

KATHARINE R.E. SIMS

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Amherst College, Amherst, Massachusetts
Economics Department, Environmental Studies Department
Professor of Economics and Environmental Studies (2021-present)
Associate Professor of Economics (2016-present)
Assistant Professor of Economics (2008-2016)

Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts (2011-2012)
Visiting Scholar, Harvard Environmental Economics Program

Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts (2003-2008)
Research Fellow, Sustainability Science Program, Center for International Development
Predoctoral Fellow, Harvard Environmental Economics Program
Teaching Fellow, Harvard Kennedy School

EDUCATION

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA (2002-2008)
Ph.D. in Political Economy and Government
Dissertation: “Balancing Land Conservation and Development”
M.A. in Political Economy and Government

Princeton University, Princeton, NJ (1994-1998)
B.A. in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, *magna cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

Audrey Cheng, Katharine Sims, and Yuanyuan Yi. (2023) “Economic development and conservation impacts of China’s Nature Reserves.” *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*. Vol 121, 2023, 10284

Katharine Sims. (2023) “Towards Equity in Land Protection.” *Agricultural and Resource Economics Review*. Vol 52, p. 201-230.

Alexey Kalinin, Katharine Sims, Jonathan Thompson and Spencer Meyer (2023) “Does land conservation raise taxes? Evidence from New England cities and towns” *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*. Vol 119, 102782.

Katharine R.E. Sims, Lucy G. Lee, Neenah Estrella-Luna, Margot Lurie, and Jonathan R. Thompson. (2022) “Environmental justice criteria for new land protection can inform efforts

to address disparities in access to nearby open space.” *Environmental Research Letters*, 17, 064014.

Jennifer Alix-Garcia, Katharine R.E. Sims and Laura Costica. (2021) “Better to be indirect? Testing the accuracy and cost-savings of indirect surveys” *World Development*, 142, 105419.

Paulo Quadri Barba, Katharine R.E. Sims, Adam Millard-Ball. (2021) “Using cultural heritage sites in Mexico to understand the poverty alleviation impacts of protected areas” *Conservation Science and Practice*, 2021; e339.

Katharine R.E. Sims, Jonathan R. Thompson, Spencer R. Meyer, Christoph Nolte and Joshua S. Plisinski. (2019) “Assessing the local economic impacts of land protection” *Conservation Biology*, 33:5, p. 1035-1044.

Jennifer M. Alix-Garcia, Daniel Phaneuf and Katharine R.E. Sims. (2019) “Using referenda to improve targeting and decrease costs of environmental conditional cash transfers.” *Journal of Public Economics*, 176: p. 179-194.

Johan A. Oldekop, Katharine R.E. Sims, Birendra K. Karna, Mark J. Whittingham and Arun Agarwal. (2019) “Decentralized forest management simultaneously reduces deforestation and poverty.” *Nature Sustainability*, 2, p. 421-428.

Christoph Nolte, Spencer R. Meyer, Katharine R.E. Sims, Jonathan R. Thompson. (2019) “Voluntary, permanent land protection reduces forest loss and development in a rural-urban landscape.” *Conservation Letters*, 2019e12649.

Robyn Meeks, Katharine R.E. Sims and Hope Thompson. (2019) “Waste not: can household biogas deliver sustainable development?” *Environmental and Resource Economics*. 72: 3, p.763-794

Carlos Ramirez-Reyes, Volker C. Radeloff, Katharine R.E. Sims and Peter Potapov. (2018) “Payments for ecosystem services in Mexico reduced forest fragmentation.” *Ecological Applications*. 28: 8, p. 1982-1997

Jennifer M. Alix-Garcia, Katharine R.E. Sims, Victor Hugo Orozco Olvera, Laura Costica, Jorge David Fernandez Medina and Sofía Romo Monroy. (2018) “Payments for environmental services supported social capital while increasing land management” *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. 115: 27, p. 7016-7021.

Heidi Jo Albers, Katie D. Lee and Katharine R.E. Sims. (2018) “Economics of habitat fragmentation: A review and critique of the literature” *International Review of Environmental and Resource Economics*. 11: 2, p. 97-144.

