

# LOIS MILLER

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Darla Moore School of Business, Office 452B, 1014 Greene St, Columbia, SC 29208

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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University of South Carolina, Department of Economics

Assistant Professor

Fall 2024 -

## EDUCATION

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University of Wisconsin-Madison

2024

Ph.D Economics

Committee: Jeff Smith (chair), Chris Taber, Matt Wiswall, Nick Hillman

University of Wisconsin-Madison

2019

M.S. Economics

DePauw University

2017

B.A. Mathematics, Minors in Economics and Computer Science

*Summa cum laude*

## RESEARCH PAPERS

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### Publications

- [Making College Affordable? The Impacts of Tuition Freezes and Caps](#) (with Minseon Park), *Economics of Education Review* 89 (2022): 102265.
- [Workforce Entry Including Career and Technical Education and Training](#) (with Burt Barnow and Jeffrey Smith) in “What Has Happened to the American Working Class Since the Great Recession?”, *The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 695, no. 1 (2021): 260-274.

### Working Papers

- [Switching Schools: Effects of College Transfers](#) *Under Review*
- [Who Scars the Easiest? College Quality and the Effects of Graduating into a Recession](#) (with Garrett Anstreicher) *Under Review*
- [Distance to Degrees: How College Proximity Shapes Student’s Enrollment Choices and Attainment Across Race and Socioeconomic Status](#) (with Riley Acton, Kalena Cortes, and Camila Morales) *Revise & Resubmit, Economics of Education Review*

### Works in Progress

- Estimating the Value of a New Postsecondary Credential: An Audit Study of Community College Bachelor’s Degrees (with Riley Acton, Kalena Cortes, Camila Morales, and Julia Turner)
- Small Distances that Matter: Effects of Local Community College Openings on Enrollment and Degree Completion
- Quantifying Non-Sampling Variation: College Quality and the Garden of Forking Paths (with Heather Little and Jeffrey Smith)

## INVITED PRESENTATIONS AND CONFERENCES

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**2025:** (*including scheduled*) Association for Education Finance and Policy (AEFP) Conference; City University of New York (CUNY) Higher Education Seminar Series (virtual); Sixth World Labor Conference/Society of Labor Economists (SOLE); Econometric Society World Congress

**2024:** U.S. Military Academy at West Point; Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) Retail Credit Risk Analysis Division (virtual); University of South Carolina; OCC Compliance Risk Analysis Division (virtual); University of Rochester; ISO New England; Federal Trade Commission; Virginia Commonwealth University; Census Bureau (virtual); RAND Corporation; U.S. Department of Education/Brookings Institute Economics of Education Seminar; AEFP; National Science Foundation Evaluation and Assessment Capability Seminar (virtual); National Academies of Science Engineering and Medicine Roundtable on Systemic Change in Undergraduate STEM Education (virtual); Notre Dame/Midwest Econ of Education Conference; Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM) Conference; Southern Economic Association (SEA) Conference; National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) Economics of Education Fall Meeting

**2023:** AEFP; Midwest Economics Association (MEA) Conference; Census Bureau (virtual); Society of Labor Economists (SOLE) Annual Meeting; Federal Statistical Research Data Center Annual Research Conference (virtual); Abt Associates (virtual); University of Florida College of Education; APPAM; University of North Carolina - Greensboro; University of Texas - San Antonio; State University of New York at Buffalo Graduate School of Education

**2022:** AEFP; American Educational Research Association (AERA) Conference; APPAM; Interdisciplinary Training Program in Education Sciences Seminar

**2020:** AEFP; APPAM; E-con of Education Conference

## GRANTS RECEIVED

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**2025:** J-PAL North America Racial Equity Grant: “Estimating the Value of a New Postsecondary Credential: An Audit Study of Community College Bachelor’s Degrees.” (Co-PI with Riley Acton, Kalena Cortes, Camila Morales, & Julia Turner). \$44,575.55 + Research Management Support of \$28,804.99

**2025:** Texas A&M University Bush School Seed Grant: “Estimating the Value of a New Postsecondary Credential: An Audit Study of Community College Bachelor’s Degrees.” (Co-PI with Riley Acton, Kalena Cortes, Camila Morales, & Julia Turner). \$11,530.

**2025:** Texas Higher Education Foundation: “PSEO Research Grant” (Co-PI with Riley Acton, Kalena Cortes, Camila Morales, & Julia Turner). \$15,000.

**2024:** University of South Carolina Riegel and Emory Human Resource Center Grant: “Switching Schools: Effects of College Transfers” and “Small Distances that Matter: Effects of Local Community College Openings on Enrollment and Degree Completion.” \$5,000

## SELECTED FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

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Jean Flanigan Outstanding Dissertation Award, Association for Education Finance and Policy	2025
Honorable Mention, Association for Public Policy and Management Best Dissertation Award	2024
National Academy of Education/Spencer Dissertation Fellowship	2023
Dorothy Rice Dissertation Fellowship, UW-Madison Dept. of Economics	2022
Mary Claire Ashenbrenner Phipps Dissertator Fellowship, UW-Madison Dept. of Economics	2021
Dissertation Research Award, UW-Madison Institute for Research on Poverty	2021

JPG Summer Research Scholarship (with Garrett Anstreicher), UW-Madison Dept. of Economics	2021
JPG Summer Research Scholarship (with Minseon Park), UW-Madison Dept. of Economics	2020
JPG Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, UW-Madison Dept. of Economics	2018
Department Fellowship, UW-Madison Dept. of Economics	2017
Honors with Distinction Award for Honor Scholar Thesis, DePauw University	2017
Phi Beta Kappa Society, Indiana Alpha Chapter	2016

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### Instructor (University of South Carolina)

ECON 530, Economics of Education Fall 2024

### Teaching Assistant (UW-Madison)

ECON 410, Introductory Econometrics, Prof. Kohei Yata Fall 2022

ECON 102, Introduction to Macroeconomics, Prof. Stella Chan Fall 2018

ECON 102, Introduction to Macroeconomics, Prof. Elizabeth Kelly Fall 2017

## RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS

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Research Assistant, Jeffrey Smith (UW-Madison) May 2019-Aug 2022  
*Effects of College Quality*

Research Assistant, Corina Mommaerts and Anita Mukherjee (UW-Madison) Jan-May 2019  
*Frictions in Claiming and Saving: An Analysis of Unclaimed Retirement Accounts*

## SERVICE

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Referee: *AERA Open*, *Canadian Journal of Economics*, *Economic Journal*, *Economics of Education Review*, *Economic Journal*, *Education Finance and Policy*, *Educational Policy*, *ILR Review*, *Quantitative Economics*, *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, *The Scandinavian Journal of Economics*

Seminar Co-Director, University of South Carolina Fall 2024-Present

Abstract Reviewer, APPAM Education Program Area 2024

Co-founder & leadership team, Wisconsinites for Inclusion & Diversity in Economics (WIDE) 2019-2022

Cohort Representative, Wisconsin Economics Graduate Organization (WEGO) 2019-2021

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS/WRITING

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- **Reaching Further: the Role of Distance in College Undermatching**, (2017) DePauw University Honor Scholar Theses. 72.
- **Individual Retirement Arrangements**, (with Anita Mukherjee), *Encyclopedia of Gerontology and Population Aging* (section: Social Security and Pension Systems), Springer, March 2019
- **Effects of College Quality: Occupation and Major as Mechanisms of Earnings Increases** (Resting Paper)