

LOIS MILLER

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

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University of South Carolina, Department of Economics

Assistant Professor

Fall 2024 -

EDUCATION

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

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 Jeffrey Smith)

INVITED PRESENTATIONS AND CONFERENCES

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)*

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

* poster presentation

GRANTS RECEIVED

2025: Texas A&M University Bush School Seed Grant: “Estimating the Value of a New Post-secondary 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 |

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| 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

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

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

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

Research Mentor, Lumiere Education 2021

OTHER PUBLICATIONS/WRITING

- **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)

MISCELLANEOUS

Citizenship: United States of America

Security Clearance: U.S. Census Bureau Special Sworn Status