

DR. CHRIS R. SURFUS

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Education

Degrees

- 2021 **Western Michigan University**
Doctor of Philosophy in Public Administration (Ph.D.)
- 2014 **Grand Valley State University**
Master of Business Administration (MBA)
- 2013 **Grand Valley State University**
Master of Public Administration (MPA)
- 2013 **Grand Valley State University**
Graduate Certificate in Nonprofit Leadership
- 2010 **Cornerstone University**
Bachelor of Science of Business Administration (BSBA)

Training

- 2023-25 **Western Michigan University**
Graduate Public Health Courses (24 credits)
- 2023 **U.S. Department of Health and Human Services**
Federalwide Assurance (FWA)
Signatory Official for The Surfus Foundation
- 2016 **CITI Program**
Human Subjects Institutional Review Board Training Certificate
- 2021-22 **Johns Hopkins University**
Bloomberg School of Public Health
Epidemiology Specialization (Coursera)
- 2021-22 **University of Colorado Boulder**
Anti-Racism Specialization (Coursera)
- 2014-15 **NASPAA-Batten Student Simulation Competition**
Public Policy Simulation

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Experience

Appointments

- 2022-23 **Western Michigan University**
School of Public Affairs and Administration. Faculty Specialist I.
- 2021-22 **University of New Hampshire**
Institute on Disability. Postdoctoral Research Associate.

Teaching

- Spring 2023 **Western Michigan University**
PADM 2000 Introduction to Nonprofit Leadership. Online.
- Spring 2023 PADM 3000 Foundations of Nonprofit Management. Online.
- Spring 2023 PADM 6060 Applied Research Methods. In-Person.
- Spring 2023 PADM 6435 Marketing and Community Engagement. Hybrid.
- Fall 2022 PADM 3000 Foundations of Nonprofit Management. In-Person.
- Fall 2022 PADM 6010 Economic Principles for Public Service. In-Person.
- Fall 2022 PADM 6520 Health Care Economics & Finance. Hybrid.

Practitioner

- 2024- **Surfus Style**
eBay Business Owner
- 2010- **The Surfus Foundation**
Founder, President, & Treasurer
- 2019 **Western Michigan University**
Doctoral Assistant for NASPAA Accreditation

Service | University

- 2022-23 **Western Michigan University**
Curriculum Development Committee
- 2022 **University of New Hampshire**
Thesis (Sawyer Rogers)

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Service | Profession

Journal Review & Editorial

- 2026- **Scientific Reports** (Springer Nature)
Reviewer (1 article) (h-index 382)
- 2026- **Journal of Homosexuality**
Reviewer (1 article) (h-index 101)
- 2022-23 **Policy Studies Journal**
Reviewer (2 articles) (h-index 102)
- 2022-23 **Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation**
Editorial Board & Reviewer (3 articles) (h-index 50)

Board of Directors

- 2010- **The Surfus Foundation**
Founder, President, & Treasurer
- 2022-23 **ASPA LGBT Advocacy Alliance Section**
Chairperson
- 2014-23 **ASPA Michigan Capital Area Chapter**
President (2019-23)
VP Membership (2017-19)
At-Large Board Member (2015-17)
Board Liaison to Western Michigan University (2014-15)
- 2012-14 **Grand Rapids Pride Center**
Support Group Facilitator
Committee Co-Chair

Projects

- 2014 **Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra**
Marketing Plan Class Project
- 2013 **Grand Rapids Red Project**
Fund Development Plan Class Project
- 2012 **Disability Advocates of Kent County**
Strategic Plan Class Project

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Publications

Dissertation

- 2021 Surfus, C. R. Michigan municipal manager perceptions on LGBTQ+ inclusion: A narrative policy framework case study.

