

Department of Economics
Amos Hall B457

Email: roozbeh@uga.edu
Webpage: www.roozbeh-hosseini.com

Current Employment and Affiliations

- 2020– Associate Professor, John Munro Godfrey Sr. Department of Economics, University of Georgia
2016– Visiting Scholar, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta

Editorial Positions

- 2020– Associate Editor, *Journal of Macroeconomics*

Major Fields of Interest

Macroeconomics, Public Economics, Health Economics, Contract Theory

Education

- 2008 PhD in Economics, University of Minnesota
2003 MS in Economics, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
2000 MA in Socio-Economic Systems, Inst. for Research in Planning and Development, Iran
1997 BS in Electrical Engineering, Sharif University of Technology, Iran

Past Employment

- 2016–2020 Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, University of Georgia
2008–2016 Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Arizona State University
2005–2007 Research Analyst, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis

Published Research

1. “Optimal Contracting with Dynamic Altruism: Consumption and Family Size”, joint with Larry E. Jones and Ali Shourideh, **Journal of Economic Theory**, 148 (September 2013), 1806-1840.
2. “Social Security is NOT a Substitute for Annuity Markets” joint with Frank N. Caliendo and Nick L. Guo, **Review of Economic Dynamics**, 17 (October 2014), 739-755.
3. “Adverse Selection in the Annuity Market and the Role for Social Security”, **Journal of Political Economy**, 123 (August 2015), 941-984.
4. “Retirement Financing: An Optimal Reform Approach”, joint with Ali Shourideh, **Econometrica**, 87 (July 2019), 1205-1265.
5. “On the Evolution of Health Over Life Cycle”, joint with Karen Kopecky and Kai Zhao, **Review of Economic Dynamics**, 45 (July 2022), 237-263.
6. “How Important Is Health Inequality for Lifetime Earnings Inequality?”, joint with Karen Kopecky and Kai Zhao, **the Review of Economic Studies**, Volume 93, Issue 1 (January 2026), 556-599. [accepted for publication on January 15, 2025]

Working Papers

1. "Recalls, Occupational Mobility, and Reservation Wages in the UI Claimant Population", joint with Martin Gervais and Larry Warren.
2. "Tariff Policy with an Exorbitant Privilege", joint with David Andolfatto.
3. "Unemployment Insurance, Wage Pass-Through, and Endogenous Take-Up", joint with Martin Gervais and Larry Warren. [*under review*]
4. "Inequality, Redistribution and Optimal Trade Policy: A Public Finance Approach", joint with Ali Shourideh.
5. "Is There 'Too Much' Inequality in Health Spending Across Income Groups?", joint with Laurence Ales and Larry E. Jones.
6. "A Competitive Model of Annuity and Life Insurance with Non-Exclusive Contracts".

Research in Progress

1. "Powerpay", joint with David Andolfatto.
2. "Intergenerational Persistence of Health and Earnings", joint with Neha Bairoliya, Karen Kopecky and Kai Zhao.
3. "Accounting for Differences in Health Spending and Health Outcomes Among OECD Countries", joint with Laurence Ales and Yue Li.

Academic Visits

- Einaudi Institute for Economics and Finance, 2015, 2019, 2021, 2025.
- Ohio State University, 2015.
- Research Department, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, 2010, 2011, 2012 (2), 2017.

Invited Seminars

- 2025: Emory University, University of Padova, Ohio State University.
- 2024: Einaudi Institute for Economics and Finance.
- 2023: Ohio State University.
- 2022: SUNY Buffalo.
- 2021: Einaudi Institute for Economics and Finance.
- 2020: University of New Hampshire, University of Alabama (virtual).
- 2019: UNC-Chapel Hill, Auburn University, University of Queensland, Australian National University, EIEF.
- 2018: Ohio State University, UNC-Charlotte.
- 2017: FRB St Louis, FRB Atlanta.
- 2016: ITAM, University of Georgia, University of Colorado, Washington State University, Virginia Commonwealth University, CBO, University of Calgary, University of Connecticut, Emory University.

- 2015: Simon Fraser University, Federal Reserve Board, McGill University, Emory University, EIEF, UCSB, FRB Richmond.
- 2014: Iowa State University, Purdue, Indiana University, University of Miami.
- 2012: FRB Minneapolis, FRB St. Louis, Rice University, Ohio State University, Wharton School.
- 2011: ITAM.
- 2010: Columbia Business School, FRB St. Louis.
- 2009: MIT, FRB Richmond.
- 2008: Carnegie Mellon University, NYU, Wharton School, University of Illinois, Arizona State University; University of Iowa.
- 2007: FRB Minneapolis, FRB Chicago.

