

PAUL E. SOMMERS
Economist

EDUCATION

- 1978 Ph.D., Yale University; Economics
- 1972 B.A., University of California, Berkeley; Economics

SUMMARY

Dr. Sommers was appointed Professor at the Institute of Public Policy and the Albers School of Business at Seattle University, effective July 1, 2004. At Seattle University, he teaches in the Institute of Public Service, a masters level public management program, as well as the Department of Economics in the Albers School of Business. In addition, he is responsible for developing a Center on Metropolitan Development that will involve research on economic trends and effective development strategies in metropolitan areas of the United States, with a particular focus on the Puget Sound. Recent research by Dr. Sommers includes economic impact studies, reviews of forecasting processes, regional economic assessments, economic development strategy assessments, and workforce projections for industry clusters. Projects completed in 2006 include an economic impact analysis for U.S. Navy bases in Washington State, and a review of the literature on the economic and social impacts of higher education for the Washington Office of Financial Management/Washington Learns.

From 1998 to 2003 he was a Senior Research Fellow at the University of Washington's Daniel J. Evans School of Public Policy conducting research related to regional economic trends, business assistance strategies, and workforce education and training, and industry clustering, particularly among advanced technology industries. In 2002-03, he completed two papers on technology-based development strategies and trends in the use of information technology for The Brookings Institution, as well as a project examining workforce needs of industry clusters in the State of Washington. In 2003, he also completed a study of the maritime cluster in Seattle.

Dr. Sommers served as Executive Director of the Northwest Policy Center at the Evans School from 1994 to 1998, and as Research Director of the Center from 1988 to 1994. In 1985 he helped create *Pacific Northwest Executive*, a quarterly regional economics publication of the University of Washington Graduate School of Business. He was that magazine's research director from 1985 to 1988. As an economist at Battelle's Seattle Research Center from 1978 to 1985, he directed studies of renewable energy and nuclear safety issues for a number of public and private sector clients. In addition, he served as the associate director of one of the four study centers on the Seattle campus.

He has been a member of the Governor's Council of Economic Advisors in Washington since 1994, and he served on the forecast review committee at Seattle City Light from 1982 to 1986. He served as an officer of the Seattle Economists Club from 1987 to 1990, and was President of the Club during 1989-90; in 1997-98 he served as Vice President and program director for the club. For 10 years he served on the board of the Northwest Natural Resource Group, serving as board president in 2004. He currently serves on the board of the Pacific Northwest Regional Economics Conference, and on the editorial board of the *Northwest Journal of Business and Economics* published by Western Washington University.

SELECTED EXPERIENCE

- 2004- Professor, Institute of Public Service and Albers School of Business, and Director, Center on Metropolitan Development, Seattle University
- 1998-2003 Senior Research Fellow, Daniel J. Evans School of Public Affairs, University of Washington
- 1994- 1998 Executive Director, Northwest Policy Center and Research Associate Professor; Graduate School of Public Affairs, University of Washington
- 1988-1994 Research Associate Professor, 1990+; 1988-1990: Senior Research Associate, Graduate School of Public Affairs, University of Washington, and Research Director, Northwest Policy Center
- 1985-1988 Research Associate, Graduate School of Business Administration, University of Washington, and Research Director, *Pacific Northwest Executive*
- 1984-85 Associate Director, Science and Government Study Center, Battelle Human Affairs Research Centers
- 1978-84 Research Scientist, Science and Government Study Center, Battelle Human Affairs Research Centers, Seattle, Washington

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Journals and Other Publications

- Morrill, R. and P. Sommers. Seattle as a digital city: Unexpected or inevitable? *Canadian Journal of Regional Science*, Summer 2005, 28(2): 49-64.
- Lidman, R. and P. Sommers. The compleat policy analyst: A top ten list. *Public Administration Review*, September/October 2005, Vol. 65, No. 5, 628-634.
- Sommers, P. The ecological footprint of Seattle and Vancouver. 2004. *Planning Metropolitan Landscapes – Concepts, Demands, Approaches*, Alterra/Green World Research, Wageningen, The Netherlands.
- Jackson, J.E., R.G. Lee and P. Sommers. Monitoring the Community Impacts of the Northwest Forest Plan: An Alternative to Social Indicators. *Society and Natural Resources*, v. 17(3), 223-233, March 2004.
- Sommers, P. and Deena Heg. *Spreading the Wealth: Building a Tech economy in Small and Medium-sized Regions*. October 2003. Washington, D.C.: Discussion Paper for The Brookings Institution Center for Urban and Metropolitan Studies by Daniel J. Evans School of Public Affairs, University of Washington.
- Sommers, P. and Daniel Carlson. *What the IT Revolution Means for Regional Economic Development*. February 2003. Seattle, WA: Discussion Paper for The Brookings Institution Center for Urban and Metropolitan Studies and CEOs for Cities by Daniel J. Evans School of Public Affairs, University of Washington.