Journals

- 2025 Surfus, C.R., Amoateng, E., Hadley, W., & Edwards, V. A comparative review to understand disability and educational attainment among Gen Z. Pending.
- 2023 Brucker, D. L., Surfus, C. R., & Henly, M. Mental health experiences in 2021 for adults with disabilities who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender. *Rehabilitation Psychology*, 68(4), 374–384.
<https://doi.org/10.1037/rep0000511>
- 2023 Jablonski, E. S., Surfus, C. R., & Henly, M. Full-time caregiving during COVID-19 based on minority identifications, generation, and vaccination status. In J. J. Kronenfeld (Ed.), *Social Factors, Health Care Inequities and Vaccination* (Vol. 40, pp. 43–64). Emerald Publishing Limited.
<https://doi.org/10.1108/S0275-495920230000040003>
- 2023 Surfus, C. R. The COVID-19 impact on employment for LGBT individuals with disabilities: An examination of the 2021 Household Pulse Survey. *Journal of Disability Policy Studies*.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/10442073231205605>
- 2023 Surfus, C. R. A statistical understanding of disability in the LGBT community. *Statistics and Public Policy*.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/2330443X.2023.2188056>
- 2013 Surfus, C. R. "Equity issues in LGBT funding: Inequality remains despite national progress," *SPNHA Review* (9)(1), Article 7.
<http://scholarworks.gvsu.edu/spnhareview/vol9/iss1/7>

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Books

- 2025 Swan W., Surfus, C.R., Drake, D. (Eds.). LGBTQIA+ Communities, Pandemics, and Policy Responses: Connecting the Dots. New York, NY: Routledge- Taylor & Francis.

Book Chapters

- 2025 Surfus, C.R. Intersectional health disparities in the LGBTQIA+ community. In Swan W., Surfus, C.R., & Drake, D. (Eds.), LGBTQIA+ Communities, Pandemics, and Policy Responses: Connecting the Dots. New York, NY: Routledge- Taylor & Francis.
- 2025 Surfus, C.R. The LGBTQIA+ experience of COVID-19 and Long-COVID. In Swan W., Surfus, C.R., & Drake, D. (Eds.), LGBTQIA+ Communities, Pandemics, and Policy Responses: Connecting the Dots. New York, NY: Routledge- Taylor & Francis.
- 2025 Surfus, C.R. Mpox and emergent epidemiological threats facing the LGBTQIA+ community. In Swan W., Surfus, C.R., & Drake, D. (Eds.), LGBTQIA+ Communities, Pandemics, and Policy Responses: Connecting the Dots. New York, NY: Routledge- Taylor & Francis.
- 2025 Surfus, C.R. The politics and policy of public health funding. In Swan W., Surfus, C.R., & Drake, D. (Eds.), LGBTQIA+ Communities, Pandemics, and Policy Responses: Connecting the Dots. New York, NY: Routledge- Taylor & Francis.
- 2025 Surfus, C.R. The U.S. Census Household Pulse Survey and U.S. LGBTQ populations. In Swan W., Surfus, C.R., & Drake, D. (Eds.), LGBTQIA+ Communities, Pandemics, and Policy Responses: Connecting the Dots. New York, NY: Routledge- Taylor & Francis.
- 2025 Surfus, C.R., & Fullerton, A. The transgender community: Data and disparities under COVID-19 and Mpox. In Swan W., Surfus, C.R., & Drake, D. (Eds.), LGBTQIA+ Communities, Pandemics, and Policy Responses: Connecting the Dots. New York, NY: Routledge- Taylor & Francis.
- 2022 Surfus, C. R. COVID-19 and the impact on LGBT disabled Americans. In Swan, W. (Ed.), COVID-19, the LGBTQ+ Community and Public Policy (pp. 92-98). New York, NY: Routledge.
- 2022 Surfus, C. R. An international pandemic, misinformation, and policy harms. In Swan, W. (Ed.), COVID-19, the LGBTQ+ Community and Public Policy (pp. 1-17). New York, NY: Routledge.

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Book Chapters (cont.)

- 2022 Surfus, C. R. Reclaiming our time: From discrimination to dignity. In Swan, W. (Ed.), COVID-19, the LGBTQ+ Community and Public Policy (pp. 265-272). New York, NY: Routledge.
- 2022 Surfus, C. R., & Sanner, C. The Flint water crisis. In Murphy Greene, C. (Ed.), Environmental Justice and Resiliency in an Age of Uncertainty (pp. 54-71). New York, NY: Routledge-Taylor & Francis.
- 2018 Surfus, C. R. Challenges and opportunities for the LGBTQ community at the state and local levels. In Swan, W. (Ed.), The Routledge Handbook of LGBTQ Administration and Policy (pp. 356-361). New York, NY: Routledge.

