

ALEXANDER K. ZENTEFIS

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Academic Positions

Leavey School of Business, Santa Clara University Assistant Professor	2025–
Hoover Institution, Stanford University Visiting Fellow John Stauffer National Fellow in Public Policy	2025– 2024–2025
Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago Visiting Scholar	2024–
Yale University School of Management Assistant Professor	2017–2024

Education

The University of Chicago Booth School of Business Ph.D. Finance Thesis: “Bank Net Worth and Frustrated Monetary Policy” Committee: Douglas Diamond (chair), Stavros Panageas (chair), John Cochrane, Pietro Veronesi	2017
Washington University in St. Louis Olin Business School M.S. Finance B.S. Finance	2009 2009

Research Field

Institutions

Peer-Reviewed Publications

1. “Segmentation and Beliefs: A Theory of Self-Fulfilling Idiosyncratic Risk”
(with Paymon Khorrami)
Journal of Economic Theory, 224: 105954 (2025)
2. “Causal Micro-Narratives” (with Mourad Heddaya, Qingcheng Zeng, Chenhao Tan,
and Rob Voigt)
*Association for Computational Linguistics: Empirical Methods in Natural Language
Processing 6th Workshop on Narrative Understanding Proceedings*, 1: 67-84 (2024)
3. “Monotone Function Intervals: Theory and Applications” (with Kai Hao Yang)
American Economic Review, 114(8): 2230–2270 (2024)
Lead Article

4. “Corporate Culture as a Theory of the Firm” (with Gary Gorton)
Economica, 91(364): 1391–1423 (2024)
5. “Regulating Oligopolistic Competition” (with Kai Hao Yang)
Journal of Economic Theory, 212: 105709 (2023)
6. “Language of Bargaining” (with Mourad Heddaya, Solomon Dworkin, Chenhao Tan, and Rob Voigt)
Association for Computational Linguistics 61st Annual Proceedings, 1: 13161–13185 (2023)
7. “Social Progress and Corporate Culture” (with Gary Gorton)
Industrial and Corporate Change, 32(3): 733–754 (2023)
8. “Self-Fulfilling Asset Prices”
Review of Asset Pricing Studies, 12(4): 886–917 (2022)
9. “Bank Net Worth and Frustrated Monetary Policy”
Journal of Financial Economics, 138(3): 687–699 (2020)

Other Publications

10. “Corporate Culture” (with Gary Gorton and Jillian Grennan)
Annual Review of Financial Economics, 14: 535–561 (2022)

Working Papers

11. “A Century of Inflation Narratives” (with Mourad Heddaya, Qingcheng Zeng, Chenhao Tan, and Rob Voigt)
12. “Explaining Models” (with Kai Hao Yang and Nathan Yoder)
Accepted *26th ACM Conference on Economics and Computation (EC’25)*
13. “What Drives Disparities in Bank Branch Use? A Geospatial Analysis” (with Jung Sakong)
(R&R, *Review of Finance*)
14. Risk-taking under a Punishing Bailout”
(R&R, *Review of Asset Pricing Studies*)

Subsumed Papers

15. “Gerrymandering and the Limits of Representative Democracy” (with Kai Hao Yang)
16. “Distributions of Posterior Quantiles and Economic Applications” (with Kai Hao Yang)

Previous Professional Positions

The University of Chicago, Becker Friedman Institute Research Assistant	2012–2014
Federal Reserve Board of Governors, Capital Markets Sr. Research Assistant	2009–2011

Teaching

Santa Clara Leavey

FNCE 121: Financial Management (Undergraduate)	2026–
FNCE 124: Investments (Undergraduate)	2026–
FNCE 2405: Investments (MBA)	2026–

Yale SOM

MGT 430 E1: The Executive (EMBA)	2019–2024
MGT 412: Investor (MBA)	2017–2024
MGT 781: Finance Workshop	2019
MGT 430: The Executive (MBA)	2018
MGT 782: Financial Econ Pre-Workshop (PhD)	2017–2019

Chicago Booth

B35000: Investments (Teaching Assistant for Stavros Panageas)	2014
B35150: Advanced Investments (Teaching Assistant for John Cochrane)	2014

Students

Doctoral Advising

Name (Placement)

Mourad Heddaya (ongoing)	2022–
Yi (Layla) Wang (ongoing)	2022–

Pre-Doctoral Advising

Name (Placement)

Yixuan (Tom) Wang (University of Waterloo)	2024
Yi (Layla) Wang (Yale SOM)	2022
Gen Li (UBC Sauder)	2020

Masters Advising

Name (Institution)

Jia Zhang (Yale SOM)	2025
Evan Gaj (Yale SOM)	2024
Emily Lewis (Yale SOM)	2023

Professional Activities

Journal Reviewer

American Economic Review

American Economic Review: Insights

Applied Economics

Economica

Economics and Business Letters

Frontiers in Psychology

Harvard Data Science Review

Industrial and Corporate Change

Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control

Journal of the Economic Science Association

Journal of Economic Theory

Journal of Finance

Journal of Financial Intermediation
Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization
Journal of Monetary Economics
Journal of Political Economy
Management Science
Managerial and Decision Economics
Nature: Humanities & Social Sciences Communications
Organization Science
Pacific-Basin Finance Review
Review of Asset Pricing Studies
Review of Financial Studies

