

[Current, as of September 8, 2025]

SooHo Lee, Ph.D.

Professor of Public Administration
Director of the Master of Public Administration (MPA) Program
Department of Civic Engagement and Public Service
University of West Georgia.
1601 Maple Street, Carrollton, GA 30118, (Office) 678-839-4991, (Fax) 678-839-5009
E-mail: slee@westga.edu

Education

Ph.D. Public Policy, Georgia Institute of Technology 2004
MPA (Mater of Public Administration). Iowa State University 2000
B.A.(Political Science and Diplomacy) Kyungpook National University, Korea, 1988

Employment

Professor, Department of Civic Engagement and Public Service, University of West Georgia, August 2021 ~ current)
Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, University of West Georgia, August 2012 ~ July 2021
Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University of West Georgia, August 2006 ~ July 2012
Visiting Assistant Professor, School of Public Policy, Georgia Institute of Technology, August 2005 ~ May 2006
Post-Doctoral Fellow, Georgia Institute of Technology, January 2005 ~ July 2005
Research & Teaching Assistant, Georgia Institute of Technology, August 2000 ~ December 2004

Teaching

Undergraduate courses: American Government, Political Science Methods I & II, Science, Technology, & Human Values, Management of Nonprofit Organizations, Grant Writing for Nonprofit Organizations, Science and Technology Policy, Public Finance, Organizations and Policy Implementation, Emergency Management, and Interorganizational Behavior

Graduate courses: Research Methods for Public Administration, Public Budgeting & Financial Management, Policy Analysis & Program Evaluation, Public Human Resource Management, Management of Nonprofit Organizations, Grant Writing for Nonprofit Organizations, Science and Technology Policy, and Organizational Theory

Publications & Professional Activities

a. Peer-reviewed

Bruce D. McDonald III, et al. (2024) "Establishing an Agenda for Public Budgeting and Finance Research." *Public Finance Journal* 1(1):9-28. <https://doi.org/10.59469/pfj.2024.15>

Lee, Sooho. (2023). Revenue Source Trends and Changes in Local Governments: A Case Study of Georgia. *Journal of Public Administration, Public Affairs, and Management*. 21(2): 1-24.

Lee, Sooho, Carolyn Fonseca, & Cameron Bess. (2023). How Scientists from Developing and Developed Countries View International Research Collaboration: A Case Study of the USAID PEER Program. *Journal of Developing Societies*. 39(3): 373-396. DOI: 10.1177/0169796X231186057

Lee, Sooho. (2023). Determinants of Hotel/Motel Tax Rates in Local Governments. *Journal of Management Policy and Practices*. 24(2): 104 – 114.

SooHo Lee. (2020). Role of MPA Education as a Professional Hub: Views from Local Government Managers. *Studies in the Social Sciences*. 1(1): 23-41.

SooHo Lee & Ryan T. Fleming. (2015). Collaborative disaster management in local governments: perception, performance, and challenges. *International Journal of Emergency Management*. 11(4): 343-355.

SooHo Lee & Robert Sanders. (2013). Fridays are furlough days: Impacts and strategies of furlough policy on human resources management under a severe economic recession. *Review of Public Personnel Administration*. 33(3): 299-311.

SooHo Lee & Gordon Kingsley. (2009). Impact of Insider Factors on Contracting Management in Public Organizations. *Review of Public Personnel Administration*. 29(3): 270-292.

Robert M. Sanders & SooHo Lee. (2009). Determinants of Public Support for Education Sales Tax Initiatives in Georgia. *Journal of Education Finance*. 34(3): 267-288.

SooHo Lee & Barry Bozeman. (2005). The impact of research collaboration on research productivity. *Social Studies of Science*. 35(5): 665-685.

b. Conference presentations

SooHo Lee, "Conflicts and Negotiations Between Counties and Municipalities: A Case Study of Service Delivery Strategy and Local Option Sales Tax Distribution in Georgia," ASPA Conference, April 1, 2025, Washington, D.C.

