

Natalie Gochnour

Experience

Associate Dean, David Eccles School of Business 2013-Present
University of Utah

Serves as Associate Dean and directs the Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute, the premier economic, demographic and public policy research center in Utah. The Institute's supports informed decision making that strengthens the Utah economy. Teaches public finance to upper-division and graduate students in economics and public policy and serves in a contractual role as chief economist for the Salt Lake Chamber.

Executive Vice President and Chief Economist 2005-2013
Salt Lake Chamber

Directed the public policies of Utah's largest business association and served as the chief economic advisor and commentator. Helped transform the Chamber into one of the most influential voices for positive community change.

Counselor to the Secretary 2005
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

Served as a political appointee in the George W. Bush Administration by providing policy and communications counsel to HHS Secretary Mike Leavitt. Served on the secretary's senior staff, researched and distilled policy issues for the secretary and chief of staff, coordinated with the White House Domestic Policy Council and extended the reach of the secretary within HHS.

Associate Administrator, Office of Public Affairs 2003-2004
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Directed the public affairs activities of the EPA, including media strategy and relations, speechwriting, web and print product review, and environmental education. Served on the EPA senior leadership team and worked personally with the administrator to effectively manage and convey the agency's public message. Coordinated communication activities with White House staff.

Deputy for Policy and Communications and Governor's Spokesperson 2001-2003
Utah Governor's Office

Provided policy recommendations and directed communication activities of Gov. Mike Leavitt. Served as the governor's spokesperson and as a member of his senior staff. Significant experience included serving as the governor's communications director during the 2002 Olympic Winter Games and two legislative sessions.

State Planning Coordinator/Deputy Director/Director Demographic and Economic Analysis 1995-2001
Governor's Office of Planning and Budget

Served as the state planning coordinator and deputy director for the Utah Governor's Office of Planning and Budget. Responsibilities included the co-management of a 55-person staff and oversight of state planning activities, including land use planning, environmental review, smart growth initiatives, and land conservation. Prior to serving as the deputy director, Natalie directed a staff of economists, analysts and administrative support personnel who analyzed and disseminated economic, demographic and fiscal information to the governor, state agencies, local government, and the public. She managed the preparation of population estimates and projections, revenue forecasts, fiscal impact assessments, and special studies on public policy issues. Managed the technical analysis for the Envision Utah baseline, scenarios and quality growth strategy.

Education

M.S., Economics, University of Utah 1988
Participated in the applied economics program. Primary areas of emphasis were public policy, public finance and natural resource economics. Masters' thesis on downhill ski demand in Utah. Member of Omicron Delta Epsilon, economics honor society.

B.S., Economics, University of Utah 1984
Completed the natural resources tract of the economics program. Worked as a research assistant while in upper division classes. Served a congressional internship in Washington D.C. and hosted the political science department's lecture series: Coffee and Politics.

Public Commentary

Contributor, Deseret News

Writes regular column for the *Deseret News*, a leading online and print news organization in Utah.

2013-Present

Radio show, KCPW Public Radio

Co-hosts with state senator Dan McCay a weekly radio program called Both Sides of the Aisle on KCPW Public Radio 88.3 FM. Represents the political middle on the program.

2013-Present

Contributor, Utah Business

Writes monthly economic insight column for Utah Business magazine, Utah's preeminent business periodical.

2011-Present

Appointments and Other Experience

Board Member, O.C. Tanner

Serves as a director of premier strategic employee recognition and reward solutions company that helps people accomplish and appreciate great work.

2017-Present

Board Member, People's Utah Bancorp

Serves as a bank director for a publicly-traded, full-service community bank (Nasdaq: PUB).

2019-Present

Advisory Board Member, Dominion Energy Salt Lake Council

Advise publicly-traded energy company on Utah operations.

2017-Present

Community Board Member, Primary Children's Hospital

Advise hospital leadership on the administration of the intermountain region's premier children's hospital.

2010-Present

Community Board Member, Utah Olympic Legacy Foundation

Guide activities of Utah's Olympic Legacy Foundation, including managing and maintaining world-class Olympic facilities and providing opportunities for people to participate and excel in winter sports.

2008-Present

Vice Chair, Envision Utah

Help lead one of the nation's most successful quality growth partnerships.

2008-Present

Co-Chair and Community Board Member, World Trade Center Utah

2006-Present

Co-Chair United Way Health Care Working Group

Helped lead a business-sponsored effort to reform health care in Utah. This effort was the precursor to the formation of the Utah health insurance exchange.

2007

Business Communications Manager

Proposition 3 (Transportation Referendum)

Managed the business community's involvement in a public referendum to expand light rail transit and commuter rail in Utah. This referendum for a sales tax increase passed with a two-thirds majority.

2006

Creator and director of Downtown Rising: A new vision for Salt Lake City

Conceived of, managed and helped execute a movement to enhance Utah's capital city. This included the creation of a common vision and key policies and communication strategies to motivate public involvement in urban renewal.

2006

References Available Upon Request

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