

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University of Rhode Island, Department of Environmental and Natural Resource Economics
Professor, 2022 – present
Associate Professor, 2017 – 2022
Graduate Program Director, 2016 – present
Assistant Professor, 2011 – 2017
University of Rhode Island Coastal Institute
Senior Fellow, 2013 – present
Land Economics
Editorial Board, 2021 – present

EDUCATION

Cornell University, PhD, Economics, 2011
Carleton College, BA (*cum laude*), Mathematics, 2002

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Non-market valuation	Energy policy
Land use	Voting
Local public finance	Causal identification

PUBLICATIONS (*hyperlinks embedded*)

Distribution of Capitalized Benefits from Land Conservation (with Jarron VanCeylon and Amy Ando), *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 2023

When Energy Issues are Land Use Issues: Estimating Preferences for Utility-Scale Solar Energy Siting (with Vasu Gaur, Greg Howard, and Ruth Quainoo), *Land Economics*, 2023

Seafood Consumption during Harmful Algal Blooms: The Impact of Information Regarding Safety and Health (with Andrew Bechard), *Harmful Algae*, 2023

Increasing Voluntary Enrollment in Time-of-Use Electricity Rates: Findings from a Survey Experiment (with Yueming Lucy Qiu and Luran Dong), *Energy Policy*, 2023

Do Views of Offshore Wind Energy Detract? A Hedonic Price Analysis of the Block Island Wind Farm in Rhode Island (with Luran Dong), *Energy Policy*, 2022

Aggregate Data Yield Biased Estimates of Individual Voting Preferences (with Shanna Pearson-Merkowitz), *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*, 2022

Variation in Valuation: Geography and Open Space (with Alex Blanchette and Jarron VanCeylon), *Land Economics*, 2021

Status Quo Bias and Public Policy: Evidence in the Context of Carbon Mitigation (with Michael Weir and Shanna Pearson-Merkowitz), *Environmental Research Letters*, 2021

How Are Tourists Affected By Offshore Wind Turbines? A Case Study Of The First U.S. Offshore Wind Farm (with Simona Trandafir, Vasu Gaur, Priya Behanan, Emi Uchida, and Haoran Miao), *Journal of Ocean and Coastal Economics*, 2020

Whatever Floats Your Vote: Understanding Voter Support for Public Port Infrastructure Investments (with Jarron VanCeylon and Austin Becker), *Maritime Policy and Management*, 2020.

Smart Growth at the Ballot Box: Understanding Voting on Affordable Housing and Land Management Referendums (with Shanna Pearson-Merkowitz), *Urban Affairs Review*, 2020.

Sustainability and Tourism: The Effect of the United States' First Offshore Wind Farm on the Vacation Rental Market (with Andrew Carr-Harris), *Resource and Energy Economics*, 2019.

Valuation of the External Costs of Unconventional Oil and Gas Development: The Critical Importance of Mineral Rights Ownership (with Andrew Boslett and Todd Guilfoos), *Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economics*, 2019.

The Value of Protected Areas to Avian Persistence Across 20 Years of Climate and Land Use Change (with Michelle Peach, Jacqueline Frair, Jonathan Cohen, Benjamin Zuckerberg, Patrick Sullivan, and William Porter), *Conservation Biology*, 2019.

The Individual Determinants of Support for Open Space Bond Referendums (with Patrick Prendergast and Shanna Pearson-Merkowitz), *Land Use Policy*, 2019.

How Does Municipal Policy Affect State and Local Actions? Evidence from Land Conservation Spending (with Patrick Prendergast and Shanna Pearson-Merkowitz), *Resource and Energy Economics*, 2018.

Unintended Consequences of Environmental Cleanup: Evidence from a Voluntary Brownfield Remediation Program (with Patrick Cavanagh), *Land Economics*, 2018.

Learn to Conserve: The Effect of In-school Energy Education on Electricity Consumption (with Carrie Gill), *Energy Policy*, 2018.

Assessing the Efficiency of Local Open Space Provision, *Journal of Public Economics*, 2018.

Institutional Repositories and Academic Social Networks: Competition or Complement? A Study of Open Access Policy Compliance vs. ResearchGate Participation (with Julia Lovett, Andree Rathemacher, and Divana Boukari), *Journal of Librarianship and Scholarly Communication*, 2017.

Can Urban Areas Help Sustain the Preservation of Open Space? Evidence from Statewide Referenda (with Matthew Altonji and Gavino Puggioni), *Ecological Economics*, 2016.

Valuation of Expectations: A Hedonic Study of Shale Gas Development and New York's Moratorium (with Andrew Boslett and Todd Guilfoos), *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*, 2016.

