

# THOMAS S. SKUZINSKI, PH.D., J.D.

Virginia Tech  
School of Public and International Affairs  
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## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

### Assistant Professor of Urban Affairs and Planning

School of Public and International Affairs  
College of Architecture and Urban Studies

**Virginia Tech**  
Blacksburg, Virginia  
August 2015—present

### Director, Master of Urban and Regional Planning

School of Public and International Affairs  
College of Architecture and Urban Studies

**Virginia Tech**  
Blacksburg, Virginia  
August 2019—present

### Assistant Director of Education

Virginia Center for Housing Research  
College of Architecture and Urban Studies

**Virginia Tech**  
Blacksburg, Virginia  
June 2019—present

### Faculty Fellow

Global Forum on Urban and Regional Resilience (GFURR)

**Virginia Tech**  
Blacksburg, Virginia  
August 2016—present

## EDUCATION

### Doctor of Philosophy in Urban and Regional Planning

Dissertation: *Risk, Rationality, and Regional Governance*

**University of Michigan**  
Ann Arbor, Michigan

### Master of Urban Planning, with distinction

**University of Michigan**  
Ann Arbor, Michigan

### Juris Doctor, *Magna Cum Laude*

**Michigan State University**  
East Lansing, Michigan

### Bachelor of Science in Economics, *Magna Cum Laude*

**Grand Valley State University**  
Grand Rapids, Michigan

## SCHOLARSHIP

### BOOKS

**Skuzinski, Thomas.** *The Risk of Regional Governance: Cultural Theory and Interlocal Cooperation*. Routledge, 2017.

### ARTICLES

**Skuzinski, Thomas**, David Weinreich, and Shima Hamidi. "A New Measurement of Regional Transit Governance." *Territory, Politics, and Governance*. (under review, submitted October 10, 2019). Impact factor: **2.729** (2018)

Weinreich, David, **Thomas Skuzinski**, and Shima Hamidi. "Measuring the Governance of Public Transportation Systems in U.S. Metropolitan Areas." *Journal of Planning Education and Research*. (revised and resubmitted, manuscript ID JPER-2019-051.R1). Impact factor: **2.328** (2017)

Weinreich, David, **Thomas Skuzinski**, and Shima Hamidi. "Organizing Transit Institutions to Facilitate Cross-Jurisdictional Service Integration." *Journal of Urban Affairs*. (revised and resubmitted, manuscript ID JUA-19-170). Impact factor: **1.234** (2017)

Oliver, Robert, Damien Geffroy, Luke Juran, and **Thomas Skuzinski**. "Projecting the Metropolis: Paris 2024 and the (re)scaling of metropolitan governance." *Cities*. (revised and resubmitted, September 2, 2019). Impact factor: **2.704** (2017)

Read, Dustin C., **Thomas Skuzinski**, and Andrew R. Sanderford. "Increasing the Understanding of Fiscal Impact Analysis to Help Real Estate Developers More Effectively Manage Process Risk." *Journal of Real Estate Literature* 27, no. 1 (2019): 53-66. Impact factor: **0.67** (2017)

Read, Dustin C., Andrew R. Sanderford, and **Thomas Skuzinski**. "The Bounded and Pragmatic Consultant: Fiscal Impact Analysts as Rational Actors." *Planning Practice & Research* (2019): 1-14. Impact factor: **1.41** (2017)

Linkous, Evangeline, and **Thomas Skuzinski**. "Land use decision-making in the wake of state property rights legislation: Examining the institutional response to Florida's Harris Act." *Land use policy* 77 (2018): 603-612. Impact factor: **3.85** (2017)

### CHAPTERS

**Skuzinski, Thomas.** 2019. "States and the Relationships Among Local Governments." In *State-Local Relations in Partnership and Conflict*. Rowman and Littlefield, forthcoming 2020.

**Skuzinski, Thomas**, and Evangeline R. Linkous. "Tradable development rights in the US: Making zoning flexible through market mechanisms." In *Instruments of Land Policy*, pp. 223-237. Routledge, 2018.

