

AGRICULTURAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, AND DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS

Faculty Directory

The Department of Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics is part of The Ohio State University, which ranks 15th among U.S. public universities by U.S. News and World Report.

AEDE has a highly collegial group of faculty members who provide world-class teaching, research, and outreach in applied economics. Their work tackles thorny problems and prepares future leaders in the areas of food, agriculture and agribusiness; environmental and natural resource sustainability; trade and development; and community and regional economics.



Dr. Amy Ando

Department Chair and Professor



Dr. Amy Ando's research focuses on the economics of nature conservation and ecosystem service values. This work helps inform cost-effective conservation planning, improves aquatic habitat through better storm-water management policy, reduces the uncertainty in conservation outcomes from climate change, and helps policy makers know what values we gain from environmental stewardship.

Education: PhD, Economics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Highlight: Fellow of the Agricultural & Applied Economics Association

Areas of Expertise: Conservation | Ecosystem Service Valuation & Provision | Ag-environmental Programs

Dr. Leah Bevis

Associate Professor



Dr. Leah Bevis focuses much of her research on factors that drive chronic poverty in poor, agricultural settings. This work helps inform agricultural policies such as fertilizer subsidies in sub-Saharan Africa and explores new technologies like app-based weather forecasting in Nepal, bird nets for rice in Ghana, and agroforestry methods in Uganda to build climate change resilience. Her work also evaluates 911 response for mental health and substance-related crisis in the U.S., helping cities like Columbus decide which modality of 911 response are best in any given situation.

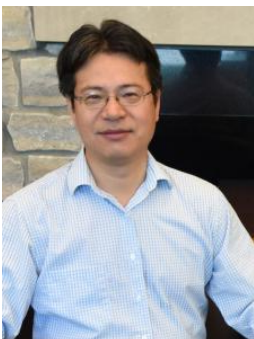
Education: PhD, Applied and Agricultural Economics, Cornell University

Highlight: Running the Uganda Country Study with Jef Michler for CGIAR's SPIA

Areas of Expertise: Ag Productivity | Development Economics | Public Safety

Dr. YongYang Cai

Professor



Dr. YongYang Cai is a computational and environmental economist, and core faculty at the Sustainability Institute at Ohio State. His research focuses on economic models to investigate potential policies with future environmental and economic risks; integration of regional food, energy, water systems, and the economy; and computational methods in economics.

Education: PhD, Computational and Mathematical Engineering, Stanford University

Highlight: Recipient of the 2021 Erik Kempe award in environmental and resource economics for his paper, The Social Cost of Carbon with Economic and Climate Risks

Areas of Expertise: Integrated Modeling | Computational Economics



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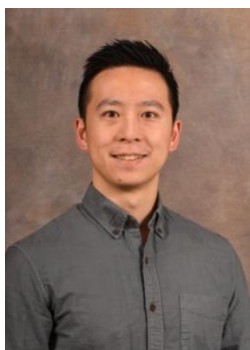
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Dr. Chen-Ti Chen

Assistant Professor



Dr. Chen-Ti Chen studies environmental and conservation programs in the agricultural sector to inform policy design for more sustainable agriculture. His research leverages spatially explicit data and interdisciplinary collaborations, with projects including the benefits and costs of nutrient management requirements on livestock production and the Conservation Research Program in supporting ecosystem services.

Education: PhD, Economics, Iowa State University

Highlight: Co-author of “Size-Based Regulation and Water Quality: Evidence from the Iowa Hog Industry”, accepted in American Journal of Agricultural Economics

Areas of Expertise: Agricultural Production | Environmental Economics | Conservation

Policies

Dr. Anne Fitzpatrick

Associate Professor



Dr. Anne Fitzpatrick’s research interests include health and education topics in developing countries, frequently focusing on women and children. She specializes in conducting randomized evaluations, and frequently collaborates with large NGOs and government policymakers to test which policies and interventions are effective. She has extensively studied the anti-malarial medicines market and has ongoing work on access to high-quality childcare in urban informal settlements.

Education: PhD, Dual Degrees in Economics & Public Policy, University of Michigan

Highlight: Research on improving learning in Ghanaian primary schools showed a new pedagogy improved learning by 30%. As a result, the Ghanaian Ministry of Education is scaling up this approach in 10,000 schools.