Conference Presentations

- 2026: 3rd Jackson Hole International Finance & Macroeconomics Conference.
- 2025: Midwest Macro Meetings (planned).
- 2024: SED, Society for Economic Measurement.
- 2023: Barcelona School of Economics Summer Forum (EFG workshop), SED, Vienna Macro Workshop , Conference in Honor of Larry E Jones.
- 2021: SED, SITE Session 6: Macroeconomics and Inequality.
- 2020: I-85 Macro (virtual).
- 2019: 23rd Conference in Theories and Methods in Macroeconomics, Midwest Macro Meetings, ITAM-PIER Conference on Macroeconomics.
- 2018: Macroeconomics of Pensions and Retirement Financing Conference, Global Macro Workshop, Midwest Macro Meetings, SED, Fifth Annual Macroeconomics and Business CYCLE Conference, Annual Meeting of the Canadian Macroeconomics Study Group, RIDGE 2018 December Forum.
- 2017: Global Macro Workshop, SED, ITAM-PIER Conference on Macroeconomics, Midwest Macro Meetings, Lisbon Meetings.
- 2016: Third Annual Macroeconomics and Business CYCLE Conference, Quantitative Society for Pensions and Saving (QSPS) summer workshop, SED.
- 2015: Midwest Macro Meetings.
- 2014: North American Meeting of Econometric Society, SED, Annual Conference of the Association for Public Economic Theory.
- 2013: Midwest Macro Meetings, North American Meeting of Econometric Society, SED, NBER Summer Institute (Social Security Working Group), Minnesota Workshop in Macroeconomic Theory, Annual Meeting of the Canadian Macroeconomics Study Group.
- 2012: Midwest Macro Meetings, Quantitative Society for Pensions and Saving (QSPS) summer workshop, SED , Midwest Economics Theory Meeting.

- 2011: Midwest Macro Meetings, Quantitative Society for Pensions and Saving (QSPS) summer workshop, SED.
- 2010: SED.
- 2009: NBER Summer Institute (Social Security Working Group)
- 2008: Stanford University (SITE segment on Insurance and Credit Markets), SED , Minnesota Workshop in Macroeconomic Theory.
- 2007: Midwest Theory and Trade Meetings, Midwest Macro Meetings, Annual Meetings of Midwest Economic Association.

Teaching and PhD Supervision

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| Undergraduate Courses: | Principles of Macroeconomics (UGA)
Honors Macroeconomics (ASU)
Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory (ASU) |
| PhD Courses: | Macroeconomic I (UGA)
Topics in Economics: Public Finance (UGA)
Public Economics: Dynamic Optimal Taxation (ASU) |
| PhD Committee: | Johanna Wallenius (ASU 2010; Stockholm School of Economics)
Jorge Alonso Ortiz (ASU 2010; ITAM)
Daniel Lawver (ASU 2011; HHS)
Hubert Janicki (ASU 2011; Census Bureau)
Fan Liang (UGA 2022; Loyola Marymount University)
Scott Spitze (UGA 2022; Burning Glass Institute)
Joe Spearing (UGA 2024, University of York)
Gabriel Merlo Matto (UGA ongoing)
Bohdan Leniuk (UGA ongoing) |
| PhD Advising: | Pablo Troncoso (UGA 2023; University of Houston)
Peter Iyer (UGA 2024; Argonne National Lab) |

Service

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| UGA: | Organizer, the Departmental Seminar series, 2017–2025.
Co-organizer, Georgia Macro Workshop, 2024–.
Member, Recruiting Committee, 2017-18, 2020-21, 2024-25.
Member, Graduate Program Committee, 2020-21.
Chair, Graduate Program Committee, 2022–2025. |
| Other: | Selection committee, Midwest Macro Meetings, Spring 2019.
Co-organizer, I-85 Macro Workshop, 2018–.
Co-organizer, Health Economics: Micro and Macro Perspectives (ASU), 2015.
Co-organizer, Public Policy from School to Retirement, (ASU), 2013.
Co-organizer, Conference in Honor of Larry E. Jones, 2013 & 2023.
Co-organizer, ASU Quantitative Macroeconomics Conference, (ASU), 2012.
Co-organizer, ASU Macroeconomics Reunion Conference, (ASU), 2012. |

Referee for: *American Economic Review, American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics, , American Economic Journal: Microeconomics, B. E. Journal of Macroeconomics, The B.E. Journal of Theoretical Economics, Canadian Journal of Economics, Econometrica, Economic Journal, Economic Letters, Economic Theory, European Economic Review, Geneva Papers on Risk and Insurance, Health Economics, International Economic Review, Journal of Demographic Economics, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control, Journal of Economic Theory, Journal of the European Economic Association, Journal of Macroeconomics, Journal of Monetary Economics, Journal of Pension Economics and Finance, Journal of Political Economy, Journal of Population Economics, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Public Economic Theory, The Journal of Risk and Insurance, Macroeconomic Dynamics, Quantitative Economics, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Economic Dynamics, Review of Economics and Statistics, Review of Economic Studies, Scandinavian Journal of Economics, Theoretical Economics*