

2024 Young Scholars Symposium  
Participant Bios

***Dylan Brewer***

Assistant Professor at Georgia Tech; [brewer@gatech.edu](mailto:brewer@gatech.edu); [www.dylanbrewer.com](http://www.dylanbrewer.com)

Dylan Brewer is an Assistant Professor in the School of Economics at Georgia Tech. He received his PhD in Economics with a dual degree in Environmental Science and Policy from Michigan State University in 2019. He has BA degrees in economics and foreign affairs from the University of Virginia. His research uses the tools of economics and statistics to answer questions related to energy and the environment, particularly related to residential energy use, air quality, and recycling. Professor Brewer's research fields are industrial organization, environmental and energy economics, public economics, and applied microeconomics.

***Dustin Frye***

Assistant Professor at the University of Wisconsin - Madison; [dustin.frye@wisc.edu](mailto:dustin.frye@wisc.edu); [dustinfrye.github.io](http://dustinfrye.github.io)

Dustin Frye is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics at the University of Wisconsin - Madison. His research fields include urban economics, development economics, and economic history. His research considers two general themes: the importance of transportation networks for location choices of individuals and firms, and the role of institutions on economic development across Native American reservations. His recent work focuses on the historic and contemporary consequences of Federal Indian Policy with an emphasis on property rights and governance. Professor Frye received his Ph.D. from the University of Colorado, Boulder and his B.A. in Mathematics from the University of Montana. He was previously an Assistant Professor at Vassar College.

***Todd Gerarden***

Assistant Professor at Cornell University; [gerarden@cornell.edu](mailto:gerarden@cornell.edu); [toddgerarden.com](http://toddgerarden.com)

Todd Gerarden is an Assistant Professor at Cornell University's Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management. He holds the position of Faculty Fellow in the Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future, and he held the Susan Henry Sesquicentennial Faculty Fellowship from 2018-2023. His research focuses on Environmental, Energy and Resource Economics and Policy, Industrial Organization, and the business of sustainability. Professor Gerarden received his Ph.D. in Public Policy from Harvard University.

***Jingyi Huang***

Assistant Professor at Brandeis University; [jingyi.huang.econ@gmail.com](mailto:jingyi.huang.econ@gmail.com); [www.jingyi-huang.com](http://www.jingyi-huang.com)

Jingyi Huang is an Assistant Professor in the Economic Department at Brandeis University. Her research lies at the intersection of economic history, law, and industrial organization. In particular, she studies the long-term impact of regulations on competition and innovation, drawing on evidence from American history. Professor Huang formerly held the Prize Fellowship in Economics, History and Politics from Harvard University, and she received her Ph.D. in Economics from the University of California, Los Angeles.

***Sarah B. Johnston***

Assistant Professor at the University of Wisconsin - Madison; [sarah.johnston@wisc.edu](mailto:sarah.johnston@wisc.edu); [www.sarahbjohnston.com](http://www.sarahbjohnston.com)

Sarah B. Johnston is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics at the University of Wisconsin – Madison and Faculty in the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies' Energy Analysis and Policy Program. Her research interests are in industrial organization and energy and environmental economics. Professor Johnston received her Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Michigan.

***Jonathan Proctor***

Assistant Professor at University of British Columbia; [jon.proctor@ubc.ca](mailto:jon.proctor@ubc.ca); [www.jonathanproctor.org](http://www.jonathanproctor.org)

Johnathan Proctor is an environmental economist and scientist with a background in agronomy, climate science, remote sensing, and machine learning. He is currently an assistant professor in Food and Resource Economics at the University of British Columbia. His research group develops and applies new methods to empirically estimate anthropogenic impacts on climate and, in turn, on global socio-environmental systems. He was previously a postdoctoral fellow jointly at the Harvard Data Science Initiative and the Center for the Environment. Professor Proctor received his PhD in Agriculture and Resource Economics from UC Berkeley in 2019.

***Luke Sanford***

Assistant Professor at Yale; [luke.sanford@yale.edu](mailto:luke.sanford@yale.edu); [lcsanford.github.io](https://lcsanford.github.io)

Luke Sanford is an Assistant Professor of Environmental Policy and Governance at Yale School of the Environment. His work focuses on environmental policymaking—especially how political institutions mediate the relationship between the environmental preferences of constituents and the incentives and actions of policymakers. He also studies the distributional consequences over space and time of decisions about natural resources, and how those play in to policymaking. He develops methods for using new sources of digital data, including text and satellite images, to measure individual and group preferences, and to observe outcomes on the ground. Professor Sanford graduated in 2021 with a PhD in Political Science and International Affairs from the Political Science department and the School of Global Policy and Strategy at University of California San Diego.

***Lisa Tarquinio***

Assistant Professor at University of Western Ontario; [LTarqui@uwo.ca](mailto:LTarqui@uwo.ca); [sites.google.com/lisatarquinio](https://sites.google.com/lisatarquinio)

Lisa Tarquinio is an Assistant Professor at the University of Western Ontario. She is an applied microeconomist with interests in development, political economy, migration, and climate change economics. Her recent work includes research on the political economy of drought relief in India as well as the impacts of immigration on growth and innovation in the US and on political views and identity in the UK. Professor Tarquinio received her Ph.D. in Economics from Boston University.

***Andrew Waxman***

Assistant Professor at the University of Texas at Austin; [andrewrwaxman.com](https://andrewrwaxman.com); [awaxman@utexas.edu](mailto:awaxman@utexas.edu)

Andrew Waxman is an Assistant Professor of Economics and Public Policy at the LBJ School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin. He was a Visiting Scholar at the Belfer Center at the Harvard Kennedy School from 2022-2023. He is an applied microeconomist examining the relationship between environmental outcomes, urban and energy policies and inequality. Much of his work consists in trying to think about how policies and individual decisions have implications for levels of pollution through outcomes home electricity usage or commuting using personal vehicles. Professor Waxman received his Ph.D. in Applied Economics from Cornell University.

***Laurel E. Wheeler***

Assistant Professor at University of Alberta; [lewhee@ualberta.ca](mailto:lewhee@ualberta.ca); [sites.google.com/laurelewheeler](https://sites.google.com/laurelewheeler)

Laurel E. Wheeler is currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of Economics at the University of Alberta and a Research Fellow at the Center for Indian Country Development (CICD) at the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis. She is an economist whose main research interests are in development economics and labor economics. Her current research agenda focuses on Indigenous economic development, wealth and income disparities, and labor markets in low-income countries. Professor Wheeler received her Ph.D. in Economics from Duke University.