

CHARLES JUNIUS WHEELAN, PH.D.

Charles.j.wheelan@tuck.dartmouth.edu

5.1.26

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Clinical Professor of Business, Tuck School of Business, Dartmouth College

- Faculty Director, Center for Business, Government, and Society
- Courses: Future of Capitalism; Policy, Politics, and Business; Health Economics and Policy
- Taught the economics modules for all four sessions of the Tuck Bridge Program.
- Refined and continued the Tuck Pathfinders, a program for Dartmouth undergraduates to help them formulate a thoughtful approach to post-graduate life.
- Collaborated in the Tuck Dialogues, a program designed to promote constructive conversation on potentially controversial topics.
- Represented Tuck in the Dartmouth Rockefeller Center's series of lectures and dinners: *Law and Democracy: The United States at 250*.

Founder and Operating Board Member, Unite America (Since 2014)

Created a nonpartisan organization with an annual operating budget of roughly \$20 million dedicated to fostering a more representative and functional government. Unite America is currently focused on promoting state-level process reforms, such as independent redistricting, ranked-choice voting, and vote by mail. The organization was a major supporter of the Alaska referendum to adopt a single nonpartisan primary with ranked choice voting in the general election. The *Atlantic* described the Alaska referendum as the “biggest win yet” for the political reform movement and credited Unite America as a group that “pushed it over the line.” Unite America helped to successfully defend the Alaska reform against a repeal referendum in 2024.

BOOKS

***Naked Government: An Inside Look at How the Sausage Gets Made*, manuscript expected 1/27.**

This will be the fourth “naked book” published by W.W. Norton. The book will examine the nature of governance: why we need government; how it has been done historically; what makes democracy “the worst form of government except for all those other forms that have been tried from time to time”; and how we can make democracy and government work better.

“Centrism and Building a Better Political System,” in the edited volume *The Center Must Hold: Why Centrism Is the Answer to Extremism and Polarization*, Armin Lear Press.

Invited by Yair Zivan, senior aide to former Israeli Prime Minister Yair Lapid to contribute a chapter on how state-level electoral reforms such as ranked-choice voting could diminish political partisanship. Other contributors include Tony Blair and Michael Bloomberg.

***Write for Your Life: A Guide to Clear and Purposeful Writing (and Presentations)*, W.W. Norton & Company, 2022**

A guide to clearer, more effective writing based on years of experience as a journalist, columnist, speech writer, political candidate, novelist, screenwriter, and author of popular nonfiction books.

***We Came, We Saw, We Left: A Family Gap Year*, W.W. Norton & Company, January 2021**

A nonfiction family memoir of the Wheelan Family trip around the world: nine months, six continents, three teenagers. The paperback edition was selected as the nonfiction book of the month by Barnes & Noble for May of 2022.

The Rationing (fiction), W.W. Norton & Company, May 2019

A debut novel based on a pandemic striking the U.S. and the subsequent political machinations. *Booklist* described it as “an eminently credible tale of a worst-case scenario that one hopes never comes to pass.” (It did.)

Naked Money: What It Is and Why It Matters, W.W. Norton & Company, 2016

An accessible tour of money, banking, and central banking. Includes chapters on Japan’s deflation, the 2008 financial crisis, the fate of the euro, and other money-related contemporary issues.

The Centrist Manifesto, W.W. Norton & Company, 2013

The book that launched Unite America warned of rising partisanship and proposed policies for empowering America’s political middle. Reviewed in *The Economist* and other prominent publications.

Naked Statistics: Stripping the Dread from the Data, W.W. Norton & Company, 2013

A layperson’s guide to statistics, in the same vein as *Naked Economics*. Three weeks after publication, the book reached the *New York Times* bestseller list for hardback nonfiction. *The San Francisco Chronicle* called it a “brilliant, funny new book.”

Introduction to Public Policy, W.W. Norton & Company, 2010

The first and most comprehensive economics-based introductory public policy text. The book defines a core set of skills and concepts that make up the essential building blocks of public policy and is the first public policy text written by someone who has been trained in the field (as opposed to a single academic discipline) and has extensive practical experience in public policy, both in the U.S. and abroad.

