

Peter C. Finn

Professional Experience

Assistant to the Dean and Public Service Professor of Public Administration (2012 – Present)
Rockefeller College of Public Affairs & Policy, University at Albany (SUNY)

- Administrative responsibilities include external relations, coordination of community engagement and nonprofit programs, alumni and development activities, and special projects. Original member of the Steering Committee and staff coordinator for the Institute for Nonprofit Management and Community Development.
- Faculty member in Department of Public Administration, responsible for course instruction in public and non-profit finance, performance management, contracting and procurement, financial operations management and environmental policy.
- Adjunct Professor (Public Administration and Public Finance), 2008 – 2011.

Executive Director (2011 – 2015)
America's State Parks Foundation

- Founding Executive Director for the only national state parks advocacy and charitable organization in support of America's State Parks, in partnership with the National Association of State Park Directors (NASPD).
- Accomplishments include development of initial organizational and governance materials and organizing documents and initial strategic plan, mission and goals; implementation of State Parks Youth Ambassador program grant, funded by the Coca-Cola Foundation; founding steering committee member in support of First Day Hikes, an annual event and inaugural nationwide project of the 50 state park systems and NASPD; financial management and systems development; board recruitment and development; and the development of a nationwide partnership and network with state-level state park Friends and Foundation nonprofits, in support of Americas State Parks advocacy, development, and nonprofit capacity building.

Deputy Commissioner for Finance & Administration (2007 – 2011)
New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, Albany NY

- Executive directly responsible for Finance, Human Resources, Information Technology, and Internal Audit, Equal Opportunity, and Performance Management activities for the largest, cabinet-level state parks agency in the nation. With Commissioner and Executive staff, responsibilities also include Legislative and Public Affairs, Policy Analysis and Development; Park and Historic Site Operations and Capital Construction Management; Historic Preservation; Grants and Open Space; and Natural Resource Planning and Environmental Management.
- Accomplishments include: successful financial management during period of extreme financial crisis, implementing budget and staffing reductions while increasing revenues and maintaining service levels; development and implementation of a multi-year \$650

million bonded capital initiative; implementation of an annual residential training program for newly-appointed facility managers; design and implementation of the NYS Parks Conservation Corps program; and development and deployment of a point-of-sale revenue technology for park entrances.

- Agency liaison to the National Association of State Park Directors and National Association of State Outdoor Recreation Officers and the NYS Recreation and Park Society (an affiliate of the National Recreation and Park Association). Member of the Statewide Steering Committee for the State Financial System conversion project. Representative to the Office of Taxpayer Accountability initiative and the Environmental Justice Task Force.

Director of Financial Administration and Chief Information Officer (1998 – 2007)

New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, Albany NY

- Chief Financial Officer and Chief Information Officer for state parks agency with an annual budget of \$275 million, \$80 million in yearly operating revenues, and 2,000 annual and over 5,000 seasonal employees. Directly supervise a staff of 75 management, professional, technical, and administrative employees. Responsible for all agency financial operations: budgeting and accounting; payroll, purchasing and contract management, business office and accounts payable; revenue, marketing and accounts receivable; facilities development and capital program management; and information systems technology. Also assist in administration of the Natural Heritage Trust, an agency-affiliated Public Benefit Corporation and non-profit foundation.
- Accomplishments included: increasing annual income from \$38 million (1995) to \$80 million (2005); implementation of point-of-sale, credit card and other payment systems; redesign of revenue and attendance reporting systems; and the development of market-based fee pricing. Oversaw implementation of agency Y2K conversion; and directed agency audit of Saratoga Performing Arts center (2004).
- Member of the NY State CIO Council and chair of its Strategic Planning Committee, and board member and agency representative to the State Forum for Information Resources Management (Rockefeller Institute of Government) and chair of its Emerging Technology Committee.

Adjunct Instructor (1998 – 2001)

Hudson Valley Community College, Troy NY

- Contract position associated with the College's Workforce Development and Public Training program. Responsible for developing and delivering one- and multi-day in-service training courses for public sector professionals in the areas of budgeting, financial management, and contracts.

