

Richard J. Volpe
Curriculum Vitae

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ORCID ID: 0000-0002-4210-1673

Educational Background

Ph.D. Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of California, Davis, California, June 2010.

M.S. Resource Economics, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts, June 2005.

B.S. Mathematics and Economics, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts, June 2003.

Professional Experience

September 2024-present. Professor, Agribusiness Department, California Polytechnic State University. San Luis Obispo, CA.

September 2019-August 2024. Associate Professor, Agribusiness Department, California Polytechnic State University. San Luis Obispo, CA.

September 2014- August 2019. Assistant Professor, Agribusiness Department, California Polytechnic State University. San Luis Obispo, CA.

August 2010 – August, 2014. Economist, Food Markets Branch, Food Economics Division, Economic Research Service, USDA. Washington, DC.

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Note: **: Indicates undergraduate coauthor, *: Indicates graduate student coauthor

46. Volpe, R., and J.A. Danley**. 2026. "Simulating Store Management and Competition in Food Retailing." *Agricultural Economics Education & Extension*. Accepted.

45. MacLachlan, M.J., M. Adjemian, X. Etienne, M. Sweitzer, **R. Volpe**, and W. Zeng. 2025. "Adaptive Food Price Forecasting Improves Public Information in Times of Rapid Economic Change." *Nature Communications*. Accepted.
44. Grigsby-Calage, C., C. Mullally, **R. Volpe**, J. Kropp, and A. Stevens. 2025. "The Varying Effects of Dollar Stores on Food Access: A Machine Learning Analysis." *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*. Accepted.
43. **Volpe, R.**, X. Cai, T. Delbridge, and A. Stevens. 2024. "COVID-19 and Specialty Crop Producers: Economic Impacts and Grower Solutions." *Agricultural and Resource Economics Review*, accepted
42. **Volpe, R.**, X. Cai, M. Tseng, and W. Sinclair. 2024. "Restaurant Outlet Density and the Healthfulness of Food Purchases: Evidence from FoodAPS." *Frontiers in Nutrition*, accepted.
41. Cai, X., **R. Volpe**, and F. Barraza**. 2024. "Farmland Values in California: Pre- and post-COVID-19 Perspectives." *Journal of the American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers*, accepted.
40. Etumnu, C., and **R. Volpe**. 2024. "Measuring Brand Equity on Amazon.com: The Case of Starbucks." *Journal of Food Distribution Research*, accepted.
39. **Volpe, R.**, Cai, X., Roldan, P.**, and Stevens, A. 2024. "Food Prices in the United States during COVID-19: Generalized Facts on Price Inflation and Volatility." *British Food Journal*, accepted.
38. Anders, S., **R. Volpe**, and T. Bittman. 2023. "Price Rigidity, Wholesale Price Passthrough, and Quality-Tiered Private Labels." *Managerial and Decision Economics*, accepted.
37. **Volpe, R.**, Cai, X., Tseng, M., Zeballos, E. and Sinclair, W., 2022. Changes in the local food-at-home environment, supplemental nutrition assistance program participation, and dietary quality: Evidence from FoodAPS. *Journal of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association*, 1(2), pp.151-164.
36. Nazmi, A., K. Condrón*, M. Tseng, **R. Volpe**, L. Rodrigues, M. Lopez, and S. Martinez. 2022. "SNAP Participation Decreases Food Insecurity among California Public University Students: A quasi-experimental Study." *Journal of Hunger and Environmental Nutrition* DOI: [10.1080/19320248.2022.2099777](https://doi.org/10.1080/19320248.2022.2099777)