Naked Economics: Undressing the Dismal Science, W.W. Norton & Company, 2002

Updated with a third edition in 2019, the book is an accessible and entertaining introduction to economics for lay readers and is now being published in more than 14 languages. The *Chicago Tribune* described *Naked Economics* as “clear, concise, informative and (gasp) witty.” The book has enjoyed widespread course adoption at the high school and college level, including at the University of Chicago. In 2023, the *Wall Street Journal* picked *Naked Economics* as the best business book ever, just ahead of Michael Lewis’s *Moneyball*.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Lecturer and Senior Policy Fellow, Rockefeller Center, Dartmouth College (2006-23)

Taught classes in public policy, government, education, and at the Tuck School of Business. Created the Global Policy Practicum, a class that combines seminar-style learning with travel to the country of study to meet with policymakers and other experts. The 2022 practicum visited South Africa. Previous classes have traveled to Colombia, Northern Ireland, Israel, Jordan, and India.

TEACHING AWARDS AND RECOGNITION:

- 2020: Dean of the Faculty Teaching Award
- 2020: Selected by the Class of ‘20 to be their Class Day Faculty Speaker
- 2017: Selected by the Class of ‘17 as one of 20 professors recognized in *The Aegis*.
- 2016: Voted by the Class of ‘16 as one of Dartmouth’s Top 10 Professors
- 2015: Voted by the Class of ‘15 as one of Dartmouth’s Top 10 Professors.
- 2014: Voted by the Class of ‘14 as one of Dartmouth’s Top 10 Professors.
- 2013-14: Recipient of the Distinguished Lecturer Award, presented by the Dean of the Faculty.

- 2011: Selected by the Class of '11 to be their Class Day speaker.
- 2010: Awarded the Green Key Faculty Award, an annual teaching award given by the Green Key Society, an honorary service organization made up of members of the junior class.

Senior Lecturer, Harris School of Public Policy, University of Chicago (2004-2012)

Graduate level instructor for courses in regional policy, the policy process, and international policy issues. Voted Professor of the Year in a Non-Core Course by the Harris School student body for the 2004-05 academic year. Designed and taught the inaugural International Policy Practicum (IPP), in which 12 students studied economic reform in India for an academic term followed by a 10-day trip to Bangalore and Delhi to meet with economists, politicians, educators, civic leaders, and other experts. Returned to the Harris School as a visiting professor in the spring of 2024.

Speech Writer for former Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley (2011-2103)

Asked by Mayor Richard Daley to write his address to the Economic Club of Chicago during his final year in office. Subsequently hired to write Daley's speeches after he left office.

Candidate, Illinois 5th Congressional District, 2009 Special Election

Ran unsuccessfully for Congress as the representative from the Illinois 5th District in the special election to replace Rahm Emanuel. In its editorial assessing the race, the *Chicago Sun-Times* wrote, "Voters will find a ballot filled with impressive and thoughtful candidates . . . especially Charlie Wheelan, a University of Chicago lecturer who combines a razor-sharp mind with a boatload of charm and an impressive expertise in economics and foreign policy. We expect great things from Wheelan in the future."

Monthly Columnist, Yahoo! Finance (2005-2010)

Author of the "The Naked Economist" column, which applied basic economic analysis to issues ranging from health care costs to traffic congestion.

Director of Policy and Communications, Chicago Metropolis 2020 (2002-2004)

Key strategist for a business-backed civic group working to promote healthy growth in the Chicago region. As part of a team of senior leaders, the director of policy and communications was responsible for research and analysis, public outreach, media relations, and legislative strategy.

Midwest Correspondent, *The Economist* (1997-2002)

Reported, wrote, and took photographs for the United States section of *The Economist*. Contributed over 100 stories, including the August 10th 2002 cover story on America's burgeoning ex-convict population. Periodically wrote the Lexington column, a weekly feature on American politics.

Speech Writer for the Governor of Maine (1989-91)

Sole speech writer for Maine Governor John R. McKernan, Jr.

BOARD AFFILIATIONS

Trustee, Alice Peck Day Hospital (since 2017)

Operating board member of the Lebanon-based critical access hospital that is now part of the Dartmouth-Health system. Member of the executive committee, chair of the strategic planning committee, and former chair of the quality committee.

Howe Library (since 2023)

Board member of Hanover's local public library.

Civic Advisory Council, New Hampshire Forum

Advisor to a nonprofit, nonpartisan group working to host the second annual Citizen's Forum in which a diverse group of New Hampshire citizens come together to formulate a shared legislative agenda.

EDUCATION

PH.D., HARRIS GRADUATE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, 1998

M.P.A., PRINCETON SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, 1993

B.A., DARTMOUTH COLLEGE, 1988