

Andrew J. Van Leuven

CONTACT INFORMATION	College of Agriculture and Life Sciences University of Vermont andrew.vanleuven@uvm.edu	209 Morrill Hall Burlington, VT 05405 (802) 393-8313
EDUCATION	Ph.D., Public Policy & Management Ohio State University, Columbus, OH Graduate Minor: City & Regional Planning	2021
	M.A., Geography & Urban Studies Temple University, Philadelphia, PA	2016
	B.S., Geography (emphasis in Urban & Regional Planning) Brigham Young University, Provo, UT	2014
ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE	Assistant Professor of Community Entrepreneurship Department of Community Development & Applied Economics University of Vermont, Burlington, VT	2024–
	Assistant Professor of Community and Rural Development Department of Agricultural Economics Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK	2022–24
	Director, Center for Oklahoma Small Business Research & Analysis Oklahoma Small Business Development Center	2022–24
	Postdoctoral Fellow, Division of Applied Social Sciences & MU Extension College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources University of Missouri, Columbia, MO	2021
	Transportation & Walkability Intern Montgomery County Planning Commission, Norristown, PA	2015

Publications and Research (*student co-author; †editor-reviewed publication)

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| JOURNAL ARTICLES | 21. E. Hill and A. Van Leuven , (2025). Commentary: Wrestling with Markets in Economic and Community Development. <i>Economic Development Quarterly</i> †. doi:10.1177/08912424251398781 |
| | 20. A. Lee and A. Van Leuven , (2025). Examining Racial/Ethnic, Income, and Nativity Disparities in Access to Brick-and-Mortar Financial Institutions. <i>Race and Social Problems</i> . doi:10.1007/s12552-025-09472-y |
| | 19. A. Van Leuven , S. Low, and E. Hill, (2025). The Value of Economic and Community Development Anchors. <i>Economic Development Quarterly</i> . doi:10.1177/08912424251397353 |
| | 18. A. Van Leuven , (2025). The Importance of Third Places in Rural Communities. <i>Choices</i> †. [link] |
| | 17. J. Hutchins and A. Van Leuven , (2025). Data Visualization in Applied Economics Instruction and Outreach. <i>Applied Economics Teaching Resources</i> . doi:10.71162/aetr.482854 |
| | 16. A. Van Leuven and T. Conroy, (2025). Using Economic Data to Understand Local Childcare Challenges. <i>Journal of Extension</i> . [link] |

15. S. Hilburn*, B. Whitacre, and **A. Van Leuven**, (2025). Perceived vs. Measured Impacts of Medical Marijuana on Rural Oklahoma Home Values. *Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics*. doi:[10.1017/aae.2025.13](https://doi.org/10.1017/aae.2025.13)
14. E. Muyombo*, W. Brorsen, E. Krueger, T. Ochsner, and **A. Van Leuven**, (2025). NASA's FLDAS Soil Moisture Data as an Index for Forage Crop Insurance and Disaster Protection Programs. *Agricultural and Forest Meteorology*. doi:[10.1016/j.agrformet.2025.110772](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.agrformet.2025.110772)
13. A. Hagerman, A. Schaefer, **A. Van Leuven**, F. Tsiboe, A. Young*, and Y. Zereyesus, (2025). Mitigating Structural Inequities in U.S. Agricultural Risk Management. *Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics*. doi:[10.1017/aae.2024.29](https://doi.org/10.1017/aae.2024.29)
12. M. Rahe, T. Malone, and **A. Van Leuven**, (2024). Leveraging Social Ties to Financial Gains: Exploring the Impact of Social Capital in Rural Development. *Journal of Rural Studies*. doi:[10.1016/j.jrurstud.2024.103539](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jrurstud.2024.103539)
11. C. Biedny*, B. Whitacre, and **A. Van Leuven**, (2024). Do Gigabits Mean Business? "Ultra-Fast" Broadband Availability's Effect on Business Births. *Information Economics and Policy*. doi:[10.1016/j.infoecopol.2024.101094](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.infoecopol.2024.101094)
10. **A. Van Leuven**, D. Lambert, T. Conroy, and K. Conley, (2024). Do 'Banking Deserts' Even Exist? Examining Access to Brick-and-Mortar Financial Institutions in the Continental US. *Applied Geography*. doi:[10.1016/j.apgeog.2024.103201](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apgeog.2024.103201)
9. K.A. Schaefer and **A. Van Leuven**, (2024). Quantifying the Rural Legal Desert Problem: Assessing Access to Justice and Legal Services in Marginalized Communities. *South Dakota Law Review*[†]. doi:[10.70657/sdlr.v69.i3.419](https://doi.org/10.70657/sdlr.v69.i3.419)
8. R. Taylor*, **A. Van Leuven**, and S. Robinson, (2023). The Role of Community Capital in Rural Renewal. *Local Development & Society*. doi:[10.1080/26883597.2023.2258453](https://doi.org/10.1080/26883597.2023.2258453)
7. **A. Van Leuven**, S. Low, and E. Hill, (2022). What Side of Town? How Proximity to Critical Survival Factors Affects Rural Business Longevity. *Growth and Change*. doi:[10.1111/grow.12652](https://doi.org/10.1111/grow.12652)
6. S. Low, M. Rahe, and **A. Van Leuven**, (2022). Has COVID-19 Made Rural Areas More Attractive Places to Live? Survey Evidence From Northwest Missouri. *Regional Science Policy and Practice*. doi:[10.1111/rsp3.12543](https://doi.org/10.1111/rsp3.12543)
5. **A. Van Leuven**, (2022). Leveraging Main Street as a Real Estate Amenity: Downtown Revitalization and Residential Property Values. *Journal of Planning Education & Research*. doi:[10.1177/0739456X221082500](https://doi.org/10.1177/0739456X221082500)
4. **A. Van Leuven**, (2022). A Method for Defining Downtown Business District Boundaries in Pre-Automobile Towns and Cities. *Cityscape*[†]. [[link](#)]
3. **A. Van Leuven** and E. Hill, (2021). Legacy Regions, Not Legacy Cities: Growth and Decline in City-Centered Regional Economies. *Journal of Urban Affairs*. doi:[10.1080/07352166.2021.1990775](https://doi.org/10.1080/07352166.2021.1990775)
2. **A. Van Leuven**, (2021). The Impact of Main Street Revitalization on the Economic Vitality of Small-Town Business Districts. *Economic Development Quarterly*. doi:[10.1177/08912424211038060](https://doi.org/10.1177/08912424211038060)
1. Y. Chun, S. Pierce, and **A. Van Leuven**, (2021). Are Foreclosure Spillover Effects Universal? Variation Over Space and Time. *Housing Policy Debate*. doi:[10.1080/10511482.2021.1882533](https://doi.org/10.1080/10511482.2021.1882533)