Sommers, P. Economic forecast: Not a question of if, but of how long. *Washington CEO*, December 2001, 19-19.

Sommers, P. The Information Technology revolution: Can the supply of skilled workers keep up with demand? *Northwest Science & Technology*, Fall 2001.

Christensen, Harriet H., Terry R. Raettig, and Paul Sommers (ed.). *Northwest Forest Plan: Outcomes and Lessons Learned from the Northwest Economic Adjustment Initiative*. General Technical Report PNW-GTR-484, U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Portland, Oregon, November 1999.

Sommers, P. "Research on the Northwest Economic Adjustment Initiative: Outcomes and Process." In *Northwest Forest Plan, op.cit.*, pp. 65-75.

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Sommers, P. "The hoops to a healthy economy: Environmental assets alone will not entice business to the region." *Seattle Times*, Issues page, Oct. 6, 1996, B5.

Sommers, P. "Boeing is booming, so is Microsoft." In R.C. Wurmstedt (ed.), *1996 Western Economic Roundtable: Strong growth drives a dramatic economic transition in the West*, Denver: Center for the New West, August 1996.

Sommers, P. and J.W. Mitchell, "The Silicon forest: The Northwest trades wood chips for microchips." *Forecast: The Magazine of Demographics and Market Strategy*, January-February 1996, pp. 12-16.

Sommers, P. "Rural networks in the United States: Lessons from three experiments." Group of the Council on Rural Development, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, Paris, RDP/WD(96)10, April 4, 1996.

Sommers, P. Industries in transition: The Northwest's wood products cluster. *Firm Connections*, May/June 1995, 1,8.

Kardas, Peter, et al. Employment and sales growth in Washington state employee ownership companies: A comparative analysis. *The Journal of Employee Ownership Law and Finance*, Spring 1994, 83-135.

Kardas, Peter, et al. "Growth in Washington employee ownership companies." *LMI Review*, Washington Department of Employment Security, Olympia, January 1994, 8-13.

Sommers, P. "Varieties of interfirm cooperation." *Proceedings of the International Conference on Cooperation and Competitiveness*, Lisbon, Portugal, October 6-8, 1993, pp. 469-484.

Sommers, Paul, David S. Harrison, and Jon Seib. "The rural-urban gap: A policy problem for the 1990s." *The New Pacific*, Fall 1989.

Sommers, Paul and Roland J. Cole. "The costs of complying with government requirements: Are small firms disproportionately impacted?" In Richard J. Judd, William T. Greenwood, and Fred W. Becker, eds., Small business in a regulated economy: Issues and policy implications, New York: Quorum Books, 1988, pp. 53-66.

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Marcus, Alfred A., Paul Sommers, and Frederic A. Morris. "Alternative arrangements for cost effective pollution abatement: The need for implementation analysis." Policy Studies Review, 1(3), 1982, 477-483.

Alfred A. Marcus, Paul Sommers and Bonnie Berk. "Barriers to the Adoption of an Energy Efficient Technology." Energy Policy, June 1982.

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Sommers, Paul and Roland J. Cole. "Costs of compliance in small and medium-sized businesses." American Journal of Small Business, 6(1), 1981, pp. 25-33.

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Cole, Roland J. and Paul Sommers. "Business and Government Regulation: A Theory of Compliance Decisions." Journal of Contemporary Business, 10(1), 1981, 143-153.

Sommers, Paul. "The Adoption of Nuclear Power Generation." The Bell Journal of Economics, 11(1), 1980, 283-291.

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(sole author unless indicated)

"The economic development industry in Washington." *Pacific Northwest Executive*, 4(3), 1988, 11, 14-17.

"Japanese direct investment." *Pacific Northwest Executive*, 4(3): 1988, 18-19.

"Natural gas in the Pacific Northwest: Regulation and economics." *Pacific Northwest Executive*, 4(2), 1988, 9-11+.

"Employment and establishment growth patterns." *Pacific Northwest Executive*, 4(2), 1988, 6-17.

"The market for college and university graduates in Washington," *Pacific Northwest Executive*, 4(1), 1988, 17-18.

