

# Judy Jingwei XIE, Ph.D.

Email: [judy.jw.xie@gmail.com](mailto:judy.jw.xie@gmail.com) | LinkedIn: [linkedin.com/in/judyjwxie](https://www.linkedin.com/in/judyjwxie) | Personal Website: [judyjwxie.github.io](https://judyjwxie.github.io)

Climate and Energy Policy Researcher | Chemical and Systems Engineer

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## EDUCATION

**Imperial College London** | London, UK

**Ph.D.** in Environmental Policy Research | President's PhD Scholar | Student Delegate to COP28 2024

Supervisors: Professor [Joeri Rogelj](#) and Dr. [Iain Staffell](#)

Thesis: "Just Transitions away from fossil fuels: quantitative insights into the procedural dynamics, drivers, and distributional impacts in power systems"

**Georgia Institute of Technology** | Atlanta, GA, USA

**B.S.** in Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering | Highest Honors and Honors Program Scholar 2019

Research Mentors: Dr. Nathan Ellebracht and Professor [Christopher W. Jones](#)

Research Project: "Understanding intramolecular cooperativity in acid-base silica-supported organocatalysts"

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## WORK EXPERIENCE

**Georgia Institute of Technology** | Atlanta, GA, USA

*Postdoctoral Fellow* | School of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering Oct 2024 - Present

- Investigate future Direct Air Capture (DAC) cost reduction through analyzing historical technology change
- Model DAC integration with a renewable energy system and estimate corresponding community impacts
- Develop education materials for and engage with community members on equitable DAC deployment

**Imperial College London** | London, UK

*Postgraduate Researcher* | Centre for Environmental Policy & Grantham Institute Oct 2020 - Jul 2024

- Evaluated granular employment impacts of decarbonizing the US electricity system with optimization model scenarios
- Conducted machine-learning driven topic modeling on 20 annual United Nations (UN) climate change conferences
- Mapped the social networks and interest group dynamics behind energy transition discussions at the UN

**International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)** | Laxenburg, Austria

*Young Summer Scientist Program & Guest Researcher* | Energy, Climate, and Environment Program Jun 2023 - Jul 2024

- Gathered and investigated social, political, and institutional data as drivers for coal and gas phase-out globally
- Developed alternative narratives for fossil fuel phase-out in Integrated Assessment Model (IAM) scenarios
- Evaluated national and regional Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) policy ambitions and their feasibilities

**Global Thermostat** | Atlanta, GA, USA (Direct Air Capture start-up acquired by Zero Carbon Systems in Brighton, CO)

*Research Chemist* Jul 2019 - Sep 2020

- Designed and conducted experiments to investigate mechanism of DAC sorbent degradation and improve its lifetime
- Developed internal standard operating procedures for material characterizations
- Collaborated with external manufacturers for the scale-up of advanced monolith and polymer materials
- Supported joint development agreements and resulted in project and budget expansion with external partner

**Paul Scherrer Institut (PSI)** | Villigen, Switzerland

*Visiting Scientist* | Bioenergy and Catalysis Laboratory May 2018 - Aug 2018

- Synthesized and tested novel catalysts in continuous-flow high-pressure reactors for lignocellulose hydrolysis
- Optimized biomass pre-treatment methods in biomass conversion resulting in a 4x yield increase

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## RESEARCH

### Peer-Reviewed Articles

- **Xie, J.**; Escher, N. A.; Dunn, M. E.; Yu, Y.; Staffell, I.; Rogelj, J. Tracing inclusivity at UNFCCC conferences through side events and interest group dynamics. *Nature Climate Change*. 15, 270–278 (2025). DOI: 0.1038/s41558-025-02254-9
- **Xie, J.**; Martin, M.; Rogelj, J.; Staffell, I. Distributional labour challenges and opportunities of decarbonizing the US power system. *Nature Climate Change*. 13, 1203–1212 (2023). DOI: 10.1038/s41558-023-01802-5 ♦ [Featured on the cover of the November 2023 Issue](#)
- Nezam, I.\*; **Xie, J.\***; Golub, K. W.; Carneiro, J.; Olsen, K.; Ping, E. W.; Jones, C. W., Sakwa-Novak, M. A. Chemical Kinetics of the Autoxidation of Poly(ethylenimine) in CO<sub>2</sub> Sorbents. *ACS Sustainable Chemistry & Engineering*, 9, 25, 8477–8486 (2021). DOI: 10.1021/acssuschemeng.1c01367 (\*equal contribution)
- Scholz, D.; **Xie, J.**; Kröcher, O.; Vogel, F. Mechanochemistry-assisted hydrolysis of softwood over stable sulfonated carbon catalysts in a semi-batch process. *RSC Advances*, 9, 33525–33538 (2019). DOI: 10.1039/c9ra07668a
- **Xie, J.**; Ellebracht, N. C.; Jones, C. W. Inter- and Intramolecular Cooperativity Effects in Alkanolamine-Based Acid-Base Heterogeneous Organocatalysts. *ACS Omega*, 4, 1, 1110–1117 (2019). DOI: 10.1021/acsomega.8b02690