BOOK CHAPTERS	A. Van Leuven , (2025). Central Business District. <i>The Encyclopedia of Human Geography</i> , edited by Barney Warf. doi:10.1007/978-3-031-25900-5_115-1
REVISE AND RESUBMIT	<p>A. Van Leuven and T. Malone. Bowling Leagues and Facebook Friends: Measuring Social Capital in the Digital Age. (REVISE & RESUBMIT at <i>Community Development</i>)</p> <p>G. Wynne*, B. Whitacre, and A. Van Leuven. The Role of Local Support Organizations in Rural Small Business Creation and Maturation. (REVISE & RESUBMIT at <i>Journal of Small Business & Entrepreneurship</i>)</p> <p>C. Bir, A. Van Leuven, and R. Biggs. Veterinary Clinic Longevity and the Role of Local Amenities. (REVISE & RESUBMIT at <i>Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics</i>)</p>
UNDER REVIEW	<p><i>Third Places and Housing Market Dynamics in Urban and Rural Neighborhoods</i> (with A. Weinstein)</p> <p><i>Small Business Financing and Rural Entrepreneurship</i> (with A. Schaefer)</p> <p><i>What the Heck is an “Extension” Program?</i> (with T. Malone, C. Carpenter, C. Bir, R. Wasserman-Olin, and W. Zhang)</p> <p><i>Trump’s 2025 Trade and Immigration Agenda: Economic and Legal Implications for Rural America</i> (with A. Schaefer)</p>
WORKING PAPERS & IN PROGRESS	<p><i>Are Downtown Businesses More Vulnerable to Extreme Heat?</i> (with A. Schaefer)</p> <p><i>The Economics of Restaurant Prestige in New York City</i> (with T. Malone, A. Schaefer, and J. Lusk)</p> <p><i>Rural Labor Market Resilience to Extreme Weather Events</i> (with T. Haddock*and A. Schaefer)</p> <p><i>The Impact of Downtown Revitalization on Rural Housing Markets</i> (with B. Ogunbamise*and A. Schaefer)</p> <p><i>Brick-and-Mortar Banking in the Digital Age: Measuring the Evolving Relationship Between Physical Branches and Small Business Lending</i> (with K. Thomas, T. Conroy, and D. Lambert)</p>

Funding & Grants

EXTERNAL FUNDING	USDA NIFA & Vermont Agricultural Experiment Station	2025
	\$60,000 for 3-yr Hatch project <i>New England’s Third Places: Mapping Social and Economic Impacts in Rural Areas</i> . PI.	
	Food Systems Research Institute (FSRI) New Faculty Fellowship	2024
	\$109,655 in additional startup funding for 2-yr project <i>Developing a Comprehensive Data Hub for National Food Systems Infrastructure</i> . PI.	
	NSF EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement Grant	2023
	\$3,716,507 grant for 4-yr project <i>RURAL CONFLUENCE: Communities and Academic Partners Uniting to Drive Discovery and Build Capacity for Climate Resilience</i> . Co-PI, with researchers at OKST, U. of Nebraska, & LSU	
	U.S. Small Business Administration Grant	2023
	\$500,000 congressional earmark awarded for 2-yr project <i>Oklahoma Rural E-commerce Academy</i> . Co-PI, with June Park	