Johan Oldekop, Katharine Sims, Mark Whittingham and Arun Agarwal. (2018) “An upside to globalization: international outmigration drives reforestation in Nepal.” *Global Environmental Change* 52: p. 66-74.

Katharine R.E. Sims and Jennifer Alix-Garcia. (2017) "Parks vs. PES: evaluating direct and incentive-based land conservation in Mexico." *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*, 86: p. 8-28.

Jennifer M. Alix-Garcia, Katharine R.E. Sims and Patricia Yañez-Pagans. (2015) "Only one tree from each seed? Environmental effectiveness and poverty alleviation in Mexico's Payments for Ecosystem Services program." *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, 7(4): 1-40.

Graham McKee, Steven G. Rivkin and Katharine R.E. Sims. (2015) "Disruption, learning, and the heterogeneous benefits of smaller classes." *Empirical Economics*, 48(3):1267-1286.

Paul Ferraro, Merlin Hanauer, Daniela Miteva, Joanna Nelson, Subhrendu Pattanayak, Christoph Nolte and Katharine Sims. (2015) "Estimating the impacts of conservation on ecosystem services by integrating modeling and evaluation." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 112(24): 7420-7425.

Katharine R.E. Sims. (2014) "Do protected areas reduce forest fragmentation? A microlandscapes approach." *Environmental and Resource Economics*, 58(2): 303-333.

Katharine Sims, Jennifer Alix-Garcia, Elizabeth Shapiro-Garza, Leah Fine, Volker Radeloff, Glen Aronson, Selene Castillo, Carlos Ramirez-Reyes, and Patricia Yañez-Pagans. (2014) "Improving environmental and social targeting through adaptive management in Mexico's payments for hydrological services program." *Conservation Biology*, 28(5): 1151-1159.

Jennifer Alix-Garcia, Craig McIntosh, Katharine R.E. Sims and Jarrod R. Welch. (2013) "The ecological footprint of poverty alleviation: evidence from Mexico's Oportunidades program." *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, 95(2): 417-435.

Paul Ferraro, Merlin Hanauer, Daniela Miteva, Gustavo Canavire-Bacarreza, Subhrendu Pattanayak and Katharine Sims. (2013) "More strictly protected areas are not necessarily more protective: evidence from Bolivia, Costa Rica, Indonesia, and Thailand." *Environmental Research Letters*, 8(2): 025011.

Jennifer M. Alix-Garcia, Elizabeth N. Shapiro and Katharine R.E. Sims. (2012) "Forest conservation and slippage: evidence from Mexico's national payments for ecosystem services program." *Land Economics*, 88(4): 613-638

Paul Ferraro, Merlin Hanauer and Katharine Sims. (2011) "Conditions associated with protected area success in conservation and poverty reduction." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 108(34): 13913-13918.

Katharine R.E. Sims. (2010) "Conservation and development: evidence from Thai protected areas." *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*, 60(2): 94-114.

Kwaw Andam, Paul Ferraro, Katharine Sims, Andrew Healy and Margaret Holland. (2010) "Protected areas reduced poverty in Costa Rica and Thailand." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 107(22): 9996-10001.

Katharine R.E. Sims and Jenny Schuetz. (2009) "Local regulation and land-use change: The effects of wetlands bylaws in Massachusetts" *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, 39(4): 409-421.

Kelsey Jack, Carolyn Kousky and Katharine Sims. (2008) "Designing payments for ecosystem services: lessons from previous experience with incentive-based mechanisms." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 105(28): 9465-9470

SUBMITTED PAPERS AND CURRENT PROJECTS

"Do working forest easements work for conservation?" (with Jonathan Thompson, Alexey Kalinin, Lucy Lee, Valerie Pasquarella and Joshua Plisinski). Paper submitted for review, August, 2023.

"Scaling forest restoration on private land: Causal evidence from Brazil" (with Roberto Toto, Jennifer Alix-Garcia, Bruno Coutinho, Carlos Muñoz Brenes, & Ludmila Pugliese). Paper submitted for review, December 2023.

"Design principles for environmental, economic, and social sustainability in land conservation" (with Jennifer Alix-Garcia). Proposal, August 2023.

