

Angela E. Pool-Funai, DPA

Executive Summary

Strategic higher education leader with comprehensive institutional expertise spanning academic affairs, operations, advancement, and student affairs. Proven ability to ensure accreditation excellence, drive curriculum improvement, manage complex budgets, and build sustainable revenue streams through grants and development. Combines deep academic credibility with operational aptitude across community colleges, regional comprehensive and research universities, and nonprofit organizations. Brings international partnerships experience and cross-functional perspective from staff to faculty to senior administration.



CORE COMPETENCIES

Strategic Planning & Execution | Academic Program Development | Fiscal Stewardship & Budget Management | Accreditation & Regulatory Compliance | Enrollment Management & Student Success | Academic Program Development | International Partnerships | Change Management | Grant Administration & Fundraising | Board Relations | Technology Implementation | Community Engagement

EDUCATION

DPA, Valdosta State University (Valdosta, Georgia)	2014
Dissertation: "Virtual Fundraising: Policy, Technology and Philanthropy"	
MPPA, Baylor University (Waco, Texas)	2008
Public Policy & Administration	
BA, Stephen F. Austin State University (Nacogdoches, Texas)	1996
Communication; Major: Journalism, Minor: Economics; Cum Laude	
North Harris College (Now Lone Star College, Houston, Texas)	1992-1994

Certifications

- **Executive Budgeting and Finance Certificate**, University of Houston 2025
- **Workday Pro | Student Records and Advising** 2025

- **Experiential Ed. Academy Certificate**, Nat'l Society for Experiential Ed. 2019
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INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP & PARTNERSHIPS

Served as liaison for South Korean educational partnership development | Facilitated international recruiting mission to Côte d'Ivoire representing college leadership | Teaching experience in China (Shandong Institute of Economics) | Presented virtually at the IBTSS International Conference (Integration of Business, Digital Technologies, and Social Sciences for a Sustainable ASEAN And Beyond), Phnom Penh, Cambodia | Transdisciplinary research incorporating global perspectives | Language proficiencies: German (A2), Spanish (high A1)

SENIOR LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Assistant Provost for Academic Programs and Dean, Graduate School and Office of Research

Fort Hays State University | July 2021 – Present (Asst Provost since April 2022)

Leadership & Strategic Management

- Serve as institutional Accreditation Liaison Officer to the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), successfully facilitating Comprehensive Review reporting and Change of Control applications
- Provide budget oversight across multiple program areas
- Chair Program Review Committee ensuring quality standards and regulatory compliance for the Kansas Board of Regents
- Direct and mentor leadership team of 5+ professionals, implementing performance management and professional development initiatives
- Serve as Acting Provost during Provost absences, providing executive leadership for academic affairs division

Financial Stewardship & Resource Development

- Strategically allocate and manage complex budgets across graduate programs, research initiatives, and operational units
- Established first endowed scholarship fund through targeted fundraising and donor cultivation
- Oversee grant administration and compliance for research programs
- Collaborate with foundation partners on strategic resource development

Change Management & Innovation

- Aid technology implementation initiatives as functional area lead for organizational systems
- Implement process improvements resulting in enhanced operational efficiency
- Navigate organizational change while maintaining stakeholder engagement and program quality

MPA Director, Master of Public Administration Program

Southern Utah University | November 2016 – June 2021

Program Leadership & Fiscal Management

- Achieved sustained program growth while maintaining fiscal discipline within \$210,000 program budget
- Led programmatic assessment and accreditation processes, preparing comprehensive evaluation reports
- Designed and implemented performance measurement systems meeting regulatory and quality standards

Stakeholder Engagement & Community Relations

- Built and maintained advisory board relationships with professional community
- Developed alumni engagement initiatives including quarterly communications and donor cultivation
- Established recruitment partnerships resulting in sustained program growth

Organizational Leadership & Development

- Mentored five junior faculty members, facilitating professional development and career advancement
- Participated in College of Humanities & Social Sciences Chairs Council, university Graduate Council, and served as Faculty Senate Parliamentarian

Interim Associate Dean, College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Southern Utah University | July 2017 – June 2018

Executive Leadership

- Provided interim leadership for college-level operations, budget oversight, and strategic planning
- Managed search processes for senior leadership positions
- Facilitated conflict resolution and stakeholder engagement across diverse constituencies

International Partnership Development

- Served as lead contact for international educational partnerships
- Represented College on strategic international mission to develop new programmatic relationships

Director of Foundation & Corporate Development

Baylor University | 2006 – 2012

Fundraising & Development Leadership

- Led development team generating \$6M annually in foundation and corporate partnerships
- Researched, cultivated, solicited, and stewarded major donor relationships
- Established university-wide systems for grant proposal development and submission

- Supervised three full-time development professionals
- Established university-wide clearinghouse for proposal development and submission