	USDA ERS Resource & Rural Economics Division (RRED)	2023
	\$20,000 cooperative agreement for 2-yr project <i>Rural Bank Branch Closure</i> . Project lead, with Kelsey Conley (ERS Rural Economy Branch), Dayton Lambert, and Tessa Conroy	
	Center for Oklahoma Small Business Research and Analysis	2023
	\$34,787 grant to operate a research center providing market research and financial data to small business development advisors. PI.	
	Rural Renewal Initiative Research Seed Grant	2023
	\$90,000 grant for project <i>The Measured and Perceived Impact of Marijuana Production on Commerce on Rural Economies, Public Utilities, and Quality of Life</i> . Co-PI, with Brian Whitacre (project lead) et al.	
	Cotton, Inc. Research and Promotion Program	2022
	\$22,500 grant for project <i>The Economic Impact of the Cotton Industry in Oklahoma</i> . Project Lead, with P. Kenkel, D. Lambert, H. Shear, and J. Vitale	
	Oklahoma Small Business Development Center	2022
	\$59,358 grant to operate a research center providing market research and financial data to small business development advisors. Co-PI with Rodney Holcomb	
INTERNAL FUNDING	Leahy Institute Partnership and Capacity Grant Program	2024
	\$159,428 grant for project <i>Accelerating Vermont Food Hub Development and Collaboration with Supply Network Analysis</i> (with Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund and UVM Spatial Analysis Lab)	
	UVM Early Extra Promotion of Research & Scholarly Success	2024
	\$3,000 grant for project <i>Tracking the Effects of Extreme Temperature on Downtown Vitality</i> through University of Vermont OVPR	
	OSU Extension Undergraduate Extension Scholars	2023
	\$2,000 grant for project <i>Strategic Planning for Rural Transit in Northern Oklahoma</i> with Cherokee Strip Transit, advising student Pat Kane	
	Ferguson College of Agriculture Undergraduate Research Scholars	2022
	\$2,000 grant for project <i>Factors Affecting Extreme Weather Event Recovery and Resilience Among Rural Communities and Agricultural Producers in Oklahoma</i> , advising student Tess Haddock with Co-PI Amy Hagerman	
	Ohio State University Graduate School	2019
	\$3,000 grant from OSU Alumni Grants for Graduate Research and Scholarship (AGGRS) to work on dissertation research	
	OSU Center for Real Estate	2019
	\$3,500 grant stipend for project <i>Leveraging Main Street as a Rural Real Estate Amenity</i>	
	BYU Office of Research and Creative Activities	2013
	\$1,500 grant for project “ <i>Missing Teeth: The Economic Impact of Holes in the Urban Fabric</i> ”	

Honors and Awards

2025	Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics (JAAE) Outstanding Journal Article of the Year. For paper titled <i>Mitigating Structural Inequities in U.S. Agricultural Risk Management</i> , with Amy Hagerman (lead author), Aleks Schaefer, Francis Tsiboe, Yacob Zereyesus, and Alicia Young.
	Community Development Society Best Paper Award. For paper titled <i>Bowling Leagues and Facebook Friends: Measuring Social Capital in the Digital Age</i> , with Trey Malone
2024	George Goldman Award for Excellence in Regional Economic Development (Honorable Mention). AAAA CRENTE section award for Extension programming and research on community capitals in rural Oklahoma Miernyk Medal for Research Excellence. Best Southern Regional Science Association conference paper: <i>Do ‘Banking Deserts’ Even Exist? Examining Access to Brick-and-Mortar Financial Institutions in the Continental U.S.</i>

Teaching, Advising, & Instructional Experience

UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT	CDAE 1610: Principles of Community Development Economics Fall 2025 Undergraduate introduction to principles of microeconomics and their application to community economic development
	CDAE 6260: Community Economic Development Every Spring Graduate course examining theories, methods, and strategies used to develop economically resilient communities (cross-listed with UVM MPA)
	CDAE 3670: Strategic Planning for Comm. Entrepreneurs Every Spring Senior capstone course, drafting a real working business plan with applications of marketing, finance, and management strategies
	CDAE 1990: Entrepreneurial Mindset Fall 2024 Introductory course to the UVM community entrepreneurship (CENT) undergraduate major
OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY	PUBAFRS 2110: Introduction to Public Affairs Instructor of Record Spring 2021 Teaching Assistant Fall 2020
	PUBAFRS/CRPLAN 7531: Economic Development Policy Co-Instructor & Teaching Assistant Spring 2019/20
INVITED GUEST LECTURES & WORKSHOPS	“Secondary Data & Operationalizing from Concept to Variable” Invited guest lecture for <i>CDAE 6510 – Research Methods</i> course at UVM Community Development and Applied Economics. Oct. 2025 “Community & Economic Development Across the Urban-Rural Divide” Invited guest lecture for <i>PLS 5153 – Cities, Politics & Urban Policy</i> course at Eastern Illinois University Department of Political Science. Mar. 2025 “Rural Development and Applied Economic Outreach” Invited guest lecture for <i>ECON 446: Urban Economics</i> course at Univ. of Maine School of Economics. Nov. 2024 “Using R and ggplot2 for Agricultural Economics Data Visualization.” Graduate workshop for Oklahoma State University AGEC graduate students. Nov. 2023.