Conference Program Committee Member

SFS Cavalcade North America Meeting Program Committee	2025–
FMA Annual Meeting Program Committee	2024–
Olin/Kenan-Flagler/Gothenburg/JFI Banking Conference	2024
European Finance Association Annual Meeting	2024–
Western Finance Association Annual Meeting	2023–
Research Symposium on Finance and Economics	2023–
Financial Intermediation Research Society Conference	2022–
Berkeley Culture Conference	2021–
Midwest Finance Association Annual Meeting	2019–
WashU Olin Corporate Finance Conference	2018–
Yale SOM Financial Crisis Conference	2018

Conference Organizer

Yale SOM Junior Finance Conference	2018–2019
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Conference Session Chair

Financial Management Association European Annual Meeting	2022
Berkeley Culture Conference	2022
American Economic Association Annual Meeting	2017

Moderator

Yale SOM Women in Management Financial Inclusivity Panel	2023–2024
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Academic Advisory Board Member

Berkeley Culture Initiative	2021–
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Member

Finance Theory Group	2024–
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Service Activities

Yale SOM

Finance Junior Faculty Recruiting	2017–2024
Finance Ph.D. Admissions	2017–2024

Chicago Booth

Student Finance Brownbag Seminar Coordinator	2012–2014
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Keynote Addresses

Research Symposium on Finance and Economics	2025
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Honors, Awards, and Fellowships

Best Paper Award, Fin. Intermediation & Markets, FMA Annual Meeting	2023
Best Paper Award, Asia-Pacific Association of Derivatives	2023
John Leusner Fellowship	2017
AQR Top Finance Graduate Award	2017
Best Finance Ph.D. Paper Award, 13 th Annual Conference on Corp. Fin.	2016
Fischer Black Fellowship in Finance	2015–2016
Katherine Dusak Miller Ph.D. Fellowship	2014–2015
AFA Student Travel Grant	2015
Bradley Foundation Fellowship	2014
CRSP Summer Paper Award	2012
John and Serena Liew Fellowship	2011
Booth School of Business Doctoral Fellowship	2011–2014

Presentations

Fresno State Craig	2025
Pepperdine Economics	
UC Santa Cruz Economics	
Conference on Frontiers in Machine Learning and Economics (scheduled)	
UC Davis Graduate School of Management (scheduled)	
USC Marshall (scheduled)	
UC Riverside Economics (scheduled)	
Santa Clara Leavey (x2)	2024
OFR Treasury	
Federal Reserve Board	
Northeastern D'Amore-McKim	
Notre Dame Mendoza	
Haverford Economics	
OCC Bank Research Symposium	
2 nd UGA Fall Finance Conference	
California State East Bay Economics	
Temple Fox	
San Jose State Economics	
University of San Francisco Economics	
San Francisco State Economics	
AEA Annual Meeting	2023
Yale SOM	
American University Kogod	
Young Scholars Finance Consortium	
Boston College Carroll	
NBER Data Privacy Protection Conference	
Federal Reserve Board	
UNC Conference on Reducing Wealth Inequality	
Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago	

Treasury Department OCC
 Northeastern D'Amore-McKim
 Federal Reserve Bank of Boston
 UConn Economics Macro Workshop
 DePaul Driehaus
 Villanova School of Business Economics
 Emory Economics Macro Seminar
 4th Annual Boca Corporate Finance and Governance Conference

11th FDIC Consumer Research Symposium 2022
 Colorado Boulder Leeds
 12th Monash Financial Markets and Corporate Governance Conference
 10th FMA Applied Finance Conference
 20th International IO Conference
 7th UConn Finance Conference
 Yale International and Spatial Economics Lunch Workshop
 SFS Cavalcade North America
 Africa Meeting of the Econometric Society
 BSE Summer Forum (Organizational Economics)
 SIOE Annual Conference
 Econometric Society Australasia Meeting
 FMA European Conference
 4th CEPR Endless Summer Conference on Fin. Intermediation & Corp. Fin.
 Yale Junior Applied Micro Workshop
 Johns Hopkins Carey
 Baruch College Zicklin

Berkeley Culture Conference 2021
 MFA Annual Meeting
 New Zealand Finance Meeting

AFA Annual Meeting 2020
 Yale SOM (2x)
 Federal Reserve Board

AFA Annual Meeting 2019
 MFA Annual Meeting
 HEC-McGill Winter Finance Workshop
 Adam Smith Workshop (Corporate Finance)
 Federal Reserve Bank of New York
 Front Range Finance Seminar
 FIRS Annual Meeting
 Society of Economic Dynamics Annual Meeting
 Macro-finance Juniors Conference
 30th CEPR/Gerzensee European Summer Symposium in Fin. Mkts. (Asset Pricing)
 Economics of Social Sector Organizations Conference
 6th Cambridge Corporate Finance Theory Symposium
 FMA Annual Meeting
 3rd Columbia Rising Five Star Conference

AEA Annual Meeting 2018
 MFA Annual Meeting
 FIRS Annual Meeting

Yale SOM
Stanford GSB

Chicago Booth
UT Austin McCombs
Vanderbilt Owens
Federal Reserve Board
OFR Treasury
Cleveland Fed
Yale SOM

Boston U Questrom
UCLA Anderson
European Central Bank
Stanford

Copenhagen Business School
Oxford Financial Intermediation Theory Conference (OxFIT)
Olin Business School WFA-CFAR and Journal of Fin. Intermediation Conference
Yale Junior Finance Conference

2017

Chicago Booth
WashU Olin 13th Annual Conference on Corporate Finance

2016