Areas of Expertise: Development Economics | Global Health & Educational Economics

Dr. Sathya Gopalakrishnan

Professor



Dr. Sathya Gopalakrishnan, an environmental and resource economist, applies economic theory to understand ubiquitous interdependencies between human decisions and geo-physical process in complex resource systems. Her work focuses on coastal and water resources; non-market valuation of environmental amenities and risks; and resource management problems in which environmental and economic systems are linked by spatial-dynamic processes.

Education: PhD, Environmental and Resource Economics, Duke University

Highlight: Co-Founded the STEAM Factory at Ohio State, representing 65 departments focusing on interdisciplinary collaboration, innovation and dissemination of science

Areas of Expertise: Environmental Valuation | Coupled natural and human systems



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Jared Grant
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Dr. Jared Grant's research focuses on the economics of consumer behavior, food security and retail strategy. His current work includes mapping historical food accessibility and creating game theoretic models that incorporate stakeholder investment and residential trust as factors in evaluating grocery store success.

Education: PhD, Agricultural and Applied Economics, University of Georgia

Highlight: Published "Using Truck-to-Trunk Programs to Increase Food Security and Help Support Farm Incomes" in *Applied Economic Perspectives and Policy*

Areas of Expertise: Food Security | Food Accessibility | Behavioral Economics

Dr. Alex Hollingsworth

Associate Professor and Honors Coordinator



Dr. Alex Hollingsworth has joint appointments in AEDE, the Department of Economics, and the John Glenn College of Public Affairs. He is a Research Associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research, co-editor at the *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, and an editor at the *Journal of Health Economics*. He is an applied microeconomist with research interests in health and environmental topics.

Education: PhD, Economics, University of Arizona

Highlight: Co-host on The Hidden Curriculum podcast, which covers topics relevant to academic life with a focus on things not formally taught in graduate school.

Areas of Expertise: Health Economics | Environmental Economics

Dr. Wuyang Hu

Professor and Undergraduate Program Leader



Dr. Wuyang Hu specializes in consumer economics, behavior, food marketing, applied statistical methods, economic development, and environmental and resource management. His work aims to increase food accessibility for all, enhance the management of recreation and hospitality, and foster community development to improve overall quality of life.

Education: PhD, Ag & Resource Economics, University of Alberta, Canada

Highlight: Editor of the *Canadian Journal of Agricultural Economics*

Areas of Expertise: Marketing and Consumer Economics | Resource and Environmental Economics | Experimental Economics



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Dr. Elena Irwin

Distinguished Professor



Dr. Elena Irwin's research focuses on the economics of land use and development in urban, urbanizing and agricultural regions, including integrated spatial models of land, water and ecosystem services. She has led large interdisciplinary research efforts supported through funding from the National Science Foundation, U.S. Department of Agriculture and other private and public agencies.

Education: PhD, Ag & Resource Economics, University of Maryland

Highlight: Faculty Director and Co-Founder of the Sustainability Institute at Ohio State, providing leadership to interdisciplinary sustainability research and teaching

Areas of Expertise: Land Use Economics | Regional and Urban Economics | Environmental Economics

Dr. Margaret Jodlowski

Assistant Professor



Dr. Margaret Jodlowski works in the areas of agricultural labor and risk management. Her work describes how agricultural and rural labor markets are changing and estimates the impacts of immigration and other labor-related policies on the agricultural economy. Her research advances understanding of the relationship between labor and risk for agricultural operations.

Education: PhD, Applied Economics and Management, Cornell University

Highlight: Co-author of "Is ICE freezing US Agriculture? Farm-level adjustment to increased local immigration enforcement" published in *Labour Economics*

Areas of Expertise: Farm Labor | Farm Household Dynamics | Risk Management Programs

Dr. Ani Katchova

Professor and Farm Income Enhancement Chair



Dr. Ani Katchova conducts research and outreach on U.S. agricultural economics issues. The Farm Income Enhancement Program develops and delivers research, education and outreach to enhance farm income and promote long-term stability for farm businesses.