“Rural Development in Theory and Practice”. Invited guest lecture for *RCPL 5723: Community Development & Revitalization* course in University of Oklahoma Department of Regional and City Planning. Norman, OK, Feb. 2023.

“Using the Grammar of Graphics in Applied Economic Research.” Invited graduate workshop at University of Illinois Department of Agricultural & Consumer Economics. Urbana, IL, Oct. 2022.

“What is Rural Economic Development?” Invited guest lecture for *AECL 5003: Developing Rural Scholars for Community Engagement* course in OSU Department of Agricultural Education, Communication & Leadership. Spring 2022, 2023, 2025.

ADVISING & MENTORSHIP

Thesis/Dissertation Committee Member (* = committee chair)	Class Of
Griffin Brown (Ph.D.)*	2028
Tess Haddock (M.S.)*, Mckenzie Boyce (Ph.D. at UW-Madison)	2025
Bosede Ogunbamise (M.S.)*, Gary Wynne (M.S.), Ephraim Muyombo (M.S.), Emily Norris (M.Ag.), Sheriff Hassan (M.S.), Sidany Hilburn (M.S.), Katie Welch (Ph.D.)	2024
Alicia Young (M.S.)	2023

Undergraduate Student Mentorship at Vermont

Leo Sarandos – Supervision on research paper on housing & opioid overdoses (2025-26)

Undergraduate Student Mentorship at Oklahoma State

Calla Regier, Jordyn Bertrem – Supervision on delivery of small business market research/analysis for OK SBDC (2023, 2024)

Tess Haddock – Collaboration on research poster presentation and fact sheet (2022–23)

Pat Kane – Collaboration on Extension project and fact sheet (2023)

Outreach Activities & Cooperative Extension

WORKSHOPS, TRAINING, & CONFERENCES

Lunch & Learn: <i>Rural RISE Summit</i>	JUN. 2025
Panel on “From Innovation Hubs to Co-working: Creative Solutions for Vermont’s Rural Economy.” Burlington, VT.	
Webinar: <i>Insights About America’s Rural Communities</i>	AUG. 2024
Presentation highlighting research on <i>Neighborhood ‘Third Places’ and Local Home Values</i> . Delivered through the Council On Food, Agricultural And Resource Economics (C-FARE), Virtual .	
Roundtable: <i>Rural E-Commerce Experiences in Oklahoma</i>	APR. 2024
Small group discussion with Oklahoma business owners gauging the need for different digital retail & marketing instruction. Stillwater, OK.	
Workshop: <i>Taking Inventory of your Community Dev. Assets</i>	APR. 2024
Lunch & learn talk highlighting research on measuring and understanding “community capital” for rural development. Blackwell, OK.	
In-Service Training: <i>The 2022 Census of Agriculture</i>	APR. 2024
Webinar highlighting patterns and trends of agricultural data in Oklahoma, with Amy Hagerman and JJ Jones. Virtual.	

Workshop: *Taking Stock of Your Economic Anchors* JAN. 2024

Presentation at OSU Extension Biennial Conference, teaching how to recognize and cultivate local “anchors” in rural areas. Stillwater, OK.

Workshop: *Econ. Development: The Role of County Officials* JUN. 2023

Training with county government practitioners on using publicly available data to understand the local or regional economy. Stillwater, OK.

Webinar: *The Economics of Downtown Revitalization* APR. 2023

Presentation highlighting the value of downtown revitalization and why quantitative evaluation is important. Delivered through the University of Wisconsin Extension “Lunch-n-Learn” Series, Virtual.

Workshop: *Community Development Data Literacy* DEC. 2022

Training on data basics: how to find and use secondary data, cautions and pitfalls, using data for decision-making. Ada, OK.

Workshop: *Entrepreneurship and Rural Economies* APR. 2022

Presented to with Associated Electric Cooperative Inc., with Mallory Rahe and Steven Mukembo (U of Missouri Extension). Virtual.

In-Service Training: *Data Literacy for Rural Economies* APR. 2022

Webinar to help Extension educators become familiar with sources and applications for using economic data in rural Oklahoma counties. Virtual.

Conference: *Creating Entrepreneurial Communities* SEP. 2021

Facilitator & presenter for session, *Main Street and Downtown Revitalization: What Works and What to Avoid*. Hannibal, MO.

OPEN-SOURCE
DATASETS

A. Van Leuven, (2024). *Historical U.S. County Population Data: 1900 to 2020*. Dataverse: <https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/WLS5GF>.

A. Van Leuven, (2023). *Changes to U.S. Metropolitan and Micropolitan Areas, 2013-2023*. Dataverse: <https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/CED24H>.

FACT SHEETS
& REPORTS

T. Haddock, A. Hagerman, and **A. Van Leuven**, (Mar. 2024), *Drought Exposure and Crop Impacts in Oklahoma and Surrounding States*, OSU Extension Fact Sheet ([AGEC-635](#)).