### REPORTS

Weinreich, David, **Thomas Skuzinski**, and Shima Hamidi. *Overcoming Local Barriers to Regional Transportation: Understanding Transit System Fragmentation from an Institutionalist Perspective*. U.S. Department of Transportation, No. CTEDD 017-08. 2018.

## PUBLISHED PROCEEDINGS

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Weinreich, David P., **Thomas S. Skuzinski**, and Shima Hamidi. *Measuring the Governance of Public Transportation Systems in US Metropolitan Areas*. Transportation Research Board, 2019 Proceedings. No. 19-03412. 2019.

Polys, Nicholas, Cecile Newcomb, Todd Schenk, **Thomas Skuzinski**, and Donna Dunay. "The value of 3D models and immersive technology in planning urban density." In *Proceedings of the 23rd International ACM Conference on 3D Web Technology*, p. 13. ACM, 2018.

Guerra, Vanessa, **Thomas S. Skuzinski**, and Tripp Shealy. "The Extent of Informal Car Share (ICS) in Quito, Ecuador." In *International Conference on Sustainable Infrastructure 2017*, pp. 432-441. 2017.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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**Skuzinski, Thomas** (presenter and author). "Exploring the Capacity for Innovation: The Changing Nature of Local Autonomy in U.S. Regions." *Regional Studies Association North American Conference*. September 26, 2019.

**Skuzinski, Thomas** (moderator, presenter, and author). "Street-level Autonomy." *Urban Affairs Association 49th Annual Conference*. April 26, 2019.

**Skuzinski, Thomas** (panel organizer, moderator, and presenter). "The Role of Local Governments in U.S. and European Regional Governance." *American Society for Public Administration 2019 Annual Conference*.

**Skuzinski, Thomas** (co-presenter and co-author) and Jay Rickabaugh. "Local Autonomy as a Determinant of Regional Economic Development Policy." *Small Cities 2018 Conference*. May 12, 2018.

**Skuzinski, Thomas** (panel organizer, presenter, co-author) and Jay Rickabaugh. "Local Autonomy and Development Policy in Mid-Size Appalachian Regions." *Urban Affairs Association 48th Annual Conference*. April 5, 2018.

Weinreich, David P. and **Thomas Skuzinski** (co-author). "Overcoming Institutional Barriers to Regional Transportation: The Transit Governance Index Development and Validation." *Urban Affairs Association 48th Annual Conference*. April 5, 2018.

**Skuzinski, Thomas** (moderator, presenter, co-author). "Opting Out: The Theory and Measurement of Localist Impulses." *American Society for Public Administration 2018 Annual Conference*. March 11, 2018.

**Skuzinski, Thomas** (invited panelist and author). "Balancing Local and Regional Interests Using Cultural Heuristics" *5<sup>th</sup> Annual Deil S. Wright Symposium, Section on Intergovernmental Administration and Management, American Society for Public Administration*. March 9, 2018.

**Skuzinski, Thomas** (presenter and author). "The Staff Planner as Legal Expert." *Association of Law, Property, and Society 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting*. May 19, 2017.

**Skuzinski, Thomas** (panel moderator; presenter; author). "Interlocal Cooperation Amidst Uncertainty: How Variation in Institutional Setting Affects the Reasoning of Local Public Actors." *Urban Affairs Association 47th Annual Conference*. April 20, 2017.

**Skuzinski, Thomas.** “The Limits of Administrative Conjunction Theory in Cooperative Land Use: The Case of Metropolitan Detroit.” *American Society for Public Administration 2017 Annual Conference*. March 17, 2017.

**Skuzinski, Thomas** (co-author) and Evangeline Linkous. “Private, Public, Participatory, or More? Examining Competing Ideologies in Land Use Law.” *Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning, 56th Annual Conference*. November 5, 2016.

Weinreich, David P. and **Thomas Skuzinski** (co-author). “Getting to Work or Not? Assessing the Importance of Regional Governmental Autonomy in Metropolitan Transportation Policy.” *Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning, 56th Annual Conference*. November 4, 2016.

**Skuzinski, Thomas** (presenter and co-author) and Huyen Le. “Using Cultural Cognition to Understand Travel Mode Choice.” *Urban Affairs Association 46th Annual Conference*. March 19, 2016.