"How effective and equitable are Payments for Ecosystem Services in Mexico? A systematic review and meta-analysis." (with Santiago Izquierdo-Tort, Esteve Corbera, Elizabeth Shapiro and others). In progress.

POLICY REPORTS

Jan Börner, Thales West, Allen Blackman, Daniela A Miteva, Katharine Sims and Sven Wunder. "National and sub-national forest conservation policies: What works? What Doesn't." Chapter 9 in *Transforming REDD+: Lessons and New Directions*. Center for International Forestry Research, 2018.

Jennifer Alix-Garcia, Katharine R.E. Sims, Victor Hugo Orozco-Olvera, Laura Costica, Jorge David Fernandez Medina, Sofia Romo Monroy, and Stefano Pagiola. "Can environmental cash transfers reduce deforestation and improve social outcomes? A regression discontinuity analysis of Mexico's national program (2011-2014)." *World Bank Policy Research Working Paper 8707*, January 2019.

Jennifer Alix-Garcia, Katharine R.E. Sims, Victor Orozco and Laura Costica. "Evaluation of Mexico's Payments for Environmental Services program 2011-2014. Report for CONAFOR-SEMARNAT-CONEVAL." November 2017. (English and Spanish versions) 128 pages.

Jennifer Alix-Garcia, Glen Aronson, Volker Radeloff, Carlos Ramirez-Reyes, Elizabeth Shapiro, Katharine Sims and Patricia Yañez-Pagans. "Evaluation of CONAFOR's payments for hydrological services program, 2003-2010." Policy report for the Mexican National Forestry Commission, November, 2012. (English and Spanish versions) 144 pages.

Jennifer Alix-Garcia, Elizabeth Shapiro and Katharine Sims. "Impacts of payments for ecosystem services on deforestation in Mexico: preliminary lessons for REDD" Land Tenure Center Brief No. 11, September, 2010. (English and Spanish versions) 6 pages.

"Towards a science of sustainability" (with multiple authors; William C. Clark and Simon A. Levin, Eds.) Report for the National Science Foundation. Toward a Science of Sustainability Conference, Arlie Center, VA, Nov. 29-Dec. 2, 2009.

GRANTS / CONSULTING

USDA-NIFA (2021-2023) "Toward a comprehensive understanding of the economic and ecological impacts of land protection." (with Jonathan Thompson, Alexey Kalinin and Val Pasquarella)

Highstead Foundation/Harvard Forest (2019-2021). "Wildlands and woodlands. Translating the vision into sustained and strategic activities." Collaborator, co-supervisor of post-doctoral researcher.

Andrew Carnegie Fellow (2016-2019). "Balancing land conservation and development in the long term." Carnegie Corporation of NY.

World Bank i2i Grant (2015-2018) "Mexico's PES: retrospective evaluation" (with Jennifer Alix-Garcia, Victor Orozco, Laura Costica and CONAFOR); Co-PI.

NSF Economics (2011-2015) "Spillovers in Incentive-Based Conservation Programs." (with Jennifer Alix-Garcia- University of Wisconsin, Elizabeth Shapiro-Duke University, Volker Radeloff-University of Wisconsin); Co-PI.

International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie) (2010-2013) "Payments for Environmental Services in Mexico: Understanding the Effectiveness of an Innovative Conservation Mechanism." (with Elizabeth Shapiro, Jennifer Alix-Garcia, and Volker Radeloff and in partnership with the Mexican National Forestry Commission); Co-PI.

Thoreau Foundation (2010-2011) "Grant for Environmental Leaders." (with Jan Dizard, Ted Melillo and Sarah Barr)

"Evaluating the Local Socio-Economic Impacts of Protected Areas: A Regional Scale, Comparison Group Approach." Report prepared for the Global Environmental Facility Evaluation Office. August, 2008.