Assistant Director of Financial Administration (1987–1998) / Chief Budget Analyst / Budget Supervisor (1983-1998)

New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, Albany NY

- Leadership role in the New York State's Total Quality Management effort and agency representative on the NY State Quality Coordinating Council; staff liaison to the Rockefeller Institute of Government comprehensive study of the State Park System

(1993); and lead member of team that developed the Operational Plan for Riverbank State Park.

- Accomplishments included: redesign of agency budget process, development of in-house training programs in financial management for field staff, and coordination of the Park Staffing Study.

Personnel Administrator / Labor Relations Specialist / Agency Safety Officer (1978 – 1983)

New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, Albany NY

- Developed Park Managers' Classification formula. Member of the Governor's Task Force on Leave Abuse (1981). Integrated employee and patron safety accident reporting systems. New York State Public Management Intern (1978).

Planning Intern & Senior Planner (1977 – 1978)

City of Rensselaer and Rensselaer County, NY

- Involved in neighborhood improvement and park and open space planning as Planning Intern for City of Rensselaer (1977) and local land use planning and community development as Senior Planner with Rensselaer County (1978).

Education

Master of Public Administration (Local Government and Community Development)

Rockefeller College of Public Affairs & Policy, University at Albany, SUNY (December 1977). Selected to Pi Alpha Alpha, Public Administration Honorary Society

Bachelor of Science (Forestry and Biology)

State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry and Syracuse University (dual degree), Magna Cum Laude (May 1976). Selected to Alpha Xi Sigma, Forestry Honorary Society

Business Institute for Park Professionals (The Revenue School)

National Recreation and Park Association, in conjunction with North Carolina State University and the National Recreation and Park Association, Oglebay Park, Wheeling West Virginia (1997)

Awards and Recognitions

University at Albany (SUNY), President's Award for Public Engagement, as member of the Steering Committee for the Emerging Issues in the Nonprofit Sector series, April 2015.

Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy, University at Albany (SUNY), Distinguished Alumnus in Public Administration, December 2010.

New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

- State Council of Parks Special Achievement Award (2004)
- Commissioner's Staff Award for Outstanding Service to the State Park System (1993)

Presentations and Educational Sessions

“Performance Measures: Getting from Outputs to Outcomes”, Massachusetts Recreation and Park Association (MRPA) Annual Conference, Amherst, MA, March 2015

“Strategic Financial Management: The 10 Ways to Close a Budget Gap”, Massachusetts Recreation and Park Association (MRPA) Annual Conference, Amherst, MA, March 2015

Panel Presenter on ESF Alumni Careers, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse, NY, March 2015

“State Park Nonprofits: Discussion”, at the inaugural meeting of the National Gathering of State Parks Friends Organizations, Cavallo Point at the Golden Gate, Sausalito, CA, January 2014.

Panel Presenter on Performance Measurement, Emerging Issues in the Nonprofit Sector series, University at Albany, Albany, NY, December 2013.

“Nonprofits as Anchor Institutions”, Neighborhood Preservation Coalition of New York State, Albany, NY, October 2013.

“Performance Measures: Getting from Outputs to Outcomes”, National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Annual Congress, Anaheim, CA, October 2012

“Strategic Financial Management: The 10 Ways to Close a Budget Gap”, National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Annual Congress, Anaheim, CA, October 2012

“Paying for Parks: Where’s the Money”, National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Annual Congress, Atlanta, GA, October 2011.

“Are You Fiscally Fit?”, day-long training session in financial management, budgeting and revenue for park professionals, sponsored by the New York State Recreation and Park Society, Buffalo and Rochester, NY (June 2011) and Saratoga and Clarkstown, NY (October 2011).

“The 2010 State Park Closing ‘Experience’”, featured presenter, Downstate Recreation Conference, Westchester Recreation and Park Society and the Long Island Leisure Services Association, White Plains, NY, November 2010. New York State Recreation and Park Society annual conference, March 2011. National Association of State Park Directors, September 2011.

“State Government Financial Management”, program developer, presenter and discussion leader, Essentials of Public Administration program, presented by the State Academy for Public Administration and Empire Capital ASPA, June 2009.

