

Contact Information

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Current Positions

Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, University of Georgia, 2016–.
Visiting Scholar, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, 2016–.

Previous Positions

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

Education

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

Major Fields of Interest

Macroeconomics, Public Economics, Health Economics, Contract Theory

Research**- Publications**

1. “Optimal Contracting with Dynastic 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.

- Working papers

1. “On the Evolution of Health Over Life Cycle”, joint with Karen Kopecky and Kai Zhao
2. “Inequality, Redistribution and Optimal Trade Policy: A Public Finance Approach”, joint with Ali Shourideh
3. “Retirement Financing: An Optimal Reform Approach”, joint with Ali Shourideh, conditionally accepted at **Econometrica**.

4. “Is There ‘Too Much’ Inequality in Health Spending Across Income Groups?”, joint with Laurence Ales and Larry E. Jones, revise & resubmit, **International Economic Review**.
5. “Risk Sharing, Inequality and Fertility”, joint with Larry Jones and Ali Shourideh.
6. “A Competitive Model of Annuity and Life Insurance with Non-Exclusive Contracts”.

- Work in progress

1. “Health Inequality and Labor Supply Over the Life Cycle”, joint with Karen Kopecky and Kai Zhao
2. “Differential Mortality and Welfare Gains from Social Security Benefit Formula”.
3. “The Optimal Tax Treatment of Children”, joint with Larry E. Jones and Ali Shourideh.
4. “Accounting for Differences in Health Spending and Health Outcomes Among OECD Countries”, joint with Laurence Ales and Yue Li.

- Presentations

- **2018:** Ohio State University; Macroeconomics of Pensions and Retirement Financing Conference; Global Macro Workshop; Midwest Macro Meetings; SED summer meetings (scheduled); Fifth Annual Macroeconomics and Business CYCLE Conference; UNC-Charlotte; Annual Meeting of the Canadian Macroeconomics Study Group; RIDGE 2018 December Forum (scheduled).
- **2017:** Global Macro Workshop (NYUAD); SED summer meetings; ITAM-PIER Conference on Macroeconomics; FRB St Louis; FRB Atlanta; Midwest Macro Meetings; Lisbon Meetings.
- **2016:** ITAM; University of Georgia; University of Colorado; Washington State University; Virginia Commonwealth University, CBO; University of Calgary; University of Connecticut; FRB Atlanta; Third Annual Macroeconomics and Business CYCLE Conference (at UCSB); Quantitative Society for Pensions and Saving (QSPS) summer workshop; SED summer meetings; FRB Atlanta; Emory University.
- **2015:** Simon Fraser University; Federal Reserve Board; McGill University; Emory University; Spring 2015 Midwest Macro Meetings; EIEF; UCSB; FRB Richmond.
- **2014:** North American Meeting of Econometric Society; SED summer meetings; Annual Conference of the Association for Public Economic Theory; Iowa State; Purdue; Indiana University; University of Miami.
- **2013:** Midwest Macro Meetings; North American Meeting of Econometric Society; SED summer meetings; NBER Summer Institute (Social Security Working Group); Minnesota Workshop in Macroeconomic Theory; Annual Meeting of the Canadian Macroeconomics Study Group.
- **2012:** FRB Minneapolis; FRB St. Louis; Rice University; Midwest Macro Meetings; Quantitative Society for Pensions and Saving (QSPS) summer workshop; SED summer meetings; Midwest Economics Theory Meeting; Ohio State University; Wharton.

- **2011:** Midwest Macro Meetings; Quantitative Society for Pensions and Saving (QSPS) summer workshop; SED summer meetings; ITAM.
- **2010:** SED summer meetings; Columbia Business School; FRB St. Louis.
- **2009:** MIT; FRB Richmond; NBER Summer Institute (Social Security Working Group)
- **2008:** Carnegie Mellon University; NYU; Wharton School; University of Illinois; ASU; University of Iowa; Stanford University (SITE segment on Insurance and Credit Markets); SED summer meetings; Minnesota Workshop in Macroeconomic Theory.
- **2007:** Midwest Theory and Trade Meetings; Midwest Macro Meetings; FRB Minneapolis; FRB Chicago; Annual Meetings of Midwest Economic Association;

- Short Term Visits

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

Awards, Fellowships, and Grants

- Grants

- W. P. Carey School of Business Dean's Award for Excellence in Research, Arizona State University, 2014.

- Awards

- Heller Dissertation Fellowship, University of Minnesota, 2007–08.
- First Prize - Hardy Third Year Paper Competition, University of Minnesota, 2006.
- Cleo Fitzsimmons Award, University of Illinois, 2002.

Teaching and PhD Supervision

- PhD Teaching

- Macroeconomic I (UGA).
- Topics in Economics: Public Finance (UGA).
- Public Economics: Dynamic Optimal Taxation (ASU).

- Undergraduate Teaching

- Principles of Macroeconomics (UGA).
- Honors Macroeconomics (ASU).
- Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory (ASU).

- Committee Member of PhD Dissertation

- Johanna Wallenius (ASU, 2010; first employment: Stockholm School of Economics).
- Jorge Alonso Ortiz (ASU, 2010; first employment: ITAM).
- Daniel Lawver (ASU 2011; first employment: UCSB).
- Huber Janicki (ASU 2011; first employment: Census Bureau).

Service

- UGA

- Organizer of the Departmental Seminar, 2017-.
- Member of recruiting committee 2017.

- Referee activities

- Referee for *American Economic Review*, *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics*, *B. E. Journal of Macroeconomics*, *Canadian Journal of Economics*, *Econometrica*, *Economic Theory*, *European Economic Review*, *Geneva Papers on Risk and Insurance*, *International Economic Review*, *Journal of Demographic Economics*, *Journal of Development Economics*, *Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control*, *Journal of Economic Theory*, *Journal of the European Economic Association*, *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*, *Review of Economic Dynamics*, *Review of Economic Studies*, *Scandinavian Journal of Economics*, *Theoretical Economics*.

- Conference Organization

- Co-organizer, Health Economics: Micro and Macro Perspectives, Arizona State University, February 2015.
- Co-organizer, Public Policy from School to Retirement, Arizona State University, November 2013.
- Co-organizer, Conference in Honor of Larry E. Jones, University of Minnesota, August 2013
- Co-organizer, ASU Quantitative Macroeconomics Conference, Arizona State University, November 2012.
- Co-organizer, ASU Macroeconomics Reunion Conference, Arizona State University, October 2012.