

Xuguang Simon Sheng

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University Webpage: <http://www.american.edu/cas/faculty/sheng.cfm>

Personal Webpage: <https://simon-xg-sheng.github.io/web/>

Contact Information

Email: sheng@american.edu

Mailing address: 4400 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20016, United States

Current Affiliations

- Professor of Economics, American University, September 2022 – current
- Chair, Department of Economics, American University, July 2025 – current
- Co-Editor-in-Chief, International Review of Economics & Finance, September 2025 – current
- Associate Editor, International Journal of Forecasting, July 2019 – current
- Associate Editor, Oxford Open Economics, July 2021 – current
- Chair, Network for Economic Uncertainty Research (NEUR), May 2025 – current

Previous Experience

- Consultant, The World Bank, January – July 2025
- Expenditure Policy Advisor, International Monetary Fund, May – August 2023
- Visiting Scholar, International Monetary Fund, March – July 2020
- Visiting Scholar, Federal Reserve Bank at Atlanta, March 2019
- Visiting Scholar, Bank of Finland, Finland, June 2018
- Visiting Scholar, National Bank of Poland, Poland, September 2016
- Visiting Scholar, Centre for European Economic Research (ZEW), Germany, June – July 2012
- Assistant, Associate Professor of Economics, American University, September 2010 – August 2022
- Assistant Professor of Economics, SUNY at Fredonia, September 2008 – August 2010
- Visiting Lecturer, SUNY at Binghamton, January – December 2007

Education

- Ph.D. (Economics), State University of New York at Albany
- B.A. (Economics), Renmin University of China

Research Interests

Time Series Econometrics, Applied Macroeconomics, International Economics

Journal Publications

1. An Instrumental Variables Approach to Testing Information Rigidity (2026), with T. McElroy, **Journal of Applied Econometrics**, vol. 41, pp. 77-87.
2. Unit Cost Expectations: Firms' Perspectives on Inflation (2025), with B. Meyer, **European Economic Review**, vol. 174, 104955, pp. 1-22.
3. The Effects of Inflation Uncertainty on Firms and the Macroeconomy (2025), with C. Binder and E. Ozturk, **Journal of International Money and Finance**, vol. 151, 103239, pp. 1-20.
4. Disagreement in Consumer Inflation Expectations (2023), with T. Lyziak, **Journal of Money, Credit and Banking**, vol. 55, pp. 2215-2241.
5. The Impact of Supply Chain Disruptions on Business Expectations during the Pandemic (2023), with B. Meyer and B. Prescott, **Energy Economics**, vol. 126, 106951, pp. 1-14.
6. Inattention and the Impact of Monetary Policy (2023), with S. Abo-Zaid and Z. An, **Journal of Applied Econometrics**, vol. 38, pp. 623-643.
7. What is the Role of Perceived Oil Price Shocks in Inflation Expectations? (2023), with Z. An and X. Zheng, **Energy Economics**, vol. 126, 106950, pp. 1-9.
8. Gas Price Expectations of Chinese Households (2023), with Z. An and C. Binder, **Energy Economics**, vol. 120, 106622, pp. 1-9.
9. Stock Prices and Economic Activity in the Time of Coronavirus (2022), with S. Davis and D. Liu, **IMF Economic Review**, vol. 70, pp. 32-67.
10. Term Structure of Uncertainty: New Evidence from Survey Expectations (2022), with C. Binder and T. McElroy, **Journal of Money, Credit and Banking**, vol. 54, pp. 39-71.
11. The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Business Expectations (2022), with B. Meyer and B. Prescott, **International Journal of Forecasting**, vol. 38, pp. 529-544.

