

SARAH SCOTT THOMAS
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SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

- Well-qualified political economist with qualitative and quantitative program and policy evaluation and analysis skills.
- Highly motivated and prepared for a demanding position to improve the quality of the environment with passion for finding solutions to complex problems.
- Effective communicator with solid professional abilities, a strong work ethic, and a commitment to excellence.

ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

DOCTORAL STUDIES – PUBLIC POLICY AND POLITICAL ECONOMY Expected May 2010
The University of Texas at Dallas
Richardson, Texas

- Completed all required coursework and passed qualification exams. Actively completing dissertation.
- Dissertation Title: Dallas Brownfield Participation in Voluntary Cleanup Programs: Event Analysis
- Chairperson: James C. Murdoch, (972) 883-4989

MASTER OF SCIENCE – APPLIED ECONOMICS May 2006
The University of Texas at Dallas
Richardson, Texas

- Sample of courses: Statistics for Economists, Research Design, Advanced Regression Analysis

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE – ECONOMICS AND FINANCE May 2004
The University of Texas at Dallas
Richardson, Texas

- Magna Cum Laude

CURRENT EXPERIENCE

Program Assessment Specialist May 2008 - Present
School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences
The University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, Texas
Supervisor: Dr. Euel Elliott, (972) 883-2066

- Provide guidance regarding policy and implementation of degree program plans, measurement, assessment, and improvement of outcomes to maintain the School of Economics, Political and Policy Sciences' accreditation.
- Developed and implemented innovative assessment actions and streamlined the accreditation process through a pilot program with one department that serves as a model.
- Strengthened the quality and timeliness of degree plan assessments and academic program evaluations for 34 degrees and graduate certificates.
- Present findings to the assistant dean, the associate provost, and provide input to compliance information for Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools for accreditation.
- Excellent reputation: received very positive performance evaluations.

RELATED EXPERIENCE

Economic Intern

January 2007 – August 2007

Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas
Community Affairs Department
Dallas, Texas
Supervisor: Dr. Wenhua Di, (214) 922-5534

- Performed research of geographically concentrated poverty with other Federal Reserve branches in cooperation with a Brookings Metropolitan Policy Program project using HMDA data.
- Provided groundwork data management and analysis of Enterprise Dallas' mortgage assistance program evaluation.

Congressional Intern

June 2002

Ralph M. Hall, 4th District of Texas, Washington, DC
107th Congress
Supervisor: Janet Poppleton, 202-225-6673

- Provided assistance to the Legislative Assistants responsible for Education, Economics and Environmental issues.
- Performed support for a special project for the Science Committee including Breast Cancer conference.

Business Development / Estimating Coordinator **TIC – The Industrial Company, Western Region Headquarters** **Bakersfield, California**

May 1991 - October 2000

Supervisors: Ron Roberts and Jim Painter, (661) 391- 5700

- Duties focused on core deliverables to grow the company such as increasing brand awareness, bringing in new customers, and coordinating public relations efforts.
- Provided other duties related to budgeting, customer service, employee support and data analysis.
- Performed presentations and supervised preparation of bid and prequalification packages.
- Supervised and coordinated administrative functions of estimating and marketing department for new client relations, and the development and dissemination of information.

OTHER EXPERIENCE – THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT DALLAS

School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences
The University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, Texas
Supervisor: Dr. Euel Elliott, (972) 883-2066

Course Instructor

August 2007 – May 2008

- Taught Global Economy, a cross-listed course in economics and geography for one school year. Class sizes ranged from 40-60 students.
- Tailored course to junior undergraduates regarding the role of the changing relationships of population, resources, and the economy, the transformation of classical spatial economies, and other processes that are producing increasing globalization.
- Earned high scores on teaching evaluations. Students have remarked on my ability to explain complex ideas in ways that they can understand.

Research Assistant – Field Researcher

May 2007 – August 2007

- National Science Foundation (NSF) funded study of neighborhood change in South Dallas under the leadership of James Murdoch, (972) 883-4989
- Performed field windshield surveys of South Dallas properties to collect primary data.

Teaching Assistant

January 2006 – December 2006

- Provided support for a graduate course in Political-Economic Theories and undergraduate courses in International Finance, Global Economy and Statistics.
- This support included concentrated tutorials, project management and grading. Performed lectures in the absence of professors.

Statistics Lab Instructor

January 2005 – December 2005

- Instructed Statistics Labs in support of Introduction to Statistics course lectures three times weekly for one year with as many as 25 students in each class.
- Introduced students to the basic tools of statistics and demonstrated their use in the analysis of social science data ensuring a fundamental understanding of these tools and covering descriptive statistics, inference from samples, hypothesis testing, and the basics of regression analysis.

Research Assistant

May 2004 – December 2004

- Examined Coastal Development, Property Rights and Beach Erosion for the State of Texas General Land Office under the leadership of James Murdoch and Euel Elliott
- Performed economic impact and property rights research regarding State of Texas policy of the Open Beaches Act, which defines the public's common law rights.
- Contributed to the efforts of the team of over 5 individual researchers to ensure a cohesive interdisciplinary response that the client could understand and utilize. Involved a team of scientists from several sciences, including physical, political, economics and sociology.

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Papers Presented

“Why Participate? The Texas Voluntary Cleanup Program in Dallas” November 2009
Southern Economic Association (SEA), San Antonio, TX,
Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (AERE) Session

“Voluntary Cleanup Program Participation: The Case of Dallas” June 2009
American Real Estate and Urban Economics Association (AEREUA) Mid-Year Conference, Washington, DC

“The Determinants of Participation in Voluntary Cleanup Programs” January 2009
Allied Social Science Associations (ASSA), San Francisco, CA,
American Real Estate and Urban Economics Association (AEREUA) Poster Session

ACADEMIC/RESEARCH INTERESTS

Environmental and Resource Economics
Public Sector Economics
International Political Economy and Organizations

AFFILIATIONS/MEMBERSHIPS

Academic:

Past Editor and Reviewer, Journal of Social Science Research, 2004 - Present
Past Officer, Social Science Graduate Student Association, UTD, 2004
Member, Golden Key International Honor Society, 2003
Past President and Member, Omicron Delta Epsilon Honor Society-Psi Chapter, 2003
Past President and Member, UTD Economics & Finance Club, 2002
Member, Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society-Iota Chapter, 2001

Professional:

Member, American Economic Association
Member, Southern Economic Association
Member, Association of Environmental and Resource Economists
Member, American Real Estate and Urban Economics Association
Member, Association for Public Policy & Management

REFERENCES

Academic:

Dr. James C. Murdoch, Professor; University of Texas at Dallas, School of Economics, Political and Policy Sciences; Richardson, Texas; (972) 883-4989; murdoch@utdallas.edu
Dr. Euel W. Elliott, Professor and Senior Associate Dean; University of Texas at Dallas, School of Economics, Political and Policy Sciences; Richardson, Texas; (972) 883-2066; eelliott@utdallas.edu
Dr. Lloyd J. Dumas, Professor; University of Texas at Dallas, School of Economics, Political and Policy Sciences; Richardson, Texas; 972-883-2010; ljdumas@utdallas.edu

Professional:

U. S. Congressman Ralph M. Hall, 104 N. San Jacinto St., Rockwall, Texas 75087-2508; 972-771-9118;
<http://www.house.gov/ralphhall/>