

LAURA CONNOLLY

Curriculum Vitae

CONTACT INFORMATION

Michigan Technological University
College of Business
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CV Last Updated: April 2025

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Assistant Professor of Economics 2018 – present
Michigan Technological University, Houghton, MI

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Economics (Research Area: Labor Economics) 2018
University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL
B.A. Mathematics; B.A. Economics (minor in Public Policy)
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC 2013

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Labor and Demographic Economics, Public Policy, Applied Microeconomics

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

1. “Regional Economic Impact of University Research Expenditures” with Jenny Apriesnig, Emanuel Xavier-Oliveira and Kathleen Halvorsen, *Studies in Higher Education*, 1 – 26.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/03075079.2024.2376262>
2. “Labor Mobility and the Affordable Care Act: Heterogeneous Impacts of the Preexisting Conditions Provision” with Matt Hampton and Otto Lenhart, *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management* (2024), 43(1), 157 – 191. <https://doi.org/10.1002/pam.22521>
3. “Understanding the Gender Wage Gap Among City Managers” with Jennifer Connolly, *Journal of Economic Insight* (2023), 49(2), 37 – 105.
<https://journalofeconomicinsight.com/index.php/joei/article/view/1308>
4. “Is There a Glass Cliff in Local Government Management? Examining the Hiring and Departure of Women” with Lang Kate Yang and Jennifer Connolly, *Public Administration Review* (2022), 82(3), 570 – 584. <https://doi.org/10.1111/puar.13471>
5. “The Effects of a Trade Shock on Gender-Specific Labor Market Outcomes in Brazil,” *Labour Economics* (2022), Vol. 74. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.labeco.2021.102085>
6. “Who Creates Stable Jobs? Evidence from Brazil” with Peter Brummund, *Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics* (2019), Vol. 81(3), 540 – 563. <https://doi.org/10.1111/obes.12273>
7. “Evaluating the Impact of the Labor Market Conditions Index on Labor Market Forecasts” with Alice Sheehan, *Studies in Nonlinear Dynamics and Econometrics* (2018), Vol. 22 (1).
<https://doi.org/10.1515/snde-2016-0102>

PAPERS UNDER REVIEW

[“Temporal Changes to the Added Worker Effect Associated with Spousal Job Loss”](#) (with Nicholas A. Jolly), *Revisions Submitted at Review of Economics of the Household*, GLO Discussion Paper, No. 1454.

WORK IN PROGRESS

“An Exploration of Gender Differences in Preferred Job Attributes” with Cali Curley and Jennifer Connolly

“Understanding Women’s Underrepresentation in City Management: Positive Trend, Slow Progress” with Cali Curley and Jennifer Connolly

“Revisiting The Effect of the Affordable Care Act Medicaid Expansion on Migration” with Matt Hampton and Otto Lenhart

“Labor Market Dynamics and Trade with China: The Case of Brazil” with Peter Brummund

EXTERNALLY FUNDED RESEARCH GRANTS

1. PI, “Regional Economic Impacts of Dredging the Menominee River Harbor” with Jenny Apriesnig and Travis White, Funded by the City of Menominee (2023); Project Value: \$69,218.
2. Co-PI, “Supplying Refined Battery Materials to the United States Electric Vehicle Battery Supply Chain by Synergizing Lithium-ion Battery Recycling with Mine Waste Reclamation” Lei Pan, Timothy Eisele, Ruiting Zhan, Jenny Apriesnig, and Emanuel Xavier-Oliveira; Funded by the US Department of Energy/Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (2023 – 2025); Project Value: \$3,112,578 (Economic Analysis Value: \$156,547). *Ongoing*.
3. Co-PI, "EPA Environmental Finance Center for the Great Lakes Region (EPA Region 5)" with Timothy Colling, Martin Auer, Gary Campbell, Robert Handler, Donald Lafreniere, Daisuke Minakata, Emanuel Xavier-Oliveira, Funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (2023 – 2028); Year 1 Project Value: \$119,998. *Ongoing*.
4. Co-PI, “Eagle Mine Economic Impact Study” with Emanuel Xavier-Oliveira, Jenny Apriesnig, Mari Buche, and Gary Campbell, Funded by Business for Social Responsibility and Lundin Mining (2021); Project Value: \$84,659.

INTERNAL RESEARCH GRANTS FUNDED

1. PI, “Economic Impact of Houghton’s Airport Service (CMX)” with Jenny Apriesnig and Emanuel Xavier-Oliveira, Funded by MTU’s University Relations and Enrollment Office (2022); Project Value: \$23,741.
2. Co-PI; “Regional Economic Impact of Michigan Tech’s Research Expenditures” with Jenny Apriesnig and Emanuel Xavier-Oliveira (2022), Funded by MTU’s Vice President for Research Office; Project Value: \$20,032.
3. PI, “Does CEO Gender Matter? Implications for Establishment Performance and the Glass Cliff Phenomenon in the State of Michigan,” Funded by MTU’s Research Excellence Fund (2020); Project Value: \$6,491.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & INVITED SEMINARS

2024: Southern Economic Association; Midwest Economic Association Society of Labor Economists (SOLE) Sessions

