
CURRICULUM VITAE

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Health Economics, Applied Microeconomics, Applied Econometrics

POSITIONS

Associate Professor, La Follette School of Public Affairs, UW – Madison	2019 –
Assistant Professor, La Follette School of Public Affairs, UW – Madison	2016 – 2019
Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Lafayette College	2009 – 2016
Associate Editor, Health Economics	January 2021 –
Executive Director, WiscRDC	January 2022 –

Faculty Affiliation at UW-Madison: Center for Demography and Ecology, 2016 -
Center for Demography of Health and Aging,
Center for Financial Security, Institute for Research on Poverty,
Risk Management and Insurance Department (Wisconsin School of Business)

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Economics, Duke University, Durham, NC, USA, 2009
M.A. Economics, Duke University, Durham, NC, USA, 2005
M.I.P.A. International Public Affairs, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI, USA, 2003
B.A. International Relations, Peking (Beijing) University, Beijing, China, 1999

PUBLICATIONS

Google Scholar Profile: <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=8gsCmKYAAAAJ&hl=en>

31. “Can Social Safety Net Programs Reduce Work Disability? Evidence from the Earned Income Tax Credit”, with Katie Jajtner and Keisha Solomon. Accepted at *Health Economics*.

30. “Long-Term Health Effects of Early Childhood Exposure to the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit”, with Susan Averett and Yating Gong. Accepted at *Health Economics*.

Selected for publicity in Wiley’s Research Headlines

29. “Abortion Restrictions and Intimate Partner Violence in the Dobbs Era”, with Christine Durrance, Barbara Wolfe, Dhaval Dave and Bilge Ergen. Accepted at *Journal of Health Economics*.

Media coverage:

<https://time.com/7295172/abortion-bans-relationship-violence/>

<https://www.wmnf.org/study-shows-abortion-bans-lead-to-higher-rates-of-relationship-violence/>

Feature on NBER homepage on 7/3/2025

28. “The Effects of Earned Income Tax Credits on Intergenerational Health Mobility in the United States”, with Katie Jajtner. Accepted at *Journal of Health Economics*.

27. “Abortion Access and Child Protective Services Involvement”, with Christine Durrance and Barbara

Wolfe. *Journal of Health Economics* (2025): 103032.

26. "Restrictive State Abortion Policy and Intimate Partner Violence", with Christine Durrance and Barbara Wolfe. Accepted at *Journal of Health Economics*.
25. "Estimating impacts of the US EITC program on domestic violence", with Kaitlyn M. Sims and Barbara Wolfe. *Review of Economics of the Household* (2024): 1-31.
24. "The Relative Importance of Hospital Discharge and Patient Composition in Changing Post-Acute Care Utilization and Outcomes among Medicare Beneficiaries", with Ying Cao, John Mullahy, Margarite Burn, Yao Liu, and Maureen Smith. *Health Services Insights* 16 (2023): 11786329231166522.
23. "Minimum Wages and the Health of Immigrants Children", with Susan Averett and Julie Smith. *Applied Economics Letters* 28, no. 11 (2021): 894-901.
22. "Taking the CON out of Pennsylvania: Did Hip and Knee Replacement Patients Benefit? A Retrospective Analysis", with Susan Averett and Sabrina Terrizzi. *Health Policy and Technology* 8, no. 4 (2019): 349-355.
21. "Medicaid Expansion and Opioid Deaths", with Susan Averett and Julie Smith, *Health economics* 28, no. 12 (2019): 1491-1496.
20. "Long Commute to Work during Pregnancy, Prenatal Visits, and Infant Health at Birth", with Muzhe Yang, *Economics and Human Biology* 35: 1-17, 2019

Media coverage:

[EurekAlert](#); [New York Post](#); [MinnPost](#); [Market Watch](#); [Fortune](#); [Good Morning America](#); [New York Times](#); [Wisconsin Public Radio](#); [Motherly](#);

19. "Minimum Wages and the Health of Hispanic Women", with Susan Averett and Julie Smith, *Journal of Economics, Race, and Policy* 1, no. 4: 217-239, 2018
18. "Present Bias and Health", with Frank A. Sloan, *Journal of Risk and Uncertainty* 57, no. 2: 177-198, 2018
17. "The Effects of Minimum Wages on the Health of Working Teenagers", with Susan Averett and Julie Smith, *Applied Economics Letters* 24, no. 16: 1127-1130, 2017
16. "The Impact of Sorority Membership on Disordered Eating and Body Mass Index", with Susan Averett and Sabrina Terrizzi, *Health Economics* 26(7), 875-891, 2017
15. "Effects of higher EITC payments on children's health, quality of home environment, and noncognitive skills", with Susan Averett. *Public Finance Review*. 2018 Jul;46(4):519-57.
14. "The Dual Burden of Malnutrition", with Susan Averett, book chapter in *Handbook of Economics and Human Biology* Edited by Komlos and Kelly. 434 – 452, 2016.
13. "Identifying the Causal Effect of Alcohol Abuse on Intimate Partner Violence using a Natural Experiment", with Susan Averett, *Southern Economic Journal* 82(3): 697 – 724, 2016.

