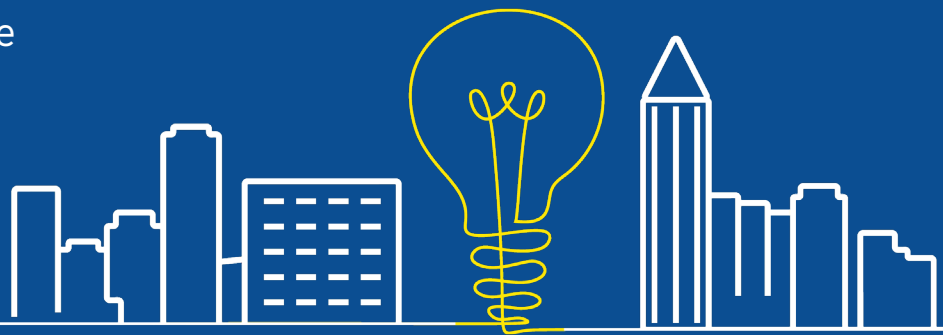


LOCAL GOVERNMENT LAB

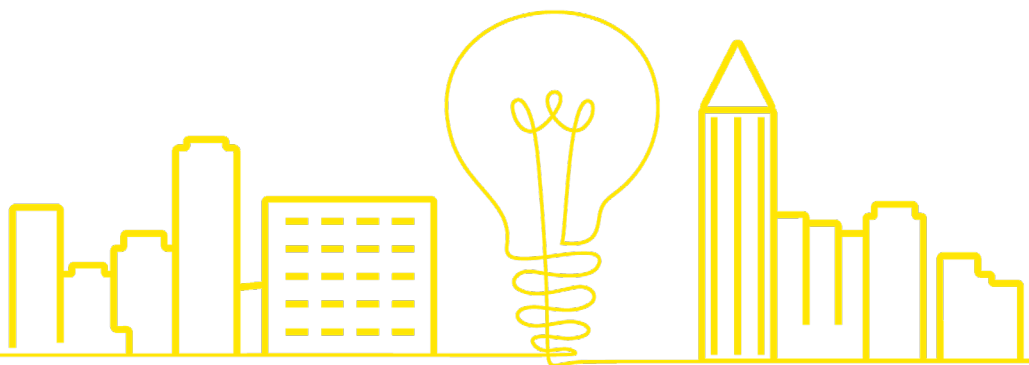
*A Forum for New York State
Researchers, Practitioners,
and Policymakers*

Thursday
March 12, 2020

Presented by the
Rockefeller Institute
of Government



Rockefeller
Institute of Government



AGENDA

9:15 - 9:40 a.m. **Registration and Arrival**

9:45 - 10:00 a.m. **Welcome and Opening Remarks**

Heather Trela, Director of Operations and Fellow,
Rockefeller Institute of Government

10:00 - 11:00 a.m. **Panel 1: Fiscal Monitoring and Tracking**

*Tracking the Financial Progress of Local Governments in
New York State Using the Scorecard Developed by Moody's
Investors Service*

Kevin M. Bronner, Public Service Professor, Rockefeller
College of Public Affairs & Policy, University at Albany

Fiscal Stress in Small Western New York Cities

Gregory P. Rabb, Professor of Political Science,
Jamestown Community College, and Richard P. Nathan
Public Policy Fellow, Rockefeller Institute of Government

*FPWA's Federal Funds Tracker — A Tool to Protect and
Strengthen Federal Grants that Support New York City's
Social Services Budget and Sector*

Derek Thomas, Senior Fiscal Policy Analyst, and
Gaurav Gupta-Casale, Fiscal Policy Analyst, FPWA

11:00 - 11:10 a.m. **Break**

11:10 a.m. - 12:10 p.m. **Panel 2: Community Health and Well-Being**

Targeting Asthma Triggers (TAT) Program

Joseph W. Nimeh, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics,
Department of Pediatrics, SUNY Upstate Medical
University

Applying the Research: Expanding Recycling and Reuse of Construction and Demolition Waste

Matthew P. Adams, Assistant Professor, J.A. Reif, Jr. Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, New Jersey Institute of Technology;

Zhongqi (Joshua) Cheng, Professor, Brooklyn College, The City University of New York;

Terri Matthews, Director, Town + Gown: NYC, NYC DDC; and **Kathleen Prather**, P.E., Chief, Solid Waste Recovery and Medical Waste Section, NYSDEC Division of Materials Management

12:10 - 1:10 p.m.

