

Xiang Zheng

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EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor of Finance, School of Business, University of Connecticut 2021 – present

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Finance, Carroll School of Management, Boston College 2016 – 2021
M.A. in Economics (honors), Central University of Finance and Economics 2012 – 2015
B.Eng. in Mechanical Engineering, Zhejiang University of Technology 2008 – 2012

RESEARCH FIELDS

FinTech/Innovation, Corporate Finance, Banking

PUBLICATION

1. **How Can Innovation Screening Be Improved? A Machine Learning Analysis with Economic Consequences for Firm Performance**
 - *Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis*, 2025
 - *The FMA Best Paper Award in FinTech; The Kuldeep Shastri Outstanding Doctoral Student Paper*
2. **Can Small Businesses Survive Chapter 11?** with Edith Hotchkiss and Ben Iverson
 - *Journal of Finance*, conditionally accepted
 - *The House Judiciary Subcommittee Hearing: “Bankruptcy Law: Overview and Legislative Reforms”*
3. **How Does Private Firm Patenting Affect Anti-Takeover Provisions in Corporate Charters? Evidence from Initial Public Offerings**, with Thomas Chemmanur, Manish Gupta, and Karen Simonyan
 - *Journal of Law and Economics*, forthcoming
4. **How Does Greater Bank Competition Affect Borrower Screening? Evidence from China’s WTO Entry**, with Thomas Chemmanur, Jiaqi Qin, Yan Sun, and Qianqian Yu
 - *Journal of Corporate Finance*, 65 (2020): 101776.

SELECTED WORKING PAPERS

5. **From Competitors to Partners: Banks’ Venture Investments in Fintech**, with Manju Puri and Yiming Qian
 - *Revise & Resubmit*, *Journal of Financial Economics*
6. **Do Fintech Shadow Banks Compete with Technological Advantages? Evidence from Mortgage Lending**, with Siyi Shen and Sijie Wang
 - *Reject & Resubmitted*, *Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis*
7. **GSE Restrictions, Credit Supply, and Rental Market Spillovers**, with Natee Amornsiripanitch, Philip Strahan, and Song Zhang
 - *Revise & Resubmit*, *Management Science*

8. **How Does VC Engagement Direct Startup Experimentation?** with Xuelin Li, Sijie Wang, and Jiajie Xu
– *Media coverage: ProMarket*
9. **Woke or Broke? The Impact of Corporate Activism on Product Sales**, with Meng Gao
10. **What is the Role of the Options Market? Evidence from Newly Public Companies**, with Thomas Chemmanur and Chayawat Ornthanalai

SELECTED WORK IN PROGRESS

11. **The Economic Impact of Insolvency Reforms Around the World**, with James Albertus, Edith Hotchkiss, and Aurelio Gurrea-Martínez
12. **The Staging Effect during House Sales**, with Puja Bhattacharya, Sherry Li, Yu Wang, and Cedric Wu
– *Semi-finalist for the FMA Best Paper Award in Corporate Finance*
– *AEA RCT Registry: AEARCTR-0016398*

CONFERENCE & SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

Conference (Including coauthor presentation):

Large conference:

AREUEA National Conference: 2024
 Asia Meeting of the Econometric Society (AMES): 2022
 Australasian Finance & Banking Conference (AFBC): 2023
 American Economic Association Annual Meeting (AEA): 2022, 2023 (Poster)
 American Finance Association Annual Meeting (AFA): 2020 (Poster), 2025, 2025 (Poster)
 China International Conference in Finance (CICF): 2024 (×2)
 Eastern Finance Association Annual Meeting (EasternFA): 2021, 2022 (×2), 2023, 2024
 European Finance Association Annual Meeting (EFA): 2024 (×2)
 Financial Intermediation Research Society Annual Meeting (FIRS): 2022, 2024
 Financial Management Association Annual Meeting (FMA): 2020 (×2), 2021, 2022, 2023 (×2)
 Midwest Finance Association Annual Meeting (MFA): 2022, 2023 (×2), 2024 (×3)
 NBER Summer Institute (Entrepreneurship): 2024, 2025
 Northern Finance Association Annual Meeting (NFA): 2024 (×2)
 SFS Cavalcade North America: 2025
 Urban Economics Association North America: 2024