“Financial Management Principles”, day-long program, NYS Parks “Park Management Institute” (for newly-appointed facility managers); October 2010, 2009, 2008, and 2007.

“Lessons Learned”, Keynote Speaker, Graduate Recognition Ceremony, Department of Public Administration and Policy, Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy, University at Albany (SUNY), May 2008.

“Commissioner’s Welcoming Address”, opening ceremonies, 30th Empire State Summer Games, Binghamton, NY, July 2008.

“Paying for Parks – Revenue and Financial Management”, Faculty member, Reitz Marketing and Revenue Sources Management School, National Recreation and Park Association, September 2008.

“Welcoming Remarks – Why We Do This”, New York State Recreation and Park Society Annual Conference, Saratoga Springs, NY, March 2008.

“Paying for Parks – Where’s the Money and How Do I Get to Keep It?”, New York State Recreation and Park Society Annual Conference, Saratoga Springs, NY, March 2008.

“Marketing Parks from a Government Budget Perspective”, panel presenter, Leadership and Marketing Sport and Recreation Symposium, Springfield College, Springfield, MA, November 2007.

“Pricing, Inflation and Budget Savvy”, guest lecturer, graduate-level course in Recreation Administration, Sport Management and Recreation Department, Springfield College, Springfield, MA, November 2007.

“How to Win at the Budget Game”, New York State Recreation and Park Society Annual Conference, Buffalo, NY, March 2007.

“Dedicating Revenues at New York State Parks – a Case Study in Organizational Change”, 56th Annual Cortland Recreation Conference, Cortland, NY, November 2006.

“Budget Development and Budget Execution from an Agency Perspective”, part of The Executive Budget Process in New York State training course, NYS Division of the Budget and the Governor’s Office of Employee Relations, June 2006, March 2006 and January 2006, December and June 2005.

“Government Financial Management – Agency Perspective”, part of Essentials of Public Administration program, presented by the State Academy for Public Administration and ASPA, June 2006 and June 2005.

“Financial Management from an Agency (or Program) Perspective”, Guest Lecturer for Financial Management and Budgeting (PAD 501), Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy, University at Albany (SUNY), March 2006, November 2005, April 2005, November 2004.

“Using MPRR to Maximize Park and Recreation Revenues”, New York State Recreation and Park Society Annual Conference, Kerhonkson, NY, April 2006.

“How Those Finance People Really Think”, New York State Recreation and Park Society Annual Conference, Kerhonkson, NY, April 2006.

“Marketing and ‘Family-Friendly’ Parks”, panel presenter, NYS Parks Annual Facility Managers’ Conference, Saratoga Springs, NY, December 2005.

“Tourism and Parks”, panel presenter, New York State Recreation and Park Society Annual Conference, White Plains, NY, April 2004.

“Retail Reality: Principles of Marketing in Parks”, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, Annual Facility Managers’ Conference, Saratoga Springs, NY, December 2003

“Parks Entrepreneurship – Marketing Workshop”, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, Annual Facility Managers’ Conference, Saratoga Springs, NY, December 2002

“Credit Card Acceptance and Electronic Value Transfer (EVTA) in New York State Agencies”, New York State Forum for Information Resource Management (NYSFIRM), Rockefeller Institute of Government, presentations in Albany and Rochester, NY, January and April 2002.

“Revenue, Pricing and Yield Management”, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, Annual Facility Managers’ Conference, Saratoga Springs, NY, December 1999.

“Finance and Accounting for Non-Financial Managers – Part I, Budgeting and Financial Management”, day-long workshop for Albany County Department of Social Services, sponsored by Public Training Programs Division, Hudson Valley Community College, 1998-2000.

“Finance and Accounting for Non-Financial Managers – Part II, Contracts and Contract Management”, day-long workshop for Albany County Department of Social Services, sponsored by Public Training Programs Division, Hudson Valley Community College, 1999.

“How the Budget Process Really Works”, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, Annual Facility Managers’ Conference, Saratoga Springs, NY, December 1998.

Reports and Publications

Strategic Operation Plan for Maryland State Parks, with PROS Consulting, for Maryland State Parks and Maryland state parks public advisory board, January 2013.