12. "Estimating Dynamic Discrete Choice Models with Hyperbolic Discounting, with an Application to Mammography Decisions", with Hanming Fang, *International Economic Review* 56(2): 565 – 596, 2015.
11. "Decomposing Race and Gender Differences in Underweight and Obesity in South Africa", with Susan Averett and Nicholas Stacey, *Economics and Human Biology*, 15: 23 – 40, 2014.
10. "Dynamic Implications of Subjective Expectations: Evidence from Adult Smokers," *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 6(1): 1 – 37, 2014. (Lead Article)
9. "The Effects of EITC Payment Expansion on Maternal Smoking", with Susan Averett, *Health Economics*, 22(11): 1344 – 1359, 2013.
8. "Crisis-Induced Depression, Physical Activity and Dietary Intake among Young Adults: Evidence from the 9/11 Terrorist Attacks", with Muzhe Yang, *Economics and Human Biology*, 11(2): 206 – 220, 2012.
7. "Identification of the Effect of Depression on Risky Sexual Behavior: Exploiting a Natural Experiment", with Susan Averett, *American Economic Review, Papers and Proceedings*, 102(3): 570 – 574, 2012.
6. "Heavy Drinking in Early Adulthood and Outcomes at Mid Life", with Frank A. Sloan, Phil Costanzo, Dan Belsky, E. Holmberg, Patrick Malone, and S Kertesz, *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health*, 65(7), 600-605, 2011.
5. "Racial Differences in the Relationship between Alcohol Consumption in Early Adulthood and Occupational Attainment at Mid-Life", with Frank A. Sloan, Patrick Malone, Stefan Kertesz, and Phil Costanzo. *American Journal of Public Health*, 99(12): 2261 – 2267, December 2009.
4. "Do Smokers Value Their Health and Longevity Less?" with Ahmed Khwaja and Frank A. Sloan, *Journal of Law and Economics*, 52(1): 171 - 196, February 2009.
3. "Are Mature Smokers Misinformed?" with Ahmed Khwaja, Frank A. Sloan, and Dan Silverman, *Journal of Health Economics*, 28: 385 – 397, 2009.
2. "Economic Theory and Evidence on Smoking Behavior of Adults", with Frank A. Sloan, *Addiction*, 103: 1777 – 1785, November 2008.
1. "Smoking, Wealth Accumulation and the Propensity to Plan" with Ahmed Khwaja, Dan Silverman, and Frank A. Sloan, *Economics Letters*, Vol. 94(1): 96 – 103, January 2007.

WORKING PAPERS AND WORKS IN PROGRESS

- I. "Assessing the Fertility Effects of Childcare Cost Subsidies: Evidence from the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit", with Susan Averett. R&R.
- II. "Medicaid Expansion and Informal Care for Older Adults", with Ngoc Dao and Courtney Van Houtven, R&R.
- III. "Taxing for Health: The Long-Term Effects of In-Utero Cigarette Tax Exposure on Adult Health," with Yating Gong. Under review.
- IV. "From Little Acorns, Mighty Oaks Grow: Early Life Exposure to Food Stamp and the Next Generation's Health", with Hamid Noghanibehamban and Nahid Tavassoli. Under review.
- V. "The Impact of Parity on Cognitive Function Using Instrumental Variable Approach: Evidence from the One-Child Policy in China", with Yan Zhang and ChengHao (Luke) Li, under review.
- VI. "The Effects of the Home Care Rule on Care Utilization and Expenditure for U.S. Older Adults", with Ngoc Dao. Under review.

- VII. “Earned Income Tax Credit and Long-Term Care for Older Adults”, with Ngoc Dao and Courtney Van Houtven.
- VIII. “Food Stamp Program and Intergenerational Mobility in Longevity” with Asha Sekhar Bharadwaj and Katie Jajtner.
- IX. “Effects of Health Insurance Expansion on Informal Care for Older Adults: Evidence from China”, with Chenghao (Luke) Li.
- X. “Disparities by Race and Gender in SS(D)I Applications and Awards”, with Muzhe Yang.
- XI. “Nursing Home Use Expectations and Wealth Accumulation Among the Elderly”, with Padmaja Ayyagari.

PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS

- Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Annual Conference (APPAM) 2018, 2022, 2024
- Midwest Health Economics Conference (MHEC) 2017
- University of Miami 2015
- American Economics Association Annual Meeting 2011, 2014, 2022, 2025, 2026 (scheduled)
- Eastern Economics Association Annual Conference 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2015, 2017
- Southern Economics Association Annual Meeting 2010, 2012, 2013, 2016, 2024
- Western Economics Association Annual Conference 2010
- Midwest Health Economics Study Group 2010
- Lehigh University 2010
- School of Public Health, Emory University 2009
- Triangle Health Economics Workshop (THEW) 2008
- Southeast Health Economics Study Group (SHESG) 2008
- American Society of Health Economists (ASHE) 2008, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2022, 2023, 2024
- PAA 2023

REFeree SERVICE

Economics and Public Policy:

