

KAYLEE K. WELLS

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EDUCATION

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign *(expected) 2025*
Ph.D. Agricultural and Applied Economics GPA: 3.84/4.0
Major Advisor: Amy Ando

Mississippi State University - Starkville, MS *2019*
M.S. Agricultural Economics GPA: 4.0/4.0
Major Advisor: Matthew G. Interis

Mississippi State University - Starkville, MS *2017*
B.S. Environmental Economics and Management GPA: 4.0/4.0
Summa Cum Laude

ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant *2020 - 2023*
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics
Courses: ACE 255 The Economics of Food and Environmental Justice; ACE 310 Natural Resource Economics; ACE 500 Applied Economic Theory (grader)

Instructor *August 2023*
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics
Course: M.S./MAAE Math Camp

Graduate Research Assistant *2020 - 2022*
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics
Supervisor: Amy Ando

Graduate Research Assistant *2017 - 2019*
Mississippi State University
Department of Agricultural Economics
Supervisor: Matthew G. Interis

Student Worker *Summer 2017*
Mississippi State University
Department of Agricultural Economics
Supervisor: James Barnes

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

Netusil, N. R., S. T. M. Dissanayake, L. Lavelle, A. W. Ando, and **K. K. Wells**. 2023. “Does presentation matter? An analysis of images and text in a choice experiment of green roofs.” *Q Open*, 3(1): 1-23. doi: 10.1093/qopen/qoad010

ONGOING PROJECTS

“U.S. grassland recreation under climate change: Evidence from big data and weather”

“The recreational value of grasslands in the Tallgrass Prairie region of the United States”

“The value of restoring culturally and historically significant sites in Mississippi: Three case studies”
with *Matthew G. Interis*

“Public access, ecological integrity, and people’s heterogeneous values of grassland restoration”
with *Amy W. Ando, Sahan T. M. Dissanayake, Rich Iovanna, and Sarah Cline*

“Grassland restoration at the landscape level: Value based on a nationally representative sample”
with *Amy W. Ando, Sahan T. M. Dissanayake, and Rich Iovanna*

EXTENSION PUBLICATIONS

Wells, K. K. and J. Barnes. 2017. “Local food system economies for Mississippi.” *Mississippi State University Extension*, Publication 3164.

Wells, K. K. and J. Barnes. 2017. “Local food system economies for Mississippi counties.” (n=82). *Mississippi State University Extension*, Publication 3164-1 to 3164-82.

PUBLISHED DATASETS

Martinez, C., G. Pena, and **K. K. Wells**. 2024. “Prairie Directory of North America” (2013) Entries for the Tallgrass, Mixed Grass, and Shortgrass Prairie Regions of the United States. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. doi: 10.13012/B2IDB-0421892_V1

PRESENTATIONS

2024 USDA-NIFA W5133 Multistate Hatch Research Group Annual Meeting, Fort Collins, CO | Association of Environmental and Resource Economists Summer Conference, Washington, DC | Association of Environmental and Resource Economists Sessions at the Western Economic Association International Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA

- 2023** Southern Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting, Oklahoma City, OK | USDA-NIFA W5133 Multistate Hatch Research Group Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA | Association of Environmental and Resource Economists Sessions at the Midwest Economics Association Annual Meeting, Cleveland, OH | Heartland Environmental and Resource Economics Workshop, Urbana, IL
- 2022** USDA-NIFA W4133 Multistate Hatch Research Group Annual Meeting, Hood River, OR | Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting, Anaheim, CA (poster)
- 2019** Southern Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting, Birmingham, AL
- 2018** Southern Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting, Jacksonville, FL (poster) | Mississippi State University Graduate Research Symposium (poster)

MENTORING EXPERIENCE

- Graduate College Mentoring Certificate** *2023*
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- Undergraduate Research Apprenticeship Program** *Spring 2023*
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Undergraduate Student: Evan Smith
- Prairie Directory of North America Data Compilation Project** *Fall 2022*
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Undergraduate Students: Carlos Martinez and Gisselle Pena

MEDIA MENTIONS

- Gregory, N. 2021. "Preserving the past: Study analyzes benefits of restoring cultural structures." *Mississippi Landmarks* 17(2): 6-7.

NON-ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

- Intern** *Summer/Fall 2016*
Strategic Conservation Solutions
Washington, D.C.

SERVICE

Reviewer

2021-present

American Journal of Agricultural Economics (3 articles) | Applied Economics Perspectives and Policy (1 article) | Ecological Economics (1 article) | Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics (1 article) | Association of Environmental and Resource Economists Summer Conference 2023 (abstracts) | Association of Environmental and Resource Economists Sessions at the Western Economics Association International Annual Meeting 2024 (abstracts) | Association of Environmental and Resource Economists Summer Conference 2024 (abstracts)

Graduate Student Representative

2022-2024

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee
College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Judge (posters)

2023

Undergraduate Research Symposium
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Mentor

2022-2023

Undergraduate Research Apprenticeship Program
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Student Coordinator

2022

Heartland Environmental and Resource Economics Workshop
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Secretary

2021-2022

Graduate Student Organization
Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Student Coordinator

2021-2023

program in Environmental and Resource Economics (pERE) Seminar
Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Student Leader

Spring Break 2016 & 2017

Mississippi Delta Alternative Spring Break
Mississippi State University

AWARDS AND HONORS

Outstanding PhD Student

2022

Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Illinois Distinguished Fellowship

2019

Graduate College
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Three Minute Thesis Competition - People's Choice Award Mississippi State University	<i>2018</i>
Graduate Student Case Study Competition - 2nd Place Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting	<i>2018</i>
Social and Behavioral Sciences Poster Competition (Master's Division) - 2nd Place Mississippi State University	<i>2018</i>
Stephen D. Lee Scholar Mississippi State University	<i>2017</i>
William A. Demmer Scholar Mississippi State University/Michigan State University	<i>Summer 2016</i>
Volunteer Spirit Award Mississippi State University	<i>2016</i>
Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society Mississippi State University	<i>2015</i>
National Society of Collegiate Scholars Mississippi State University	<i>2014</i>

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Programming/Software: Stata, R, and ArcGIS

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Agricultural and Applied Economics Association
 Association of Environmental and Resource Economists
 Southern Agricultural Economics Association