TEACHING

COURSES TAUGHT AT AMHERST COLLEGE

Economics 111: *An Introduction to Economics*

Economics 111E / Enst 210: *An Introduction to Economics with Environmental Applications*

Economics 210: *Environmental and Natural Resource Economics*

Economics 360: *Econometrics*

Economics 410: *Environment and Development*

Environmental Studies 495: *Environmental Studies Senior Seminar*

Economics 499: *Senior Honors Thesis (Economics)*

Environmental Studies 499: *Senior Honors Thesis (Environmental Studies)*

COURSES AT HARVARD KENNEDY SCHOOL (TEACHING FELLOW)

Environmental and Resource Economics and Policy (2004, 2005)

Microeconomics (2005), *Empirical Methods* (2006, 2007)

THESIS STUDENTS

Primary thesis advisor for:

Quentin Jeyaretnam (Econ 2023) “Does Conditionality Matter? An Empirical Analysis of Conditional and Unconditional Cash Transfers in Indonesia”; **Maira Owais** (Econ 2023) “The Sehat Sahulat Program: Health Insurance, Women’s Decision-Making and Household Care Preferences”; **Sam Beach** (Econ 2022) “The Earned Income Tax Credit’s Intergenerational Impact on Education”; **Audrey Cheng** (Econ 2020) “Conservation and Development in China’s Nature Reserves: Win-win or Trade-offs?”; **Felix Stetsenko** (Econ 2020) “Raise the Seawalls: Local Governments and Flood Protection”; **Fabián Rivera Reyes** (Econ 2019) “The Economic Effects of Insurrectionary Activity”; **Hayes Honea** (Econ 2019) “Leaders or Followers? Identifying the Property Flipper’s Role in Gentrification”; **Christina Ningyue Wang** (Econ 2016) “Pollution and Human Capital Formation: A Study on How Air Pollution Affects Children’s Educational Outcomes in China”; **Jessie Kaliski** (Enst 2015) “The Past, Present and Future of Sanitation, with a Case Study of India: Where and Why We Should Give a Sh*t”; **Gus Greenstein** (Enst 2014) “Reframing the Discussion on Hydropower-Induced Displacement and Resettlement” (Winner of Watson Fellowship, 2014); **Sid Salvi** (Econ 2011) “Effects of the L.A. Night Lights program on Crime”; **Robyn Lightner** (Enst 2011) “Healthy Food Accessibility in Underserved Boston Neighborhoods: The Affordability and Viability of Farmers’ Markets”; **Annegret Laura Huober** (Enst 2011E) “Moving Towards Sustainable Solid Waste Management in Accra: Bridging the Formal-Informal Divide” (Winner of Soros Fellowship for graduate studies, 2014); **Samuel Swenson** (Enst 2010) “(Offshore) Winds of Change: Lessons from the European Experience”; **Jeff Gang** (Enst 2009) “Conservation Through Innovation: Market-Based Mechanisms for Biodiversity and Poverty Alleviation in Costa Rica”

Co-advisor or provided substantial comments on drafts:

Anne Marie Langan (Enst 2022) “Friends of Parks and Parks for All: Creating Equitable Urban Green Spaces in Jersey City and Across America”; **Jonathan Vale** (Enst 2022) “Floodplain Restoration and Water Quality in an Urbanized, Post-Glacial Watershed, Amherst, MA”; **Witter Swanson** (Enst 2021) “The Political Economy of a Renewable Energy Transition: A Case Study of the German Energiewend and an Examination of Policy Options in the United States”; **Margot Lurie** (Enst 2021) “Beyond Conservation, Toward Decolonization: The Vision of Indigenous Feminist Environmental Protection”; **Yuko Nakano** (Enst 2020) “Tools for Activism: A Study of Environmental Justice Campaigns in Springfield, MA”; **Rojas Oliva** (Enst 2019) “Scenes from the Commodity Frontier: Sugarcane Production in the Huasteca Potosina.” **Alena Marovita** (Econ 2017) “Empowering the Kilowatt-Hour: Using Social Norms To Reduce Energy Consumption”; **Jamie Gracie** (Econ 2017) “Long-term Effects of Bilingual Education.”; **Sean Rodriguez** (Enst 2015) “Gaining Ground for Alternative Photovoltaics: Time-Resolved Fluorescence Measurements and Electron Transfer Rate Analysis of Thin Film Materials”; **Benjamin Norton** (Enst 2014) “An Undervalued Future: The Applicability of Full Cost Accounting and Declining Discount Rates to Valuing Mangrove Forests”; **Clara Rowe** (Enst 2011) “Community Impacts of Marine Protected Areas: Cuajiniquil, Costa Rica”; **Hallie Schwab** (Enst 2011) “Dominant Narratives and Silenced Voices in the Conservation of Madagascar’s Eastern Rainforests”; **Trevor Lewis** (Development Studies 2010) “Refugee Camps of Kenya: Profiting from Chaos”; **Samantha Ostrowski** (Enst 2010) “Cooperation, Contestation, and Conservation: An Analysis of Peace Parks”; **Graham McKee** (Econ 2009) “Estimating Heterogeneity in the Effect of Small Classes on Educational Achievement”; **Cynthia Wildfire** (Enst 2009) “Just Charge it: Global Warming, Personal Transportation, and Electric Vehicles”; **Kathryn Loomis** (Enst 2009), “Climate Change, Politics, and the Wind: Policies to Promote Wind Energy in the United States.”