SooHo Lee and Kathleen Barrett, "The Impact of Guest Speakers in Professional Graduate Courses: The Master of Public Administration (MPA) Case," Innovation in Pedagogy Conference, May 16, 2024, UWG

SooHo Lee "Determinants of hotel/motel tax rates in Georgia local governments" ASPA Conference, March 18, 2022, Jacksonville Florida

SooHo Lee "Revenue Sources in Georgia Local Governments: Changes and Trends," Georgia ASPA Conference, March 31, 2022 (Virtual)

SooHo Lee "Revenue diversification and new own-source revenues in Georgia local governments" SECOPA Conference, Sep 23, 2021 (Virtual)

SooHo Lee, "Mentoring practices in local governments: Is mentoring an effective tool for human resource development?" SECOPA Conference, Baton Rouge, LA September 5-7, 2019

SooHo Lee, "Searching for New Revenue Sources in Local Governments: Recent Challenges and Innovations," SECOPA Conference, Birmingham, AL September 20-22, 2018

SooHo Lee and Carolyn Fonseca, "How do scientists in developing and developed countries differ in research collaboration? An analysis of collaboration strategies and outcomes" UWG COSS Interdisciplinary Conference, October 4, 2018

SooHo Lee and Carolyn Fonseca, "Building Research Capacity through International Collaboration: The PEER Study Case," APPAM Conference, Washington, D.C, November 8-10, 2018

SooHo Lee, "Strategic use of advisory boards in nonprofit organizations: The case of local partnership development," ASPA Conference, Atlanta, Mar 17-21, 2017

SooHo Lee, "Mentoring as a Human Resource Development Strategy in Local Government: Perception, Progress, and a New Direction", Southeastern Conference on Public Administration (SECOPA) Oct 16, 2016, Raleigh, NC.

SooHo Lee, "Do Public Administration Help Public Administration", ASPA Mar 22, 2016, Seattle, WA

SooHo Lee, "Public Administration Education and Practice: Views from Local Government Managers", SECOPA Sep 30 – Oct 3, 2015, Charleston, SC.

SooHo Lee, "Mentoring as a Human Resource Development Strategy in Local Government: Perception, Progress, and a New Direction", ASPA, March 14-18, 2014, Washington, D.C.

SooHo Lee, "Local government managers' perception of collaboration in handling disasters" SECOPA, September 26-28, 2013, Charlotte NC

SooHo Lee, "What does collaboration mean for local government managers in handling disasters?" MPSA, April 11-14, 2013, Chicago IL

SooHo Lee, "Social Needs and Research Agenda Setting in Academic Research" APPAM Conference, Nov 3-5, 2011, Washington, DC.

SooHo Lee, "Revisiting the Pasteur's Quadrant 30 Years after the Bayh-Dole Act: Understanding, Use, and Beyond" 2011 Annual Midwest Political Science Association Conference, March 31 – April 3, 2011, Chicago, Illinois

SooHo Lee, "The Impact of Expanding Sales Tax Option on Local Government Budget Strategies: The Case of Georgia Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST)" 2011 ASPA Annual Conference March 12, 2010, Baltimore MD

SooHo Lee and Robert Sanders, ““Fridays are furlough days:” Impacts and strategies of furlough policy on human resources management under a severe economic recession,” SECoPA, October 13-16, 2010, Wilmington, NC.

SooHo Lee and Gordon Kingsley, “Optimizing Contracting-out for Technical Services in Government: An Economy of Scope Strategy” ASPA Conference, March 7-11, 2008, Dallas, Texas

SooHo Lee, “Right Size of Government: A Threshold Effect of Population on Local Government Employment,” SECoPA, September 26-29, 2007, Nashville, TN

Robert Sanders and SooHo Lee, “Determinants of Public Support for Sales Tax Initiatives for Education: Lessons from a Growing Sunbelt State,” APPAM, November 8-10, 2007, Washington, D.C.

SooHo Lee, “Public organizational innovation: who and what support it?” (28th APPAM Conference, Madison Wisconsin, November 2-4, 2006)

SooHo Lee and Gordon Kingsley, “Becoming the farm team: career paths of public engineers under conditions of outsourcing,” (27th APPAM Conference, Washington DC, November 3-5, 2005)

SooHo Lee and Gordon Kingsley, “Outsourcing core and non-core competencies: a study of alternative strategies for building managerial capacity” (8th PMRA conference, Los Angeles, September 30 – October 1, 2005)

SooHo Lee, “Research activity and performance of foreign-born scientists in the United States,” (APPAM conference, Atlanta, Oct 28, 2004)

c. Technical Reports

SooHo Lee (2023) *NASPAA Reaccreditation Report*, Submitted to Commission on Peer Review and Accreditation, NASPAA, Prepared for the UWG MPA Program.

