryland Plans](#). Evidentiary Hearing in the matter of Washington Gas Light Company's energy efficiency, conservation and demand response programs pursuant to the Empower Maryland Energy Efficiency Act of 2008. Before the Public Service Commission of Maryland: Case No. 9362.

- [Presented findings](#) at a legislative-style hearing.

SELECTION OF MEDIA COVERAGE

Television

- KBS America News: [2022년 고용·물가·주택가격 전망은? - What are Employment, Inflation, and Housing Price Projections in 2022?](#)
- ABC7 News: [Inflation Hits 40-Year High](#)
- NBC4 News: [Amid High Gas Prices, California Proposes \\$400 Gas Tax Rebate](#)
- Voice of America Indonesia: [MKM Kembali Terhimpit Tingginya Laju Inflasi - Again Squeezed by High Inflation Rate](#)

Print

- (2022). ["Is Los Angeles Back in Business?"](#) Crosstown LA.
- (2022). ["Does Gavin Newsom Exaggerate California's Economic Health? Here are Facts He Doesn't Discuss"](#). The Sacramento Bee, Merced Sun-Star, San Luis Obispo Tribune.
- (2021). ["County's Regained Not Half of Lost Jobs"](#). San Fernando Valley Business Journal.

SELECTION OF PRESENTATIONS AND GUEST LECTURES

Professional Presentations

- Panelist at the 2021 Center for Competitive Workforce Global Trade & Logistics Regional Program Advisory Roundtable.
 - Forecasts were cited in a Center for Competitive Workforce publication titled [Global Trade & Logistics Regional Program Advisory: Los Angeles Community College Program Look Book](#).
- Speaker at the 2021 Los Angeles County Chapter of the International Association of Assessing Officers Fall Seminar.
 - Presentation titled "Real Estate in the LA Region – A Market in Transition."
- Speaker at LAEDC's [June 2021 Economic Briefing Webinar](#).

- Portions of the presentation were replayed on local radio news shows.
- Featured speaker at LA CEO's monthly meeting.
 - Presentation titled "2022 Economic Forecast: An Economy in Transition."
- Featured speaker at the Real Estate Research Council's 4th Quarter 2021 [Meeting](#).
 - Presentation titled "2022 Economic Forecast: Navigating Through Continued Disruption and Uncertainty."
- Featured speaker at the Venture Capital Alliance's monthly meeting.
 - Presentation titled "2022 U.S. Economic Forecast."
- Featured speaker at DPP Real Estate's Pro Real Estate Investor Speaker Series.
 - Presentation titled "COVID-19's Impact on the City of Los Angeles."
- Featured speaker at an event organized by the Dutch Consulate for an audience of Dutch entrepreneurs and Dutch government officials.
 - Presentation titled "Circular Economy in the Built Environment."
 - Subsequently provided product-specific advice to Dutch companies on how to effectively introduce their products in the Los Angeles market.
- LAEDC Informational Video Presentation: [The Circular Economy & the Built Environment in the LA Region](#)
- Speaker at the University of Wyoming College of Business 2023 Wyoming Articulation Summit.
 - Presentation titled "Collaborating with Wyoming Community Colleges."

Guest Lectures

- "Terrorism in the Global Economy" for a course in an MBA program.
- "The Political Economy of Government Growth" for graduate-level Public Finance course at Claremont Graduate University.
- "Bureaucracy in the Public Sector" for a graduate-level Managerial Economics course at Claremont Graduate University.
- "The Cosean Analysis of Lighthouse Financing" for a graduate-level Managerial Economics course at Claremont Graduate University.

REVIEW/EDITORIAL SERVICE

- Senior Editor World Affairs Magazine

VOLUNTEER WORK

- President, Board of Directors - Paladin Rescue Alliance: 2023-Present