Lunch

1:10 - 2:35 p.m.

Panel 3: Education Policy

"Promises to Keep": Evaluating the Effects of New York State's Excelsior Scholarship

Michael W. Klein, Richard P. Nathan Public Policy Fellow, Rockefeller Institute of Government

Rural School Reform Using Three Perspectives

Casey Thomas Jakubowski, Associate Director/Lecturer, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

The Road to and from Salary Parity in New York City: Collective Bargaining and Nonprofits in Early Childhood Education

2:35 - 2:45 p.m.

Break

2:45 - 3:45 p.m.

Panel 4: Tracking and Building Local Government Capacity

Multi-Institutional Collaboration for Diversifying the Pipeline into Local, State, and Federal Security and Intelligence Jobs

Corrine (Corri) Zoli, Associate Teaching Professor and Director of Sponsored Research, Syracuse University College of Law/The Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs;

Laura J. Steinberg, Professor/Executive Director, Syracuse University Infrastructure Institute, and Special Assistant the Vice Chancellor, Civil and Environmental Engineering;

Robert B. Murrett, Professor of Practice, The Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, and Deputy Director, Institute for Security Policy and Law; and
Ardie D. Walser, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs for Graduate and Undergraduate Studies, and Professor of Electrical Engineering, Grove School of Engineering, The City College of New York

A Survey of Local Government Spending on Climate Resiliency and Adaptation

Coraline Falco, Research Analyst, Office of the New York State Comptroller

Capital Region Indicators

Mark Castiglione, Director, Capital District Regional Planning Commission, and
Eric Krans, Program Manager, Albany Visualization and Informatics Lab, Geography and Planning Department, University at Albany

3:45 - 3:55 p.m.

Break

3:55 - 4:40 p.m.

Panel 5: State and Local Innovation

Improving WIC, SNAP, and Health Clinic Retention with Behavioral Science

Joseph Boskovski, Managing Director, Maxwell X Lab, The Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs

4:40 - 4:45 p.m.

Closing Remarks

Lisa Parshall, Fellow, Rockefeller Institute of Government

PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES



Kevin M. Bronner

Kevin M. Bronner is a public service professor at the Rockefeller College of Public Affairs & Policy at the University at Albany, State University of New York, where he focuses on the areas of governmental accounting, financial markets, and regulatory studies. He previously served as a Town Board member for the town of Colonie, New York. He has provided accounting training for several organizations such as the Office of the New York State Comptroller and the New York State Government Finance Officers' Association. He is a member of the American Society of Public Administration, the Association for Budgeting & Financial Management, and the New York State Government Finance Officers' Association. He holds a PhD in public administration and an MPA in public administration from the University at Albany. He has been researching local governments since 1984, coauthoring a study on the original New York State Financial Tracking System developed by the Office of the New York State Comptroller.



Gregory Rabb

For ten years, from January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2017, Greg Rabb was the elected president and member-at-large of the Jamestown City Council, where he also served on the Finance Committee. During that time, he was a member of the Council Finance Committee and *ex officio* vice chair of the Jamestown Urban Renewal Agency. He has also been a member of the Jamestown Board of Public Utilities' (BPU) Board of Directors since January 1, 2008, serving as chair of the Board since January 2018. The BPU is responsible for water, wastewater, solid waste, and electricity, paid for by user fees, with customers in and out of the city limits. The Jamestown BPU distributes electricity produced through the Niagara Power Authority as well as generates electricity, sold on the grid, using gas at its power plant in Jamestown. The electric rates are governed by the New York State Public Service Commission.