SooHo Lee (2018) *NASPAA Reaccreditation Report*, Submitted to Commission on Peer Review and Accreditation, NASPAA, Prepared for the UWG MPA Program.

Gordon Kingsley and SooHo Lee (2005) *Strategies to Strengthen Consultant Management in the Georgia Department of Transportation*. GDOT Research Project Number 2020, Prepared for the Georgia Department of Transportation, Feb 2005

Gordon Kingsley, Robert Eger III, and SooHo Lee (2005) *Feasibility Study of Comprehensive Maintenance Contracts in the Georgia*, Georgia Department of Transportation. Prepared for the Georgia Department of Transportation, Oct 2005

d. Other publications

SooHo Lee, 2024, *Unsung Heroes: The Vital Role of MPA Directors in Small MPA Programs*, PA Times, May 17, 2024 <https://patimes.org/unsung-heroes-the-vital-role-of-mpa-directors-in-small-mpa-programs/>

SooHo Lee (2007, 2015-revision) “Scientific Productivity” *The Blackwell Encyclopedia of Sociology*. Ritzer Georgie (ed). Blackwell Publishing

e. Grants

2021 University College Summer Initiative: \$3,000 (awarded) “Diversity, Equity and Inclusion for the MPA Courses”

COSS 2019 Summer Stipend Program: Course Development (Service Learning), \$5,000

2019-2020 Faculty Research Grant (FRGs): \$5,000 “Searching for New Revenue Sources in Local Governments - Recent Challenges and Innovations”

COSS 2018 Summer Stipend Program: Research, \$5,000

COSS 2017 Summer Stipend Program: Research, \$2,500

2016-2017 Faculty Research Grant: “Research Collaboration, Value, and Contributions of Scientists at Less Research-oriented Institutions” \$4,000

2016-2017 SRAP Grant: “Collaborative Role of Nonprofit Organizations for Local Innovation and Development” \$1,475

COSS 2016 Summer Stipend Program: Advanced Online Course Development, \$2,500

UWG 2014 President’s Development Award (PDA) Grant (\$2000): “Public Administration Education and Practice: Views from Local Government Managers” Fall 2014

UWG 2010 Faculty Research Grant (\$1500): “Revisiting the Pasteur’s Quadrant: How much does “use” inspire scientists in conducting their research?” Fall 2010

UWG 2008 Faculty Research Grant (\$1500): “Collaborative Public Management: Practices and Perceptions” Fall 2008

UWG SRAP award (\$2100), May 2007: “New Federalism – From Limited by Design To Coordinated Network”

UWG SRAP award (\$1200), Fall 2006: “Hurricane Katrina: Politics, Public Policy, and Social Change”

Services

a. Institution

Director of the Master of Public Administration Program (May 2017 ~)

Graduate Program Committee (August 2020 ~)

Graduate School Advisory Committee (August 2021 ~ May 2022)

COSS Center for Research Affiliate (Nov 2017 ~ May 2019)

Council Chair and Past Chair, COSS Faculty Council (August 2016 ~ July 2018)

Chair and member, Promotion and Tenure Committees (several times)

Poli Sci Curriculum Committee member (Aug 2016 ~)

Member of Engage West Survey Committee (August 2014 ~ 2016)

Director of the Graduate Certificate Program of Nonprofit Management and Community Development (August 2014 ~)

ICPSR Official Representative (since September 2013 ~)

Faculty Council Member, the College of Social Sciences (2011~2012)

Committee member, Institutional Studies and Planning Committee (2008 ~ 2010)

Chair of Department Post-tenure Review Committee (Fall 2014)

Co-coordinator for *Big Night* (Social Science Division, Research Competition for Undergraduates) 2007 ~ 2014

Editorial Board member, *Studies in the Social Sciences* (a journal published by UWG) 2009 ~2014

Chair and member of Department Search committees (several times)

Committee member on the Janet Clark Student Research Award (2009 ~)

Advisor, International County/City Manager Association (ICMA) Chapter (Jan 2020 ~)

b. Local community

Advisory Board member, Nonprofit Leadership Institute (March 201 ~)

Working Committee Member, West Georgia Nonprofit Network (WGNPN) (June 2017 ~ June 2019)

Political commentator for *Atlanta Radio Korea* (AM1040 located in Atlanta), Host for *Weekly Politics* 2-3 pm every Friday (Feb 6, 2009 ~ Jan 2010)