12. Identifying External Debt Shocks in Low- and Middle-Income Countries (2021), with R. Sukaj, **Journal of International Money and Finance**, vol. 110, pp. 1-17.
13. Monitoring Recessions: A Bayesian Sequential Quickest Detection Method (2021), with H. Li and J. Yang, **International Journal of Forecasting**, vol. 37, pp. 500-510.
14. Dating COVID-Induced Recession in the U.S. (2021), with H. Li, **Applied Economics Letters**, vol. 28, pp. 1723-1727.
15. Expectation Formation Following Large Unexpected Shocks (2020), with S. Baker and T. McElroy, **Review of Economics and Statistics**, vol. 102, pp. 287-303.
16. The Measurement and Transmission of Macroeconomic Uncertainty: Evidence from the U.S. and BRIC Countries (2019), with Y. Liu, **International Journal of Forecasting**, vol. 35, pp. 967-979.
17. Measuring Global and Country-specific Uncertainty (2018), with E. Ozturk, **Journal of International Money and Finance**, vol. 88, pp. 276-295.
18. Combinations of “Combinations of P-values” (2017), with L. Cheng, **Empirical Economics**, vol. 53, pp. 329-350.
19. Measuring Disagreement in Qualitative Expectations (2015), with F. Mokinski and J. Yang, **Journal of Forecasting**, vol. 34, pp. 405-426.
20. Quantifying Differential Interpretation of Public Information Using Financial Analysts’ Earnings Forecasts (2015), with M. Thevenot, **International Journal of Forecasting**, vol. 31, pp. 515-530.
21. Evaluating the Economic Forecasts of FOMC Members (2015), **International Journal of Forecasting**, vol. 31, pp. 165-175.
22. Truncated Product Methods for Panel Unit Root Tests (2013), with J. Yang, **Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics**, vol. 75, pp. 624-636.
23. An Adaptive Truncated Product Method for Combining Dependent P-values (2013), with J. Yang, **Economics Letters**, vol. 119, pp. 180-182.
24. A New Measure of Earnings Forecast Uncertainty (2012), with M. Thevenot, **Journal of Accounting and Economics**, vol. 53, pp. 21-33.
25. Panel Unit Root Tests by Combining Dependent P-values: A Comparative Study (2011), with J. Yang, **Journal of Probability and Statistics**, vol. 2011, 617652, pp. 1-17.
26. Measuring Forecast Uncertainty by Disagreement: The Missing Link (2010), with K. Lahiri, **Journal of Applied Econometrics**, vol. 25, pp. 514-538.
27. Learning and Heterogeneity in GDP and Inflation Forecasts (2010), with K. Lahiri, **International Journal of Forecasting**, vol. 26, pp. 265-292.

28. Evolution of Forecast Disagreement in a Bayesian Learning Model (2008), with K. Lahiri, **Journal of Econometrics**, vol. 144, pp. 325-340.

Edited Journal Special Issues

1. Editorial: Energy Resilience and Geopolitical Risks (2026), with Anna Alberini and Zidong An, **Energy Economics**, Special Issue.
2. Editorial: Commodity Markets and Climate Policy: Navigating Forecasting Challenges (2026), with Zidong An and Catherine Kyrtsov, **International Journal of Forecasting**, Special Issue.
3. Editorial: Uncertainty and Economic Activity (2025), with Efrem Castelnuovo, Menzie Chinn and Davide Furceri, **Journal of International Money and Finance**, Special Issue.
4. Editorial: Inflation Dynamics in a New Era of Energy Price Shocks (2023), with Catherine Kyrtsov, **Energy Economics**, Special Issue.
5. Editorial: Economic Forecasting in Times of Covid-19 (2022), with Laurent Ferrara, **International Journal of Forecasting**, Special Issue, vol. 38, pp. 527-528.
6. Editorial: Forecasting Issues in Developing Economies (2019), with Gloria González-Rivera and Prakash Loungani, **International Journal of Forecasting**, Special Issue, vol. 35, pp. 927-928.