35. **Volpe, R.** and M.A. Boland, 2022. “The Economic Impacts of Walmart Supercenters.” *Annual Review of Resource Economics*, 14.
34. He, G., J.T. LaFrance, J.M. Perloff, and **R. Volpe**. 2022. “How to Everyday-Low-Price Supermarkets Adjust their Prices?” *Review of Industrial Organization*, accepted.
33. **Volpe, R.J.**, X. Cai, M. Alman**, A. Stevens. 2022. “Retail Mergers and Acquisitions and Specialty Crop Producers: Evidence from California.” *Sustainability*, Accepted.
32. Ayoughi, F.*, Handley, M.*, Garza, J., Amin, S., **R. Volpe** and Lammert, A., 2022. “Parental perspective and feeding practices effects on food neophobia in elementary school children in San Luis Obispo County.” *Journal of Sensory Studies*, 37(1), p.e12717.
31. Ayoughi, F.*, M. Handley*, S. Amin, **R. Volpe**, J. Garza, A. Lammert. 2021. “Parental Perspective and Feeding Practices Effects on Food Neophobia in Elementary School Children.” *Journal of Sensory Studies*. Accepted.
30. **Volpe, R.**, N. Tedjasaputra**, O. Jackson**, and R. Provost**. 2021. “Supermarket Pricing and Promotional Behavior: Evidence from the San Luis Obispo Market.” *Journal of Food Distribution Research*, Accepted.
29. Tseng, M., Mastrantonio, C., Glanz, H., **Volpe, R.J.**, Neill, D.B., Nazmi, A. 2020. “Fruit and Vegetable Purchasing Patterns and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Participation: Findings from a Nationally Representative Survey.” *Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics*. Accepted.
28. **Volpe, R.**, Cai, X., Schroeter, C. and Mancino, L., 2020. “Adherence to Dietary Recommendations and Food Retail Market Structure: Is There a Connection?” *Journal of Agricultural and Food Industrial Organization*. Accepted.
27. **Volpe, R.J.** and C. Cho. 2019. “Market Structure Determinants of Performance for Independent Supermarkets.” *Managerial and Decision Economics*, Accepted.
26. **Volpe, R.**, Cai, X., Schroeter, C. and Mancino, L., 2019. The Effect of Produce Purchasing Behavior on Adult Obesity and Body Weight: Evidence from Household-Level Scanner Data. *Agricultural and Resource Economics Review*, 48(2), pp.253-273.

25. Beatty, T., J. Shimshack., and **R.J. Volpe**. 2019. "Disaster preparedness and disaster response: Evidence from sales of emergency supplies before and after hurricanes." *Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists* 6(4): 633-668.
24. Ma, M., T. Saitone, **R.J. Volpe**, R.J. Sexton, and M. Saksena. 2019. "Market Concentration, Market Shares, and Retail Food Prices: Evidence from the U.S. Women, Infants, and Children Program." *Applied Economic Perspectives and Policy*, 41(3): 542-562.
23. Chen, D., E. Jaenicke, and **R.J. Volpe**. 2019. "The Healthfulness of Food-at-Home Expenditures, the Local Food Environment, and Childhood Obesity." *American Journal of Health Promotion*. 33(3): 412-419.
22. Cai, X., **R.J. Volpe**, C. Schroeter, and L. Mancino. 2018. "Food Retail Market Structure and Produce Purchases in the US." *Agribusiness: An International Journal*, 34(4) 756-770.
21. McCullough, M., and **R.J. Volpe**. 2018. "Beer and the US Dietary Guidelines: What is Healthful Consumption?" *Choices*, 32(3): 1-7.
20. Rahkovsky, I., and **R.J. Volpe**. 2018. "Market Structure and Food Price Inflation." *Journal of Agricultural and Food Industrial Organization*, 16(1).
19. **Volpe, R.J.**, E. Jaenicke, and L. Chenarides. 2018. "Store Formats and Consumers' Food Purchasing Decisions," *Applied Economic Perspectives and Policy*, 40(4): 672-694.
18. **Volpe, R.J.**, M.P. McCullough, M.K. Adjemian, and T.A. Park. 2016. "Beer Purchasing Behavior, Dietary Quality, and Health Outcomes among U.S. Adults," *Journal of Wine Economics*, 11(3): 436-464.
17. Dong, F., D.A. Hennessy, H.H. Jensen, and **R.J. Volpe**. 2016. "Atrophy in Dairy Farms: How Productivity Affects Scale and Exit Intentions," *Agricultural Economics*, 47(5): 533-545.
16. Chen, D., E. Jaenicke, and **R.J. Volpe**, "Food Environments and Obesity: Household Diet Expenditure Versus Food Deserts," *American Journal of Public Health*, 106(5):881-888.
15. Adjemian, M.K., **R.J. Volpe**, J. Adjemian. "Relationships between Diet, Alcohol Preference, and Heart Disease and Type 2 Diabetes among Americans", *PLOS ONE*, e0124351.