Articles

- 2024 Surfus, C.R., & Swan, W. The current level of attacks on the LGBTQ+ community is both a national and worldwide phenomenon. PA Times. American Society for Public Administration.

Presentations

Conferences

- 2024 Surfus, C.R. Queering public policy research. Conference on Public Policy Research (COPPR). Syracuse, NY. Presenter.
- 2023 Surfus, C.R. LGBT Advocacy Alliance Section panel and business meeting. American Society for Public Administration Annual Conference. Online. Chair/Presenter.
- 2023 Surfus, C.R. Narrative Policy Framework and qualitative research. International Public Policy Association (ICPP6). Toronto, ON, Canada. Presenter.
- 2023 Surfus, C.R. Protecting the bureaucracy from LGBTQ+ data erasure. Social Equity Leadership Conference. Kansas City, MO. Presenter.
- 2023 Surfus, C.R. Public policy methodologies and innovations in diversity administration. International Public Policy Association (ICPP6). Toronto, ON, Canada. Chair/Presenter.

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Conferences (cont.)

- 2022 Murphy-Greene, C., & Surfus, C.R. Environmental justice and resiliency in an age of uncertainty.” Northeast Conference on Public Administration. Online. Presenter.
- 2022 Surfus, C.R. COVID-19 and the impact on LGBT disabled Americans. Social Equity Leadership Conference. Online. Moderator/Presenter.
- 2022 Surfus, C.R. The COVID-19 impact on disability, LGBTQ+, and employment: An examination of the 2021 Census Household Pulse Survey. American Society for Public Administration Annual Conference. Jacksonville, FL. Moderator/Presenter.
- 2022 Surfus, C.R. COVID-19, the LGBTQIA+ community, and public policy. Saint Louis County, MN Health and Human Services Conference. Online. Presenter.
- 2022 Surfus, C.R. COVID-19, the LGBTQIA+ community, and public policy. Southeast Conference on Public Administration. Lexington, KY. Moderator/Presenter.
- 2022 Surfus, C.R. Learning from the 2021 Census Household Pulse Survey to create innovative public service agencies. Midwest Public Affairs Conference. Springfield, IL. Presenter.
- 2022 Surfus, C.R. LGBTQ+ data collection and COVID-19 statistics in public administration. Korean Association for Public Administration. Online. Moderator/Presenter.
- 2022 Surfus, C.R. National petition of South Korea. Korean Association for Public Administration. Discussant.
- 2022 Surfus, C.R. Participatory budgeting. Korean Association for Public Administration. Online. Discussant.
- 2022 Surfus, C.R. Understanding the pandemic, LGBTQ+ people, and public policy. Northeast Conference on Public Administration. Online. Moderator/Presenter.
- 2022 Surfus, C.R. U.S. Census Household Pulse Survey, Mpox data project, and COVID-19, the LGBTQIA+ Community, and Public Policy. National LGBTQ Health Conference. Chicago, IL. Poster Presenter.
- 2021 Aljanahi, M.H., & Surfus, C.R. Public leadership and crisis management. International Public Policy Association. International Conference on Public Policy (ICPP5). Barcelona, Spain. Co-Chair.

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Conferences (cont.)

- 2021 Surfus, C.R. COVID-19 and implications for the LGBTQ+ community. American Society for Public Administration Annual Conference. Online. Presenter.
- 2021 Surfus, C.R. Understanding the 2021 Census Pulse Survey and the current state of inclusion. Northeast Conference on Public Administration. Online.
- 2020 Surfus, C.R. Challenges and opportunities for the LGBTQ community and the state and local levels in the modern era. American Society for Public Administration Annual Conference. Anaheim, CA. Presenter.
- 2020 Surfus, C.R. Graduate student panel presentations on COVID-19. Northeast Conference on Public Administration. Online.
- 2020 Surfus, C.R. Innovation and practices in the public sector. Presenter. Accepted proposal/COVID-19 cancelled.
- 2019 Surfus, C.R. Challenges and opportunities for the LGBTQ community and the state and local levels in the modern era. American Society for Public Administration Annual Conference. Washington, D.C. Presenter.
- 2019 Surfus, C.R. Challenges and opportunities for the LGBTQ community and the state and local levels in the modern era. Midwest Public Affairs Conference. Indianapolis, IN. Presenter.
- 2019 Surfus, C.R. Challenges and opportunities for the LGBTQ community at the state and local levels in the modern era. Northeast Conference on Public Administration. Online.
- 2019 Surfus, C.R. Challenges and opportunities for the LGBTQ community at the state and local levels in the modern era. Opportunity Conference. Minneapolis, MN. Presenter.
- 2018 Surfus, C.R. Emergency management, environmental racism, and the new Jim Crow. Baltimore, MD. Moderator/Presenter.
- 2017 Surfus, C.R. Modeling for LGBTQ inclusion in public administration. Midwest Public Affairs Conference. Omaha, NE. Presenter.
- 2016 Surfus, C.R. LGBTQ+ inclusion in public organizations: A catalyst for collaborative environments. Harrisburg, PA. Presenter.