**Skuzinski, Thomas** (presenter and author). “Cooperative Land Use Planning Among Local Governments: Toward an Institutional Typology and Theoretical Framework.” *International Academic Association on Planning, Law, and Property Rights, 10th Annual Conference*. February 18, 2016.

**Skuzinski, Thomas** (presenter and author). “Lessons About Land Use Regionalism from Two Rust Belt Metropolitan Areas.” *Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning, 56th Annual Conference*. October 22, 2015.

**Skuzinski, Thomas** (presenter and author). “Explaining Attitudes Toward Intermunicipal Land Use Governance: Evidence from Michigan.” *Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning, 54th Annual Conference*. October 30, 2014.

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## WORKING PAPERS

**Skuzinski, Thomas S.** Cultural worldviews as a driver of regional governance perceptions.  
(for submission to *Urban Affairs Review*)

**Skuzinski, Thomas S.** Comparing the cultural biases of local elected and administrative officials.  
(for submission to *Public Administration Review*)

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## FUNDING

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### EXTERNAL • \$246,450

#### Regional Studies Association Early Career Grant Scheme

Reimagining metropolitan fragmentation: The Local Autonomy Project

PI: Thomas Skuzinski (one of three awardees from 107 applicants)

**\$14,345**

Period: 11/13/17 – 11/12/18

#### Department of Transportation

UTC: Center for Transportation Equity, Decision, and Dollars (C-TEDD) #017-08

*Transit in Flex: Examining Service Fragmentation of New App-Based, On-Demand Transit Services*

PI: David Weinreich; Co-PI: **Thomas Skuzinski**

**\$68,648**

Period: 09/01/17 – 08/31/18

## Department of Transportation

UTC: Center for Transportation Equity, Decision, and Dollars (C-TEDD) #017-08

*Local Barriers to Regional Transportation: Understanding Transit System Fragmentation from an Institutional Perspective*

PI: David Weinreich; Co-PI: **Thomas Skuzinski**; Co-PI: Shima Hamidi

**\$63,457**

Period: 09/01/17 – 08/31/18

## 4-VA Course Development Grant

*Promoting Transdisciplinary Thinking, Sustainable Design, and Community Engagement in STEM Education*

PI: Tripp Shealy\*\*; Co-PI: **Thomas Skuzinski**

**\$100,000**

Period: 11/01/18 – 06/30/21

*\*\*note: The PI was required to come from a traditional STEM field, but I spearheaded the work and wrote the proposal*

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## INTERNAL • \$48,164

Curriculum Globalization Grant

for *Building Sustainable Regions*

Awardee: **Thomas Skuzinski**

**\$5,000**

Period: Fall 2019 / Spring 2020

Institute for Society, Culture, and Environment (ISCE) Scholars program

*Vividness to Improve and Rethink Long-Term Resilience of the Built Environment*

PI: Tripp Shealy (Civil and Environmental Engineering); Co-PI: **Thomas Skuzinski**

**\$29,664**

Period: July 2018 – December 2019

Institute for Critical Technology and Applied Sciences (ICTAS)

Research Experiences for Undergraduates NSF Pilot Funding

*Decision Sciences for Resilient Communities*

PI: **Thomas Skuzinski**

Co-PI: Tripp Shealy (Civil and Environmental Engineering); Co-PI: Robin Panneton (Psychology)

**\$10,000**

Period: 11/01/17 – 06/30/18

Curriculum Globalization Grant

for *Legal Foundations of Planning*

Awardee: **Thomas Skuzinski**

**\$3,500**

Period: Spring 2017 / Fall 2017

## UNDER REVIEW

Institute of Museum and Library Services

FY 2020 National Leadership Grant

*Building Community: A community catalyst planning project*

PI: **Thomas Skuzinski**

Co-PI: Andrew McCoy (Building Construction); Co-PI: Scott Weimer (Continuing and Professional Education)

Budget requested: **\$99,849**

## TEACHING AND ADVISING

### METRICS

Overall teaching effectiveness rating:	<b>5.71/6.00</b>
Undergraduate:	5.69/6.00
Graduate:	5.73/6.00
Other measures:	
“The instructor fostered an atmosphere of mutual respect”	5.84/6.00
“The instructor was well prepared”	5.67/6.00
“The instructor presented the subject matter clearly”	5.66/6.00

Source: Student Perceptions of Teaching, Fall 2015-Spring 2019. 201/276 students responding.  
Peer comparison data only made available to faculty on teaching effectiveness item.

