

MICHAEL U. VILLARREAL

August 2018

Contact

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Dept of Educational Leadership & Policy Studies
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Education

- 2018 Ph.D., Public Policy
LBJ School of Public Affairs, The University of Texas at Austin
- 1996 Master of Public Policy
Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University
- 1993 B.S., Economics, *summa cum laude*
Texas A&M University, College Station

Research Interests

Student transitions from secondary to postsecondary education. Quantitative analysis of education policy. Policymaking processes and institutional change. Education leadership.

Research Experience

- 2016- Research Fellow, Ray Marshall Center, The University of Texas at Austin
Serve as lead project manager and principal investigator for a research collaborative of local education agencies in the San Antonio MSA. Provide quantitative research services helping education leaders answer questions that require use of the Texas state longitudinal data system, which follows students from Kinder through college and into the workforce. Performing first annually updated longitudinal study of postsecondary education and employment outcomes of cohorts of eighth-grade students, which follows students into adulthood.
- 1993-1994 Research Assistant, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System
Provided econometric research assistance to three economists. Built and analyzed large data sets of banking and consumer activity using SAS in support of two projects: a Plan to Consolidate Federal Banking Examiners and a Study of the Effects of Confidential Bank Exams on Stock Prices
- 1990 Research Fellow, Sociology Department, The University of Michigan
Analyzed the business experiences of Hispanic entrepreneurs of a Spanish-language enclave in Detroit, Michigan, under the supervision of Dr. Silvia Pedraza. Created, tested, and applied in-person survey instrument.

Professional Experience

- 2012- Policy Analyst, Mission Street Consulting
Provide impact evaluations using advance statistical modeling techniques that result in the estimation of return on investment and effect sizes of policy and program interventions. Consulting services help education policy leaders and funders improve their program operations and design. Also, provide legislative and policy analysis services to education advocates.
- 2014-15 Mayoral Candidate, City of San Antonio
Ran a citywide campaign with an agenda to promote education and workforce development and modernize transportation options.
- 2000-15 State Representative, Texas House of Representatives
Served as Chairman of Investments and Financial Services, member of the Public Education Committee, and member of the Select Joint Oversight Committee on Higher Education. Served on Ways and Means and Appropriations. Authored and passed legislation that improved rates of college enrollment and completion by increasing financial aid and credit transfer; reformed the state's business tax; reduced standardized testing in secondary education; and created new state funding for adult education.
- 2009-11 Senior Managing Consultant, Public Financial Management, San Antonio, Texas
Led the San Antonio office of PFM as a licensed public finance professional. Provided financial advisory services to nonprofit and local government organizations including financial operations modeling, capital improvement planning, debt structuring, and facilitating debt transactions. Worked with rating agencies and lenders to achieve the highest credit rating possible at lowest borrowing costs.
- 2004-09 Managing Director, SAMCO Capital Markets, Inc., San Antonio, Texas
Provided financial advisory and underwriting services including financial and market analysis, capital planning, debt management, and executed new debt transactions. Was registered with the NASD as a General Securities Representative and held a Uniform Securities Agent State Law License.
- 1997-07 Data Analyst, Dialogue Systems, San Antonio, Texas
Provided statistical analysis and modeling services to political campaigns. Helped campaigns target and mobilize voters.
- 1996-97 Public Finance Analyst, Hausrath Economics Group, Oakland, California
Performed financial modeling and fiscal analysis for local governments planning for capital improvements.
- 1995 Public Finance Analyst, JP Morgan Securities, Houston, Texas
Analyzed debt portfolios of public entities. Worked with a team to refinance a debt issue. Developed new client relationships.

Teaching Experience

- 2016-18 Adjunct Professor, The University of Texas at Austin, LBJ School of Public Affairs
Taught a two-semester-long graduate class titled Evidence-based Education Policy. Students learned how to critically read and synthesize existing education research, communicate findings to policymakers, draft legislation, and argue for their policy positions. Instructed an independent study for two graduate students who conducted a qualitative analysis of teacher and student perceptions of dual credit implementation in Bexar County. (Three semester-long courses)
- 2011-14 Adjunct Professor, Trinity University, Education Department
Taught three classes within the master's in education leadership degree program and one undergraduate class in Urban Studies. Classes include school law, public school finance, and education policy. (Four semester-long courses)
- 2004 Adjunct Professor, St. Mary's University, Political Science Department
Taught two undergraduate classes titled State and Local Government and one class titled School Finance. (Three semester-long courses)
- 2003-04 Adjunct Professor, University of Incarnate Word, Political Science Department
Taught two undergraduate classes titled State and Local Government. (Two semester-long courses)

Service

- 2013- Board of Directors, Achieving the Dream, Silver Springs, Maryland
Provide review and oversight of the organization's operations and budget. Serve as Chair of the Program Committee, which oversaw the development of the organization's new strategic plan. Work closely with our leadership team in reviewing our work with initiatives that receive special funding to advance specific community college initiatives.