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Invited Talks

- 2024 Swan, W., & Surfus, C.R. Undermining our rights: A national emergency for the LGBTQ+ community. American Society for Public Administration. Online (webinar). Presenter.
- 2023 Surfus, C.R. SPAA public service engagement series. Western Michigan University. Online. Moderator.
- 2022 Murphy-Greene, C., & Surfus, C.R. Environmental justice and resiliency in an age of uncertainty. American Society for Public Administration. Online (webinar). Presenter.
- 2022 Surfus, C.R., Benson, J., Mingus, M.S., Grossmann, M. Current elections in Michigan, featuring Michigan Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson. American Society for Public Administration Michigan Capital Area Chapter. Online. Chair/Moderator.
- 2021 Surfus, C.R. Reclaiming our time: From discrimination to dignity. American Society for Public Administration Section on Democracy and Social Justice. Online. Chairperson.
- 2021 Surfus, C.R., Bagdasarian, N., Swan, W., & Overby, P. COVID-19 and implications for the LGBTQ+ community. American Society for Public Administration Michigan Capital Area Chapter. Online. Chair/Moderator.
- 2020 Surfus, C.R., & Schor, A. Moving Lansing's economy ahead under COVID-19, featuring Lansing, MI Mayor Andy Schor. American Society for Public Administration Michigan Capital Area Chapter. Online. Chair/Moderator.

Grants & Awards

Grants

- 2025 **Western Michigan University**
Graduate Student Research Grant. \$1,000.
- 2023 **The State of Michigan & Michigan Nonprofit Association**
Michigan Nonprofit Relief Fund. The Surfus Foundation. \$25,000.

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Awards

- 2026 **American Society for Public Administration**
LGBT Advocacy Alliance Section
Best Book Award. Awarded.
“LGBTQIA+ Communities, Pandemics, and Policy Responses: Connecting the Dots” (with Swan, W. & Drake, D.)
- 2024 **American Society for Public Administration**
LGBT Advocacy Alliance Section
Best Paper Award. Nominated.
“A Statistical Understanding of Disability in the LGBT Community”
- 2023 **American Society for Public Administration**
LGBT Advocacy Alliance Section
Paula Overby Memorial Award. Awarded.
- 2023 **Taylor & Francis**
Disability Pride Month Best Publication. Awarded.
“A Statistical Understanding of Disability in the LGBT Community”
- 2022 **Marquis Who’s Who in America**
America’s Top Public Administrators. Awarded.
- 2015 **Western Michigan University**
Thurgood Marshall Doctoral Fellowship. Alternate.
- 2014 **The Point Foundation**
LGBTQ+ Scholarship. National Semifinalist.
- 2013 **The Point Foundation**
LGBTQ+ Scholarship. National Semifinalist.
- 2012 **The Point Foundation**
LGBTQ+ Scholarship. National Semifinalist.
- 2011 **Grand Valley State University**
GVSU Peace and Justice Scholarship. Awarded.
- 2011 **Grand Valley State University**
West Shore Aware LGBT Scholarship. Awarded.

Membership

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|--------------|---|
| ASPA | American Society for Public Administration |
| ASA | American Sociological Association |
| ASA | American Statistical Association |
| APPAM | Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management |
| ICMA | International City/County Management Association |
| IPPA | International Public Policy Association |

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MML

Michigan Municipal League Michigan Municipal Executives

MNA

Michigan Nonprofit Association

PATNet

Public Administration Theory Network

YNPN

Young Nonprofit Professionals Network of Grand Rapids

Delta Alpha Pi

Pi Alpha Alpha