Reader:

Sara Kao (Econ 2023) “Ethnic Enclaves and Educational Outcomes: Evidence from U.S. Refugee Resettlement after the Vietnam War”; **Xinyu Ni** (Econ 2023) “The Promise of Integration: Impact of HOPE IV Public Housing Demolitions on Neighborhood Crime in Chicago”; **Noa Simon** (Econ 2022) “The Impact of Integration on Academic Achievement: A Study of Boston’s Metco Program.”; **Naleenvali Sirathanpornpat** (Econ 2022) “Hidden in Plain Sight: Economic Inequality in Asian America.”; **Emily Young** (Econ 2020) “Show Me the Money: The Effects of School Finance Reform on Input Spending and Student Achievement”; **Ralph Skinner** (Econ 2020) “Complementarities between Cash Transfer Programs and Public Good Provision: Evidence from India’s Janani Suraksha Yojana”; **Julia Turner** (Econ 2019) “The Impact of Resegregation on the Racial Achievement Gap: Insights from Seattle.”; **Julia Yates** (Econ 2016) “The Effect of Access to Affordable Health Insurance on SSI Acceptance”; **David Berón Echavarría** (Enst 2014) “Looking-glass Paradise: Identity, Economic Growth, and Natural Resources Governance in the Galápagos Island, 1935-2015” (Winner of Watson Fellowship, 2015); **Catherine Morse** (Enst 2014) “Elvers to Kabayaki: From the Backwoods of Maine to the Markets of Japan. The Amazing Journey of the American Eel”; **Karan Bains** (Econ 2014) “Delayed Gratification and Parental Decision-Making: Investigating the Impact of Poverty on Child Marriage in India”;

Sara Gehrdes (Enst 2011) "Interannual Study of the Phenology of *Eichornia crassipes*: Lake Mateos, Mexico 1998-2001"; **Alex Myers** "Stability of Risk Preference Estimates Over Payoff Horizons" (Econ 2010); **Phuong Tran**, "Small is Beautiful? Small Farms and the Vietnamese Coffee Expansion" (Econ 2009)

AMHERST COLLEGE STUDENT RESEARCH ASSISTANTS

Margot Lurie (summer and fall 2020): Review of literature on equity and access to protected open space, case studies of town-level conservation, collaborator on draft paper.

Steedman Jenkins (fall 2020): Supervision of independent project on long-term economic impacts of discriminatory lending practices in Baltimore.

Naleenvali Sirathanpornpat (2019-2022): Review of literature and collection and cleaning of land use and household data related to land protection policies in Thailand.

Nicholas Carolan (summer 2018): Analysis of past, current, and future potential land use on Amherst College lands. Co-supervised with Laura Draucker, Sustainability Director.

Audrey Cheng (fall, spring 2017-2018): Review of literature and available data on conservation policies and economics in China.

Carolina Vergara (fall 2017): Translation and assistance related to Peru meetings; Mexico PES/PAs.

Bonnie Drake (fall, spring 2016-2017): Analysis of literature on conservation and development in New England, Thailand; researching and compiling New England socioeconomic data.