Economic Impact of the New York State Park System, staff liaison and lead, report by the Public Economy Research Institute (PERI), University of Massachusetts (Amherst), for Parks and Trails New York, March 2009.

Parks at a Turning Point – Restoring and Enhancing New York’s State Park System, staff liaison and lead, report by Parks and Trails New York, November 2006.

Performance Management Plan and Performance Measures Scorecard, for the Service Learning Program, Averill Park Central School District, Averill Park, NY, May 2005.

Audit of the Saratoga Performing Arts Center, audit lead and principal author, with The Bonadio Group CPAs, November 2004.

Community Involvement Study Group Report to the Board of Education, Averill Park Central School District, Averill Park, NY, March 2002

Learning Standards Study Group Report to the Board of Education, Averill Park Central School District, Averill Park, NY, March 2001

Budget Development Study Group Report to the Board of Education, Averill Park Central School District, Averill Park, NY, March 2000

Credit Card Acceptance: The Parks and Recreation Exemplary EVT Adoption Process, interview in Open Forum, a publication of the New York State Forum for Information Resource Management, Rockefeller Institute of Government, September 2002.

Operational Plan for Riverbank State Park, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, 1991-92.

Professional and Community Involvement

State Academy for Public Administration (SAPA)

Fellow (2009 to present); Board member (2011 to present); Essentials program steering committee (2009-10)

Camp Mu Ji Gae, Korean Culture Camp of the Albany Capital District

Founding Committee Member (1987-88); Finance Chair (1989-90); Director (1991-93); Board of Directors (1993- present)

American Society of Public Administration (ASPA)

Member, Empire Capital District Chapter (2004-present), ABFM section (2013-present)

Retired Public Employees Association

Board member (2011-2015); finance committee (2012-2015)

National Association of State Park Directors (NASPD)

New York state representative and member Legislative and Public-Private Sponsorship committees (2010-11); founding member of America's State Parks and steering committee coordinator, America's State Parks Foundation (2011)

National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA)

Member and financial management representative, annual Congress Program Committee (2010-2014); faculty member (presenter on funding and revenue), Reitz Management Institute (2008)

New York State Recreation and Park Society (a State Affiliate of NRPA)

Member (2004 to 2012), Treasurer (2009 – 2012)

National Association of State Outdoor Recreation Officers (NASORLO)

State representative and member of the board representing the northeast states (2010-11)

Statewide Steering Committee, NY State Financial System (SFS) Conversion Project

Member (2010 to 2011)

New York State Forum for Information Resource Management
Agency Representative (2001 to 2008); Public Sector Co-Chair, Emerging Technologies
Committee (2005 to 2008); Board of Directors (2006 to 2008)

New York State Chief Information Officers (CIO) Council
Member, Strategic Planning and Monitoring Committee (2003 to 2008); Chair (2006)

New York State Council of Fiscal Administrators (COFA)
Secretary (1987-89); Board of Directors (1990-91); Chair (1992-95)

Citizen's Advisory Task Force of the Averill Park Central School District
Member, Financial Management and Planning Task Force (1998-99); Chair, Budget
Development Committee (1999-00); Chair, Learning Standards Study Group (2000-01);
Chair, Community Involvement Study Group (2001-02); Founding member, Averill Park
Save Our Schools (1999); and founding member, Averill Park Education Foundation
(2001); Program Evaluator, Averill Park Service Learning program.

Averill Park Community Partnership / Safe Homes of Averill Park
Youth Activities Committee (1999-2001); Treasurer (1999-2004)

Church of the Covenant United Methodist Church, Averill Park NY
Administrative Council (2001-03); Education and Family Ministries Committee, member
and chair (1998-2003); Junior High Sunday School Teacher (1997-2003)

Troop 526, Boy Scouts of America, Averill Park NY
Cub Scout Den Leader (1987-91); Assistant Scoutmaster (1991-93); Scoutmaster (1993-
1997)

Glass Lake Association, Averill Park NY
Treasurer (1987-88); President (1989-90); Representative to Rensselaer County Lakes
Federation