




**MITTENSS**

Michigan State Interdisciplinary
Training in Education and
Social Science







2024-25 Education Policy Speaker Series

Fri Sept 20th 10:30am- Noon	Jennifer Jennings, <i>Princeton University</i> 	<p>Dr. Jennings is the Director of Education Research Section (ERS) which supports research, publication, and teaching on matters relating to education policy and practice. Her research interests are racial, socioeconomic, and gender disparities in educational and health outcomes. A Princeton alumna, earned a B.A. cum laude from the Woodrow Wilson School, and a certificate in Program in Teacher Preparation-NJ Social Studies Certification, a Masters of Philosophy in Education from the University of Cambridge, UK and a Ph.D. in Sociology from Columbia University with distinction.</p> <p>https://ilj.scholar.princeton.edu/</p>
Fri Oct 18th 10:30am- Noon	Hayley Weddle, <i>University of Pittsburgh</i> 	<p>Hayley Weddle is an assistant professor in the Department of Educational Foundations, Organizations, and Policy at the University of Pittsburgh. Her research addresses how leaders across K-12 and higher education implement policies in ways that enable or constrain equity. Across her work, Dr. Weddle is committed to developing reciprocal partnerships between educational leaders, policymakers, and researchers. She is currently leading a national partnership of researchers and state education agency leaders focused on advancing equity for multilingual learners. As an instructor, she enjoys teaching courses on pressing equity issues in education policy as well as qualitative research methods. She holds an M.A. in Higher Education Leadership from San Diego State University and a Ph.D. in Education from the University of California, San Diego.</p> <p>https://www.education.pitt.edu/faculty/directory/hayley-weddle/</p>
Fri Nov 15th 10:30am- Noon	Stacey Brockman, <i>Wayne State University</i> 	<p>Stacey L. Brockman, Ph.D. is an assistant professor of educational leadership and policy studies at Wayne State University. Through work as a teacher, teacher educator, and intervention specialist, she developed an understanding of how educational policies and environments shape students' college and career readiness and pathways. Brockman's work aims to advance equitable access to postsecondary education. She conducts partner-engaged research alongside school leaders and policy-makers that informs the implementation of educational programs and policies. Her recent research has examined Detroit high school graduates' college access and pathways; the ways in which career mentoring can shape high schoolers' readiness for college; and the impacts of the Detroit Promise Path community college coaching program.</p> <p>https://education.wayne.edu/profile/hq3675</p>



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY College of Education

<p>Fri, Jan 24th 10:30am- Noon</p>	<p>Mark Chin, <i>Vanderbilt University</i></p> 	<p>Mark Chin is an Assistant Professor of Education Policy and Inequality at Peabody College of Vanderbilt University. Dr. Chin studies school integration, school choice, racial bias in education, and how schools affect students' racial attitudes, prosocial behaviors, and equity-aligned sociopolitical preferences. His research is motivated by the belief that key to addressing persistent disparities in society is uncovering how schools might reduce negative outgroup prejudices, increase prosociality, and foster widespread commitment to advancing equity. Dr. Chin's work has been published in peer-reviewed journals. He received his PhD in Education from Harvard University in 2022.</p> <p>https://peabody.vanderbilt.edu/bio/?pid=mark-chin</p>
<p>Fri, Feb 28th 10:30am- Noon</p>	<p>Matthew Ronfeldt, <i>University of Michigan</i></p> 	<p>Matt Ronfeldt seeks to understand how to improve teaching quality, particularly in schools and districts that serve minoritized and marginalized students. His research sits at the intersection of educational practice and policy and focuses on teacher preparation, induction, and professional development, the recruitment and retention of teachers and especially teachers of color, and the assessment of teachers and preparation programs. Ronfeldt earned his PhD from Stanford University, concentrating on teacher education. He completed two more years at Stanford as an IES postdoctoral fellow in the Institute for Research on Educational Policy and Practice.</p> <p>https://marsal.umich.edu/directory/faculty-staff/matthew-stephen-ronfeldt</p>
<p>Fri, Mar 21st 10:30am- Noon</p>	<p>Anya Samek, <i>University of Southern California</i></p> 	<p>Before joining the Rady School, Samek was an Associate Professor (Research) of Economics at the University of Southern California. Samek is the recipient of the 2020 Vernon L. Smith Ascending Scholar Prize. She is a Faculty Research Fellow at the National Bureau of Economic Research, an Affiliate of the FAIR Centre at the Norwegian School of Economics and an affiliate of CESR at the University of Southern California. Samek has published over 50 articles in peer reviewed journals and received numerous federal and foundation grants. Samek earned a Ph.D. in Economics from Purdue University and completed post-doctoral training at the University of Chicago.</p> <p>https://rady.ucsd.edu/faculty-research/faculty/anya-samek.html</p>
<p>Fri, Apr 4th 10:30am- Noon</p>	<p>Leslie Finger, <i>University of North Texas</i></p> 	<p>Leslie Finger is an Assistant Professor of Political Science within the University of North Texas College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences. Her research focuses on state and local politics, interest groups, and the politics of education. Her recent projects look at how politics have shaped school reopening decisions during the COVID-19 pandemic as well as how school choice policies have polarized education interest groups over time, etc. Finger currently holds the Best Public Policy Paper and has ample published contributions from her research. Dr. Finger received her PhD in Political Science from Harvard University in 2017.</p> <p>https://politicalscience.unt.edu/people/leslie-k-finger</p>