Strategic Partnership Development

- Served as cross-divisional liaison coordinating institutional advancement efforts
 - Developed high-impact grant proposals for private foundation funding
 - Provided consultation on budget development and financial planning
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Program Director, Federal TRIO program

Richland College (Dallas County Community College District) | 1998 – 2002

Grant Management & Compliance

- Managed federal grant budget exceeding \$1 million with full fiscal accountability
 - Supervised 15+ staff members (4 full-time, 10+ part-time) in program delivery
 - Compiled annual performance reports for federal oversight agencies
 - Developed and implemented programming serving underrepresented student populations
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SELECT BOARD & GOVERNANCE EXPERIENCE

Trustee

VFW Auxiliary Post #9076 | 2024 – Present

- Provide governance oversight for veterans' service organization
- Wrote successful \$1,000 grant proposal (2022)

Gubernatorial Appointee

Political Subdivisions Ethics Review Commission, State of Utah | 2019 – 2021

- Provided statewide policy oversight on public sector ethics matters
- Participated in investigative and enforcement decisions affecting municipal and county governments

Board Member & Finance Committee Member

RRCI - Empowering People With Disabilities | 2018 – 2021

- Provided strategic governance and financial oversight for disability services organization
 - Participated in strategic planning, policy development, and resource allocation decisions
 - Ensured fiduciary oversight and regulatory compliance
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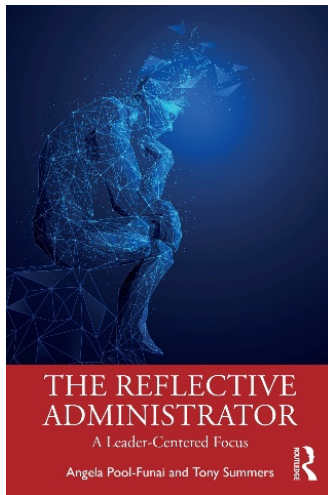
TEACHING & FACULTY LEADERSHIP

Associate Professor (Tenured), Fort Hays State University (2021-Present)

Associate Professor (Tenured), Southern Utah University (2014-2021)

Demonstrated commitment to academic excellence through graduate and undergraduate instruction in public administration, sociology, political science, and experiential learning. Recognized with multiple teaching awards including Professor of the Year finalist (2016, 2017), Outstanding Faculty for Scholarly Activity (2024), and Distinguished Faculty for Inclusion & Diversity (2020).

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP & SCHOLARSHIP



My transdisciplinary research interests include experiential learning, public policy, reflective practice, philanthropy, and public administration.

Refereed Publications

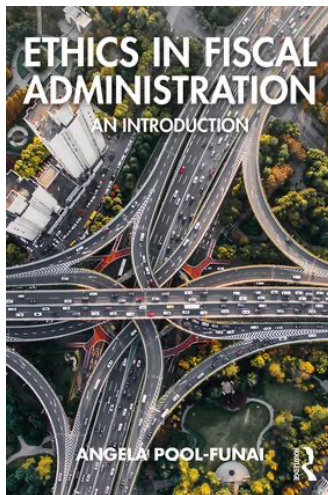
Pool-Funai, A. E. (2024). "Participatory Budgeting as an Avenue for Community Engagement and Citizen Empowerment." ([IBTSS Conference Proceedings](#))

Pool-Funai, A. E. & Summers, T. E. (2023). *The Reflective Administrator: A Leader-Centered Focus*. [New York: Routledge](#).

Pool-Funai, A. E. (2018). *Ethics in Fiscal Administration: An Introduction*. [New York: Routledge](#).

Pool-Funai, A. E. (2017). "Globalization and Public Budgeting" in *Global Encyclopedia of Public Administration, Public Policy, and Governance*. [New York: Springer](#).

McGee, J. S., Myers, D. R., Carlson, H., Pool-Funai, A. E., & Barclay, P. A. (2013). Spirituality, Faith, and Mild Alzheimer's Disease. *Research in the Social Scientific Study of Religion*, 24:221-257.



Columnist – [PA Times](#) January 2015 - October 2016
Quarterly periodical of the American Society for Public Administration (Eight published articles total)

Managing Editor – *HSS Journal*

Fall 2017 - Spring 2019

Faculty-reviewed journal of undergraduate student work within the College of

Humanities & Social Sciences at Southern Utah University; role included soliciting articles, coordinating communication between editorial board, formatting accepted submissions, as well as crafting layout using InDesign.

Section Co-Editor – *Global Encyclopedia of Public Administration, Public Policy, and Governance*.

Fall 2015 - Spring 2018

Peer-reviewed encyclopedia featuring international perspectives on a wide scope of topics within the public sector; role included soliciting articles, vetting blinded articles, copyediting submissions, communicating with authors and editorial board. [New York: Springer](#).

Managing Editor – *Critical Issues in Justice & Politics*

Fall 2014 - Spring 2016

Peer-reviewed journal of the Department of Political Science & Criminal Justice at Southern Utah University; role included soliciting articles, coordinating communication between editorial board, formatting accepted submissions, as well as crafting layout using Publisher.