Education: PhD, Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics, The Ohio State University

Highlight: Founded the Econometrics Academy to provide free econometrics training and education to anyone in the world

Areas of Expertise: Agricultural and Farm Finance | Farm Income Forecasting



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Dr. H. Allen Klaiber

Professor



Dr. H. Allen Klaiber's research program in environmental economics focuses on the linkages between humans, their behavior, and their surroundings. His research has led to the development and application novel applied economic techniques to improve our understanding of the tradeoff households are willing to make to alter and obtain urban amenities, environmental services, land use and other associated aspects of their surroundings.

Education: PhD, Economics, North Carolina State University

Highlight: Served as PI or co-PI on more than \$15 million in externally funded projects

Areas of Expertise: Environmental Economics | Environmental and Natural Resources Valuation | Land Use Economics

Dr. Gabriel Lade

Associate Professor and C. William Swank Chair



Dr. Gabriel Lade is an applied microeconomist with expertise in biofuels regulation, water and air quality valuation, and utility conservation. He has advised several federal and state agencies and think tanks and has testified before the U.S. House of Representatives. He leads the Swank Chair program on Rural-Urban policy, delivering rigorous, economics-based insights into issues related to rural and urban communities and their well-being.

Education: PhD, Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of California, Davis

Highlight: Editorial Council, the Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists

Areas of Expertise: Environmental and Natural Resource Economics | Agricultural Economics

Dr. Seungki Lee

Assistant Professor



Dr. Seungki Lee areas of expertise include agricultural economics, environmental and resource economics and industrial organization. His research focuses on R&D activities and the impact of new technologies in the agricultural sector, specifically advances in biotechnologies such as genetically engineered seeds.

Education: PhD, Economics, Iowa State University

Highlight: Author of "Estimating the value of innovation and extension information: SCN-resistant soybean variations

Areas of Expertise: Agricultural Innovation and Technology Adoption | Environmental Economics



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Dr. Daniela A. Miteva

Associate Professor



Dr. Daniela A. Miteva is an environmental economist working on conservation, development and sustainability issues. Her work can be used to understand the drivers of land use and land cover change, the impact of policies on the environment and people, and the value of ecosystem services.

Education: PhD, Duke University

Highlight: Core faculty at the Sustainability Institute at Ohio State

Areas of Expertise: Environmental and Development Economics | Non-market Valuation | Policy Evaluation | Ecosystem Services

Dr. Charity Troyer Moore

Research Assistant Professor



Dr. Charity Troyer Moore is an applied development economist focused on improving public service delivery and expanding economic opportunities for marginalized groups in low-state-capacity settings. Her research on women's financial empowerment and state capacity has shaped donor agendas and public policy, and her future work will explore how safety nets can strengthen environmental resilience. She is also committed to expanding access to policy-engaged research for students through structured mentoring and research opportunities.

Education: PhD, Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics, The Ohio State University

Highlight: Co-founded Inclusion Economics India Centre, a policy-engaged research organization

Areas of Expertise: Development Economics | Policy-Engaged Research and Evaluation | Public Service Delivery and Governance | Gender and Economic Participation

Dr. Brian Roe

Fred N. Van Buren Professor of Farm Management



Dr. Brian Roe works broadly in the areas of agricultural and environmental economics. Recently, his work focusses on improving the efficiency and resilience of the US food and agriculture sectors by assessing the amount of food that is wasted along the food supply chain and evaluating different policies and interventions designed to reduce waste or redirect unwanted food and organic materials to a higher-valued use.

Education: PhD, Ag & Resource Economics, University of Maryland

Highlight: Leads the Ohio State Food Waste Collaborative

Areas of Expertise: Food Waste | Farm Management | Nutrient Management



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Dr. Abdoul Sam

Professor and Director of Graduate Studies



Dr. Abdoul Sam conducts research in environmental and development economics, focusing on effective ways to enhance agricultural productivity, improve rural livelihoods and mitigate environmental challenges both in the U.S. and globally.