Academic Papers

- 2018 The Impact of Dual Credit as a School District Policy on Secondary and Postsecondary Student Outcomes (in review at the Journal of Education Finance and Policy)
- 2018 The Effects of Student Grant Aid on Education and Workforce Outcomes during and after College (submitted to Journal of Policy Analysis and Management)
- 2018 Texas Higher Education Finance during periods of Bipartisan and Republican Leadership, 1995 to 2013 (in process of submitting to the Review of Higher Education)
- 2018 Where Our Students Go: A longitudinal Analysis of Bexar County Student Success in Postsecondary Education and Work, Eight-Grade Cohorts 2001 to 2011 (Working paper)
- 2018 The Family School Community Partnership: An Evaluation of a School-based Parent Engagement Initiative (Policy Brief)

- 1996 Cost Benefit Analysis of Alternative Wastewater Treatment Systems on the US-Mexico Border (master's degree thesis)
- 1993 Survival Rates of Hispanic Businesses of San Antonio: A Hazard Rate Analysis of Hispanic Businesses that Operate in and outside of Spanish-language Enclaves (bachelor's thesis)

Conference Papers

- 2018 The Impact of Dual Credit as a School District Policy on Secondary and Postsecondary Student Outcomes, American Education Research Association Conference, New York City
- 2017 The Effects of Student Grant Aid on Education and Workforce Outcomes during and after College, Association for Education Finance and Policy, Washington DC
- 2016 The Effects of Student Grant Aid on Education and Workforce Outcomes during and after College, Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, Washington DC

Newspaper Policy Commentary

- 2015 "Get back to the bargaining table." San Antonio Express-News. Jan. 7, 2015
- 2014 "City should do independent audit of fire, policy numbers." San Antonio Express-News. Nov. 30, 2014
- 2014 "A warning about payday loan trap." Corpus Christi Caller-Times. June 13, 2014
- 2014 "Cities should pass payday, auto title lending reform ordinance." Midland Reporter Telegram. Co-authored with Rep. Tom Craddick. Apr. 1, 2014
- 2014 "Predatory lending hurts Texas families" Co-authored with Rep. Craig Eiland and Sen. Rodney Ellis. Galveston County Daily News. Mar. 23, 2014
- 2013 "Overdue appraisal reform becomes law." San Antonio Express-News. July 29, 2013
- 2012 "Future of Texas begins in kindergarten classrooms." San Antonio Express-News. Sept. 24, 2012
- 2012 "Education cuts carry big costs." San Antonio Express-News. Jan. 20, 2012
- 2011 "Education key to a better Texas." San Antonio Express-News. July 6, 2011
- 2011 "Texas needs citizens panel to review tax structure." San Antonio Express-News. Jan. 8, 2011
- 2010 "Texas tax structure for cloud computing causing drought." Austin American-Statesman. April 19, 2010
- 2009 "Everyone wins with voluntary solar program." San Antonio Express-News. Dec. 24, 2009
- 2009 "Transportation solutions require united effort." San Antonio Express-News. Mar. 9, 2009
- 2008 "Small business needs help, too." Fort Worth Star-Telegram. Mar. 9, 2008
- 2007 "Battle won't end for fair tax system." San Antonio Express-News. Dec. 23, 2007
- 2007 "New fund for tuition a dream come true." San Antonio Express-News. May 21, 2007
- 2007 "Sales price disclosure would balance property tax burden." Austin American-Statesman. Jan. 24, 2007

- 2005 "Raise revenue by closing business tax loophole." San Antonio Express-News. Dec. 22, 2005
- 2005 "HB3 skews the future of young Texans." San Antonio Express-News. July 14, 2005.
- 2005 "House was never informed." Co-authored with Rep. Jim Keffer. Fort Worth Star-Telegram. Mar. 27, 2005.
- 2003 "Demand tax reform to boost schools." San Antonio Express-News. Nov. 10, 2003

Honors & Awards

- 2011 Texas Monthly "One of 10 Best Legislators"
- 2005 Texas Monthly "One of 10 Best Legislators"
- 2009 Texas Renewable Energy Industry Association - "State Leadership Award"
- 2005 Legislator of the Year: Texas Municipal League
- 2003 Legislator of the Year: Human Rights Commission
- 2001 Legislator of the Year: Texas Assoc. for the Education of Young Children
- 1994-96 Woodrow Wilson Fellowship in Public Policy and Global Studies
- 1995 American Economic Association Minority Student Fellowship, Stanford University
- 1994 Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System Research Fellowship
- 1990 Summer Research Opportunity Fellowship, The University of Michigan

Professional Associations

- 2018- American Education Research Association, Quantitative Methods Division
- 2016- Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management
- 2016- Association for Education Finance and Policy