### Book Chapters

- **Xie, J.**; Patrizio, P.; Mac Dowell, N. Modeling the Socio-Economic Impacts of Carbon Capture and Storage Deployment: Current Practices and Pathways Forward. In *Sustainable Carbon Capture: Technologies and Applications*; Suleman, H., Fosbøl, P. L., Nasir, R., Ameen, M. Taylor & Francis: Boca Raton, FL, USA, pp 323–339 (2022). DOI: 10.1201/9781003162780

### Project Reports

- Brutschin, E.; **Xie, J.**; Nascimento L. Ex-post evaluation of climate policies and identification of barriers and milestones towards climate neutrality. Deliverable for Project ELEVATE: Enabling and Leveraging Climate Action Towards Net-Zero Emissions (2024).
- **Xie, J.**; Brutschin, E.; van Ruijven, B. Raising policy ambitions to reduce coal- and gas-fired power generation. Policy brief for Project ELEVATE (2024).

### Works in Progress

- **Xie, J.**; Brutschin, E.; Rogelj, J.; Staffell, I. Past socio-political transition away from coal and gas show challenges and opportunities ahead. *Under Review at Environmental Research Letters*. Preprint at <http://ssrn.com/abstract=4788002>
- Brutschin, E.; Mintz-Woo, K.; Schinko, T.; **Xie, J.**; Zimm, C. Perceptions of justice impact the feasibility of climate mitigation options. *In Preparation*.

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## AWARDS & HONORS

- Imperial College London Faculty of Natural Sciences Dean's Fund (2023)
- Imperial College London President's PhD Scholarship (2020–2024)
- ThinkSwiss Research Scholarship (2018)
- Georgia Tech President's Undergraduate Research Award (2017, 2018)
- Georgia Tech UROP Outstanding Undergraduate Research Award in Chemical Engineering (2017–2018)
- Thomas L. Gossage International Enrichment Scholarship (2017–2018)
- Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honors Society (2017)

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## PRESENTATIONS

- 16th Integrated Assessment Modeling Consortium (IAMC) Annual Meeting - Oral Presentation (November 2023)
- 43rd International Association for Energy Economics International Conference - Oral Presentation (August 2022)
- ICL Centre for Environmental Policy PhD Student Symposium - Oral Presentation (June 2022) ♦ [2nd Place](#)
- 3rd International Conference on Energy Research & Social Science - Poster (June 2022)

- Global Alliance of Universities on Climate (GAUC), Pathways to net zero emissions and carbon/climate neutrality, panel session on “Net zero and carbon neutrality in the United States and China” (June 2021)
- AIChE Annual Meeting Oral Presentation, Novel Nanostructured Catalytic Materials II (October 2018)
- AIChE Southern Regional Conference Paper (Oral) Competition (April 2018) [◆2nd Place](#)
- AIChE Student Conference Poster Competition: Catalysis and Reaction Engineering (October 2017) [◆1st Place](#)

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## SERVICE

### Imperial College Union

Departmental Student Representative

Sep 2021 - Mar 2023

### Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Working Group III

Internal Reviewer

Aug 2021

Reviewed reference materials in the Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) chapter on mitigation and development pathways in the near- to mid-term

### Georgia Tech Student Alumni Association

President, VP Marketing, International Liaison

Mar 2016 - May 2019

### Symposium Organization

Co-organizer, Imperial College President's PhD Scholars Symposium

2021, 2022

Co-organizer, Imperial College Centre for Environmental Policy PhD Symposium

2022

**Peer Review** Renewable and Sustainable Energy Transition (2022), Joule (2023, 2024), Journal of Industrial Ecology (2024), Frontiers in Climate (2024), Communications Earth & Environment (2024)

### Committee

Georgia Tech Climate Action Plan Implementation Committee: Research

2024 - Present

Georgia Tech Institute Strategic Plan Working Group: Expand Globally

2020

President/CEO Search Committee for the Georgia Tech Alumni Association (student representative)

2019

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## OUTREACH

### Grantham Institute Massive Open Online Course (MOOC)

2021

Reviewed and contributed Just Transition content on "Why Move Towards Cleaner Power"

### STEM in Action

2021

Developed an online module on career outlooks in Energy and Sustainability aimed at young people aged 11-14

### Georgia Tech Mentor Jackets

2019 - Present

Mentor first-year undergraduate students and share career development advice

### Letters to a pre-scientist

2019

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## SKILLS

**PROGRAMMING:** Python, R, GAMS, LaTeX, MATLAB, Java

**SOFTWARE:** Anaconda, JupyterLab, QGIS, Origin, Gephi, Aspen Tech, Arduino, ImageJ, gPROMS, Mathematica

**ECONOMICS:** input-output tables, correlation analysis

**SOCIAL SCIENCE:** social network analysis, machine learning pre-trained topic modeling, qualitative research

**ENERGY SYSTEM:** electricity system optimization (capacity expansion) models, techno-economic analysis