

December 2024

Xiaochen Sun

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Academic Appointment

2024 – Assistant Professor of Economics, New Mexico State University

Education

Ph.D. Public Policy and Management, Carnegie Mellon University, 2024

Dissertation Committee: Karen Clay (co-chair), Edson Severnini (co-chair), Akshaya Jha

M.S. Environmental Economics and Policy, Duke University, 2015

B.A. Environmental Economics, Renmin University of China, 2013

Research Interests

Energy and Environmental Economics, Public Economics, Empirical Industrial Organization

Honors, Fellowships, and Awards

2024 Winner of 41st United States Association for Energy Economics (USAEE)
Young Professional Research Competition

2018 – 2024 Heinz College PhD Fellowship, Carnegie Mellon University

2023 Property and Environment Research Center (PERC) Graduate Fellowship

2022 Carnegie Mellon University Graduate Student Assembly / Provost
Conference Funds

2021 Mentee, Applied Microeconomics of Association for Mentoring &
Inclusion in Economics (AMIE)

2019 Attendee, Berkeley/Sloan Summer School in Environmental and Energy
Economics

2013 – 2014 Merit-based Scholarship, Duke University

2012 Third Award in the 14th Innovation Cup for Student Research Paper

2010 Undergraduate Fellowship for Excellent Academic Performance

2010 Dean's List, Renmin University of China

Research

Peer-Reviewed Publications

“Does LEED Certification Save Energy? Evidence from Retrofitted Federal Buildings”, joint with Karen Clay and Edson Severnini, *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management* 121: 102866, 2023 (*NBER Working Paper No. 28612* and *IZA Discussion Paper No. 14211*) (*Also featured in NBER Research Spotlight, 7/15/2021*).

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Working Papers

Impacts of Uncertainty in Transmission Interconnection on Energy Transition
(Winner of the 2024 USAEE Young Professional Best Paper Award Competition)

Work in Progress

“Impact of IRA on Energy Transition: Evidence from Energy Communities Tax Credits”,
joint with Gaurav Doshi and Jancy Ling Liu

“Impact of a Cap-and-Trade Program on Local Air Pollution: Evidence from the Acid Rain
Program”, joint with Karen Clay and Edson Severnini

Conference and Seminar Presentations

- 2025 ASSA Meetings in San Francisco
- 2024 41st USAEE Annual Conference, Association of Environmental and
Resource Economics (AERE) Annual Summer Conference, New Mexico
State University, Pomona College, Miami University – Oxford
- 2023 Carnegie Mellon University (Heinz Informal Lunch Series), Carnegie
Mellon Electricity Industry Center (CEIC), PERC, Empirical Methods in
Energy Economics (EMEE)
- 2022 Northeast Workshop on Energy Policy and Environmental Economics,
AERE Annual Summer Conference
- 2021 Northeast Workshop on Energy Policy and Environmental Economics
(Attendee), AERE Annual Summer Conference, Student Research Seminar
of Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management (APPAM),
Midwest Energy Fest, 1st Workshop in AMIE

Teaching

- Instructor, New Mexico State University
- 2024 – 2025 ECON 312 Intermediate Microeconomics Theory
- 2025 ECON337V Natural Resource Economics
- 2024 ECON 2110G Principles of Macroeconomics

- Teaching Assistant, Carnegie Mellon University
- 2019 – 2024 94-834 Applied Econometrics I
- 2020 – 2024 94-835 Applied Econometrics II
- 2019 – 2023 95-710 Economics Analysis
- 2020 90-711 Statistical Reasoning with R

Service and Activities

- 2024 Economics (ECON) Faculty Advisor, Department of Economics, Applied
Statistics, and International Business, New Mexico State University
- 2021 – 2023 PhD Representative, Heinz College, Carnegie Mellon University

Referee: AERE Summer Conference

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Other

Other Employment

2015 – 2018 Research Analyst, Duke University Energy Initiative

2015 Research Intern, Smart Electric Power Alliance

2014 Energy Research Fellow, Greenpeace

Other Information

Software: Stata, Python, R, Matlab

Affiliations: American Economic Association (AEA), Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (AERE), United States Association for Energy Economics (USAEE)

Languages: English (fluent), Mandarin (native), Japanese (beginner)