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EDUCATION

2019-Present PhD. in Agricultural and Resource Economics (Expected 2024)

Committee: Julian M. Alston, Richard S. Gray, Aaron D. Smith, and Pierre R. Mérel

Dissertation: Essays on Cropping Choice, Carbon Sequestration, and the Productivity of Saskatchewan

Farms

2016-2018 MSc. in Agricultural Economics

Thesis: Strategic Investment and Entry Decisions for Soybean Breeding in western Canada

University of Saskatchewan

2012-2016 BSc. in Agribusiness (Honors and Great Distinction)

University of Saskatchewan

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

2023 Alston, J. M., Pardey, P. G. Serfas, D., and S. Wang. 2023. Slow Magic: Agricultural Versus Industrial

R&D Lag Models. Annual Review of Resource Economics, 15:1.

2018 Serfas, D., Gray, R., and P. Slade. 2018. Congestion and Distribution of Rents in Wheat Export Sector: A

Canada–US Cross-Border Comparison. Canadian Journal of Agricultural Economics, 66(2): 187-207.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

2019 Serfas, D. and R. Gray. 2019. An Evaluation of Value Creation Models for Pulses in western Canada. A

report prepared for the Crop Development Center. Saskatoon, SK.

WORKING PAPERS

A New Field-Level Measure of the Stock of Soil Organic Carbon and Value of Carbon Sequestration,

Working Paper

2023 The Consequences of Soil Organic Carbon for Crop Yield, Farm Productivity, and Profit, Working Paper

2023 Fighting Climate Change with Soil Organic Carbon: Science and Policy, Work in Progress

2021 Serfas, D., Alston, J.M. and P.G. Pardey. 2023. The Returns to Industrial R&D: A Comprehensive Meta-

Assessment and Partial Critique of the Evidence. InSTePP Working Paper. St Paul, MN: International

Science and Technology Practice and Policy Center, University of Minnesota.

CONFERENCE AND PRESENTATIONS

2023 Western Agricultural Economics Association and Canadian Economics Association Annual Meeting and

Conference, in Whistler, BC

2022 NatuRE Policy Lab – Lab Seminar in Davis, CA

2022 Workshop on Spatial Data Analysis – University of Saskatchewan

2018 3rd Soyagen Annual Meeting in Quebec City, QC

2018 65th Annual North American Meetings of the Regional Science Association in San Antonio, TX

2018 30th International Conference of Agricultural Economists in Vancouver, BC

2018 25th Annual International Moose Jaw Conference – "Farming for ... Profit?" NAFTA & Trade Expansion

GRANTS

2022-2024 Saskatchewan Wheat Development Commission – \$85,000

with Richard Gray and Julian Alston

2022-2023 Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics – \$30,000

with Julian Alston

AWARDS

2017 Saskatchewan Pulse Crop Development Board Don Jaques Memorial Fellowship – \$20,000

2016 Undergraduate Book Prize Award, Outstanding undergraduate student in agricultural economics or

related field, Awarded by Canadian Agricultural Economics Society

WORKSHOPS

2023 Speeding up computations with parallel R

WestDRI online courses, Digital Research Alliance of Canada, Simon Fraser University, BC

2022 Geo-Computation and -Statistics in R: Explicitly Accounting for Location in Agriculture

GEMS Informatics, Minnesota Supercomputing Institute, University of Minnesota, MN

WORK EXPERIENCE

Research

2023 Graduate Student Researcher, University of California, Davis

With Julian Alston

2022-2023 Research Assistant, University of Saskatchewan

With Richard Gray and Julian Alston

2021-2022 Graduate Student Researcher, University of California, Davis

With Julian Alston and Philip Pardey

2018-2019 Research Officer, University of Saskatchewan

2016 Research Assistant, University of Saskatchewan

Grain Transportation Research commissioned by Saskatchewan Wheat Development Commission.

Teaching Assistant

Teaching Assistant, University of California, Davis

ARE 100B – Intermediate Microeconomics (Spring and Fall Quarters)

2017-2018 Teaching Assistant, University of Saskatchewan

AREC 346 - Principles of Sales (Fall 2017)

AREC 343 – Grain and Livestock Marketing (Winter 2018)

Other Employment

2012-2019 Custom Farming – custom seeding, spraying, and combining in Eston, SK.

REFERENCES

Julian AlstonRichard GrayProfessor EmeritusProfessor

Agricultural and Resource Agricultural and Resource

Economics Economics

University of California, Davis

University of Saskatchewan

Davis, CA Saskatoon, SK

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Aaron Smith

DeLoach Professor of Agricultural Economics Agricultural and Resource

Economics

University of California, Davis

Davis, CA

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