2023: Southern Economic Association; U.S. International Trade Commission Seminar Series (Invited); Marquette University Research Seminar (Invited); Midwest Economic Association SOLE Sessions

2022: Southern Economic Association; Liberal Arts College Labor and Public Economics Conference; Midwest Economic Association SOLE Sessions

2021: Southern Economic Association

2020: Southern Economic Association; Eastern Economic Association

2019: Southern Economic Association; Association for Public Policy and Management (International)

2018: Southern Economic Association; Southeastern International/Development Economics Workshop

2017: Southern Economic Association; Eastern Economic Association; American Economic Association (Poster Session); Wake Forest University Seminar Series

2016: Southern Economic Association; U.S. International Trade Commission Office of Economics

2015: Southern Economic Association (2x)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Courses taught at Michigan Technological University

EC 3400, Economic Decision Analysis (19 sections)

Average of 114 students per section; Average student evaluation of 4.53/5

EC 3002, Microeconomic Theory (3 sections)

Average of 30 students per section; Average student evaluation of 4.65/5

EC 4710, Labor/Human Resource Economics (3 sections)

Average of 14 students per section; Average student evaluation of 4.85/5

AWARDS & HONORS

Faculty Reassigned Time Award, MTU College of Business	AY 2024 – 2025
Top 10% Student Teaching Evaluation, Michigan Technological University (6x)	2019 - present
Dean's Teaching Showcase, MTU College of Business	Spring 2020
Outstanding Dissertation Award, UA Culverhouse College of Business	April 2019

SELECTED UNIVERSITY & COMMUNITY SERVICE

Member, Dissertation Committee (Mohsen Naghdi; Civil Engineering)	2025 - present
Member, Breakwater Federal Credit Union Audit Supervisory Committee	2022 - present
Faculty Advisor, Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity	2021 - present
Member, Dissertation Committee (Jennifer Rachels; Environmental Policy)	2020 - present
Member, Essential Education Law and Policy Minor Working Group	AY 2024-25
Member, Faculty Scholarship Committee (College)	AY 2024-25
Volunteer, MTU Career Closet (4x)	2018, 2019, 2023, 2024
Presenter, Financial Literacy Foundations, Various Student Organizations	2023, 2024, 2025
Member, Essential Education Course List Working Group	AY 2023-24
Member, Economics Assistant Teaching Professor Search Committee	AY 2023-24
Member, Environmental Policy Search Committee (Tenure Track)	AY 2023-24

Chair, External Engagement Committee (College)	AY 2023-24
Member, University AI Working Group	AY 2023-24
Member, Socially Responsible Technology PhD Program Committee	2023
Mentor, McNair Scholars Summer Research Program	2023
Member, Economics Assistant Teaching Professor Search Committee	AY 2022 - 2023
Member, University Teaching Space Renovations Committee	AY 2022 - 2023
Member, Faculty Scholarship Committee (College)	AY 2022 - 2023
Presenter, MTU Center for Teaching and Learning iClicker Showcase	2022
Auditor, Enterprise Program WERC Environmental Design Contest	2022
Member, Economics Committee (College)	AYs 2020-22
Reviewer, Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship Proposal	2021 & 2022
Judge, Blue Key Honor Society's Winter Carnival Queen	2018 & 2022
Undergraduate Marshall, Commencement, College of Business	2021
Mentor, Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship	2021
Judge, Pavlis Honors College Undergraduate Research Symposium	2019, 2020, & 2021
Member, Strategic Planning Committee (College)	AY 2019 - 2020
Reviewer, Research Excellence Fund Proposals (3x)	AYs 2018-2020
Member, Undergraduate Program Committee (College)	AY 2018 - 2019

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Journal Referee: Journal of Economic Studies, Journal of Political Economy Microeconomics, World Development; International Review of Applied Economics; Resources Policy; Applied Economics; Economics and Human Biology; Review of Regional Studies; Southern Economic Journal; Journal of Economics, Race, and Policy; Contemporary Economic Policy; Public Administration Review; Public Administration; SN Business & Economics

Conference Session Chair: Southern Economic Association (2016; 2018; 2020 (x2); 2022 – organizer and chair; 2023)

Conference Discussant: Midwest Economics Association SOLE Sessions (2022; 2023; 2024); Southern Economic Association (2015 (2x); 2016; 2018; 2020; 2024)

ADDITIONAL RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Student Economist Trainee, US International Trade Commission, Office of Economics Summer 2016
AEA Summer Economics Fellow

MEDIA CONTRIBUTIONS & COVERAGE

“Women city managers face a glass cliff as local governments are more likely to hire them when budgets are collapsing” (with Lang Kate Yang and Jennifer M. Connolly). *London School of Economics United States Politics and Policy Blog*. <https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/usappblog/2022/03/31/women-city-managers-face-a-glass-cliff-as-local-governments-are-more-likely-to-hire-them-when-budgets-are-collapsing/>

Panelist, “COVID-19 Impact on Economics.” MTU’s COVID-19 Town Hall Series hosted by the Health Research Institute. Fall 2020. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xv33dIaSGc8>

Interviewee, “Local businesses see impact from shutdown.” *The Daily Mining Gazette*. April 21, 2020. <https://www.mininggazette.com/news/2020/04/local-businesses-see-impact-from-shutdown/>