Aaron Szopinski

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Education

Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

Master of Public Policy, 2007

GPA: 3.58

Coursework includes Micro- & Macro-Economics, Cost/Benefit Analysis, Econometrics, Demographic Analysis, Public Budgeting, State & Local Finance, Organizational Management, and Program Evaluation

Co-authored paper for the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis on the licensing and regulation of child care in Minnesota

College of Liberal Arts University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

Bachelor of Arts, Sociology, 2000

GPA: 3.39

Experience

State of Maryland

MD Transit Administration - Office of Finance April 2008-present

Responsibilities:

Lead staff of analysts in developing and monitoring \$600+M annual operating budget Brief MTA executive management monthly on agency's fiscal performance Lead and supervise the office's financial modeling and cost estimation activities Direct MTA departments in managing spending and developing annual budgets Monitor operating revenue attainment and forecast annual revenue by line of business Monitor agency performance on industry standard metrics for internal and external reports Author reports for legislative committees on MTA's operating and financial performance Conduct analyses of the fiscal impact of legislation affecting MTA's operations and policy Produce ad-hoc reporting, policy papers, and other products as needed Compile and maintain data sets of MTA's operational and financial data

Accomplishments:

Led agency-wide performance audit of transit and administrative operations

Designed new economic-based models for MTA ridership and expense forecasting

Served as finance lead for recent labor negotiations and arbitration

Developed new reporting procedures and formats for agency spending and revenue

Office of Budget Analysis July 2007- April 2008

Responsibilities:

Work with the Dept. of Transportation (MDOT) to develop the annual executive budget Analyze the budget for technical and policy conformity

Recommend budget actions and provide fiscal background to Secretary and Governor Provide oversight for agency budget and management actions

Track Legislative budget process and analyze legislation impacting budget actions

Accomplishments:

Designed summary presentations for Governor's annual budget publications Simplified budget analysis process using Microsoft Excel

City of St. Paul, Minnesota Saint Paul, MN

Budget Analyst (Graduate Intern) May 2006-May 2007

Responsibilities:

Lead agencies through the City capital and operating budget processes
Produce informative budget documents for City Council and the public
Review and report best practices in municipal financial planning
Provide on-the-spot financial and policy analysis

Provide staff support and expertise to citizen Capital Improvement Budget committee

Accomplishments:

Developed new revenue digest for the public and City Council
Streamlined capital budget development process of citizen-led CIB Committee
Authored Committee report to the Mayor on improving the City's capital budgeting

Walker Art Center Minneapolis, MN

Assistant Director of Membership May 2000-January 2006

Responsibilities:

Implement and manage annual and capital fundraising programs to meet revenue goals Direct all member communications, including print, digital media, and telephone Plan and execute large events with internal and external sponsors and partners Hire and supervise member relations and tele-fundraising staff Develop and monitor annual program budgets to meet financial goals Manage all institutional donor and patron databases

Accomplishments:

Planned and managed Walker's Rock The Garden event in 2002, 2003, and 2004 Solicited, bid, and implemented new enterprise-wide patron management system Integrated data systems for customer service, membership, and tele-funding Managed third-party fundraising service for \$93 million capital campaign

Interests & Involvement

KUOM-AM "Radio K" Minneapolis, MN

Developed mentor program for student-produced radio show Coached students in radio production, broadcasting, and teamwork

KFAI-FM Radio Minneapolis, MN

Served on fundraising committee, coordinating events and outreach On-air fundraising

Maryland SPCA Baltimore, MD

Volunteer kennel staff

Creative Alliance at the Patterson Baltimore, MD

Volunteer for Great Halloween Lantern Parade and other community events

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References

Available upon request