



THIS ISSUE

*Important Dates**Faculty Spotlight**EC Alumni Spotlight**WAMIE Student Organization**Campus & CSN Events*

IMPORTANT DATES

- DROP WITH NO GRADE REPORTED AND NO REFUND OCTOBER 20TH (FOR MOST FULL SEMESTER COURSES)
- FALL BREAK OCTOBER 25TH-26TH THE UNIVERSITY IS OPEN BUT NO CLASSES ARE MEETING
- STUDENTS WHO HAVE NOT ENROLLED IN COURSES NOVEMBER 12TH BY 8:00 PM ARE SUBJECT TO A \$50 LATE FEE

ADVISING

APPOINTMENTS

If you have questions about enrollment, please schedule an Advising Appointment student.msu.edu

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: BEN BUSHONG

I'm Ben Bushong; I'm an assistant professor in the department and I joined MSU in 2017.

My research seeks to deepen our understanding of the foundational psychologies that shape consumer choices so that we may better guide future policy. Broadly, my work to-date falls under the umbrella of psychology and economics—also known as behavioral economics—but I utilize tools from experimental economics, microeconomic theory, data science, and neuroeconomics. A variety of factors and biases shape economic behavior and these often have nuanced implications for behavior. For instance, my research suggests ways that a firm can better allocate tasks to minimize turnover, how organizations might improve charitable giving, and advertisers may improve product marketing. I have the great pleasure of teaching this topic in EC 404.

My other teaching—in SSC 442: Data Analytics Applications—serves as the capstone for the Data Analytics minor. As students near graduation, it is important that we arm them with tools to attract attention on the job market. SSC 442 teaches students to think about data analytics broadly while also offering some practical, hands-on experience with programming in the statistical language “R”. We spend a great deal of time learning how to interpret the output of analytical programming, with the primary goal to highlight how data analytics permeates the various social sciences and informs our policies.

The past eighteen months (during the pandemic) have brought opportunities for different forms of engagement. Practically speaking, I've greatly expanded the use of online tools and have found these helpful. But more broadly, I've learned to be more flexible towards students. I now try to empathize more with their everyday struggles, reminding myself of the burdens of COVID can fall on many people in surprising ways. The challenges of COVID have served as a helpful reminder to practice kindness.

EC ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: KIM GANNON

Kim Gannon is a second year PhD student in the Health Policy program at Yale's School of Public Health. She is funded by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) in the Department of Health and Human Services. Her program combines training in economics, social science, and traditional public health to help solve problems in healthcare quality and delivery. She loved her economics degree so much that she decided to pursue a disciplinary concentration in economics. With this concentration, she has taken several PhD level economics courses. She enjoys this focus because the tools of economics are fundamental for policy analysis. She has loved learning about new disciplines and ideas and how they apply to public health. She has had a wonderful experience in her PhD program and is excited to continue her interdisciplinary understanding of public health.

- What recommendations do you have for students interested in applying to graduate school?
 - I would recommend starting prior to spring: use that time to research, identify, and start reaching out to programs of interest, and also study for the GRE. I recommend taking the GRE over the summer before you apply in the fall, and asking for letters of recommendation by end of September at the absolute latest. Try to have your apps done and submitted by thanksgiving so you can relax over the holiday break. :)
- What is a challenging part of your PhD program and how do you handle it?
 - COVID was the most challenging part of my graduate school experience. Our classes were virtual which made meeting people challenging. I was able to lean on my support network from Michigan and MSU during this challenging time. Now things are returning to a new normal, I have been able to land on my feet and make connections within my program at Yale.
- What recommendations do you have for current EC students on the internship, job, or graduate school search?
 - I would encourage students to ask a lot of questions early and often. This skill will allow you to tailor your education around what you learn from your conversations. I knew early on that I wanted a PhD. This realization allowed me to talk with current PhD students and individuals who received their PhD to gain their insight on what courses to take and the graduate school process.
- What would you encourage all EC students to do before finishing their program?
 - I would recommend giving back to your community. The Lansing and East Lansing communities are much bigger than MSU and provide diverse ways to engage and give back. Doing this will remind you what is important at the end of the day, community.

WOMEN AND MINORITIES IN ECONOMICS (WAMIE)

WAMIE (women and minorities in economics) is an organization at MSU aiming to encourage women and minorities to study economics, to discuss accomplishments and opportunities in the field of economics and promote the ongoing efforts for inclusion within the discipline. Upcoming events include resume building with career services, panels, and study hours. Please reach out to Marissa Miller at mill3128@msu.edu for more information about the events or any questions you may have.

CAREER SERVICES NETWORK EVENTS:

[HTTPS://CAREERNETWORK.MSU.EDU/EVENTS/](https://careernetwork.msu.edu/events/)

- Navigating Virtual Career Fairs Oct. 14th Noon-12:45 PM
- Big 10+ International Students Connect Oct. 14th 5:00-6:30 PM
- Finding a Summer Research Opportunity Oct. 14th 7:30-8:30 PM
- Troubleshooting your Research Experience Oct. 18th 5:30-6:30 PM
- Part-time Job & Internship Search: Transfer Student Advantage Oct. 18th 4:00-5:00 PM
- AAUW Start Smart Salary Negotiations Oct. 19th 6:00-8:30 PM
- Writing Resumes and Cover Letters Oct. 20th 4:00-5:00 PM
- Innovate State: Health, Well-being, & Sustainability Oct. 20th 6:00-8:00 PM
- Learn about Research Oct. 20th 6:30-7:30 PM
- More Than a Major Oct. 20th 7:00-8:00 PM
- Major Exploration Workshop Oct. 21st 2:00-3:00 PM
- Life on OPT: For International Students Oct. 26th 9:00-10:00 AM
- 10 Tips for LinkedIn: Social Media for Work Oct. 28th 11:30 AM-12:20 PM
- Innovate State: The Future of Food Nov. 3rd 6:00-8:00 PM
- Job Search Workshop Nov. 10th Noon-12:45 PM
- [Career Fairs](#)

C3 EXPO: OCTOBER 18TH (VIRTUAL) AND

OCTOBER 19TH (IN-PERSON) NOON- 4:00 PM

COLLABORATIVE LEARNING CENTER

- [Workshop Schedule](#)

COUNSELING & PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES

(CAPS) HTTPS://CAPS.MSU.EDU/

- [CAPS Connect \(brief consultation\)](#)
- [Crisis Services](#)

OFFICE OF CULTURAL & ACADEMIC

TRANSITIONS (OCAT)

- [Fall 2021 Events](#)