The Effect of Tropical Cyclones on Climate Change Engagement (with David Ryder), *Climatic Change*, 2016.

Are Fulbright Applicants Idealists or Opportunists? (with Carrie Gill), *Eastern Economic Journal*, 2016.

Who Benefits from Environmental Regulation? Evidence from the Clean Air Act Amendments (with Antonio Bento and Matthew Freedman), *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, 2015.

Partisan Sorting in the United States, 1972-2012: New Evidence from a Dynamic Analysis (with Shanna Pearson-Merkowitz), *Political Geography*, 2015.

The Dynamics of House Price Responsiveness and Locational Sorting: Evidence from Air Quality Changes, *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, 2015.

The Mitigating Effect of Strategic Behavior on the Net Benefits of a Direct Load Control Program (with Edson Okwelum), *Energy Economics*, 2015.

Do Weather Fluctuations Cause People to Seek Information about Climate Change? *Climatic Change*, 2014.

Searching for the Determinants of Climate Change Interest (with Patrick Cavanaugh, Xinran Li, Haoran Miao, and David Ryder), *Geography Journal*, 2014.

The Windy City: Property Value Impacts of Wind Turbines in an Urban Setting (with Jim Opaluch and George Sfinarolakis), *Energy Economics*, 2014.

Engineering Estimates versus Impact Evaluation of Energy Efficiency Projects: Regression Discontinuity Evidence from a Case Study (with Matthew Siler), *Energy Policy*, 2013.

Targeting Maps: An Asset-Based Approach to Geographic Targeting (with Chris Barrett and Felix Naschold), *World Development*, 2013.

Heterogeneous Transport Costs and Spatial Sorting in a Model of New Economic Geography, *Papers in Regional Science*, 2010.

REPORTS AND NON-REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

Incorporating Resident Preferences into Policy Recommendations for Utility-Scale Solar Siting in Rhode Island (with Vasu Gaur, Greg Howard, Ruth Quainoo), submitted to URI Cooperative Extension, April 28, 2021.

Property Value Impacts of Commercial-Scale Solar Energy in Massachusetts and Rhode Island (with Vasu Gaur), submitted to URI Cooperative Extension, September 29, 2020.

The Geographic Polarization of American Voters (with Shanna Pearson-Merkowitz), *The Geography Teacher*, 2016.

An Analysis of Open Space Policy in Rhode Island (with Tom Sproul and Carrie Gill), Submitted to Rhode Island Agricultural Partnership, April 15, 2016.

Effects of Wind Turbines on Property Values in Rhode Island (with Jim Opaluch), Submitted to RI Office of Energy Resources, October 18, 2013.

GRANTS/EXTERNAL FUNDING (*total = \$4.0 million*)

Lead/Sole PI, USDA NIFA, 1/2023-1/2026, \$650,000

How Partisan Preferences Change Across Venues and the Impact on Farm, Forest, and Open Space Conservation

Lead/Sole PI, URI SSIREP Seed Grant, 6/2022-5/2023, \$5,000

Partisan Preference Disparities across Venues

Lead PI, USDA NIFA, 3/2021-3/2024, \$500,000

Leveraging Status Quo Bias to Preserve Farm, Forest, and Open Space Lands

Co-PI: Shanna Pearson-Merkowitz

Lead/Sole PI, URI Career Enhancement Award, 7/2020-6/2021, \$15,000

Willingness to Pay for Voting Information

Lead PI, USDA NIFA, 7/2019-6/2022, \$300,000

Solar Energy Siting Conflicts with Farm and Forest Lands

Co-PI: Kate Venturini

Co-PI, USDA NIFA, 2/2018-2/2023, \$500,000

The Economic and Social Causes of Voting to Preserve Environmental and Agricultural Assets: Evidence from Exit Polls

Lead PI: Shanna Pearson-Merkowitz

Lead PI, USDA NIFA, 5/2018-4/2022, \$500,000

Distributional Impacts of Farm and Open Space Conservation

Co-PIs: Amy Ando, Julie Keller

Lead PI, Rhode Island Sea Grant/NOAA, 2/2018-1/2020, \$276,000

Price-based inferences into the socio-economic impacts of the Block Island wind farm

Co-PI, E2e/Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, 1/2018-12/2019, \$250,000

The Effect of Electricity Rate Structures on Energy Efficiency Investments

Lead PI: Dave Rapson

Lead PI, URI Coastal Institute, 10/2016, \$11,000

Leveraging grant: Assessing Market Valuation and Social Inequality of Coastal Resources, Land Conservation, and Water Quality