### RECOGNITION

<b>Faculty Adviser to National Finalist team</b> <b>HUD Innovations in Affordable Housing</b> Graduate Student Design and Planning Competition	2018/19
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· <i>One of four national finalist teams; first from Virginia Tech and State of Virginia</i></li> <li>· <i>Advised four-student team from Urban Affairs and Planning, Landscape Architecture, and Building Construction</i></li> </ul>	
<b>Commitment to Diversity Recognition Award</b> Virginia Tech College of Architecture and Urban Studies <i>“for development and mentorship of undergraduate research and graduate extracurricular opportunities for students traditionally underrepresented in the academy”</i>	2019
<b>Nominee, VT Alumni Award for Excellence in Graduate Advising</b> <i>nominated by team of 21 students/alumni in Urban Affairs &amp; Planning</i>	2017
<b>Thank-a-Teacher program—14 notes</b> Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning at Virginia Tech	2016-2019

### COURSES

#### Graduate

Land Use Law and Planning (in-person)	Fall 2019
Land Use Law and Planning (in-person)	Spring 2019
Metropolitan and Regional Governance (in-person, distance)	Fall 2018
Land Use Law and Planning (online)	Summer 2018
Land Use Law and Planning (in-person, distance)	Spring 2018
Graduate Student Colloquium (in-person, distance)	Spring 2018
Metropolitan and Regional Governance (in-person, distance)	Fall 2017

Graduate Student Colloquium (in-person, distance)	Fall 2017
Land Use Law (in-person)	Fall 2016
Theory and Practice of Planning (in-person)	Fall 2016
Urban and Regional Development Theory (in-person)	Spring 2016
Land Use Law (in-person)	Fall 2015

### Undergraduate

Legal Foundations of Planning	Fall 2019
Law of Critical Environmental Areas	Spring 2019
Legal Foundations of Planning	Fall 2018
Legal Foundations of Planning	Summer 2018
Legal Foundations of Planning (in-person)	Fall 2017
Legal Foundations of Planning (undergraduate, in-person)	Spring 2017
Legal Foundations of Planning (undergraduate, in-person)	Spring 2016

### DISSERTATION, THESIS, AND CAPSTONE ADVISING

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#### Completed

**Breske, Ashleigh.** Dissertation (member). *Politics of Repatriation: Formalizing Indigenous Cultural Property Rights*. (defended 06/08/2018)

**Johnson, Bryce.** Thesis. *Socioeconomic Diversity in Public Spaces*. (defended 04/12/2018)

**Shanholtz, Spencer.** Thesis (chair). *Do Qualified Allocation Plans Influence Developers' LIHTC Siting Decisions?: The Case of Access to High-Performing Schools*. (defended 11/30/2016)

**Spencer, Samuel.** Thesis (member). *The Fiscal Resilience of American Cities*. (defended 04/17/2018)

**Newcomb, Cecile.** Thesis (member). *Imagine Blacksburg: Using immersive 3D models to explore density*. (defended 04/05/2017)

**Patterson, Natalie Rose.** Thesis (member). *Creating Participatory Space through Partnership Exploring the relationship between a faith-based day programming organization and a cohousing community for individuals with and without disabilities*. (defended 03/17/2017)

**Fraker, Joseph.** Major Paper (chair). (defended 09/15/2019)

**Ly, Binh** (chair). Practicum. (defended 05/01/2018)

**Vandervliet, Maxwell** (chair). Major Paper. (defended 04/26/2018)

**Barlow, Danielle** (chair). Major Paper. (defended 04/16/2018)

**Buchanan, Emma** (chair). Major Paper. (defended 02/22/2018)

**Stephenson, Ronnie** (chair). Practicum. (defended 02/10/2018)

**McCray, Andrew** (chair). Practicum. (defended 09/22/2017)

**Berryman, Alexander Paul** (chair). Major Paper. (defended 04/28/2017)

**Fomenko, Kelly**. Practicum. (defended 04/10/2018)

***Research Experiences for Undergraduates funded pilot (PI and faculty lead):***

*Decision Sciences for Resilient Communities*

Samantha Cornwell, Elena Muraca, Abril Yu-Shan (Fall 2017-Summer 2018)