Published Book Review.

Pool-Funai, A. E. (2015). Education Policy Meets State and Local Realities [Review of the book *Collision Course: Federal Education Policy Meets State and Local Realities*, by P. F. Manna]. *Critical Issues in Justice & Politics*, 8(1): 47-56.

Select Presentations

- 2024. "Advanced Grant Writing." Professional & Continuing Education workshop for the Rural Education & Workforce Alliance (REWA), Dodge City, KS.
- 2024. "Participatory Budgeting as an Avenue for Community Engagement and Citizen Empowerment." Virtual presentation at the IBTSS International Conference (Integration of Business, Digital Technologies, and Social Sciences for a Sustainable ASEAN And Beyond), Phnom Penh, Cambodia.
- 2024. "ABCs of Grant Writing." Professional & Continuing Education workshop for the Management Development Center, Hays, KS.
- 2024. "Perspectives and Partnerships ... What if?" Academic Leaders Panel presentation at the Independent College Bookstore Association (ICBA) conference, Denver, CO.
- 2023. "Change Management and Strategic Planning in Graduate Education." Panel presentation at the Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools (MAGS), Chicago, IL.
- 2021. "Understanding Challenges and Impacts of Caregiving: Supporting Students at a Time of Transition." Presented at the Council of Graduate Schools annual

- conference, New Orleans, LA.
2020. "Ethics in the Workplace." Presented at the Utah Municipal Clerks Association, webinar.
2019. "Helping Interns Develop Professional Competencies." Panel presentation at ExL Summit hosted by Brigham Young University, Provo, UT.
2019. "Assessing Critical Thinking & Ethical Reasoning in Experiential Learning Courses." Presented at the National Society for Experiential Education conference, St. Petersburg, FL.
2019. BookTalk interview/presentation on *Ethics in Fiscal Administration: An Introduction*. Live webinar hosted by the American Society for Public Administration, aired Aug. 15, 2019.

SELECT COURSES TAUGHT

Modality Key: OL - Online; FF - Face-to-Face

Undergraduate:

- American National Govt (OL, FF)
- Intro to Public Administration (FF)
- Civil Rights & Liberties (FF)
- Political Science Capstone (FF)

Graduate:

- Public Sector Economics (OL, FF)
- Public Admin Overview & Theory (OL)
- Special Topics (OL) - Nonprofit Management & Grant Writing;
- Board Development & Fundraising; Tax Policy; Comparative Cultural Relations
- Comparative Public Policy (OL)
- Grant Proposal Seminar (OL)

SELECT ACCOLADES

Outstanding Faculty for Scholarly Activity	2024
My Go-To Mentor Certificate	2023, 2024
Distinguished Faculty for Inclusion and Diversity	2020
NASPAA Next, Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, & Administration	2019
Utah System of Higher Education Women's Leadership Exchange	2019-2020
Tanner Center Fellow, Grace A. Tanner Center for Human Values	2019-2020
Dean's Award for Achievement in Experiential Learning, School of Integrative and Engaged Learning at Southern Utah University	2018
Outstanding Scholarship Award, College of Humanities & Social Sciences	2018

SELECT UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Faculty Advisor, Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity	Fall 2024 - Present
Chamber Ambassador, FHSU/Hays Chamber of Commerce	Fall 2022 - Present
Sociology Departmental Scholarship Committee	Spring 2022 - Present
Data Governance Committee	2022 - 2023
Program Review Committee (Chair)	Fall 2021 - Present
Academic Council	Summer 2021 - Present
Senior Leadership Team	Summer 2021 - Present
President's Cabinet	Summer 2021 - Present
Accreditation Liaison Officer (Higher Learning Commission)	Spring 2021 - Present

Previous service (Southern Utah University):

Faculty Advisor, African Union Club	2020 - 2021
College of Humanities & Soc. Sciences Promotion & Tenure Committee	2020 - 2021
Center of Excellence for Teaching & Learning Advisory Board	2020 - 2021
Promotion & Tenure Team Mentor (for five junior faculty)	2019 - 2021
Graduate Curriculum Committee; Graduate Council	2016 - 2021
Michael O. Leavitt Center for Politics & Public Service, Board member	2016 - 2021

SELECT PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Treasurer, Midwest Association of Graduate Schools	2024 - present
Wrote a funded grant proposal (\$1,000) for VFW Auxiliary Post #9076 (Hays, KS)	2022
Educational Testing Service (ETS), Scoring Professional	2019 - present
Land Use Appeal Authority, Enoch City, UT	2019 - 2021
National Society for Experiential Education, Conference Planning Committee	2019
American Society for Public Administration - Utah Council	2018 - 2021

CLIFTONSTRENGTHS TOP THEMES

Intellection | Relator | Strategic | Achiever | Input