Lead PI, United Illuminating, 7/2015-12/2016, \$37,000

Effects of In-school Energy Education on Household Energy Consumption

Co-PI: Carrie Gill

Co-PI, Rhode Island Agricultural Partnership, 5/2015-12/2015, \$25,000

Open Space Policy in Rhode Island

Lead PI: Tom Sproul

Lead PI, USDA NIFA, 1/2015-12/2017, \$500,000

Community-level Incentives to Support Farm, Forest, and Open Space Land Conservation in the Rural-Urban Fringe

Co-PIs: Shanna Pearson-Merkowitz, Stephen Swallow

Co-PI, Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources, 1/2013-7/2013, \$38,000
Effects of Wind Turbines on Property Values of Adjacent Residential Dwelling Units
Lead PI: Jim Opaluch

Lead/Sole PI, USDA Hatch, 9/2011-9/2015, \$350,000
Determinants and Valuation of Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions

SEMINARS AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2023 USDA W5133; University of Nevada Las Vegas; Association of Environmental and Resource Economists Summer Conference;
- 2022 USDA W4133; Association of Environmental and Resource Economists Summer Conference; Northeast Agricultural and Resource Economics Association Annual Meeting;
- 2021 USDA W4133; Northeast Agricultural and Resource Economics Association Annual Meeting;
- 2020 USDA W4133; Northeast Agricultural and Resource Economics Association Annual Meeting;
- 2019 USDA W4133; Resources for the Future; UC Davis; Heartland Workshop;
- 2018 Greg Poe Symposium at Cornell University; Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Conference; University of Rhode Island;
- 2017 Allied Social Science Association Annual Meeting; Association of Environmental and Resource Economists Summer Conference; Northeast Agricultural and Resource Economics Association Annual Meeting; NAREA Workshop on Climate Change and Land Conservation; Pennsylvania State University;
- 2016 University of Illinois; University of Connecticut; University of Massachusetts; Colorado State University; USDA W3133; Northeast Climate Engagement Workshop; Association of Environmental and Resource Economists Summer Conference; Northeast Agricultural and Resource Economics Association Annual Meeting; Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Conference; New Directions in the Analysis of Environmental Justice (Duke University);
- 2015 Allied Social Science Association Annual Meeting (AERE sections); Gordon College; University of Minnesota; Binghamton University; Cornell University; EPA National Center for Environmental Economics; Northeast Agricultural and Resource Economics Association Annual Meeting; Heartland Environmental and Resource Economics Workshop
- 2014 URI Academic Summit (Ignite presenter); Northeast Agricultural and Resource Economics Association Annual Meeting; NAREA Workshop on Non-Conventional Oil and Gas Energy; Camp Resources; Fordham University; Rutgers University;
- 2013 Northeast Workshop on Energy Policy and Environmental Economics; Association of Environmental and Resource Economists Summer Conference; Northeast Agricultural and Resource Economics Association Annual Meeting; Clark University
- 2012 Northeast Workshop on Energy Policy and Environmental Economics; Northeast Agricultural and Resource Economics Association Annual Meeting; Association of Environmental and Resource Economists Summer Conference; University of Connecticut; Urban Economics Association Conference

- 2011 University of Northern Iowa; University of Colorado at Denver; EPA National Center for Environmental Economics; College of William and Mary; University of Rhode Island; Williams College; Fordham University; University of Tennessee
- 2010 Center for Economic Studies, Washington DC; Cornell University, Department of City and Regional Planning; Cornell University, Department of Economics
- 2009 Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Conference; International Food Policy Research Institute, Washington DC; World Bank, Washington DC
- 2008 International Livestock Research Institute, Nairobi, Kenya
- 2007 Midwest Economics Association Conference

PUBLIC MEETINGS, PANELS, AND WORKSHOPS

- 2021 Rehoboth MA Planning Commission; URI Cooperative Extension Learn at Home webinar; URI Plugged into Energy Research Lecture
- 2020 URI Cooperative Extension Learn at Home webinar; Portsmouth RI Town Council
- 2015 Rhode Island Carbon Tax Forum
- 2014 8th New England Science Public Conference
- 2013 Renewable Energy Siting Partnership Stakeholder Meeting

EXPERT TESTIMONY

- Maryland Public Service Commission, 2021
- Boone County Indiana Zoning Board, 2021
- Cranston Rhode Island Planning Commission, 2021
- Maryland Public Service Commission, 2020

AWARDS AND HONORS

- Research Excellence Award, College of the Environment and Life Science, University of Rhode Island, 2022
- Nominated for Excellence in General Education Award, 2022
- Research and Scholarship Excellence Award, Advanced Career Faculty in the Social Sciences, Arts, and Humanities, University of Rhode Island, 2021
- Advisor of Vasu Gaur, winner of 2020-2021 URI Graduate Fellowship
- Advisor of Patrick Cavanagh, winner of 2015 NAREA Outstanding Master's Thesis
- CES Dissertation Mentorship, US Census Bureau, 2010-2011
- Member of the Cornell delegation to the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen, 2009
- Howard and Abby Milstein Outstanding Teaching Award, Cornell University, 2007
- Sage Fellowship, Cornell University, 2005 - 2011
- Larson International Fellowship, Carleton College, 2001