***Global Forum Summer Lab: Policy in Action (faculty lead)***

Maja Gabrielson, Becca Good, Laura Hogan (Hollins University), Ira Long III, Madison McElhinney (Hollins University), Sam Rauf (Roanoke College), Natalie Tobias, Leslie Uptegraff (Summer 2017)

## In progress

**Choi, Seungbee**. Dissertation (chair). Current status: ABD (reached October 2019)

Ph.D. in Planning, Globalization, and Governance

Topic: *Housing Tenure Choice among Millennials*

**Talukdar, Shahidur**. Dissertation (co-chair). Current status: ABD (reached October 2019)

Ph.D. in Public Administration and Public Affairs

Topic: *Policy Conflict in Regional Sustainability in the Baltimore Metropolitan Area*

Sim, Jisoo. Dissertation (member). Current status: defending November 2019

Ph.D. in Landscape Architecture

**Shealy, Elizabeth Carlisle**. Dissertation (member). Current status: ABD (reached May 2019)

Ph.D. in Environmental Design and Planning

## SERVICE, OUTREACH, AND ENGAGEMENT

### PROFESSION

Contributions to the Field of Urban Affairs, committee chair <i>Urban Affairs Association</i>	2019-2020
Contributions to the Field of Urban Affairs, committee chair <i>Urban Affairs Association</i>	2018-2019
Best Book in Urban Affairs Award Committee, chair <i>Urban Affairs Association</i>	2017-2018
Best Book in Urban Affairs Award Committee, member <i>Urban Affairs Association</i>	2016-2017



Faculty mentor, doctoral student mentorship program 2016-2017  
 Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning

Reviewer: *Land Use Policy*, *Journal of Planning Education and Research*,  
*Urban Affairs Review*, *Transportation Research Review*

## UNIVERSITY

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**Work-Life Liaison** Fall 2019—present  
 Provost and College of Architecture and Urban Studies  
 Appointment by Dean

**LGBT+ Caucus** Fall 2019—present  
 Invited Faculty member

**Graduate Curriculum Committee**, member Fall 2017—present  
 College of Architecture and Urban Studies representative

**Transportation and Parking Committee**, member Fall 2017—present  
 College of Architecture and Urban Studies representative

**University Academic Support Committee**, member Fall 2016—present  
 College of Architecture and Urban Studies representative

## COLLEGE

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**Honorifics Committee**, member Fall 2017—present

## SCHOOL AND PROGRAM

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**Director, Master of Urban and Regional Planning** Fall 2019—present

**UAP Honorifics Committee**, chair Fall 2019—present

**SPIA Undergraduate Degree Committee** Fall 2018—present  
 Faculty Lead: Environmental Policy and Planning major

**MURP Degree Curriculum Task Force** Fall 2017—Spring 2018

## INVITED TALKS

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**Skuzinski, Thomas** (invited keynote speaker). *The Risk of Regional Governance*. 2018 Southeast Regional Directors Institute (SERDI) Annual Professional Development Conference. (May 21, 2018)

**Skuzinski, Thomas** (invited keynote panelist). *What's Next? Future Directions for Research on Small Cities*. Small Cities 2018 Conference (Ball State University): Vulnerable Communities. (May 12, 2018)

**Skuzinski, Thomas** (invited panelist). *New Institutionalism*. Workshop: Cities after Decline: Small City Revival in the U.S.A. and Russia (Roanoke). (February 15, 2018)

## MEDIA

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Interviewed about legal aspects of public-private partnerships for Associated Press article:

Ley, Ana. *Women plead for relief from expensive tunnel toll bills*. March 18, 2017

(<https://www.apnews.com/8c0635b3c1b5420283df130c496f1d14>)

Television interview regarding Blacksburg, Virginia consideration of becoming independent city:

WDBJ17—Roanoke. May 25, 2017