14. **Volpe, R.J.**, C. Risch, and M. Boland. 2015. "The Determinants of Price Adjustment at Retail Supermarkets," *Journal of Managerial and Decision Economics*, 2015.
13. **Volpe, R. J.***, Park, T.A., Jensen, H.H., and Dong, F., 2015, "Somatic Cell Counts in the Dairy Industry: A Quantile Regression for Count Data Approach," *European Review of Agricultural Economics*, 43(2): 331-358.
12. Bogomolova, S., S.P. Dunn, G. Trinh, J.Taylor, and **R.J. Volpe**, 2015, "Price Promotion Landscape in the US and UK: Depicting Retail Practice to Inform Future Research Agenda," *Journal of Retailing and Consumer Services* 25:1-11.
- 11 Saitone, T., R. Sexton, and **Volpe, R.J.***, 2014, "A WICKed Problem? Cost Containment in the California WIC Program," *Applied Economic Perspectives and Policy*, 37(3):378-402.
10. **Volpe, R.J.***, 2014, "Private Labels, National Brands, and Food Price Inflation." *Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics*, 46(4): 575-591.
9. **Volpe, R.J.***, 2013, "Supercenters, Unionized Labor, and Performance in Food Retail," *Industrial Relations: A Journal of Economy and Society* 53(2): 325-355..
8. **Volpe, R.J.***, Abigail Okrent, and Ephraim Leibtag, 2013, "The Effect of Supercenter-format Stores on the Healthfulness of Consumers' Food Purchasing Decisions" *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 95(3, July): 568-589.
7. **Volpe, R.J.**, 2013, "Promotional Timing for Substitutes and Complements at Major US Supermarkets." *International Business Research*, 6(1, January): 31-49 .
6. **Volpe, R.J.***, 2012. "Promotional Competition between Supermarket Chains," *Review of Industrial Organization*, 42(1, February): 45-61.
5. **Volpe, R.J.*** and Chenguang Li, 2012, "On the Frequency, Depth, and Duration of Sales at High-Low Pricing Supermarkets." *Agribusiness*, 28(2, Spring): 222-239.
4. **Volpe, R.J.***, 2011, "Evaluating the Performance of U.S. Supermarkets: Pricing Strategies, Competition from Hypermarkets, and Private Labels," *Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics*, 36(3, December): 488-503.
3. **Volpe, R.J.***, Richard Green, Dale Heien, and Richard Howitt, 2011, "Estimating the Supply Elasticity of California Wine Grapes Using Regional Systems of Equations," *Journal of Wine Economics* 5(2, April): 219-235.

2. **Volpe, R.J.***, Richard Green, Dale Heien, and Richard Howitt, 2009, "California Wine Grape Growing Regions Developing Distinct Identities," *California Agriculture* 64 (1, January): 42-46.

1. **Volpe, R.J.*** and Nathalie Lavoie, 2008, "The Effect of Wal-Mart Supercenters on Grocery Prices in New England," *Review of Agricultural Economics* 30 (1, January): 4-26.

Peer-Reviewed Government Publications

15. McLaughlin, P.W., M. Saksena, T. L. Saitone, M. Ma, **R. Volpe**, Q. Wu, and R. J. Sexton. Cost Containment and Participant Access in USDA's Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC): Evidence From the Greater Los Angeles, CA, Area ERR-283, USDA's, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, February 2021.

14. Saksena, M., M. Ma, T. Saitone, **R.J. Volpe**, and R. Sexton. 2018. "Food Retailer Concentration and Food Prices: WIC Program Sales in Greater Los Angeles, California." Economic Bulletin. Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture

13. Cho, C., and **R.J. Volpe**. 2017. "Independent Grocery Stores in the Changing Landscape of the U.S. Food Retail Industry," Economic Research Report No. 240. Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

12. **Volpe, R.J.**, A. Kuhns, and E. Jaenicke. 2017, "Store Formats and Patterns in Household Grocery Purchases," Economic Information Bulletin No. 167. Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture

11. Kuhns, A., E. Leibtag, **R. Volpe**, and E. Roeger. 2015. "How the USDA Forecasts Retail Food Price Inflation," Technical Bulletin, Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

10. Sexton, R.J., T. Saitone, **R.J. Volpe**, 2014, "Cost Containment in the California WIC Program," Economic Research Report Number 171. Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

9. **Volpe, R.J.**, 2014, "Impact of Oil Prices on Produce Prices Depends on Route and Mode of Transportation." *Amber Waves* finding, February 3, 2014, Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