K.A. Schaefer and **A. Van Leuven**, (Feb. 2024), *Confronting Legal Deserts in Rural America*, Southern Ag Today, ([LINK](#)).

A. Van Leuven, E. Norris, D. Lambert, P. Kenkel, H. Shear, and J. Vitale, (Feb. 2024), *The Economic Contribution of the Cotton Industry in Oklahoma*, OSU Extension Fact Sheet ([AGEC-634](#)).

A. Van Leuven, (Dec. 2023), *More than Ever, Rural Communities Need Strong Third Places to Build Social Capital*, Southern Ag Today, ([LINK](#)).

H. Park and **A. Van Leuven**, (Aug. 2023), *Digital Retailing and Marketing: Tools for Rural Small Businesses Navigating the Digital Age*, OSU Extension Fact Sheet ([AGEC-632](#)).

M. White and **A. Van Leuven**, (Jul. 2023), *Changes in Farm Employment, 1969 to 2021*, farmdoc daily, **13(130)**.

R. Zimmer, S. Hilburn, **A. Van Leuven**, and B. Whitacre, (Mar. 2023), *Medical Marijuana Dispensaries in Oklahoma*, OSU AGEC Current Report ([22009](#)).

A. Van Leuven, (Jan. 2023), *Participants in Community and Economic Development*, OSU Extension Fact Sheet ([AGEC-950](#)).

N. Dethloff, **A. Van Leuven**, and C. Bir, (Oct. 2022), *Customer Service Basics for Agricultural Entrepreneurs*, OSU Extension Fact Sheet ([AGEC-920](#)).

A. Van Leuven, (May 2022), *In Historic Town Centers Beauty is More than Skin Deep*, Southern Ag Today, ([LINK](#)).

M. White and **A. Van Leuven**, (Oct. 2021), *Population Change, 2010 to 2020*, MU Exceed Missouri Economy Indicators Series, [2\(16\)](#).

A. Van Leuven, (Sep. 2021), *Transportation and Logistics Infrastructure*, MU Exceed Missouri Economy Indicators Series, [2\(15\)](#).

H. McClure, **A. Van Leuven**, and S. Low, (Aug. 2021), *Transfer Payments to Individuals*, MU Exceed Missouri Economy Indicators Series, [2\(12\)](#).

INVITED TALKS & PANELS		
	Franklin Community Cooperative Board Meeting (Greenfield, MA)	<i>MAY</i> 2025
	OSU Extension Farm Management “Coffee Talk” (Virtual)	<i>MAR.</i> 2024
	Oklahoma SBDC Annual Staff Meeting (Durant, OK)	<i>SEP.</i> 2023
	Northern Oklahoma Development Authority (Enid, OK)	<i>AUG.</i> 2023
	Oklahoma Cotton Council (Alva, OK)	<i>JUL.</i> 2023
	OK Farm Bureau “Activate Oklahoma” Business Accelerator Panel	<i>JUN.</i> 2023
	Alva, OK Chamber of Commerce	<i>MAY</i> 2023
	Stigler-Haskell County, OK Chamber of Commerce	<i>APR.</i> 2023
	Langston, OK Community Forum	<i>FEB.</i> 2023
	Small Business Development 4-County Consortium (Wilburton, OK)	<i>FEB.</i> 2023
	Langston, OK Economic Development & Planning Committee	<i>DEC.</i> 2022
	Red River Leadership Institute (Broken Bow, OK)	<i>NOV.</i> 2022
	The Oklahoma Academy Town Hall (Durant, OK)	<i>OCT.</i> 2022
	Okemah Chamber of Commerce (Okemah, OK)	<i>OCT.</i> 2022
	AARP Livable Communities Housing Workshop (Virtual)	<i>SEP.</i> 2022
	Southern Workforce Board (Atoka, OK)	<i>AUG.</i> 2022
	Johnston County Industrial Authority (Tishomingo, OK)	<i>JUL.</i> 2022
	Buffalo, OK Economic Development and Revitalization Committee	<i>MAY</i> 2022
	Marshall County Economic Development Authority (Madill, OK)	<i>MAY</i> 2022
	Shattuck, OK Economic Development Committee	<i>APR.</i> 2022