Anri Chomentowska (summer 2015, AY 2016-2017): Analysis of literature and GIS information on forest user groups and household biogas systems in Nepal.

Gus Greenstein, James Liu (summer, 2013): Mexico Parks vs. PES project. GIS analysis of protected areas, collection and review of background materials, preliminary data analysis.

Aubrey Jones (summer, 2013): Collection and review of literature on policies for habitat fragmentation.

Ipsita Agarwal, Alejandro Sucre (summer 2012): Mexico payments for ecosystem services project. Data management from field survey in Mexico, data analysis, literature reviews.

Caroline Stedman, Alejandro Sucre, Adam Medoff, Melissa Sullivan (academic year 2011-2012): Mexico payments for ecosystem services project. Data management from field survey in Mexico, preliminary analysis, literature reviews.

Caroline Stedman, Alejandro Sucre (summer 2011): Mexico payments for ecosystem services project. Supported Sucre's travel to Mexico for pilot of field survey. Design of data management system to capture data from field surveys in Mexico, literature reviews.

Leah Fine (academic year 2010-2011; academic year 2011-2012; summer 2012): GIS and Stata analysis for Mexico payments for ecosystem services project; literature reviews of protected areas in Mexico and of adaptive management; co-author on published paper.

Samantha Ostrowski (summer, 2009): Mexico payments for ecosystem services project. Researched and wrote background paper on incorporating PES into international efforts to reduce carbon emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.

COLLEGE SERVICE

Honorary Degrees Committee (2023-)

Faculty Research Awards Program Committee (2022-)

Bicentennial project to revitalize Sanctuary trails; Sanctuary Stewardship Committee (2020-2023)

Committee of Six (2019-2020)

Economics Department Chair (2018-2020)

Economics Department Hiring Committees: Interviewed candidates at ASSA meetings in Atlanta/Denver/ Philadelphia/Boston/Philadelphia/Atlanta for Development Economist (2009-2010; 2010-2011), Education Economist (2013-2014), Behavioral Economist (2014-2015), Macroeconomist (2017-2018), Development economist (2018-2019).

Environmental Studies Department Hiring: Reviewed applications and conducted interviews for Environmental Policy (2016-2017), Climate Scientist (2019-2020).

Faculty Housing Committee (2011, 2018-2019)

First year advisor (2010-2011, 2012, 2014-2015)

Loeb Center Advisory Board Panel (2019)

President's Campaign Board Panel on Environmental Studies, New York (2019)

Speaker for Sunrise Event on the Green New Deal (2019)

Reunions Panels (2018, 2019)

Vogel Senior Prize Committee (2020, 2021, 2022)

Vogel Lecture on the Political Economy of Latin America. Co-organizer (2019); Moderator (2017, 2018, 2022)

Amherst LEADs panel on student-athlete thesis writers (2017)

Pindar Dinner Speaker (2017)

Faculty Committee on Admissions and Financial Aid (2013-14, 2014-15, Chair 2015-16)

Pivot Committee: Center for Community Engagement (fall 2015)

Committee for the Integration of Research and Teaching (Strategic Planning) (2013-2014)

Environmental Studies Program Steering Committee (2008-2009, 2009-2010, 2010-2011, 2012, 2013-2014).

Charles Hamilton Houston Prize Committee (2014, 2010)

Thoreau Foundation Grant Advisory Committee (2010-2011)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

REFEREE WORK

Editorial Board of the *Review of Environmental Economics and Policy*, 2021-present

Journals reviewed for:

Quarterly Journal of Economics

Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists

Review of Economics and Statistics

Journal of Environmental Economics and Management

Review of Environmental Economics and Policy

Environmental and Resource Economics

Land Economics

Journal of Development Economics

Environment and Development Economics

Journal of Development Studies

American Journal of Agricultural Economics

BE Journal of Economic Analysis and Policy

World Development

Resource and Energy Economics

Regional Science and Urban Economics

Urban Studies

Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences

Science Advances

Ecological Economics

Conservation Biology

Conservation Letters

Global Environmental Change

Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B

Ecosystem Services

Nature Sustainability

Landscape and Urban Ecology

Land Use Policy

Forest Policy and Economics

Elementa: Science of the Anthropocene

Books/ Organizations/Conferences: IPBES Report, Dasgupta Review on the Economics of Biodiversity, Human Development Report Office, United Nations Development Program (book project), Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR publication series), Pearson (textbook draft chapters by Berck and Helfand "The Economics of the Environment"), Inter-American Development Bank, AERE Summer Conference.