8. **Volpe, R.J.**, A. Kumcu, R. Morrison, 2013. “Food Prices and Spending,” ERS Data Product. Published as part of *Ag and Food Statistics: Charting the Essentials*.
<http://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/ag-and-food-statistics-charting-the-essentials/food-prices-and-spending.aspx>
7. **Volpe, R.J.**, E. Roeger, E. Leibtag, 2013, “How Transportation Costs Affect Fruit and Vegetable Prices,” Economic Research Report Number 160. Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.
6. **Volpe, R.J.**, 2013, “Price Inflation for Food Outpacing Many Other Spending Categories.” *Amber Waves* data feature, August 5, 2013, Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.
5. Guthrie, J, B. Lin, A. Okrent, and **R.J. Volpe**, 2013, “Americans’ Food Choices at Home and Away: How Do They Compare With Recommendations?” *Amber Waves* feature, February 21, 2013, Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.
4. **Volpe, R.J.**, and Abigail Okrent, 2012, "Assessing the Healthfulness of Consumers’ Grocery Purchases.” Economic Information Bulletin Number 102. Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.
3. **Volpe, R.J.**, 2012, “Retail Vegetable Prices: Recent Developments and Forecasting,” Special Article published in the *USDA Vegetable and Pulses Outlook*, VGS-352.
2. **Volpe, R.J.**, 2011, “Food Retailers Adjust Private Label Prices as Costs and Consumer Demand Change.” *Amber Waves* finding, March 1, 2012, Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.
1. **Volpe, R.J.**, 2011, “The Relationship Between National Brand and Private Label Food Products: Prices, Promotions, Recessions, and Recoveries.” Economic Research Report Number 129, Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Other Publications

R. J. Volpe. 2025. “Ramping Up Domestic Production: A Case Study on Cucumbers.” FMI White Paper, published August 12, 2024. Available online at:
https://www.fmi.org/docs/default-source/industry-topics-doc/fmi_volpe_cucumber_resourcing_analysis_final_w_cover.pdf?sfvrsn=16a4d567_1

- R. J. Volpe.** 2025. “Trump tariffs threaten decades of progress in the global food system.” *Food Manufacture*, published April 9, 2025. Available online at: <https://www.foodmanufacture.co.uk/Article/2025/04/09/how-the-trump-tariffs-will-impact-global-food-system/>
- R. J. Volpe.** 2023. “Understanding and Addressing Staff Turnover in Food and Agriculture.” *New Food*, published December 20, 2023. Available online at: <https://www.newfoodmagazine.com/article/197031/understanding-and-addressing-staff-turnover-in-food-and-agriculture/>
- R. J. Volpe.** 2023. “The Kroger-Albertsons Merger Threatens Smaller Upstream Suppliers.” *ProMarket*. Published on December 8, 2023. Available online at: <https://www.promarket.org/2023/12/08/the-kroger-albertsons-merger-threatens-smaller-upstream-suppliers/>
- R. J. Volpe.** 2022. “Understanding Food Prices and Where They’re Headed.” *California Grocer* 2022: Issue 4.
- R. J. Volpe.** 2022. “Putting Food Price Inflation in Perspective.” *New Food*, Food Integrity Supplement.
- R.J. Volpe.** 2020. “A Natural History of Beer, Rob DeSalle and Ian Tattersall.” Book Review. *Journal of Wine Economics*
- Volpe, R.J.** 2020. “The Fundamentals Of Food Prices: Costs, Consumer Demand, And Covid-19.” Food Marketing Institute White Paper. Available online at: <https://www.fmi.org/forms/store/ProductFormPublic/the-fundamentals-of-food-prices-costs>
- Volpe, R.J.,** 2019, “Closing the Gender Pay Gap.” *California Grocer* 2019: Issue 4.
- R.J. Volpe.** 2018. “Beeronomics: How Beer Explains the World, Johan Swinnen and Devin Briski.” Book Review. *Journal of Wine Economics*
- Ma, M., T. Saitone, **R.J. Volpe**, R.J. Sexton, and M. Saksena. 2018. “Retail Food Prices and Retailer Market Power: Evidence from the Greater Los Angeles Area.” *Agricultural and Resource Economics Update*.
- Volpe, R.J.,** 2016, “Today’s Diverse Grocery Landscape.” *California Grocer* 2016: Issue 4.

Volpe, R.J., 2012, “U.S. Food Shopping Out of Sync with Nutritional Advice,” Science blog post in the USDA Blog, published Dec. 11, 2012.