Political Columnist for *News Today* and *W's* (an Atlanta-based Korean weekly news magazine) (I have contributed a column to the magazine every week since Feb 2009)

c. Academic community

Guest Reviewer for the following journals:

Review of Public Personnel Administration

Journal of Technology Transfer

Minerva

Research Policy

Public Management Review

Public Personnel Management

International Journal of Emergency Management (IJEM)

Research in Higher Education

Science, Technology, & Human Values

Sociological Review (Revija Za Sociologiju)

Anxiety, Stress, & Coping

Social Science Information

Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology

Council member of the Georgia Chapter, American Society for Public Administration (ASPA) (2010 ~ Present)

President of the Georgia Chapter, American Society for Public Administration (ASPA) (2011 ~ 2012)

Vice President of the Georgia Chapter, American Society for Public Administration (ASPA) (2010 ~ 2011)

Co-chair, the Program Committee of 2014 Southeastern Conference on Public Administration (SECoPA)

Membership in professional societies

Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management
American Society for Public Administration
American Political Science Association
Midwest Political Science Association

d. Invited lectures

West Georgia Nonprofit Leadership Institute (April 17, 2025) “Program Evaluation and Developing a Strategic Plan”
West Georgia Nonprofit Leadership Institute (Nov 17, 2022, May 25 & Nov 9, 2023, April 24 & Nov 21, 2024) “Developing a Strategic Planning Model for Nonprofit Organizations”
Nonprofit Leadership Institute (Nov 10, 2021) “Succession Planning for Nonprofit Organizations”
Foreign Policy Association (FPA) Great Decisions, “The Korean Peninsula,” March 11, 2021. Dunwoody Great Decisions Lecture Series (Georgia Council for International Visitors)
COSS Center for Research – Workshop Feb 21, 4-5 pm, 2019; “Using ICPSR Data for Research: Resources, Search, Download, and Analysis”
State of Community Workshop (Feb 23, 2017) “Developing a Budget and Budget Narrative for Grant Proposal Applications” – 60 people attended
West Georgia Nonprofit Network (Mar 23, 2017) “Writing and managing grant proposals for nonprofit organizations” – 12 people attended
ICPSR Workshop lecture, Using ICPSR Data for Research, September 21, 2016
Lecture for Social Work and Social Welfare (Prof. Vivienne Wood) Class on “Best Practices for Grant Writing for Nonprofits” Sept 20, 2016
State of Community Workshop (Feb 2016) “Best Practices for Grant Writing for Nonprofit Organizations”
COSS Lecture Series Speech: Jan 27, 2016 (“Does Public Administration Help Public Administration? Views from Local Government Managers), the Ingram Library Nook
Great Decision, “Can the two Koreas be one?” March 17, 2016, Carrollton GA. League of Women Voter.
“Best Practices Grant Writing for Nonprofit Organizations” State of Community, Feb 25, 2016
COSS Lecture Series Speech: Jan 27, 2016 (“Does Public Administration Help Public Administration? Views from Local Government Managers), the Ingram Library Nook
“Nonprofit Organization Governance and Leadership” Liberty Tech Charter School, August 23, 2014
“R&D Strategies and University-Industry Collaboration: Lessons from U.S Universities,” Kyungpook National University, Daegu, South Korea, June 22, 2007.
“Beyond Harold Lasswell: Broadening the Scope of Political Science.” Kyungpook National University, Daegu, South Korea, June 19, 2007.
Serving as a panelist for the presentation of a documentary on Hurricane Katrina entitled "When the Levees Broke" by Spike Lee, September 2006. This event was sponsored by the American Democracy Project, Political Science Club, SGA, BMWI, and NAACP at UWG.
“Doctoral dissertation: what should we do and how?” School of Public Policy, Georgia Institute of Technology. October 5, 2005.

Awards and Honors

University College Faculty Excellence Award 2025
AA Best of the West Winners – Oct 11, 2018 (1st Recognition Period Winner), UWG
AA Best of the West Winners - Period 1 of 2016-2017: Strategic Imperative, UWG
Teaching Excellence Award, May 2006, Georgia Institute of Technology
Research Excellence Award, May 2000, Iowa State University
PHI KAPPA PHI 1998-2000, Iowa State University
Pi Sigma Alpha 1998-2000, Iowa State University