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- University of Rhode Island
- Sustainable Energy Economics and Policy (undergraduate), Fall 2019 – 2022
- Econometrics I (graduate), Fall 2011 – 2022
- Applied Microeconometrics (graduate), Spring 2018 – 2023, Fall 2013 – 2016
- The Economics of Climate Change (undergraduate), Spring 2012 – 2018
- Planning for Academic Success (undergraduate), Fall 2017

Independent Study supervision: Understanding votes for solar energy (Spring 2020), An examination of the feasibility of off-shore wind energy in Rhode Island (Fall 2012)

Cornell University

Climate Change, Economics and Ethics (undergraduate writing seminar), Fall 2010

GRADUATE ADVISING AND PLACEMENT

PhD:

Luran Dong (2023, *advisor*)

Jarron VanCeylon (2023, *advisor*)

Andrew Bechard (2022, *advisor*) – Montrose Environmental Group

Vasu Gaur (2021, *advisor*) – postdoc, University of British Columbia

Andrew Carr-Harris (2019, *committee member*) – NOAA

Patrick Prendergast (2018, *committee member*) – California ISO

Carrie Gill (2017, *advisor*) – Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources

Andrew Boslett (2016, *committee member*) – postdoc, University of Rochester

Edson Okwelum (2014, *committee member*) – postdoc, Lawrence Berkeley National Lab

Masters:

Alex Blanchette (2017, *advisor*) – RISE Engineering

Daven Amin (2016, *committee member*, Statistics) – MITRE

Matthew Altonji (2014, *advisor*) – New York City Department of Environmental Protection

Patrick Cavanagh (2014, *advisor*) – RISI

David Ryder (2014, *advisor*) – ICF Consulting

SERVICE

Department

Graduate Program Director, 2016 – present

PhD Qualifying Exam Committee, 2015 – present

Graduate Admissions, 2014 – present

MS Comprehensive Exam Committee, 2011 – present

Hiring Committee, 2022 – 2023, 2012 – 2013

Seminar Organizer, 2012 – 2016

College

Space Committee, 2015 – 2023

Chair, 2018-2019

Statistics Curriculum Committee, 2012 – 2013

University

Sabbatical Proposal Review Committee, 2022-2023

Administrative Evaluation Committee for Dean John Kirby, 2021 – 2022

Career Enhancement Grant Reviewer, 2021

Faculty Senate Library Committee, 2014 – 2016

Chair, 2015 – 2016

Open Access Review Committee, 2012 – 2013

Outside university

External Promotion and Tenure letter writer 2022, 2021

NAREA Committee on Professional Conduct, 2022-2023

USDA Multi-state working group W5133

President, 2024-2025

Vice President, 2024-2025

Secretary, 2023-2024

Member, 2016 – present

Project Advisory Committee, DOE Dual-Use Solar project led by University of Massachusetts, 2022-2025

Technical Advisory Committee, DOE Solar-EV project led by University of Delaware, 2021 – 2023

Land Economics Editorial Council, 2021 – present

NAREA Career Advancement and Mentorship Program, Mentor, 2021-2023

NAREA Paper Selection Committee, 2017, 2019-2021

AAEA Paper Selection Reviewer, 2018-2019

Massachusetts Clean Energy Center Research Review Panel, 2015

NAREA Master's Thesis Award Committee, 2013 – 2016

Acadia Center Research Review Panel, 2013

Journal Referee: AEJ: Policy, Agricultural and Resource Economics Review, Climatic Change, Conservation Biology, Global Environmental Change, Energy Economics, Energy Journal, Energy Policy, Environmental and Resource Economics, International Review of Environmental and Resource Economics, Journal of Environmental Psychology, Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists, Journal of Environmental Economics and Management, Journal of Urban Economics, Land Economics, Nature Climate Change, Regional Science and Urban Economics, Resource and Energy Economics, Weather Climate and Society, World Development

Grant Reviewer: Canadian Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, Sloan Foundation

Conference Discussant: 2015 NBER Summer Institute (EEE), 2015 ASSA, 2013 Northeast Workshop on Energy Policy and Environmental Economics, 2012 Northeast Workshop on Energy Policy and Environmental Economics, 2012 ASSA

PAST EMPLOYMENT

Actuarial Analyst, Liberty Mutual Group, Wausau, WI, 2002 – 2004