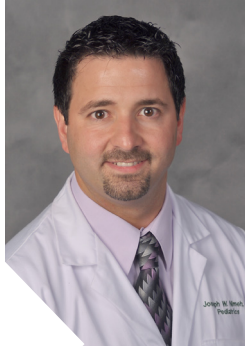
Derek Thomas

Derek Thomas is a senior fiscal policy analyst for FPWA, where he is building and leading a fiscal policy team to analyze the impact of federal fiscal policy proposals on New York City's human services budget and sector. Prior to joining FPWA, Thomas was a fiscal policy fellow for Connecticut Voices for Children, where he analyzed the state budget and advocated for strategic investments in children. Before joining Connecticut Voices for Children in 2015, Thomas served as senior policy analyst for the Indiana Institute for Working Families since 2012, where he focused on state-level economic analysis and policy work to support mobility for low-income families. Throughout his career, Thomas has accompanied his research with visualizations, videos, and other media to better communicate complex policy problems and large sets of data.



Gaurav Gupta-Casale

Gaurav Gupta-Casale joined FPWA's fiscal policy team in 2018 to work on the launch and development of FPWA's Federal Funds Tracker. Before working at FPWA, Gupta-Casale worked at a series of nonprofits in New York City in the field of development, program development, monitoring and evaluation, and data visualization. At the Khan Foundation, Gupta-Casale worked as a consultant to quantitatively measure and visualize the current growth and future projections of the Foundation's College Access Program. He continues to leverage his skill sets in data analysis, data visualization, and program evaluation to advocate for just public policy in New York City.



Joseph W. Nimeh

Joseph Nimeh, MD is an assistant professor of pediatrics at SUNY Upstate Medical University in Syracuse, New York. He completed his undergraduate work at the University of Rochester (1994), and his medical school (2004), pediatrics residency (2007), and chief residency in pediatrics training (2008) at SUNY Upstate. He received a master's degree in medical science, while completing his fellowship in general academic pediatrics at the University of South Florida (2010) before returning to SUNY Upstate to begin practice in general outpatient pediatrics. He has strong interests in preventative medicine, community health, and combating the negative effects of poverty. He is the primary executor of a \$250,000 Central New York Care Collaborative Innovation Fund grant (2018-20), which aims to reduce the burden of asthma in high-risk pediatric patients through interagency collaboration, patient/parent education, direct home assessments, and provision of equipment to reduce asthma triggers in patient's homes.



Matthew Adams

Matthew Adams is an assistant professor at the J.A. Reif, Jr. Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering of the New Jersey Institute of Technology. He studies the chemistry, durability, and design of concrete and cement based materials. He is an internationally recognized expert on the use of recycled concrete as a replacement for natural aggregates in concrete and is involved in several projects examining how best to assess and utilize this resource to improve construction sustainability.



Zhongqi (Joshua) Cheng

Zhongqi Cheng is director of the Environmental Sciences Analytical Center (including the Urban Soils Lab) at Brooklyn College, and a faculty member of the Earth and Environmental Sciences PhD Program at the CUNY Graduate Center and the Macaulay Honors College. He is an associate editor for the *Journal of Environmental Quality*, co-founder of the NYC Urban Soils Institute, and a member of the Healthy Soils, Healthy Communities Project and the Legacy Lead Coalition. Cheng explores green and sustainable solutions for urban environmental sustainability issues. His research integrates field monitoring, lab analysis, experiments, and outreach. His group's work revolves around urban soils in natural and human modified systems. He works closely with agencies and community organizations to carry out research projects. Currently, the focus is on (1) lead contamination in urban gardens in New York City, (2) green infrastructure systems in New York City, and (3) beneficial use of urban solid wastes, including construction and demolition waste (C&D) and biosolids.



Terri Matthews

Terri Matthews is the director of Town + Gown: NYC, a citywide university-community partnership program, based at the New York City Department of Design and Construction, for applied research in the built environment. A graduate of Boston College, Boston College Law School, and New York University Wagner Graduate School for Public Service, Matthews has worked in both the public and private sectors. She is also a MS candidate at NYU/Tandon in Urban Infrastructure Systems. In addition to her public finance law experience at several national bond firms, Matthews' governmental experience in New York City spans both the legislative and executive branches. Her areas of focus have included public budgeting, public finance, performance measurement, public procurement, and built environment public policy.



