

KIRSTEN SLUNGAARD MUMMA

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Teachers College, Columbia University • New York, NY September 2023-Present
Assistant Professor, Economics and Education

Boston University, Wheelock Educational Policy Center • Boston, MA August 2021-August 2023
Postdoctoral Fellow

AFFILIATIONS

Member, Columbia Committee on the Economics of Education, Columbia University
Affiliate, Columbia Population Research Center, Columbia University
Invited Researcher, JPAL

EDUCATION

Harvard University • Cambridge, MA May 2021
PhD • Education Policy and Program Evaluation

Harvard Graduate School of Education • Cambridge, MA May 2015
EdM • Education Policy and Management

Harvard College • Cambridge, MA May 2010
AB • English Language and Literature

WORKING PAPERS

High School Effects on Civic Engagement. (Conditionally accepted at *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*)

The Decline of Adult Education in the United States: Exploring Supply-Side and Demand-Side Explanations. (w/Blake Heller). (Revise and resubmit at *Educational Researcher*)

Absent and Afraid? Immigration Enforcement and Student Attendance in the Second Trump Administration. (Revise and resubmit at *Education Finance and Policy*)

The Effect of Retention under Mississippi's Test-Based Promotion Policy. (w/Marcus Winters)

Who Benefits from the GED? New Regression Discontinuity Evidence from Massachusetts. (w/Blake Heller)

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Politics and Children's Books: Evidence from School Library Collections. (August 2024). *American Educational Research Journal*.

Immigrant Integration in the United States: The Role of Adult English Language Training. (August 2023). *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*. (w/Blake Heller)

The Effect of Charter School Openings in Massachusetts and North Carolina. (May 2022). *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*.

POLICY WRITING AND REPORTS

Now Is Not the Time to Zero Out Adult Education. (2025). *The 74*. (w/Blake Heller)

New Evidence on Trickle-Down and Trickle-Up Influences in Civic Engagement. (2023). *Sandra Day O'Connor Institute Policy Brief*.

Politics and School Libraries: What Shapes Students' Access to Controversial Content. (2023). *Brookings Brown Center Chalkboard*.

What Can State and Local Leaders Do for Immigrants in their Communities Right Now? (2022). *Center for Growth and Opportunity*. (w/Blake Heller)

Charter School Authorizing in California. (2018). Getting Down to Facts II Report. (w/Martin West)

Access to Post-Secondary Schooling and the GED: New Regression Discontinuity Evidence from Massachusetts. (2017). Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Policy Brief. (w/Blake Heller)

MEDIA COVERAGE (SELECTED)

Cited in National Academy of Education open letter to the Department of Homeland Security re: educational implications of immigration enforcement actions. (Feb 2026)

The role of high schools in raising civic engagement. (*Fordham Institute* - Jill Hoppe - Oct 9, 2025).

Immigration enforcement appears to hurt test scores, and not just for immigrant students: study. (*Chalkbeat* - Kari Meltzer - Nov 10, 2025).

ESL courses help new immigrants in emergency shelters prepare for workforce. (*WBUR* - Khari Thompson, Tziana Dearing, Simón Rios - May 23, 2024).

Learning the language. (American Economic Association Research Highlights Podcast - Sep 5, 2023).

Teaching civics to children can also educate their parents. (*Chicago Tribune* - Liam Julian - Sep 22, 2023).

Children's voting habits could influence their parents' political participation. (*Education Week* - Sarah Schwarz - Sep 12, 2023).

Mississippi is offering lessons for America on Education (*New York Times* - Nicholas Kristof - May 31, 2023).

Students want new books. Thanks to restrictions, librarians can't buy them. (*Washington Post* - Hannah Natanson - Jan 22, 2023)

Book challenges may have 'chilling effects' on new LGBTQ libraries, study finds. (*Chalkbeat* - Julian Shen-Berro - Jan 11, 2023).

What book bans are doing to school library purchase. (*Education Week* - Eesha Pendharkar - Jan 6, 2023).

K-12 PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Rocketship Education Redwood City, CA Strategy and Scalability Associate	2013-2014
Chicago Public Schools Chicago, IL Grant Developer	2010-2012

REFEREE SERVICE

Journals: *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy* (3), *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management* (3), *Journal of Public Economics* (3), *Journal of Labor Economics* (2), *Journal of Human Resources* (2), *Quarterly Journal of Economics* (1), *Review of Economics and Statistics* (1), *Information and Learning Sciences* (1), *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis* (1), *Educational Policy* (1), *Economics and Education* (1)

Conference Submissions: APPAM (2026, 2025), AEFPP (2025)

Grants: National Science Foundation (2024)

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

Russell Sage Foundation Presidential Grant. "Identifying the Effects of and Responses to Immigration in Massachusetts Public Schools." \$ 75,000. (2025) (w/Elizabeth Setren)

National Academy of Education/Spencer Postdoctoral Fellowship. "Identifying the Effects of Schools and Teachers on Civic Engagement." (Spring 2024 and Fall 2024)

Emerging Education Policy Scholar (Fordham Institute/American Enterprise Institute) (2021-22)

American Educational Research Association Dissertation Grant (2020-21)

Center for American Political Studies at Harvard Graduate Seed Grant (2021)

UCLA California Health Interview Survey Student Scholarship (2020)

Institute of Education Sciences Pre-doctoral Fellow, Harvard University (2016-2018)

Presidential Scholar, Harvard University (2015-16)

Pforzheimer Fellowship, Harvard Graduate School of Education (2015-16)

CONFERENCES AND INVITED PRESENTATIONS

2026:

Open Door Collaborative/Urban Alliance for Adult Literacy Greenhouse Webinar

2025:

Michigan State University* Stanford Hoover Institution*
Notre Dame Civic Education Working Group**
Association of Education Finance and Policy (AEFP)

2024:

Harvard University Strategic Data Project*
Association of Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM)
National Academy of Education
Columbia University Applied Microeconomics

2023:

APPAM
AEFP
Brandeis University

2021:

AEFP
American Educational Research Association (AERA)
UC Davis Economics*
National Bureau of Economic Research (Immigration)

2020:

AEFP
AERA (cancelled)
Junior Workshop on the Economics of Migration (joint venture; European institutions)

2019:

AEFP
APPAM
Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness (SREE)

* Invited presentation

** Professional invitation (no presentation)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teachers College, Columbia University • New York, NY

Workshop on the Economics of Education (Fall 2025-Spring 2026)

Economics and Education (Fall 2025 - 2 sections; Fall 2023 - 2 sections)

School Choice (Spring 2025)

Brandeis University • Waltham, MA

Education and Social Policy (Spring 2023)

Harvard Graduate School of Education • Cambridge, MA

Using Data in Organizations [Teaching Fellow] (Spring 2021)

Introduction to Applied Data Analysis [Teaching Fellow] (Fall 2016, 2017, 2018)

Applied Data Analysis [Teaching Fellow] (Spring 2016)

Microeconomics: A Policy Tool for Educators [Teaching Fellow] (Fall 2015)

SERVICE TO THE COLLEGE

Economics of Education PhD Program Admissions Lead (2025)

Selection Committees: Ed Policy Dissertation Fellowship Award, Teachers College Doctoral Dissertation Grant, Dean's Grant for Student Research, Provost's Dissertation Research Award (2025-2026)