

Léa H. Stern

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Academic Appointment	Assistant Professor of Finance and Business Economics Foster School of Business, University of Washington	2016 - present
	Carol Batchelder Finance Faculty Fellow	2024 - present
	Visiting Scholar Allen Institute for Artificial Intelligence	2023
Research Interests	Corporate Governance, Private Equity, Entrepreneurship, Economic Applications of Machine Learning	
Education	Ph.D. Finance Syracuse University, Whitman School of Management, Syracuse, NY	2012 - 2016
	Parental leave of absence	2011 - 2012
	Ph.D. Finance student The Ohio State University, Fisher College of Business, Columbus, OH	2009 - 2011
	M.Sc. Finance HEC Montréal, Montréal, Canada <i>*Degree with highest honors*</i>	2007 - 2009
	B.B.A. Finance HEC Montréal, Montréal, Canada <i>*Degree with highest honors*</i>	2004 - 2007
	C.P.G.E. Economics Montaigne, Bordeaux, France	2002 - 2004
Publications	“Stereotypes about Successful Entrepreneurs” with V. Lyonnet, <i>American Economic Review: Papers and Proceedings</i> Volume 113, May 2023	
	“Selecting Directors Using Machine Learning” with I. Erel, C. Tan and M. Weisbach, <i>The Review of Financial Studies</i> , Volume 34, Issue 7, July 2021 <i>* Lead Article and Editor’s Choice</i> <i>* Featured in Harvard Business Review, Harvard Law School Forum on Corporate Governance and Financial Regulation, Die Zeit</i>	
	“D&O Insurance and IPO Performance: What Can we Learn from Insurers?” with M. Martin Boyer, <i>Journal of Financial Intermediation</i> , Vol. 23 (October 2014), pp. 504-540	
	“Pay for Performance from Future Fund Flows: The Case of Private Equity” with J-W. Chung, B.A. Sensoy and M. S. Weisbach, <i>The Review of Financial Studies</i> , Vol. 25 (November 2012), pp. 3259-3304	
	*Wharton-WRDS Award for Best Paper on Empirical Finance at the 2011 Western	

Finance Association Meetings

*Outstanding Paper Award at the 6th International Conference on Asia-Pacific Financial Markets

*Featured in Finance and Accounting Memos, Issue 2, 2014

“Is Corporate Governance Risk Valued? Evidence from Directors and Officers Liability Insurance” with M. Martin Boyer, *Journal of Corporate Finance* 18 (April 2012), pp. 349-372

*Bank of Canada Best Paper Award, 2010 Northern Finance Association Conference

Working Papers “Learning About Directors”

- *Revise and Resubmit at the Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis, 2nd round*

“Paid Leave Pays Off: The Effects of Paid Family Leave on Firm Performance” with B. Bennett, I. Erel and Z. Wang

* Finalist for the John L. Weinberg/IRRCi Research Paper Award Competition

- *Revise and Resubmit at the Review of Finance*

“Machine Learning about Venture Capital Choices” with V. Lyonnet

* Best Paper Award - 20th EUROFIDAI-ESSEC Paris December Finance Meeting

Conferences and 2024

Invited Seminar Presentations

AEA 2024 annual meetings (discussion), WFA 2024 annual meetings (discussion), University of Wisconsin Madison, Oklahoma University

2023

AEA 2023 annual meetings, 2023 RCFS Winter Conference (discussion), Columbia Private Equity Conference (discussion), Oregon State University, University of Iowa, Hebrew University (canceled - war), Tel Aviv University (canceled - war), Reichman University (canceled - war), EFA 2023 annual meetings*

2022

UBC Winter Finance Conference (discussion), 2022 GSU-RFS FinTech Conference*, University of Delaware Weinberg Center ECGI Corporate Governance Symposium, University of Colorado-Boulder, AI & Big Data Research Forum, 2022 Oxford Private Equity Research Consortium (PERC)*, 2022 SFS Cavalcade (discussion), Frontiers in Finance 2022 Conference, University of Calgary, NBER Summer Institute Entrepreneurship*, HEC Paris, University of Mannheim, 2022 Carey finance conference at John Hopkins*, Bocconi University*, Virtual Corporate Finance Seminar*, University of Chicago (Booth)*