Kathleen Prather

Kathleen Prather leads a group of engineers and scientists in the Solid Waste Recovery and Medical Waste Section at New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's Division of Materials Management, whose responsibilities include regulation of recycling facilities and beneficial reuse, in addition to guidance development, rulemaking, and data analysis for these activities across New York State. Prather herself has nearly 20 years' experience in DEC's beneficial use program, including policymaking for the reuse of soils, concrete, and other construction wastes. She currently helps oversee DEC-funded academic research into greater use of postconsumer recyclables such as glass, plastic, and tire rubber in construction



Michael W. Klein

Michael W. Klein is a Richard P. Nathan Public Policy Fellow at the Rockefeller Institute of Government and an associate member of the faculty of the PhD in Higher Education Program at Rutgers University. Klein was the interim executive director of the William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy at Stockton University (2018-19), and he served 19 years at the New Jersey Association of State Colleges and Universities, first as the director of government and legal affairs (1998-2011), and then as executive director (2012-17). He has held several positions in state government, including assistant counsel to New Jersey Governor Christine Todd Whitman. Klein has published articles on higher education policy, finance, and law. His articles have appeared in publications such as the *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, the *Journal of Education Finance*, and the *Journal of College and University Law*.



Casey Thomas Jakubowski

Casey T. Jakubowski holds a PhD in education policy and leadership from the University at Albany. His career includes service as a rural educator, urban administrator, and serving as a New York State Education Department School Improvement specialist. He now teaches leadership development at RPI and has taught undergraduate and graduate level courses at multiple institutions in social sciences and humanities disciplines. Jakubowski has presented and published internationally, nationally, and locally, and authored a book titled *Thinking About Teaching*.



Corrine Zoli

Corrine (Corri) Zoli is an associate teaching professor and director of research at the Institute for Security Policy and Law, a joint research center at The Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs and the College of Law at Syracuse University. Zoli's research focuses on the contemporary problems of warfare from an interdisciplinary social science, public policy, and law perspective, with attention to the culture and governance of contemporary conflict dynamics, changing patterns of global conflict, and the role of international humanitarian law in contemporary conflict dynamics. She is a senior researcher at the Institute for Vets & Military Families (IVMF) at Syracuse University; a faculty member in political science and international relations at The Maxwell School; an honorary professor at the Institute for Religion, Politics & Society at Australian Catholic University, Melbourne; and chair of the Academic Advisory Board for the Warrior-Scholar Project.



Laura J. Steinberg

Laura J. Steinberg, PhD is a professor of civil and environmental engineering at Syracuse University; executive director of the interdisciplinary Syracuse University Infrastructure Institute; and interim executive director of SyracuseCoE, New York State's official Center of Excellence for Environmental and Energy Systems. Steinberg's research focuses on infrastructure management and finance, critical infrastructure protection, environmental modeling, and engineering education innovation. Her work includes risk analyses for the prevention of technological disasters; analysis of design choices contributing to the failure of New Orleans' floodwalls during Hurricane Katrina; examination of infrastructures used by terrorist organizations; and modeling of infrastructure resilience. She currently studies academic collaborations between engineering and public policy faculty. Steinberg holds a BSE in civil and urban engineering from the University of Pennsylvania and an MS and PhD in environmental engineering from Duke University.



Robert B. Murrett

Since 2011, Vice Admiral Robert B. Murrett (retired) has been a faculty member at The Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs' Department of Public Administration and International Affairs and deputy director of the Syracuse University Institute for Security Policy and Law. He holds a courtesy faculty appointment with the Forensic and National Security Sciences Institute and is on the Advisory Board of the Institute for Vets & Military Families, both at Syracuse University. In 2016, Murrett was the recipient of the Birkhead-Burkhead Teaching Excellence Award and Professorship at The Maxwell School. In addition, he is a staff member at the RAND Corporation and the Institute for Defense Analyses, and he chairs the MITRE Intelligence Advisory Board.