Granting agencies: NSF Economics Program, NSF Decision Risk and Management Science, Latin American and Caribbean Environmental Economics Program research awards, South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics, International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie)

Volunteer: Board Member, Lands Committee, Kestrel Land Trust, Amherst MA (2020-2022); Steering Committee for the Academics for Land Protection in New England (ALPINE) network (2020-2022).

FELLOWSHIPS AND HONORS

Andrew Carnegie Fellow (2016-2019)
Cozarelli Prize for one of six best PNAS papers published in 2011 for “Conditions Associated with Protected area Success” (2012)
Amherst Class of 1952 Eugene S. Wilson Junior Sabbatical Fellowship (2011-2012)
Faculty of 1000 Biology “Must Read” rating for “Conservation and Development: Evidence from Thai Protected Areas” (2010)
Bertram J. Cohn and Barbara B. Cohn Dissertation Fellowship (2007-2008)
National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (2004-2007)
Pre-doctoral Fellow, Harvard University Environmental Economics Program (2002-2008)
Warburg Funds Award, Dept. of Economics, Harvard University (2005)
Certificate for Distinction in Teaching, Harvard University (2005)
Graduate Society Summer Fellowship, Harvard University (2004)
The James and Cathleen Stone Fellowship in Environmental Economics (2002-2003)
Pre-doctoral fellow, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs (2002-2003)

PRESENTATIONS / SEMINARS

Middlebury College, Rohatyn Center for Global Affairs (2023)
The Wilderness Society (2023)
Institute for Training and Development, Boston, MA (2023, 2022)
Northeast Agricultural and Resource Economists Workshop-Keynote, CT (2022)
Lincoln Land Institute of Land Policy (2022)
Friends of the Conte Refuge (2021)
ALPINE Network (2020)
UMass Amherst Department of Environmental Conservation, MA (2020)
Regional Conservation Partnerships Network Gathering, MA (2019)
BIOECON Conference-Keynote Address, Netherlands (2019)
Harvard Environmental Economics Program Research Workshop, MA (2019)
Northeast Agricultural and Resource Economists Workshop, NH (2019)
Keystone Collaborators Reunion Workshop, MA (2019)
Northeast Environmental Economics Conference, NY (2018)
Harvard Forest Seminar Series, Petersham, MA (2018)
Land and Poverty Conference, Washington, D.C. (2018)
World Congress of Environmental and Resource Economists, Gothenberg (2018)
World Bank Development Impact Evaluation Seminar, Washington, D.C. (2018)
Academics for Land Protection in New England, MA (2018)
CGIAR SPIA Workshop on Natural Resource Management, Washington, D.C. (2018)
Economic Incentives for Forest Conservation in Mexico, Peru, and Ecuador, Lima (2017)
Gund Institute for the Environment, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT (2017)
Forests and Livelihoods Assessment, Research and Engagement Conf., Stockholm (2017)
Northeast Agricultural and Resource Economists Workshop, Washington DC (2017)

