Sheng-Jun Xu

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Research Interests

Corporate Finance, Political Economy, Labor Economics

Academic Positions

University Of Alberta, Alberta Business School Department of Finance, Assistant Professor, 2017-present.

Education

Ph.D. Finance, University of British Columbia, 2017.

Dissertation Title: "Essays in Corporate Finance, Labour Economics, and Political Economy" Committee: Hernan Ortiz-Molina (Chair), Elena Simintzi, Robert Heinkel, Ralph Winter

M.Sc. Finance, University of British Columbia, not conferred, transferred to Ph.D., 2011.

B. Math Mathematics, University of Waterloo, 2008.

B.B.A., Business Administration, Wilfrid Laurier University, 2008.

Working Papers

Skilled Labor Rationing, Hiring Uncertainty, and Corporate Investment: Evidence from H-1B Visa Application Deadlines

Presented at Paris December Finance Meeting 2020, CICF 2021, EFA Meeting 2021.

Trading Credit (Subsidies) for Votes: The Effect of Local Politics on Small Business Lending with Sahil Raina

Presented at Paris December Finance Meeting 2019, ASU Sonoran Winter Finance Conference 2020, Finance Down Under 2020, Northeastern Finance Conference 2020, WFA Meeting 2020, EFA Meeting 2020.

Politics and Hidden Borrowing: Electoral Cycles and State Defined Benefit Pension Plans (Job Market Paper)

Presented at WFA Meeting 2017 (Awarded WFA Cubist Systematic Strategies Ph.D. Candidate Award)

Skilled Labor Supply and Corporate Investment: Evidence from the H-1B Visa Program

Presented at SFS Cavalcade 2017, NFA Meeting 2017, AFA Meeting 2018

Work in Progress

Access to Finance in the Criminal Justice System: Evidence from the Maryland Court System (with Pablo Slutzky)

The Effect of Universal Child Care on Employee Productivity and Firm Performance (with Ting Xu and Elena Simintzi)

Conference Activity

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2021 European Finance Association Meeting, Zoom (Presenter)
2021 China International Conference in Finance, Zoom (Presenter)
2020 Paris December Finance Meeting, Zoom (Presenter)
2020 Financial Management Association Meeting, Zoom (Discussant)
2020 Midwest Finance Association Meeting, Zoom (Discussant)
2020 Western Finance Association Meeting, Zoom (Presenter)
2020 ASU Sonoran Winter Finance Conference, Scottsdale, AZ (Presenter)
2019 Northern Finance Association Meeting, Vancouver, BC (Discussant).
2019 China International Conference in Finance, Guangzhou, China (Discussant).
2018 Financial Management Association Meeting, San Diego, CA (Discussant).
2018 Northern Finance Association Meeting, Charlevoix, QC (Discussant).
2018 UBC Summer Finance Conference, Vancouver, BC (Discussant).
2018 American Finance Association Meeting, Philadelphia, PA (Presenter).
2017 Alberta Finance Institute Conference, Lake Louise, AB (Presenter).
2017 Financial Management Association Meeting, Boston, MA (Discussant).
2017 Northern Finance Association Meeting, Halifax, NS (Presenter).
2017 Western Finance Association Meeting, Whistler, BC (Presenter).
2017 Society for Financial Studies Cavalcade, Nashville, TN (Presenter).
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Seminars

2017 Université Laval, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, University of Toronto, HEC Montréal, University of Alberta

Honors & Awards

Productivity Partnership, SSHRC, 2020-2021.

EFF-SAS Grant, University of Alberta, 2019-2020.

Endowment Fund for the Future: Support for the Advancement of Scholarship Award, University of Alberta, 2019-2020.

Canadian Utilities Faculty Fellowship, Alberta School of Business, 2017-2018.

WFA Cubist Systematic Strategies Ph.D. Candidate Award, 2017.

Four Year Fellowship for PhD Students, UBC. 2013-2016.

Dean Earle D MacPhee Memorial Fellowship, UBC, 2011-2015.

Shelby L. Brumelle Memorial Graduate Scholarship, UBC, 2012-2013.

Killam Doctoral Scholarship, The Killam Trusts, 2012.

Joseph-Armand Bombardier CGS Program Doctoral Scholarship, SSHRC, 2012.

Joseph-Armand Bombardier CGS Program Master's Scholarship, SSHRC, 2011.

Teaching

University of Alberta

Lecturer, Capital Investment (FIN 422), 2018-2021.

Undergraduate supervisor (FIN 480), 2020-2021.

Lecturer, Corporate Financial Planning (FIN 430), 2018-present.

University of British Columbia

Teaching Assistant, Corporate Finance (BAFI 502), Winter 2016.

Lecturer, Applied Financial Markets (COMM 374), Winter 2014.

Teaching Assistant, Advanced Topics in Empirical Asset Pricing (COMM 674), Winter 2013.

Teaching Assistant, Theory of Finance (COMM 671), Fall 2012.

Service

Referee: Management Science, Financial Review, Managerial Finance, Journal of Pension Economics and Finance, Corporate Governance: An International Review.

Conference Program Committee: Northern Finance Association (2019), Midwest Finance Association Meeting (2021, 2022)

Doctoral Program: Organizer, PhD student pre-seminar discussion, University of Alberta, 2017-present.

Miscellaneous

Coding: Stata, LATEX, Python, SAS, Matlab.

Languages: English fluent, French novice, Mandarin intermediate.