Education: PhD, Economics, Arizona

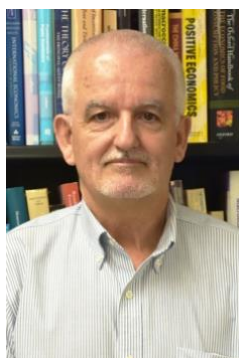
Highlight: Carnegie African Diaspora Fellow, 2024

Areas of Expertise: Corporate Environmentalism | Development Economics | Financial Economics

Dr. Ian Sheldon

Professor and Andersons Chair of Agricultural Marketing, Trade and Policy

Dr. Ian Sheldon serves as the Andersons Chair of Agricultural Marketing, Trade and Policy, with a major focus



on international economic research, as well as regularly contributing to and impacting public discussion of agricultural trade policy. His current research focus is on the economic and legal aspects of trade dispute resolution.

Education: PhD, Economics, University of Salford, UK

Highlight: Fellow of the Agricultural & Applied Economics Association

Areas of Expertise: International Agricultural Markets | Agricultural Trade | Trade and Agricultural Policy

Dr. Brent Sohngen

Professor



Dr. Brent Sohngen conducts research on the economics of climate change and land use, the design of incentive mechanisms for water and carbon trading, and the valuation of ecosystem services. He developed a global land use model that is widely used to assess the implications of climate change on ecosystems and markets, and to assess the costs of carbon sequestration in land-based activities.

Education: DF, Natural Resource & Environmental Economics, Yale University

Highlight: Co-author of Reversing Deforestation: How Market Forces and Local Ownership Are Saving Forests in Latin America

Areas of Expertise: Climate Change | Environmental Resources Valuation



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Dr. Alexis H. Villacis

Assistant Professor



Dr. Alexis H. Villacis is an applied microeconomist studying the social welfare implications of agricultural production, with a particular interest in behavioral economics, climate change and food security. He has extensive experience in Latin America, Africa, and Asia, collaborating with international organizations including the Inter-American Development Bank, the World Bank, and USAID.

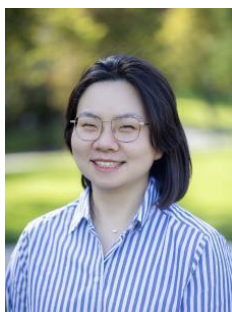
Education: PhD, Agricultural and Applied Economics, Virginia Tech

Highlight: Fulbright Scholar | Senior Advisor for The Fine Cacao and Chocolate Institute

Areas of Expertise: Food Value Chains | Production Economics | Behavioral Economics

Dr. Yao Wang

Assistant Professor



Dr. Yao Wang's research broadly lies at the intersection of urban economics, development economics, and international trade. She studies the impacts of urban and regional policy interventions on economic outcomes and learns why they sometimes fail to achieve intended goals.

Education: PhD, Economics, Syracuse University

Highlight: Co-author, *Urban Sprawl and Social Capital: Evidence from Indonesian Cities*

Areas of Expertise: Economic Geography | Urban and Regional Economics | Development Economics



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Dr. Eliot Alexander

Full-time Lecturer



After receiving his Ph.D. from Ohio State in 2015, Dr. Eliot Alexander began working as a lecturer at the Ohio State Mansfield campus – where he continued until 2018 – and at the Ohio State Newark campus - where he continued until 2023. In 2023, he moved full time to main campus at OSU to teach in the AEDE department.

Education: PhD, Economics, The Ohio State University

Dr. Tim Jaquet

Full-time Lecturer



Dr. Tim Jaquet is an applied microeconomist with a focus on regional and urban economics. His primary research interests are sustainability and resilience, local housing and labor markets, poverty and inequality, and economic growth. His teaching experience includes courses in environmental economics, public policy analysis, benefit-cost analysis, program evaluation, and global food consumption and population growth.

Education: PhD, Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics, The Ohio State University

Dathel Nimmons

Full-time Lecturer



Dathel Nimmons is a seasoned executive with more than 41 years of experience in agribusiness sales, marketing, and supply chain management. Her career includes leadership roles at industry giants such as Cargill Meat Solutions, ConAgra Beef and Pork, JBS, and Bob Evans. Currently, she and her husband co-own *Protein Sales Specialist*, an international and domestic protein trading company. They operate a farm in Colorado producing silage for feedlots that support JBS and Cargill Meat Solutions facilities. Dathel also co-owns a commercial Angus herd in Kentucky with her sister. In addition to her agricultural ventures, she is a partner in *R&R Investments* and serves on the Board of Directors at Urbana Country Club.

Education: MBA, Finance and Marketing, Wichita State University



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