2021

AFA 2021 Annual Meeting (discussion), SFS Cavalcade 2021*, Frontiers in Finance Conference (cancelled - covid-19), WFA (discussion), ACM International Conference on AI in Finance - Explainable AI workshop

2020

AFA 2020 Annual Meeting, The Financial Intermediation Research Society FIRS 2020 (cancelled - covid-19), Frontiers in Finance Conference (cancelled - covid-19), Finance in the Cloud (discussion), Machine Learning Day (The Center for Financial Markets and Policy at Georgetown), EFA 2020 Annual Meeting, NFA 2020 Annual Meeting (discussion)

2019

AFA 2019 Annual Meeting, NBER Conference: Big Data: Long-Term Implications for Financial Markets and Firms, Conference on Emerging Technologies in Accounting and Financial Economics at USC Marshall, Sonoma Wine Country Finance Conference, Pacific Northwest Finance Conference, Miami Behavioral Finance Conference (discussion)

2018

Showcasing Women in Finance at University of Miami, 2018 Drexel Corporate Governance Conference, Ohio State University, 2018 ICWSM BOD (AI workshop), 2018 NBER Economics of AI conference, 2018 NFA Annual Meeting (discussion), 15th Annual Conference on Corporate Finance at Washington University in St Louis

2017

University of Washington (brownbag), The Financial Intermediation Research Society Conference (discussion), WAPFIN at NYU Stern, Pacific Northwest Finance Conference, NABE Tech Economics Conference, Paris 2017 Finance Meeting

2016

Villanova, Utah (Eccles), Washington (Foster), George Mason, Baruch (Zicklin), SMU (Cox), UCLA (Anderson), European Financial Association (discussion)

2015

Cornell (Johnson), Syracuse, HEC Montréal, FMA annual conference, FMA Doctoral Student Consortium, North Carolina State, Oregon State, Portland State, University of Denver, Temple, Cornell (Dyson)

* Presentation by co-author

Awards and Grants

Grants

Grant from the Templeton World Charity Foundation	2024 - 2027
“AI and Entrepreneurship: Measurement and Analysis of AI’s Impact on the Innovation Landscape” (\$250,000)	

Best Paper Awards

Best Paper Award, 20th EUROFIDAI-ESSEC Paris December Finance Meeting	2022
Outstanding Paper Award, International Conference on Asia-Pacific Financial Markets	2012
Wharton-WRDS Award for Best Paper on Empirical Finance, WFA meetings	2011
Bank of Canada Best Paper Award, Northern Finance Association Conference	2010

Awards

Foster School of Business PhD Program Mentoring Award	2024
Women in Finance Association	2009
National Bank of Canada	2008
Standard Life-Edouard Montpetit	2008
Entrance scholarship, M.Sc., HEC Montréal	2007
Entrance scholarship, B.B.A., HEC Montréal	2004

Doctoral and M.Sc. Research Grants

Doctoral Award, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (\$86,500)	2009 - 2015
Summer Research Grant, Whitman Research Committee (\$12,000)	2013 - 2015
Master Award, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (\$17,500)	2008 - 2009
Research Grant, HEC Montréal, Finance Department	2007 AFA Doctoral Student
Travel Grant	2015

Special distinctions

	Mercure Excellence Profile, HEC Montréal	2007
	Honor Profile, HEC Montréal	2007
Teaching	University of Washington, Foster School of Business	
	FIN 454 - Business Valuation (undergraduate)	since 2017
	FIN 556 A - Business Valuation (full time MBA)	since 2017
	FIN 556 B - Business Valuation (evening MBA)	since 2017
Professional Activities	Organizer The Artificial Intelligence and Big Data in Finance Research (ABFR) Forum	
	Referee The Journal of Finance, The Review of Financial Studies, Management Science, Review of Finance, Journal of Banking and Finance, Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis, The Review of Corporate Finance Studies	
	Program committee member Columbia-RFS AI in Finance Conference, Napa/Sonoma Finance Conference, WFA, MFA, FMA, Paris December Finance Meeting, ARIA, Annual Conference on Corporate Finance at Olin - Washington University in St. Louis, New Technologies in Finance Conference at Columbia University	