Small conference:

Bretton Woods Ski Conference: 2025
 CEAR-CenFIS Conference at FRB Atlanta: 2024 (×2)
 Chicago-Harvard-Wharton Insolvency & Restructuring Conference: 2025
 China Financial Research Conference: 2021, 2024
 FDIC Bank Research Conference: 2024 (×2)
 Greater Boston Annual Corporate Governance Workshop: 2022
 GSU-RFS Fintech Conference: 2023
 Harvard-Wharton Insolvency and Restructuring Conference: 2024
 Northeastern University Finance Conference: 2023
 Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) Fintech Symposium: 2022
 Santiago Finance Workshop: 2024
 Summer Institute of Finance: 2023
 TAMU Young Scholars Finance Consortium: 2025
 Telfer Conference on Corporate Finance and Banking: 2023, 2024
 The Annual Fixed Income and Financial Institutions Conference: 2022

The Mortgage Market Research Conference at FRBP: 2024

UMass Isenberg Finance Conference: 2025

Wharton Financial Regulation Conference: 2024

Seminar:

Boston College, California State University–Fullerton, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Chinese University of Hong Kong (Shenzhen), City University of Hong Kong, Durham University, Fudan University, Georgetown Global Virtual Seminar on Fintech, Luohan Academy, Nankai University, Oregon State University, Peking University, San Diego State University, Shanghai Jiaotong University, SKEMA Business School, Shanghai University of Finance and Economics, University of Connecticut, University of Florida

INVITED WORKSHOPS

2026: The AFA Junior Faculty Mentoring Program (JFMP)

2021: Mitsui Center Summer School on Structural Estimation in Corporate Finance

2019: 12th NBER Entrepreneurship Research Boot Camp

TEACHING

Instructor, University of Connecticut, 2021 –

Financial Management (BA): Fall 2025

Introductions to Financial Models (MA): Fall 2022 – Fall 2024

– Last course evaluation: 5.0/5.0

Investments & Security Analysis (BA): Fall 2021, Spring 2022

– Last course evaluation: 5.0/5.0

Financial Modeling (MBA): Fall 2021

– Last course evaluation: 5.0/5.0

SERVICE

Referee:

Review of Financial Studies, Management Science, Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis, Journal of Banking and Finance, Journal of Corporate Finance, Journal of Empirical Finance, and others

Conference Program Committee:

UConn Finance Conference: 2023 –

Conference Discussion:

Australasian Finance & Banking Conference: 2023

China Financial Research Conference: 2021

Eastern Finance Association Annual Meeting: 2021, 2023

Financial Management Association Annual Meeting: 2021

Midwest Finance Association Annual Meeting: 2021, 2023, 2024

UConn Finance Conference: 2022

University of Connecticut:

Fintech UG Program Curriculum Committee: 2022

Undergraduate Faculty Advisor: 2022 –

PhD Committee:

Cianna Durringer (ongoing)

Ying Xing (ongoing)

Heonyeol Jeong (ongoing)

Sijie Wang (external letter writer)

GRANTS

UConn Center for Private and Entrepreneurial Capital (CPEC) Research Grant (\$9,000)	2023
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AWARDS & HONORS

Semi-finalist for the FMA Best Paper Award	2023
UConn OVPR/AAUP Faculty Travel Award	2023 –
The FMA Best Paper Award in FinTech	2021
The EasternFA Kuldeep Shastri Outstanding Doctoral Student Paper	2021
Semi-finalist for the FMA Best Paper Award in Corporate Finance (×2)	2020
American Finance Association Annual Meeting Student Travel Grant	2018
Doctoral Fellowship, Carroll School of Management, Boston College	2016 – 2021
National Scholarship, Central University of Finance and Economics	2013

PERSONAL

Married with two daughters: Scarlett and Gretchen

Last updated: October 2025