Other Publications: Book Chapters and Policy Work

1. Climate Crossroads: Fiscal Policies in a Warming World, with D. Amaglobeli and others, **IMF Fiscal Monitor**, October 2023
2. When Are “Inflation Expectations” Inflation Expectations? New Evidence from Business Surveys (2022), with B. Meyer, **SUERF Policy Brief**, No. 374.
3. Measuring Uncertainty of a Combined Forecast and Some Tests for Forecaster Heterogeneity (2022), with K. Lahiri and H. Peng, In A. Chudik, C. Hsiao and A. Timmermann (eds.) **Advances in Econometrics**, Essays in Honor of Hashem Pesaran: Prediction and Macro Modeling, vol. 43A, pp. 29-50.
4. Do Managers Use Earnings Forecasts to Fill a Demand They Perceive from Analysts? (2020) with O. Barron, J. Cao, M. Thevenot and B. Xin, In C.F. Lee and J.C. Lee (eds.) **Handbook of Financial Econometrics, Mathematics, Statistics, and Machine Learning**, pp. 101-149, World Scientific.
5. Analyzing Three-dimensional Panel Data of Forecasts (2011), with A. Davies and K. Lahiri, in M.P. Clements and D.F. Hendry (eds.) **Oxford Handbook on Economic Forecasting**, pp. 473-495, Oxford University Press.

Working Papers and Work in Progress

1. The Impact of Labor Market Matching Efficiency on Inflation Dynamics, with S. Abo-Zaid and B. Samaniego de la Parra
2. Policy Intervention and Chinese Stock Market During the COVID-19 Pandemic, with S. Davis D. Liu, and Y. Wang, NBER Working Paper No. 33485, under revision for *Review of Asset Pricing Studies*
3. Causal Effects of Uncertainty: Evidence from Military Base Realignment and Closures, with J.A. Levy and G. Mathy
4. Central Bank Information Effect: New Survey Evidence, with M. Wei
5. Bimodality in Subjective Probabilistic Expectations, with B. Meyer and E. Mihaylov
6. Beliefs Under Lockdown: Causal Evidence on Inflation Expectations from China, with Z. Fan and A. Puig
7. Economic Policy Uncertainty in China since 1949: The View from Mainland Newspapers, with S. Davis and D. Liu

Grants

- National Science Centre Poland (2024/55/B/HS4/00997), “How to measure consumer inflation expectations and uncertainty? Comparison of different survey approaches in a cross-country study,” August 2025 – July 2027, Co-PI (\$156,000)

Awards

- IIF-SAS Award for Research on Forecasting, International Institute of Forecasters (IIF), 2023
- Emerald Literati Awards for Outstanding Author Contribution, 2023
- Isaac Kerstenetzky Award, Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV) of Brazil, 2021
- CAS Mellon Faculty Development Award, American University, 2022
- Heinz König Young Scholar Award, Centre for European Economic Research (ZEW), 2010
- Distinguished Doctoral Dissertation Award, SUNY at Albany, 2008
- Pong Lee Award for Excellence in Teaching, SUNY at Albany, 2007

Conference and Seminar Presentations Since 2018

2026

- Bank of Italy
- Workshop on “*Uncertainty, Economic Activity, and Policy*,” Warsaw, Poland (**Keynote Speaker**)

2025

H.O. Stekler Research Program on Forecasting Seminar; Federal Forecasters Consortium conference; Real-time Economics Conference, Bundesbank, Germany; 6th Biennial Conference on “*Uncertainty and Risk in Macroeconomics: Decision Making and Policy Challenges*,” Marseille, France; 45th International Symposium on Forecasting, Beijing, China; 4th Applied Macroeconomics Forum on “*Climate Policy, Commodity Markets, and Economic Adaptations*,” Shenzhen, China; 2nd CESA Young Researcher Workshop, University of Hagen, Germany (**Keynote Speaker**); Kiel-CEPR conference on “*Monetary Policy After the Inflation Surge*,” Berlin, Germany; 36th Annual Ann Ferren Conference

2024

ADB Workshop on “*SME Performance Under Uncertainty*,” Tokyo, Japan; IMF Research Department; 25th Federal Forecasters Conference, Washington, DC; 44th International Symposium on Forecasting, Dijon, France; 29th International Panel Data Conference, Orléans, France; Stanford SITE Conference on “*The Macroeconomics of Uncertainty and Volatility*”; 5th Annual DC-MD-VA Econometrics Workshop; 94th Annual Meeting of the Southern Economic Association; Joint Cleveland Fed and ECB Conference on “*Inflation: Drivers and Dynamics*”; UN International Seminar on “*Integrating Household Surveys with Diverse Data Sources: Enhancing Inclusivity and Efficiency*”

