

Wen Wang' s Academic Achievement

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This afternoon, we are here to get together to celebrate the life and scholarly accomplishments of our friend, Dr. Wen Wang.

Dr. Wang's research focuses on intergovernmental fiscal relations, capital budgeting and finance, and education policy and finance. During his academic career that was unexpectedly cut short by cancer, he published numerous articles, including some of the top journals in our field such as *Public Budgeting and Finance*, *Journal of Education Finance*, *Publius*, *World Development*, and *Journal of Contemporary Asia*. He also had many book chapters and research reports. Even as of today, his scholarly work is still forthcoming and there are still journal manuscripts and a book under review.

His scholarship is definitely nationally and internationally recognized. For example, his co-authored article on capital investment by New York school districts, which was published in *National Tax Journal*, received the Richard A. Musgrave Prize for the best paper published in that journal in 2011. He was also the recipient of the Best Conference Manuscript Award by the Public Budgeting and Finance Section of the Western Social Sciences Association Conference in 2009.

Many scholars all over the world continue to cite his publications because of his ability to combine theory and empirical research, methodological rigor, and his unique ability to dissect interesting and important questions about intergovernmental relations and education finance layers after layers and get deeper and deeper in resolving challenging policy questions. His work is not only important within our academic circle, but also impactful for the practitioner world, especially among policymakers in China who are eager to benefit from Dr. Wang's insights about how governments should deal with interjurisdictional inequity and how to make better intergovernmental arrangement.

We also miss Dr. Wang because of his love and support for his students. Dr. Wang taught at East Carolina University, University of South Carolina, City University of Hong Kong, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, and Rutgers University in Newark. Especially during his stay at City University of Hong Kong and Rutgers University, he mentored many young graduate students, taught them patiently, and co-authored with them. All these showed Dr. Wang's generosity and care for others, sometimes even more than how he cared for his own health. His hard work, delegation to excellence, and willingness to help others succeed have shown us what a great scholar should be like. He clearly has inspired and impacted many young scholars' lives, some of whom have now become productive scholars themselves in various fields, teaching in major universities in the world.

Wen was also a leader in our field. He was an editorial board member of the Journal of Public Budgeting, Accounting, and Financial Management. He was also a founding member, former Treasurer, and Long-time member of the China-America Association for Public Affairs, and the elected President of the Association in 2017-2018.

His unexpected and too-early departure from all of us is indeed a sad loss for his students, his colleagues, and for the field of public budgeting and finance. However, he will continue to live in our hearts, and his scholarly impacts and professional legacy will continue to last for generations to come because of his excellent publications, his tender care and support for his students, and his work that builds solid institutions in our field.

Wen, We are grateful for what you did for so many of us. We will miss you as a scholar, as a teacher, and as a dear friend.