

Last Updated: April 6, 2024

WILLY (WEI-LI) CHEN

Old Botany Rm 5, Michigan State University | *East Lansing, MI*

✉ willyc@msu.edu 🌐 www.willycecon.github.io

EDUCATION

Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

August 2022 – Present

Doctor of Philosophy - Economics

- Peter Schmidt [Outstanding First-Year Student] Award

Summer 2023

The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

October 2019 – August 2020

Master of Arts in Social Sciences - Economics

- Phoenix Research Award

- Director's Scholarship

The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH

August 2015 – May 2019

Bachelor of Science in Mathematics - Theoretical

Bachelor of Science in Economics

- Summa Cum Laude with Research Distinction in Economics

TECHNICAL SKILLS AND RESEARCH INTEREST

- Data Analytics and Econometrics: Stata, R, PostgreSQL, L^AT_EX
- Languages: Fluent in English, Taiwanese, and Taiwanese Mandarin
- Interests: Economics of Inequality, Labor Economics

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY

September 2020 – Present

Research Associate – Center for Policy Research

- Supervising Professor: Amy Ellen Schwartz
- Statistical Analysis with multiple projects using student-level longitudinal data from New York City Department of Education and partnering organizations

The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

October 2019 – August 2020

Graduate Student Researcher, MA Thesis Project

- "Moving To Inclusion: The Migration Effects of Sanctuary City Policies"
- Handling proposal, research design, data collection, statistical analysis, and writing
- Conduct analysis at both the micro and the macro level, building on the random utility model and the Schelling Tipping point model

The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH

May 2017 – May 2019

Undergraduate Student Researcher, BA Thesis Project

- "Fact Checking: An empirical analysis of the effect of sanctuary city policy"
- Cleaned and prepared raw data directly from the American Community Survey (ACS)
- Used city-year fixed-effect regressions under the *event studies* framework to analyze the city-level effect of sanctuary city policies in the United States

Data Fest at The Ohio State University

April 2019

Research Team Member

- Cleaned and prepared raw data from Canada Women's Sevens (rugby team) for analysis
- Collected data set from individual players over 32 games for every $\frac{1}{10}$ second (GPS tracking and 3D force vectors)
- Created a new metric to track real-time physical toll in game to increase player output based on exertion and monitor injury risks
- Received Honorable Mention. Judges Choice

EMPLOYMENT

Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
Teaching Assistant, ECN 251H/301

August 2020 – Present

Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY
Research Associate, Center for Policy Research

September 2020 – May 2022

The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
Teaching Assistant, ECON 100/200/201

October 2019 – June 2020

PEER-REVEIWED PAPERS

Elbel, B., Zhou, G. E., Lee, D. C., Chen, W., Day, S. E., Konty, K. J., & Schwartz, A. E. (2022). *Analysis of School-Level Vaccination Rates by Race, Ethnicity, and Geography in New York City*. JAMA network open, 5(9), e2231849-e2231849.

WORKING PAPERS & PRESENTATIONS

W. Chen, X. Qiao, H. Zhang, March 2024. *Economics Research Collaboration Patterns Before and After COVID* Midwest Economics Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.

W. Chen, August 2020. *Moving To Inclusion: The Migration Effects of Sanctuary City Policies* Master's Thesis, S. Durlauf (advisor), Harris School of Public Policy, The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL. (manuscript in progress)

W. Chen, May 2019. *Fact Checking: An empirical analysis of the effect of sanctuary city policy* Undergraduate Thesis, J. Chen (advisor), Department of Agricultural, Environmental, and Developmental Economics, The Ohio State University, Columbus OH. (unpublished thesis)

W. Chen, April 2019. *Why College Football needs a 6-team playoff: Evidence from AP rankings and team strength*, Presented poster at the Sports and Society Initiative Undergraduate Research Fair, The Ohio State University, Columbus OH.

W. Chen, February 2019. *Fact Checking: An empirical analysis of the effect of sanctuary city policy*, Presented poster at the Denman Research Forum, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH.

W. Chen, June 2018. *How to reach students in assessment surveys*, Keynote Speaker, Student Affairs Assessment Research Conference, The Ohio State University, Columbus OH.

OUTREACH & INCLUSION

Act!on Social Change - The Ohio State University
President and Founder

August 2018 - May 2019

- Our organization hosts screenings of movies and bring in speakers to discuss prominent social issues
- We hold inclusion workshops to guide members through discussing social issues with others
- We encourage difficult conversations and want to enable people to be an ally and spread awareness

Buckeye Student Leadership Academy - The Ohio State University
BSLA Student Mentor

May 2018 - May 2019

- BSLA brings underprivileged high school seniors to Ohio State to guide them through the college exploration
- Student mentors stay in contact with their students throughout the entire school year and help them through the college application process

University Ambassador - The Ohio State University
University Ambassador

May 2018 - May 2019

- Pushed for changes to include mandatory discussion of resources for diversity and inclusion in campus tours

- Pushed for changes in the ambassador hiring process for a more diverse and inclusive staff

Office of First Year Experience - The Ohio State University

May 2016 - May 2018

FYE Peer Leader

- Guide first-year students through their transition process throughout the whole year
- Strategically provide targeted outreach to students who may not have or know of specific campus resources
- Promote a welcoming and safe environment for students to find their space in our community
- Support students in all possible ways for both social and academic situations

REFERENCES

Name: Joyce Chen (BS Thesis Advisor)

Title: Associate Professor of Agricultural, Environmental, and Developmental Economics University:
The Ohio State University

Email: chen.1276@osu.edu

Phone: 614-292-9813

Name: Steven N. Durlauf (MA Thesis Advisor)

Title: Steans Professor in Educational Policy

University: University of Chicago - Harris School of Public Policy

Email: sdurlauf@uchicago.edu

Name: Alfonso Flores-Lagunes (Applied Econometrics Instructor)

Title: Professor of Economics

University: Syracuse University

Email: afloresl@syr.edu

Phone: 315-443-9045

Name: Todd Elder

Title: MSU Foundation Professor (Economics)

University: Michigan State University

Email: telder@msu.edu

Phone: 517-355-0353

Name: Hanzhe Zhang

Title: Associate Professor of Economics

University: Michigan State University

Email: hanzhe@msu.edu