

CHU A. (ALEX) YU

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Wake Forest University

2020–present

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Economics, University of California San Diego

2020

B.A. in Economics and Mathematics, Northwestern University

2014

Magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa

PUBLISHED & ACCEPTED PAPERS

“Mismeasured and Misunderstood: Unmasking the Temperature Proxy Problem in Climate Impact Estimates,” with Richard Carson. Forthcoming, *Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists*.

“Air Pollution Exposure and Donation to Its Victims: Evidence from Online Charitable Giving,” with Peng Shen, Xincheng Wang, Yinxiao Wang, Yucheng Wang, and Shuhuai Zhang. *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management* (2025): 103245.

“Modeling Behavioral Response to Infectious Diseases in an Online Experiment,” with Haosen He and Frederick Chen. *Review of Economic Design* 29 (2025): 191–212.

“Observational Studies Generate Misleading Results About the Health Effects of Air Pollution: Evidence from Chronic Air Pollution and COVID-19 Outcomes,” with Marc N. Conte, Matthew Gordon, Nicole Swartwood, and Rachel Wilwerding. *PLOS ONE* 19(1) (2024): e0296154.

“An Agent-Based Model of Elephant Crop Consumption Walks Using Combinatorial Optimization,” with Haosen He, Erin Buchholtz, Frederick Chen, and Susanne Vogel. *Ecological Modelling* 464 (2022): 109852.

“COVID-19’s U.S. Temperature Response Profile,” with Richard Carson, Samuel Carson, Thayne Dye, Samuel Mayfield, and Daniel Moyer. *Environmental and Resource Economics* 80 (2021): 675–704.

WORKING PAPERS AND WORKS IN PROGRESS

“Co-Pollutant Bias in Air Pollution IV Designs,” with Zhenxuan Wang. Under review.

“Measurement Error Bias in Air Pollution IV Designs,” with Zhenxuan Wang. Under review.

“Rerouting Externalities: Flight Diversions and Local Health,” with Zhanhan Yu. Under review.

“Exposure, Vulnerability, and Environmental Injustice: Air Pollution and Emergency Medical Care in NYC,” with Marc Conte and Rachel Wilwerding. Under review.

“Monotonicity in Air Pollution IV Designs,” with Zhenxuan Wang.

“Unintended Digital Precaution in Extreme Weather,” with Tommy Leung.

HONORS AND AWARDS

2026	Sabin Center Seed Grant, Wake Forest (\$4,000)
2023	CEES Seed Grant, Wake Forest (\$4,380)
2022	Localize My Course Mellon Grant Award, Wake Forest
2019	Clive Granger Research Fellowship Award, UC San Diego
2019	Associate-in Instructor Teaching Award, UC San Diego
2015–2017	Summer Graduate Research Fellowship, UC San Diego
2014	Regents Fellowship, UC San Diego
2014	Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society
2010–2013	Communication Century Scholar, Northwestern University

TEACHING

Wake Forest University

- Applied Econometrics, 2020–present
- Economics of the Environment, 2022–present
- Research leave, Fall 2023–Spring 2024

University of California San Diego

- Principles of Macroeconomics, Summer 2018; Fall 2018

SEMINARS, CONFERENCES, AND WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

2027	AERE@ASSA: Washington, DC*
2026	Workshop on New Developments in the Economics of Air Pollution: University of Mannheim*
	World Congress of Environmental and Resource Economists: NOVA School of Business and Economics
	NYC Air Quality and Health Summit: Fordham University
	Midwest Economics Association Annual Meeting
2025	Eastern Economic Association Annual Meeting
	LAC Public and Labor Conference
	Carolina Regional Empirical Economics Day (Clemson University)
	Southern Economic Association Annual Conference
2024	Southern Economic Association Annual Conference
	SWEEEP: Georgia Tech
	Carolina Regional Empirical Economics Day (University of North Carolina at Charlotte)
	CSWEP CeMENT Workshop
	Peking University (seminar)
	AERE Summer Conference
	Midwest Economics Association Annual Meeting
2023	Duke / NC State / RTI TREE Seminar
	Appalachian State University (seminar)
	Southern Economic Association Annual Conference
	SWEEEP: Georgia Tech
	Triangle Economists in Applied Micro Workshop
2022	Climate Econometrics Conference (Toulouse School of Economics)
	Carolina Regional Empirical Economics Day (University of North Carolina at Greensboro)
	Southern Economic Association Annual Conference
2021	CU Boulder Environmental Workshop
2020	University of California San Diego (seminar)
	EAERE Summer Conference

University of Nebraska–Lincoln (seminar)
Wake Forest University (seminar)
University of Richmond (seminar)
Peking University (seminar)
Moody’s Analytics (seminar)
2019 Stevens Institute of Technology (seminar)
Camp Resources
AERE Summer Conference

**Scheduled.*

REFEREE SERVICE

Science; Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences; Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists; Journal of Environmental Economics and Management; Journal of Health Economics; The Energy Journal; Environment and Development Economics; Atmospheric Environment; Computational Economics; PLOS ONE

Citizenship: China; U.S. Permanent Resident