Ardie D. Walser

Ardie D. Walser is the associate dean of academic affairs for graduate and undergraduate studies at the Grove School of Engineering, and professor of electrical engineering at the City College and Graduate Center of The City University of New York. The Grove School is one of the most diverse engineering schools in the country, with eight nationally recognized programs granting bachelors, and master's degrees with five also granting PhD degrees. During Walser's tenure at The Grove School of Engineering, he has a wide range of accomplishments including the creation of several joint/dual degree engineering programs that have increased the opportunities in science and engineering for women, Hispanics, African Americans, and other under-represented groups. His implementation of effective advising protocols has increased the retention and graduation rate of undergraduate and graduate students. He has extensive experience in accreditation and evaluation of academic programs and has led several successful accreditation campaigns during his tenure as associate dean. Walser has also established robust connections with industry resulting in research and funding opportunities for faculty and employment and internships for students.



Coraline Falco

Coraline Falco has been a member of the Research Unit in the Division of Local Government and School Accountability of the Office of the New York State Comptroller since 2007. She was in the workgroup that created the OSC Fiscal Stress Monitoring System and she continues to study the fiscal condition of and funding for local governments and school districts. More recently, she has researched municipal issues such as combined sewer systems, and recycling and the use of advanced technologies, among others. Coraline has graduate degrees in local government finance from The Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University and in environmental policy from SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry.



Mark Castiglione

Mark Castiglione, AICP has led the Capital District Regional Planning Commission since 2016. Throughout his career, he has worked to advance regional planning, economic development and environmental protection using a collaborative approach focused on finding common ground, leveraging assets, and working toward shared goals. He is a certified planner by the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) and currently serves as the president of the New York Upstate State Chapter of the American Planning Association.



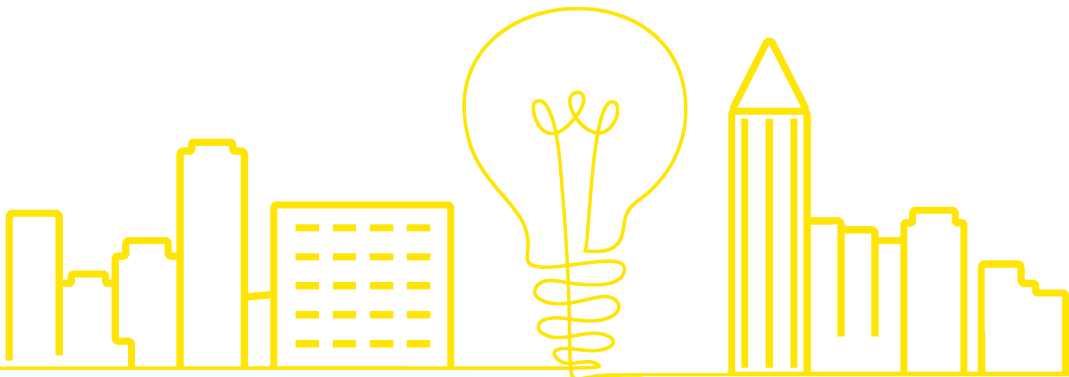
Eric Krans

Eric Krans manages business development at AVAIL (Albany Visualization and Informatics Lab), which is part of the Lewis Mumford Center for Demographic Analysis in the Geography and Planning Department at the University at Albany, State University of New York. Krans has been project manager for a variety of clients ranging from low-income urban constituents to state agencies, national foundations, and federal agencies including the US Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration.



Joseph Boskovski

As a co-founder of the Maxwell X Lab at The Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Joe Boskovski has led work in running several field experiments with local governments — often using behavioral science — to build evidence for what works. Before returning to Syracuse in 2017, he worked on intervention and experimental design at the University of Pennsylvania and The Behavioral Insights Team across a range of policy domains. He, along with the Lab, specialize in applied behavioral science research, randomized controlled trial design, and experimental evaluation with governments.

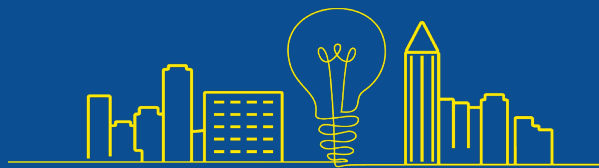




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