American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, American Economic Review, American Journal of Health Economics, Demography, Eastern Economic Journal, Economica, Economic Inquiry, Economics of Education Review, Economics and Human Biology, Health Economics, Journal of Applied Econometrics, Journal of Business and Economics Statistics, Journal of Economic Literature, Journal of Health Economics, Journal of Human Resource, Journal of Labor Research, Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, Journal of Population Economics, Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, Journal of Public Economics, Quantitative Economics, Review of Economics of the Household

Others:

Adolescent Health, Medicine and Therapeutics, PLOS ONE

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Federal

National Institute of Health (R03) (PI: Y w, Co-PI: Ngoc Dao and Courtney Van Houtven). Effects of ACA-ME on Informal Care for Older Adults	4/2022– 3/2024	\$297,680
National Institute of Health (R03) (M-PI: Katie Jajtner and Y w). Can the EITC reduce Disparities in Intergenerational Health Mobility?	9/2022 – 8/2024	\$142,180

National Institute of Health (R03) (PI: Y w, Co-PI: Ngoc Dao and Courtney Van Houtven). Effects of EITC on formal Care for Older Adults	1/2023– 12/2025	\$336,140
National Institute of Health (R03) (PI: Y w, Co-PI: Ngoc Dao). Federal Minimum Wage expansion and Home Care Utilization and Costs for Older Adults	1/2023– 12/2025	\$316,031
Social Security Administration Grant (PI: Y w, Co-PI: Padmaja Ayyagari). Nursing Home Use Expectations and Wealth Accumulation Among the Elderly	10/2019 – 9/2020	\$72,454
Social Security Administration Grant (PI: Katie Jajtner, Co-PI: Y w). Effects of Public Policies on Work Disability	10/2021 – 9/2022	\$93,939
Social Security Administration Grant (PI: Katie Jajtner, Co-PI: Keisha Solomon and Y w) The Effect of Public Policies on Work Disability: A Life course Perspective	10/2022 – 9/2023	\$93,763
Social Security Administration Grant (PI: Y w, Co-PI: Muzhe Yang) Disparities by Race/Ethnicity and Sex/Gender in SS(D)I Applications and Awards	10/2022 – 9/2023	\$77,951
Non-Federal		
FY18 Fall Competition, UW-Madison	2017 – 2018	\$49,973
FY19 Fall Competition, UW-Madison	2018 – 2019	\$39,137
FY21 Fall Competition, UW-Madison (PI: Y w, Co-PI: Barbara Wolfe)	2021 – 2022	\$41,333
FY22 Fall Competition, UW-Madison (PI: Y w, Co-PI: Christine Durrance, Barbara Wolfe)	2022 – 2023	\$41,656
FY23 Fall Competition, UW-Madison (PI: Christine Durrance, Co-PI: Y w, Barbara Wolfe)	2023 – 2024	\$43,924
FY23 Fall Competition, UW-Madison	2023 – 2024	\$43,924
Vilas Early Investigator Award, UW-Madison	2019 – 2021	\$75,000
Vilas Associate Competition, UW-Madison	2025 – 2027	~\$100,000
Understanding and Reducing Inequality Initiative, UW-Madison (PI: Y w, Co-PI: Katie Jajtner). Can the EITC reduce Disparities in Intergenerational Health Mobility?	2021 – 2023	\$83,696
Center for Demography and Healthy Aging Pilot Award, UW-Madison	2019 – 2020	
Center for Demography and Healthy Aging Pilot Award, UW-Madison (PI: Jessica Cao, Co-PI: John Mullahy, Maureen Smith, and Y w)	2021 – 2022	
Center for Demography and Ecology and CORE Seed Grant Competition, UW-Madison (PI: Christine Durrance, Co-PI: Barbara Wolfe and Y w)	2022 – 2023	
Institute for Research on Poverty Intramural Small Grants, UW-Madison (PI: Christine Durrance, Co-PI: Barbara Wolfe and Y w)	2024 – 2025	
Kohl Competition Research Award, La Follette School of Public Affairs, UW-Madison	2016 – 2017	\$78,020
Kohl Competition Research Award, La Follette School of Public Affairs, UW-Madison	2019 – 2020	\$68,949.99
Kohl Competition Research Award, La Follette School of Public Affairs, UW-Madison (PI: Y w, Co-PI: Barbara Wolfe)	2021 – 2022	\$82,534.08
Kohl Competition Research Award, La Follette School of Public Affairs, UW-Madison	2025 – 2027	\$70,622
CORE, PI: Christine Durrance, Co-PI: Barbara Wolfe and Y w	2023 – 2025	

COURSES TAUGHT

Year	Institution	Courses
2007 Summer	Department of Economics Duke University	Intermediate Microeconomics

Fall 2009 – Spring 2016	Department of Economics Lafayette College	Principles of Economics Econometrics Health Economics
Fall 2016 – Present	University of Wisconsin – Madison La Follette School of Public Affairs Wisconsin School of Business	PA871: Public Program Evaluation PA864: Health Policy and Policy Design PA873: Introduction to Policy Analysis PA281: What Works in Health Policy PA802: research seminar series AS654: Regression and Time Series for Actuaries