2023

George Washington University; 43rd International Symposium on Forecasting, University of Virginia; 5th Behavioral Macroeconomics Workshop, online; Central Bank Research Association (CEBRA) Annual Meeting, Columbia University; SITE Conference on “*The Macroeconomics of Uncertainty and Volatility*,” Stanford University; 5th Biennial Conference on “*Uncertainty, Economic Activity, and Forecasting in a Changing Environment*,” University of Padova, Italy; Workshop on “*Asymmetric Regional Effects of Macroeconomic Policies and Shocks*,” University of Palermo, Italy

2022

Federal Reserve Board; Penn State University; IMF Research Department; IMF Fiscal Affairs Department; IMF SPARK: *Lessons for Tax Reforms*; 42nd International Symposium on Forecasting; Joint Statistical Meetings; ICEA Conference on Inflation; 49th OeNB Conference on “*The Return of Inflation*”; Stanford Workshop on “*The Macroeconomics of Uncertainty and Volatility*”; Joint Cleveland Fed and ECB Conference on “*Inflation: Drivers and Dynamics*”

2021

35th CIRET Conference; 15th CFE conference; 23rd Dynamic Econometrics Conference; H.O. Stekler Research Program on Forecasting Seminar; 23rd Federal Forecasters Conference; ESCoE Conference on Economic Measurement; 41st International Symposium on Forecasting; 8th IAAE Annual Conference; School of Economics at University College Dublin; 91st Southern Economic Association Annual

Meeting; 2nd Applied Macroeconomics Forum on “*Use of AI and Machine Learning in Macroeconomic Research*”

2020

40th International Symposium on Forecasting; 21st IWH-CIREQ-GW Macroeconometric Workshop; 113th National Tax Association Annual Conference; 14th International Conference on Computational and Financial Econometrics; Conference on “*Structural Reforms and Economic Development in the Face of Increasing Uncertainty*”; Philadelphia Fed Conference on “*Real-Time Data Analysis, Methods and Applications*”

2019

3rd Forecasting at Central Banks Conference; Bank of Canada; Georgetown Center for Economic Research Biennial Conference; 21st Dynamic Econometrics Conference; Tsinghua Workshop in Macroeconomics; 2nd China International Conference in Macroeconomics; Federal Reserve Board’s conference on “*Nontraditional Data, Machine Learning, and Natural Language Processing in Macroeconomics*”

2018

AEA Annual Meeting; Bank of Finland; European Central Bank; Federal Reserve Board; 5th Annual IAAE Conference; Stanford Workshop on “*The Macroeconomics of Uncertainty and Volatility*”; University of Chicago Conference on “*Developing and Using Business Expectations Data*”; 3rd Biennial Conference on “*Uncertainty and Economic Activity: Measurement, Facts and Fiction*”; 10th ECB Workshop on “*Forecasting Techniques: Economic Forecasting with Large Datasets*”; Cleveland Fed Conference on “*Inflation: Drivers & Dynamics*”; Philadelphia Fed Conference on “*Real-time Data Analysis, Methods, and Applications*”

Teaching

- ECON 896: Seminar in Economic Forecasting (3rd year PhD level course)
- ECON 882: Seminar in Empirical Macroeconomics (3rd year PhD level course)
- ECON 823: Econometric Methods (1st year PhD level course)
- ECON 624: Applied Econometrics II (2nd year Master level course)
- ECON 623: Applied Econometrics I (1st year Master level course)
- ECON 480: Senior Research Seminar (Advanced Undergraduate course)
- ECON 322: Introduction to Econometrics (Undergraduate course)
- ECON 301: Intermediate Macroeconomics (Undergraduate course)
- ECON 100: Principles of Macroeconomics (Introductory Undergraduate course)

Service to American University

Department, College and University Service:

- Chair, Department of Economics, July 2025 – present
- Chair, Dean’s Advisory Committee, 2021-23
- Acting Department Chair, summer 2022 and 2023
- Member, Dean’s Advisory Committee, 2020-21
- Member, Rank and Tenure Review Committee, 2017-present
- Member, Department Graduate Studies Committee, 2022-23, 2024-25
- Member, Department Budget Committee, 2019-21
- Member, Undergraduate Studies Committee, 2018-19
- Member, Faculty Search Committee, 2010-11, 2011-12, 2024-25
- Member, Grievance Committee, 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17
- Member, Merit Pay Committee, 2013-14, 2015-16, 2020-21, 2023-24
- Member, Committee on Ph.D. Program Reform, 2014-15
- Department Seminar Coordinator, 2011-12, 2015-16
- CAS Student Research Conference (Judge in 2013, and Moderator in 2021)
- Academic Computing Advisory Committee (2012-2013)

Ph.D. Dissertation Committee Chair:

1. Malek Owain, “Three Essays on Oil Price Shocks,” in progress
2. Aina Puig, “Essays on Consumer Heterogeneity and Monetary Policy,” 2025
(*Initial Placement*: TBA)
3. Longji Li, “The Interplay of Fiscal Policy, Economic Behavior, and Technological Innovation,” 2024
(*Initial Placement*: Economist, International Monetary Fund)
4. Jiemin Ren, “Essays on Corporate Taxation: Theory and Empirics in the Presence of Financial Frictions,” 2023
(*Initial Placement*: Economist, International Monetary Fund)
5. Jisung Moon, “Analysis of The Cross-border Capital Flows by Foreign Bank Branches and Macprudential Policy: The Case of Korea,” 2022
(*Initial Placement*: Deputy Director General, Ministry of Economy and Finance, South Korea)
6. Dingqian Liu, “Manager Attention, Policy Uncertainty, and Stock Market,” 2022
(*Initial Placement*: Quantitative Researcher, American Century Investments)
7. Youngil Choi, “Uncertainty and Investment Dynamics,” 2021
(*Initial Placement*: Head of Macro-Economic Analysis Division, NABO, South Korea)

8. Gustavo Rojas-Matute, “Heterogeneity in Expectations, Official Information and Price-Setting Behavior,” 2021
(*Initial Placement*: Economist, Moody’s Analytics)
9. Hoossam Malek, “Expectations Formation in Bank Microdata,” 2021
(*Initial Placement*: Economist, Federal Reserve Board)
10. Jeffrey Levy, “Essays on Uncertainty and Macroeconomic Dynamics,” 2021
(*Initial Placement*: Assistant Instructional Professor, University of Chicago)
11. Zheng Duan, “The Impact of Uncertainty on Household’s Housing Decisions,” 2020
(*Initial Placement*: Economist, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond)
12. Romina Kazandjian, “Information Rigidity and the Business Cycle: A New Theory and Stylized Facts,” 2020
(*Initial Placement*: Economist, International Monetary Fund)
13. James Smith, “Three Essays on the Phillips Curve,” 2019
(*Initial Placement*: Economist, Fannie Mae)
14. Zidong An, “Information Rigidity and Macroeconomic Dynamics,” 2019
(*Initial Placement*: Associate Professor, Renmin University of China)
15. Ermengarde Jabir, “The Macroeconomics of Real Estate Investing,” 2019
(*Initial Placement*: Economist, REMI)
16. Yang Liu, “Measuring Micro and Macro Uncertainty,” 2019
(*Initial Placement*: Economist, Fannie Mae)
17. Rubena Sukaj, “Three Essays on External Debt of Low- and Middle-Income Countries,” 2018
(*Initial Placement*: Economist, World Bank; recipient of *Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship*, inducted in the *AU Hall of Fame*)
18. Ezgi Ozturk, “Economic Uncertainty and Business and Financial Cycles,” 2015
(*Initial Placement*: Economist, International Monetary Fund)

Advised Undergraduate Research:

1. Jonathan Wallen, “Information Rigidity in Macroeconomic Forecasts: An International Empirical Investigation,” 2015
(*Initial Placement*: Ph.D. program in Stanford University, recipient of *Outstanding Scholarship at the Undergraduate Level Award*)
2. Joshua Sucec, “What Determines Household Mortgage Choices?”
(*Initial Placement*: Research Assistant at the Dallas Fed, recipient of *2021 AU Summer Scholarship*)