Conferences, Invited Seminars, & Other Academic Talks

2025	<p>A. Van Leuven. “<i>Fork in the Road: Three Decades of Evolution in the U.S. Food Service Landscape</i>.” Selected paper at North American Regional Science Council Annual Conference, Denver, CO, Nov. 2025.</p> <p>A. Van Leuven. “<i>The Effects of Extreme Temperature on Rural Downtown Vitality</i>.” Invited talk at Oklahoma State University Department of Agricultural Economics, Stillwater, OK, Nov. 2025; selected paper at Rural Renewal Symposium, Woodward, OK, Nov. 2025.</p>
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- A. Van Leuven.** “*Developing a Comprehensive Data Hub for National Food Systems Infrastructure.*” Invited talk at UVM Food Systems Research Institute Snap Talk, Burlington, VT, Oct. 2025.
- A. Van Leuven** and T. Malone. “*Bowling Leagues and Facebook Friends: Rethinking Social Capital in the Digital Age.*” Selected paper at the Community Development Society Annual Conference, Geneva, NY, Jul. 2025.
- T. Malone, K.A. Schaefer, and **A. Van Leuven** “*Spillover Effects of Michelin Stars: Impacts on Nearby Restaurants in NYC.*” Selected paper at Northeastern Ag. & Resource Economics Association (NAREA) Annual Meeting, Burlington, VT, Jun. 2025.
- B. Ogunbamise, **A. Van Leuven**, and K.A. Schaefer, “*The Impact of Downtown Revitalization on Rural Housing Markets.*” Selected paper at Southern Regional Science Association Annual Meeting, Louisville, KY, Apr. 2025.
- A. Van Leuven**, “*Access to Financial Services in a Digital Age: Does ‘Brick-and-Mortar’ Still Matter?.*” Invited presentation at National Agricultural Credit Conference, Washington D.C., Mar. 2025.
- 2024
- A. Van Leuven** and A. Weinstein, “*Third Places and Housing Market Dynamics in Urban and Rural Neighborhoods.*” Selected paper at North American Regional Science Council Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA, Nov. 2024.
- A. Van Leuven**, K. Conley, T. Conroy, and D. Lambert, “*Brick-and-Mortar Financial Institutions and Regional Borrowing: Do Branch Closures Leave Money on the Table?.*” Selected paper at Agricultural & Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, Jul. 2024.
- A. Van Leuven** and A. Weinstein, “*Neighborhood Quality of Life and the Role of the ‘Third Place?’.*” Selected paper at Southern Regional Science Association Annual Meeting, Arlington, VA, Apr. 2024.
- A. Van Leuven**, “*Does In-Person Banking Matter? Past and Ongoing Research on Access to Financial Services.*” Invited seminar at Mississippi State University Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness, Starkville, MS, Mar. 2024.
- 2023
- A. Van Leuven**, “*Downtown Revitalization and Economic Development: Leveraging Placemaking Efforts to Enhance Local Economic Vitality.*” Invited research talk at University of Iowa School of Planning and Public Affairs, Iowa City, IA, Dec. 2023.
- A. Van Leuven**, “*Brick-and-Mortar Financial Institutions and Regional Borrowing: Do Branch Closures Leave Money on the Table?.*” Selected paper at the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM) Fall Research Conference, Atlanta. Nov. 2023.
- A. Van Leuven**, E. Hill, and S. Low, “*Redefining Local Economic Anchors: Not Just Eds and Meds.*” Selected paper at Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Annual Conference, Chicago. Oct. 2023.
- A. Schaefer and **A. Van Leuven**, “*Quantifying the Rural Legal Desert Problem: Assessing Access to Justice and Legal Services.*” Invited paper at the South Dakota Law Review Symposium on Rural Lawyers, Vermillion, SD. Sep. 2023.
- A. Van Leuven**, K. Conley, T. Conroy, and D. Lambert, “*Do ‘Banking Deserts’ Even Exist? Brick-and-Mortar Lending Access in the Continental US.*” Selected paper at Agricultural & Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting, Wash. DC. Jul. 2023.