"The oil industry in the Pacific Northwest," *Pacific Northwest Executive*, 4(1), 1988, 14-16.

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"Heating system fuel choices: Fuel and capital variables," *Pacific Northwest Executive*, 3(4), 1987, 16-18.

"The economic impacts of a nuclear waste repository at Hanford," *Pacific Northwest Executive*, 3(2), 1987, 14-18.

"The devaluation of the dollar," *Pacific Northwest Executive*, 3(2), 1987, 10-11.

"Cleaning up Washington's water," *Pacific Northwest Executive*, 3(2), 1987, 8-9.

Sullivan, Jerry and Paul Sommers. "The higher education debate: State appropriations issues," *Pacific Northwest Executive*, 3(1), 1987, 20-21.

"Boeing: The Pacific Northwest's heavyweight," *Pacific Northwest Executive*, 3(1), 1987, 9-11+.

"Regional taxes--How we got to where we are," *Pacific Northwest Executive*, 2(4), 1986, 10-11+.

"The port business in the Pacific Northwest," *Pacific Northwest Executive*, 2(3), 1986, 9-11+.

"Assessing business climate in the Northwest," *Pacific Northwest Executive*, 2(2), 1986, 14-17.

"Forecast accuracy in Washington," *Pacific Northwest Executive*, 2(1), 1986, 15-18.

"EXPO 86--Impacts on the Pacific Northwest," *Pacific Northwest Executive*, 2(1), 1986, 10-12.

"Agriculture in the Pacific Northwest," *Pacific Northwest Executive*, 1(2), 1985, 8-12.

"BPA: Options for the Direct Service Industries," *Pacific Northwest Executive*, 1(1), 1985, 12-14.

"Economic forecasting in the Pacific Northwest states," *Pacific Northwest Executive*, 1(1), 1985, 9-11.

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Sommers, P. *Economic impact analysis results*. Report by Concurrent Technologies Corporation for Commander, Navy Installations Command and Navy Region Northwest, Bremerton, WA, September 25, 2006.

Sommers, P. *The returns on education investments*. Report by NORED for Washington Office of Financial Management, June 2006.

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Sommers, P. *Potential economic and fiscal impacts of South Lake Union development*. Final report for City of Seattle Office of Policy and Management, July 13, 2004.

Sommers, P. *Seattle's Maritime Cluster: Characteristics, Trends and Policy Issues*. Seattle: Report for City of Seattle Office of Economic Development by Daniel J. Evans School of Public Affairs, University of Washington, draft, November 2003.

Sommers, P. *The Drivers for a Successful Technology-Based Economy: Benchmarking Washington's Performance*. May 2003. Seattle: Technology Alliance (available at <http://www.technology-alliance.com>)

Washington Technology Center. *Index of innovation and technology: Washington State 2003*. Seattle, February 2003 (with S. Stone, T. Wilkins, E. Barker, and L. Cheatham), available at: <http://www.watechcenter.org>. Subsequent editions with various co-authors: 2004, 2005, 2006.

Sommers, P. and Deena Heg. *Occupational Supply and Demand by Industry Cluster and Region*. Olympia, WA: Report for the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges and the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board by the Daniel J. Evans School of Public Affairs, University of Washington, October 2002.

Sommers, P. *Cluster Strategies for Washington*. Report for Office of Trade and Economic Development by the Daniel J. Evans School of Public Affairs, December 2001.

Sommers, P. *Impacts of SIRTI-Assisted Firms in Washington State*. Report by the Northwest Policy Center for the Spokane Intercollegiate Research and Technology Institute, May, 2001

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Sommers, P. *The Cluster Approach to Economic Development*. Seattle: Concept Paper for the Washington Office of Trade and Economic Development by the Daniel J. Evans School of Public Affairs, November 30, 2000.

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Sommers, Paul. *Monitoring socioeconomic trends in the Northern Spotted Owl region: Framework, trends update, and community level monitoring recommendations*. Seattle: USGS Forest and Rangeland Ecosystem Science Center, Cascadia Field Station, College of Forest Resources, University of Washington, February 2000.

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Sommers, P., B. Mauldin, and S. Levin. *Pioneer Human Services: A Case Study*. Seattle: Northwest Policy Center, May 2000 (<http://depts.washington.edu/~npcbox/publications.html>).

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Sommers, P. and Bob Watrus. *Mastering Woodworking: Findings from a Study Tour on Secondary Wood Products Industry Modernization and Training*. Northwest Policy Center, January 1997.

