

LILLY SPRINGER

Department of Economics
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Economics, The University of Kansas expected 2026
Dissertation: Essays on the Economics of Women's Reproductive Health
Advisor: David Slusky
Committee: Donna Ginther, Misty Heggeness, Anupam B. Jena, & Aimee Wilson

M.A. in Economics, The University of Kansas 2023

B.A. in Economics, Butler University, *Summa Cum Laude* 2021
Highest Distinction in Economics
Honors Thesis: *Critic's Pick or Social Media Smash: A Study on the Relationship Between Newspaper Reviews, Social Media Followers, and a Broadway Show's Economic Success*
Advisor: Kathy Paulson Gjerde

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Health Economics, Family Economics, Labor Economics, Applied Microeconomics

JOURNAL ARTICLES

["Critics' Pick or Social Media Smash: The Effect of Critics' Reviews and Social Media on Broadway"](#) (with Kathy Paulson Gjerde) (2024), *Applied Economics Letters*, 1-8.

TECHNICAL REPORTS AND POLICY BRIEFS

"The Economics of Child Care and Child Care Licensing in Kansas" (with Misty Heggeness and Jennifer Babitzke), United Women's Empowerment, 2024

WORKING PAPERS

"Occupational Hazard: An Analysis of Birth Outcomes Among Physician Mothers" (with Anupam B. Jena and David Slusky) – [NBER Working Paper](#)

“Infants, Parents, and Paid Work” (with Misty Heggeness and Yurong Zhang) – [SSRN Working Paper](#)

“Nurse Practitioner Scope of Practice Law and Safety Net Participation: Evidence From WIC” (with Owen Fleming) – [EconPapers Working Paper](#)

“Downstream Effects of Post-*Dobbs* Abortion Bans: Birth Rates and WIC” – [EconPapers Working Paper](#)

WORKS IN PROGRESS

“The Effect of Abortion Access on Infant and Maternal Health at Birth”

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

The University of Kansas

Lead Instructor

Health Economics (ECON 564)

Spring 2024, Spring 2025

Principles of Macroeconomics (ECON 144)

Summer 2023

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Principles of Microeconomics (ECON 142)

Fall 2022, Spring 2023

Principles of Macroeconomics (ECON 144)

Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2024

Head Graduate Teaching Assistant (ECON 142/144)

Spring 2023

Guest Lecturer

Labor Economics (ECON 641)

Gender, Public Policy, and the Economy (ECON 310/780)

Health Economics (ECON 919)

Butler University

Economics Tutor

Fall 2019-Spring 2021

HONORS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

The University of Kansas

Outstanding Student Instructor Award

2025

Madison and Lila Self Graduate Fellowship (\$225,000 value)

2021-2025

University of Kansas Institute for Policy & Social Research Fellowship

2024-2025

Passed PhD Oral Comprehensive Exam with Honors

2024

R.S. Howey Award

2022

Top Performance on Microeconomics and Macroeconomics Qualifying Exams

Butler University

Charles O. McGaughey Economics Leadership Award

2020

W & J Sellick & Blomberg Business Scholarship

2017

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2025: Atlanta Workshop on Public Policy and Child Well-being
Midwest Economics Association
Economic Demography Workshop
Kansas Health Economics Conference
American-European Health Economics Study Group – IX Edition
ASHEcon Annual Meeting
Southern Economic Association (scheduled)

2024: Population Association of America (PAA)
Society of Labor Economists (SOLE)
NBER Children Program Meeting
SGF Sorbonne University Research Presentation*
ASHEcon Annual Meeting
NBER Summer Institute – Gender in the Economy
3rd Annual UNL-KState-KU-Mizzou Microeconomics Research Day
Midwest Health Economics Conference
Missouri Valley Economic Association
Association for Public Policy and Management (APPAM)
Southern Economic Association
SGF Annual Poster Session*

2023: Missouri Valley Economic Association
SGF Annual Poster Session*

* denotes poster presentation

SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

2025: USDA Economic Research Service
Reproductive Equity Action Lab, University of Wisconsin-Madison

2023: The University of Kansas, Department of Economics

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Economic Association, American Society of Health Economists, Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management

REFeree EXPERIENCE

Journal of Policy Analysis and Management (2)
Applied Economics
American Journal of Preventive Medicine

OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2025: Organizer of KU Research Brown Bag Series
Kansas Health Economics Conference Referee Committee

2024: Economics Graduate Student Representative
Kansas Health Economics Conference Referee Committee
Co-Organizer of 3rd Annual KU-UNL-KState-Mizzou Applied Micro Research Day
Organizer of KU Research Brown Bag Series
KU Taylor Swift Seminar Committee

2023: Economics Graduate Student Representative

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & TRAININGS

2024: Ireland Masterclass in Health Economics IV; Lean Six Sigma; SGF International Policy Seminar

2023: SGF Government and Science Policy Seminar in Washington DC; Negotiation & Conflict Resolution; Writing for Publics

2022: Numbers to Narrative: Data Storytelling and Visualization Workshop; Project Management Fundamentals; Creating an Effective Research Pitch; Social Media & Communication Networks

2021: Kepner-Tregoe Problem Solving & Decision Making

SKILLS

Programing: LaTeX (proficient), STATA (proficient), R (beginner)

Political Research: Public Records Search, State Legislature Database, Advanced Social Media Search

OTHER EMPLOYMENT

Research Assistant to David Slusky, University of Kansas	2021-Present
Research Assistant to Misty Heggeness, University of Kansas	Fall 2023, Summer 2024
Research Intern, EMILY's List, Washington D.C.	2020

REFERENCES

Dr. David Slusky

Professor, Department of Economics
University of Kansas
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Dr. Donna Ginther

Distinguished Professor, Department of Economics
University of Kansas
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Dr. Misty Heggeness

Associate Professor, School of Public Affairs and Administration
University of Kansas
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