- A. Van Leuven**, “*Do ‘Banking Deserts’ Even Exist? Examining Access to Brick-and-Mortar Lending Institutions in the Continental United States.*” Invited seminar at University of Arkansas Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness, Fayetteville, AR, Jul. 2023.
- A. Van Leuven**, R. Taylor, and S. Robinson, “*The Role of Community Capital in Rural Renewal.*” Invited seminar at Iowa State University Community and Economic Development Extension and Outreach, Ames, IA, Jun. 2023.
- A. Hagerman, A. Schaefer, F. Tsiboe, **A. Van Leuven**, A. Young, and Y. Zereyesus, “*Mitigating Structural Inequities in U.S. Agricultural Risk Management.*” Selected paper at the AAEA Conference on Economics of Inequity in Agricultural, Food, and Environmental Systems, Minneapolis, May 2023.
- A. Van Leuven**, K. Conley, T. Conroy, and D. Lambert, “*Locational Determinants of Lending Deserts in the Rural United States.*” Selected paper at Southern Regional Science Association Annual Meeting, Savannah, GA, Apr. 2023.
- A. Van Leuven**, “*Measuring the Economics of Downtown Revitalization: Putting Some ‘Oomph’ Behind the Numbers.*” Invited workshop at Main Street Now Annual Conference, Boston, Mar. 2023.
- A. Hagerman, A. Schaefer, **A. Van Leuven**, Y. Zereyesus, F. Tsiboe, A. Young, “*Factors Affecting Crop Insurance Use Among Underserved Farmers.*” Selected paper at Southern Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting, OKC, Feb. 2023.
- C. Bir and **A. Van Leuven**, “*Community Determinants of Rural Veterinarian Longevity.*” Selected paper at Southern Agricultural Economics Association (SAEA) Annual Meeting, Oklahoma City, Feb. 2023.
- 2022
- B. Whitacre and **A. Van Leuven**, “*A ‘Significant Crisis and Financial Windfall’: The Proliferation of Medical Marijuana in Rural Oklahoma.*” Selected paper at North American Regional Science Council Annual Conference, Montreal, QC, Nov. 2022.
- A. Van Leuven** and T. Conroy, “*The Economic Dynamism of Child Care Establishments in the United States.*” Selected paper at North American Regional Science Council Annual Conference, Montreal, QC, Nov. 2022.
- A. Van Leuven**, “*The Economic Value of Placemaking in Rural Oklahoma.*” Invited talk at the Rural Renewal Symposium, Stillwater, OK, Oct. 2022.
- A. Van Leuven**, “*Quantifying the Impact of Main Street Revitalization.*” Invited talk at Chicago Federal Reserve Bank & Upjohn Institute Conference on Rural Economic Development, Grand Rapids, MI, Oct. 2022.
- S. Low, M.C. White, **A. Van Leuven**, and R. Russell, “*Labor Market Impacts of Increasing Worker-age Mortality: a Mixed Methods Analysis.*” Selected paper at Agricultural & Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting, Anaheim, CA, Aug. 2022.
- B. Whitacre, C. Biedny, and **A. Van Leuven**, “*Rural Gigabits and Business Births*” Selected paper at Agricultural & Applied Economics Association (AAEA) Annual Meeting, Anaheim, CA, Aug. 2022.
- 2021
- M. Rahe, S. Low, and **A. Van Leuven**, “*Living and Working in Rural Regions: Survey Perceptions During the COVID Pandemic.*” Selected paper at North American Regional Science Council Annual Conference, Denver, CO, Nov. 2021.
- S. Low, **A. Van Leuven**, M.C. White and R. Russell, “*Labor Market Consequences of Increases in Rural Prime Age Mortality.*” Selected paper at North American Regional Science Council (NARSC) Annual Conference, Denver, CO, Nov. 2021.

- A. Van Leuven**, “*Spatially-Fixed Critical Location Factors as Determinants of Business Establishment Survival.*” Selected paper at Mid-Continent Regional Science Association (MCRSA) Annual Conference, Virtual, Jun. 2021.

A. Van Leuven, “*The Impact of Main Street Revitalization on the Economic Vitality of Small-Town Business Districts.*” Selected paper at Southern Regional Science Association Conference, Virtual, Apr. 2021.

A. Van Leuven, “*Leveraging Main Street as a Real Estate Amenity: Retail Corridor Revitalization and Residential Property Values.*” Selected poster at American Real Estate and Urban Economics Association (AREUEA) Annual Meeting, Virtual, Jan. 2021

2020
E. Hill and **A. Van Leuven**, “*Are They Better Off? Municipal Annexation and the Socioeconomic Well-Being of a City’s Lowest-Income Residents.*” Selected paper at Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Annual Conference, Virtual, Nov. 2020.

2019
A. Van Leuven, “*The Impact of Main Street Revitalization on Small-Town Business Districts.*” Invited paper at Upjohn Institute & Chicago Federal Reserve Bank Research Workshop on Rural Economic Development, Kalamazoo, MI, Oct. 2019.
A. Van Leuven, “*Renovating Small-Town Central Business Districts: The Impact of Main Street Revitalization on Local Job Growth.*” Selected paper at Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Annual Conference, Greenville, SC, Oct. 2019.

2018
A. Van Leuven, “*The Post-Recession Resilience of Legacy Regions.*” Selected paper at Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Annual Conference, Buffalo, NY, Oct. 2018.
A. Van Leuven and E. Hill, “*Resilience in the Face of Chronic Distress: U.S. Metropolitan Areas After the Great Recession.*” Invited Paper at Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta & Upjohn Institute Research Workshop, Atlanta, GA, May 2018.
A. Van Leuven and E. Hill, “*Rethinking the Legacy City: Regional Evidence Matters.*” Selected paper at Urban Affairs Association (UAA) Conference (Toronto, Apr. 2018) and the Southern Regional Science Association (SRSA) Conference (Philadelphia, Mar. 2018).

2017
A. Van Leuven and E. Hill, “*Regional Economic Resilience After the Great Recession: The Economic Performance of U.S. Metropolitan Statistical Areas.*” Selected paper at Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP) Annual Conference, Denver, CO, Oct. 2017.

2015
A. Van Leuven, “*Making a Case for Walkability: Separating the Factors that Affect Home Values in Commuter Rail Suburbs.*” Paper presented at Middle States AAG Biennial Meeting, Binghamton, NY, Oct. 2015.
A. Van Leuven, “*Making a Case for Walkability: Separating the Factors that Affect Home Values in Commuter Rail Suburbs.*” Poster presented at Association of American Geographers (AAG) Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, Apr. 2015.