Sommers, P., et. al. *Training and Education Needs in Washington's Secondary Wood Products Industries: A Pilot Scale Assessment*. Report by Northwest Policy Center, Northwest Forest Products Consortium and Evergreen Partnership for Washington Employment Security Department and related agencies, August 1995.

Sommers, P. "International Impacts on the economy, communities, and ecology of temperate forest regions." In J.L. McIntire, et. al., *The new eco-order: Economic and ecological linkages of the world's temperate and boreal forest resources*, Northwest Policy Center, June 1995, pp. 109-121.

Sommers, P., et al. *Moving Washington Forward*. Report by Forward Washington for the Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development, Seattle, 1995.

Foundations for the Future: An Economic Strategy for the Central Puget Sound Region. Vol. Two: Strategic Opportunities and Institutional Capacity. The Economic Development Council of Seattle & King County and Central Puget Sound Economic Development District, June 27, 1994. (contributor to volume)

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Sommers, P. "Industrial Development and Retention in North American Metropolitan Areas." Report for Berk and Associates and Seattle Industrial Lands Commission, 1993.

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Katz, M., Miller, C., and Sommers, P. *Proposed State Financial Assistance Plan For Water Pollution Control Facilities And Activities*. Report for Office of Financial Management, State of Washington by KFA Services, Edmonds, WA, December 1986.

Sommers, P. *Potential Benefits Of Reforming Intrastate Trucking Regulation In Washington*. Report for the Alliance of Consumers, Truckers, and Shippers, Seattle, WA, January 1986.

Sommers, P. and McIntire, J. *Assistance To Small Business In Washington*. Report for Small Business Improvement Council, State of Washington, by Battelle Human Affairs Research Centers, Seattle, WA, April, 1985.

Sommers, P. and McIntire, J. *Public Policy Impacts On The Competitiveness Of The Forest Products Industry In The Northwest And Southeast*. Report for Weyerhaeuser Company by Battelle Human Affairs Research Centers, Seattle, WA, April 1984.

Thurber, J., Sommers, P. et al. *Proposed Guidelines for a Utility Organization*. Report for U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission by Pacific Northwest Laboratory, Richland, April 1984.

Thurber, J., Sommers, P. et al. *Proposed Workbook for Assessment of Organization and Administration for Utilities Seeking Operating License for a Nuclear Power Plant*. Report for U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission by Pacific Northwest Laboratory, Richland, April 1984.

Sommers, P. et al. *A Guide to Literature Relevant to the Organization and Administration of Nuclear Power Plants*. Report for U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission by Pacific Northwest Laboratory, Richland, NUREG/CR-3645, February 1984.

Osborn, R. O., Sommers, P. et al. *Organizational Analysis and Safety for Utilities with Nuclear Power Plants*. Report for U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission by Pacific Northwest Laboratory, Richland, NUREG/CR-3215, August 1983.

Cole, R. J. and Sommers P. *A Preliminary Assessment of Long-Term Alternatives for Washington Nuclear Projects 4 and 5*. Report for Washington Public Utility District Association by Battelle Human Affairs Research Centers, Seattle, WA, March 1983.

Williams, T. A., et al. *Solar Thermal Financing Guidebook*. Report for U.S. Department of Energy by Battelle Pacific Northwest Laboratory (PNL-4745), Richland, WA, May 1983.

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Cole, R. J., Sommers, P., Sheppard, W. J., and Nesse, R. M. *Economic and Legal Aspects of Utility Consortiums for Heliostat Purchase*. Report for U.S. Department of Energy by Battelle Pacific Northwest Laboratory (PNL-4316), Richland, WA, July 1982.

Sommers, P. et al. *Short- and Long-Run Benefits of Locating a Major Container Shipping Facility in the Port of Tacoma*. Report for Port of Tacoma by Battelle Human Affairs Research Centers, Seattle, WA, June, 1982.

Osborn, et al. *An Analysis of Existing Management and Organization Guidelines for Nuclear Operations*. Report for the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission by Battelle Human Affairs Research Centers (BHARC-400/82/015), Seattle, WA, June 1982.

Sommers, P., Harrer, B. et al. *An Assessment of Pacific Northwest Corn Production*. Report for U.S. Tobacco by Battelle Human Affairs Research Centers (BHARC-320/8/019), Seattle, WA, October 1981.

Johnson, D. et al. *Obstacles and Opportunities in the Commercialization of Solid State Electronic Fluorescent Lighting Ballast*. Report for Department of Energy by Pacific Northwest Laboratory (PNL-4035), Richland, WA, October 1981.