Association of Environmental and Resource Economists, Pittsburg, PA (2017)
 Forest Action, Kathmandu, Nepal (2017)
 Institute of Social and Environmental Research, Chitwan, Nepal (2017)
 BIOECON conference, Cambridge, UK (2016)
 Harvard Sustainability Science Symposium, Cambridge, MA (2016)
 Association of Environmental and Resource Economists, San Diego, CA (2015)
 University of Minnesota, Agricultural and Applied Economics Seminar, St. Paul, MN (2015)
 University of Michigan/DFID International Forestry Resources and Institutions Workshop,
 Ann Arbor, MI (2014)
 Harvard Environmental Economics Program Conference, Cambridge, MA (2014)
 Amherst College Faculty Workshop, Amherst, MA (2014)
 NBER EEE Summer Institute, Cambridge, MA (2013)
 Liberal Arts College Development Conference, Amherst, MA (2013)
 University of Connecticut Agricultural and Resource Economics, Storrs, CT (2013)
 Clark University Department of Economics, Worcester, MA (2012)
 Association of Environmental and Resource Economists, Asheville, NC (2012)
 Williams College Economics Department Seminar, Williamstown, MA (2012)
 Harvard Environmental Economics Seminar, Cambridge, MA (2012)
 Northeast Universities Development Conference, New Haven, CT (2011)
 Harvard Environmental Economics Lunch, Cambridge, MA (2011)
 Harvard Sustainability Science Seminar, Cambridge, MA (2011)
 Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences, Burlington, VT (2011)
 Yale University Environmental Economics Seminar, New Haven, CT (2011)
 World Congress of Environmental Economists, Montreal, Quebec (2010)
 Triangle Resource and Environmental Economics Seminar, Duke/NCSU/RTI, NC (2010)
 University of Massachusetts Amherst, Department of Natural Resources Conservation (2010)
 University of Massachusetts Amherst, Environmental Working Group (2010)
 Towards a Science of Sustainability NSF Working Group, Warrenton, VA (2009)
 Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences, Madison, WI (2009)
 University of Massachusetts Amherst, Resource Economics Seminar (2008)
 World Bank Applied Microeconomics Seminar Series, Washington, D.C. (2008)
 University of California San Diego, IR/PS, CA (2008)
 Pomona College Economics Department, CA (2008)
 University of California Berkeley Energy Resources Group, CA (2008)
 Boston University Geography Department, MA (2008)
 International Agro-forestry Education Conference, Chiang Mai, Thailand (2007)
 Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management, Washington, D.C. (2007)
 Harvard Environmental Economics and Policy Seminar, Cambridge, MA (2007)
 Conservation International, Washington, D.C. (2007)
 International Association for the Study of Common Property, Bali, Indonesia (2006)
 Camp Resources, Wilmington, NC (2006)
 Harvard-Stanford Ecosystem Services Meeting, Palo Alto, CA (2006)

DISCUSSANT OR PARTICIPANT

NBER Environment and Energy Economics Spring Meeting (discussant-2021), Innovations
 for Biodiversity and Natural Capital, Mexico City (2017), American Economic Association

Annual Meeting (discussant-2014, 2013, 2011, discussant-2010, 2009, 2008, 2006), Association of Environmental and Resource Economists Summer Meeting (2023, 2021, 2017, 2016, discussant-2015, 2012, participant-2007), World Congress of Environmental and Resource Economists (discussant-2010), NBER Summer Institute, Environmental and Energy Economics (2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007), Liberal Arts College Development Conference (discussant-2013), Northeast University Development Conference (2014, 2011, 2010, 2008), Northeast ArcGIS Users Conference (2012-poster, 2009-poster), Yale International Society of Tropical Foresters, New Haven, CT (2007), Northeast Environmental Economics Workshop (2019, 2018), Academics for Land Protection in New England (2017, 2019), Regional Conservation Partnerships Gathering (2018, 2019), BIOECON (2016, 2019).

MEDIA

Coverage of “Environmental justice criteria for new land protection can inform efforts to address disparities in access to nearby open space”: Regional Conservation Partnerships Gathering Story Map (Fall 2021); Newswise (4/12/22); maps from this project included in resources developed by the Friends of Conte, AMC and Royal River Conservation Trust; WGBH story (9/2/2022).

Coverage of “Decentralized Forest Management Simultaneously Reduces Deforestation and Poverty”: Kathmandu Post (6/6/2019), Sight Magazine (5/7/2019), Science News (5/10/2019), Sustainability Times (5/8/2019).

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PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT

Stockholm Environment Institute, Boston, Researcher (summer 2004)

Verité, San Francisco, Research Associate (2001-2002)

U.S. Bancorp, Social Equity Investment Group, CA, Research Associate (2000-2001)

Lanna International School, Thailand, Science and Geography Instructor (1998-1999)