Service and Peer Review

SERVICE TO
PROFESSION &
COMMUNITY Northeastern Regional Science Association (NERSA) 2025–
Executive Council Member & NARSC Council Representative

SERVICE TO UNIVERSITY & DEPARTMENT	Community & Regional Economics Network (CRENET) Member	
	<i>Section Chair (2025–26); Chair-Elect (2024–25)</i>	
	NSF Grant Peer Review Panelist	<i>2024</i>
	<i>Human-Environment and Geographical Sciences (HEGS) Program</i>	
	Hatch Multistate Research Group NE-2249	<i>ongoing</i>
	<i>Chair (2024–25); Chair-Elect (2023–24)</i>	
	<i>Project Title: “Sustainable and Inclusive Rural Economic Development to Enhance Housing, Health, Entrepreneurship, and Equity”</i>	
	USDA Grant Peer Review Panelist	<i>2021, '22, '24</i>
	<i>NIFA AFRI Rural and Economic Development Grant Program</i>	
	Glenn College Doctoral Student Organization	<i>2016–21</i>
JOURNAL EDITING & PEER REVIEW	<i>President (2018–19); Treasurer (2017–18)</i>	
	Glenn College Research Colloquium Series Coordinator	<i>2019–20</i>
	City of Stillwater, Oklahoma Planning Commissioner	<i>2023–24</i>
	Volunteer FFA Business Plan Competition Judge	<i>2022, 2023</i>
	UVM Rural Development Speaker Series	<i>2025–</i>
	<i>Creator/Director</i>	
	Southern Region Program Leadership Network (SR-PLN)	<i>2022–24</i>
	<i>Community Resource Development Committee Representative for OKST</i>	
	<i>Committee Work: UVM Food Systems Long-Term Agroecosystem Research group (2024–present); CDAE M.S. curriculum committee (2024–present); Sustainable Development Policy, Economics and Governance Ph.D. program member (2025–present)</i>	
	Associate Editor, <i>Agricultural and Resource Economics Review</i>	<i>2025–</i>
	<i>Journal of the Northeastern Ag. & Resource Economics Association (NAREA)</i>	
	Editorial Board, <i>Reaching Regions</i>	<i>2024–</i>
	<i>Outreach journal of the North American Regional Science Council (NARSC)</i>	
	Special Issue Co-Editor, <i>Economic Development Quarterly</i>	<i>2024–25</i>
	<i>Issue theme on Complementary Practices—Community, Workforce, and Economic Development (doi: 10.1177/08912424251399805)</i>	
Journals Refereed		
<i>Review of Regional Studies (x3); Growth and Change (x2); Managerial Finance (x2); Urban Affairs Review (x2); Small Business Economics (x2); Agricultural and Resource Economics Review; Agricultural Finance Review; Applied Economics Letters; Applied Economics Teaching Resources; Community Development; Economic Development Quarterly; Journal of Policy Analysis and Management; Journal of Regional Science; Journal of Rural & Community Development; Journal of Urban Affairs; Letters in Spatial & Resource Sciences; Southeastern Geographer; Telematics & Informatics</i>		
Conference/Association Awards Reviewer		
<i>NARSC Graduate-Student-Author Paper Competition (2025)</i>		

SRSA Miernyk Research Excellence Medal Committee (2025)

Conference/Symposium Abstract Review

Agricultural & Applied Economics Association Annual Conference (x3)

Academy of Management Annual Meeting (x2)

Oklahoma State University Rural Renewal Symposium

Ohio State University Real Estate & Housing Conference (x2)

Media Interviews & Press Coverage

2025

The Practice at Harvard Law School

Magazine article covering research on rural legal deserts (with A. Schaefer): “*Mapping Legal Deserts: Researchers explore variables, definitions, and methods.*” ([LINK](#))

The Oklahoman

Coverage of article in JAAE: “‘Wads of money’: Oklahoma marijuana industry causing property values to skyrocket.” ([LINK](#))

2024

The Daily Yonder

Coverage of recent grant/program: “*Oklahoma State University Program to Boost Online Retail Opportunities in Rural Areas.*” ([LINK](#))

KOSU/High Plains Public Radio

Interviewed/quoted: “*Report shows Oklahoma has fewer producers, but some counties had an increase of farmers and ranchers.*” ([LINK](#))

2023

Michigan Farm News

Quotes and visuals pulled from farmdoc fact sheet with M.C. White: “*Great Lakes region ‘farm employment’ down 19,000 since 1969.*” ([LINK](#))

2021

The Journalist’s Resource at Harvard Kennedy School

Interviewed for article about my research: “*New research explores how Main Street revitalization programs affect job and business growth in rural communities.*” ([LINK](#))

Technical Skills & Additional Training

TECHNICAL
SKILLS &
LANGUAGES

Basic Knowledge: Python, Stata, Tableau, Adobe Creative Suite, IMPLAN

Intermediate/Advanced Knowledge: R, ArcGIS, Excel, LaTeX, Data Visualization

Languages: English (Native), Spanish (Fluent)

ADDITIONAL
TRAINING

Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR)

Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research – Ann Arbor, MI (2019)

COURSES: Multilevel Models I; Introduction to Python for Data Science