Cole, Roland J. and Sommers, P. *Complying with Government Requirements: The Costs to Small and Larger Businesses*. Report for U.S. Small Business Administration by Battelle Human Affairs Research Centers (BHARC-320/81/022), Seattle, September, 1981.

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CONFERENCE AND OTHER PRESENTATIONS

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Sommers, P. "The ecological footprint of Seattle and Vancouver." Presented at ISOMUL (International Sustainability Of Multiple Use of Land) Conference, Western Washington University, Bellingham, June 28, 2002 (paper forthcoming in a 2004 book from

Sommers, P. "Washington Workforce Trends." Presentation at the Washington State Workforce Leadership Conference "Connecting the Dots for Economic Vitality," Walla Walla, WA, October 10, 2001.

Sommers, P. "What's New About the New Economy." Presentation to the National Economic Development Forum, Economic Development Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C., May 29-31, 2001.

Sommers, P. "The New Economy in Washington State." Getting Connected: A Summit Chaired by U.S. Senator Patty Murray, Spokane, WA, June 1, 2000.

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"Rural networks in the United States: Lessons from three experiments." Presented at Group of the Council on Rural Development, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, Washington, D.C., April 16, 1996.

"Tailoring economic development strategies to the needs of industry clusters." Presented at the Preparing for Now conference, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, Jun 15-17, 1995.

Moderator for Washington Technology Center Conference "Opportunities for Innovation," March 2-3, 1994.

"Washington Outlook." Western Economic Roundtable, Center for the New West, Denver, Colorado, February 21-22, 1994.

"Value Added Development in Rural Areas," Wilderness Society Rural Communities Conference, Overhills, North Carolina, February 9-11, 1994.

"Federal Forest Policy and the Pacific Northwest," testimony to the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Small Business, Subcommittee on Regulation, Business Opportunities, and Technology, Portland, Oregon, December 15, 1993.

Technology Policy Issues, testimony on two occasions to Washington Senate Committee on Technology and Economic Development, winter 1993

"Regional development strategies." Presentation at the Western Regional Leadership Institute, University of California at Los Angeles Public Policy Program, Reno, Nevada, May 21-23, 1993.

Sixth Seminar of the Kellogg National Fellowship Program Group XI, November 8-13, 1992
"Designing the Future: Environment, Technology and Quality of Life," field tour leader for group visiting Olympic Peninsula forests and value added producers.

Flexible Manufacturing Networks in the United States: An Overview of an Emerging Movement." American Public Policy and Management Association, Denver, Colorado, October 29, 1992.

"Adopting the Flexible Manufacturing Networks Model: Economies of Scale and Scope, or Just a New Approach to Capacity Building?" General Accounting Office Symposium on Rural America, June 11, 1992.

"Spotted Owls And Old Growth: Policy Responses." Graduate School of Public Affairs colloquium, University of Washington, October 10, 1990.

"Puget Sound Region on Trial -- The Status of our Communities in 1999," defense counsel for mock trial at Leadership Tomorrow, Seattle, Washington, October 11, 1990.

"Living With Public Lands Decisions On Old Growth Forests: The Economic And Political Issues." Presented at the Frank Church Conference on Public Affairs, Boise State University, Boise, Idaho, October 3, 1990.

"Washington's Economic Future And The Implications For Educators." Education Technology Institute, Spokane, August 8, 1990.

"Job Retention And Worker Retraining Opportunities In Pacific Northwest Timber Communities." Testimony for the Subcommittee on Regulation, Business Opportunities and Energy, Committee on Small Business, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C., July 30, 1990.

Organizer and chair of a plenary session on "Economic Policy Models," Pacific Northwest Regional Economic Conference, Bellingham, Washington, April 27, 1990.

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"What We Know About the Future of Work." Presented at the "Education and the Future of Work III" Conference sponsored by the Washington State Commission for Vocational Education, Seattle, WA, February 26, 1986.

"Industrial Revenue Bonds in Washington: Forecasted and Current Status." Presented at Pacific Northwest Regional Economics Conference, Spokane, WA, May 7, 1982.

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PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Seattle Economists Club (Secretary-Treasurer, 1987-88; Vice President, 1988-89; President, 1989-90; Vice President, 1997-98)

Board member, Pacific Northwest Regional Economics Conference, 1992-present

Editorial board, *Northwest Journal of Business and Economics*, Western Washington University, 1994-present

Board of Northwest Natural Resource Group, 1995-2004, Vice President, 2002-3, President, 2004