Service to the Profession

Conference Organizer:

1. Workshop on “*Uncertainty, Economic Activity, and Policy*” in Warsaw, Poland, June 19-20, 2026
2. 6th Annual DC-MD-VA Econometrics Workshop in Washington, DC, September 20, 2025
3. 4th Applied Macroeconomics Forum on “*Climate Policy, Commodity Markets, and Economic Adaptations*” in Shenzhen, China, June 25-26, 2025
4. Sixth Biennial Conference on “*Uncertainty and Risk in Macroeconomics: Decision Making and Policy Challenges*” in Marseille, France, June 12-13, 2025
<https://demur2025.sciencesconf.org/>
5. Fifth Biennial Conference on “*Uncertainty, Economic Activity, and Forecasting in a Changing Environment*” in Padova, Italy, September 21-22, 2023
<https://www.economia.unipd.it/en/uncertainty-economic-activity-and-forecasting-changing-environment>
6. Fourth Biennial Conference on “*Uncertainty and Economic Activity: Global Perspectives*” May 13-14, 2021
<https://www.american.edu/cas/economics/uncertainty-and-economic-activity.cfm>
7. Third Biennial Conference on “*Uncertainty and Economic Activity: Measurement, Facts and Fiction*” in Beijing, China, May 10-11, 2018
<https://www.american.edu/cas/economics/upload/third-conference-on-uncertainty-program.pdf>
8. Second Biennial Conference on “*Impact of Uncertainty Shocks on the Global Economy*” in London, UK, May 12-13, 2016
<http://www.pramu.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Programme-v2-11-04.pdf>
9. First Biennial Conference on “*Uncertainty and Economic Forecasting*” in London, UK, May 8-9, 2014
http://pramu.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/Workshop-Programme-Final_1.pdf
10. Conference on “*Inflation Dynamics in a New Era of Energy Price Shocks*” November 11-12, 2022
<https://sites.google.com/view/inflation-dynamics/>
11. 26th IIF Workshop on “*Economic Forecasting in Times of Covid-19*” July 6-7, 2020
<https://www.american.edu/cas/economics/forecasting/>
12. 21st IIF Workshop on “*Forecasting Issues in Developing Economies*” in Washington, DC, US, April 26-27, 2017
<http://unassumingeconomist.com/2017/04/workshop-on-forecasting-issues-in-developing-economies/>

Conference Program Committee:

- 43rd International Symposium on Forecasting (ISF) in Virginia, US, June 25-28, 2023
- International Association for Applied Econometrics (IAAE) Annual Conference in Oslo, Norway, June 27-30, 2023

Referee and Grant Reviewer:

American Economic Review, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Journal of the European Economic Association, Journal of Finance, Quantitative Economics, International Economic Review, Economic Journal, Journal of Econometrics, Review of Economics and Statistics, Journal of Monetary Economics, Journal of International Economics, Journal of Money, Credit and Banking, Journal of Banking and Finance, Journal of Business and Economic Statistics, Journal of Applied Econometrics, International Journal of Forecasting, Journal of Forecasting, Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics, Studies in Nonlinear Dynamics & Econometrics, Empirical Economics, Economics Letters, Southern Economic Journal, Economic Modelling, Journal of Macroeconomics, Macroeconomic Dynamics, Economic Analysis and Policy, International Finance, Journal of International Money and Finance, The American Economist, Journal of Economic Psychology, International Review of Financial Analysis, Global Finance Journal, Statistical Papers, Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Finance, Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization, Advances in Econometrics, Journal of Quantitative Economics, Journal of Business Cycle Research, Accounting and Finance, Econometrics, Trials, Energy Economics, Emerging Markets Review, Oxford Development Studies, New York Economic Review, International Journal of Production Economics, National Science Foundation, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, European Research Council

Member:

American Economic Association (AEA), International Association for Applied Econometrics (IAAE), International Institute of Forecasters (IIF), Euro Area Business Cycle Network (EABCN), Research Program on Forecasting at GWU, Central Bank Research Association (CEBRA), Network for Economic Uncertainty Research (NEUR)