Volpe, R.J., 2012, “The 2012 Drought and Impacts for Retail Food Prices,” Papers and Proceedings of the 2012 Economic Outlook Conference, University of Michigan.

Volpe, R.J., 2009, "How Do the Recent Farm Price Fluctuations Affect Consumer Prices?" *Agricultural and Resource Economics Update*, University of California, Davis, 12 (4, March).

Volpe, R.J., 2008, "Recent Trends in the California Wine Grape Industry," *Agricultural and Resource Economics Update*, University of California, Davis, 11 (4, March).

Grants and External Funding (Total as PI: \$1.75 million)

2026: “Supermarket Entry Effects: Food Prices, Food Choices, and Labor Outcomes,” Cal Poly ARI Campus Competitive Award. \$63,000. (Co-PI)

2024: “The Evolution of the Labor Force in the US Food Supply Chain,” USDA-NIFA AFRI AERC Markets and Trade Award: \$649,931. (PI)

2024: “Using A New Measure of Store-Level Healthfulness To Untangle Dietary And Health Outcomes.” USDA-NIFA AFRI AERC Markets and Trade Award: \$650,000. (Collaborator)

2023: “Food Price Inflation, Retail Specialty Crop Sales, and Farm Financials in California,” Cal Poly ARI Campus Competitive Award. \$70,000. (PI)

2023: “Incorporating additional data into the FPO for improved precision and causal inference.” USDA Economic Research Service Cooperative Agreement. \$13,166. (Collaborator)

2021: “Supply Chain Disruptions and Retail Market Concentration: Lessons from COVID-19.” CDFA Specialty Crop Block Grant. \$470,170. (PI)

2021: “The Impact of Shocks on Food Prices, Household Shopping Behavior, Agricultural Producers, and Food Access: Lessons from COVID-19.” Cal Poly ARI Campus Competitive Award. \$96,973. (PI)

2021: “Impact of Dollar Stores on U.S. Food Retail Structure, Consumer Food Choices, and Independent Grocer Viability.” USDA-NIFA AFRI AERC Markets and Trade Award: \$650,000. (Collaborator)

2020: “Inventory Levels and Food Prices during Peak Food-at-Home Demand Periods: Assessing Pandemic Shocks in the U.S. Food System.” USDA-ERS Cooperative Agreement. \$120,000. (PI)

2020: “Eating in the Anthropocene: The Future of Food and Food Policy.” Cal Poly Transformative Ideas Award. \$75,000 in year one. (Collaborator)

2020: “Economic Impact of Retail and Wholesale Mergers and Acquisitions in the Food-at-Home Supply Chain.” USDA – NIFA (NLGCA). \$149,441. (PI)

2019: “Product Development Tool Box for Dry Beans,” Cal Poly ARI Campus Competitive Award. \$79,537. (Collaborator)

2019: “The Economic Impact of Mergers and Acquisitions in the Food-at-Home Supply Chain,” USDA Economic Research Service Cooperative Agreement. \$30,000. (PI)

2017: “The Economic Impacts of the California Grocery Industry: Regulation, Market Structure, and Food Safety.” Cal Poly ARI New Investigator Award, \$40,000. (PI)

2017: “The Local Food Environment, Grocery Purchases, and Dietary Quality,” USDA Economic Research Service Cooperative Agreement. \$30,000. (PI)

2016: “Local Market Structure, Store Characteristics, and Performance among Independent Grocers,” USDA Economic Research Service Cooperative Agreement. \$30,000. (PI)

2016: “Improving and Expanding Food Price Forecasts at ERS,” USDA Economic Research Service Cooperative Agreement. \$25,000. (PI)

2015: “The Impact of Produce Purchasing Behavior on Household Health Outcomes,” Cal Poly ARI Competitive Grant. With Christiane Schroeter and Xiaowei Cai. \$241,651. (Collaborator)

2015: “Market Structure and Price Markups in the Food Retail Industry,” Cal Poly ARI Seed Grant. \$5,000. (PI)

2015: “WIC Redemption Rates, Participant Choices, and Retail Market Structure: Evidence from California,” USDA Economic Research Service Policy Effectiveness Grant. With Richard Sexton and Tina Saitone. \$148,000. (Collaborator)

2015: “Understanding Store Format Choices among US Grocery Shoppers,” USDA Economic Research Service Cooperative Agreement. \$30,000. (PI)

Presentations and Posters

Delivered the keynote Economic Update presentation at the Food Marketing Institute Financial Executive and Internal Auditing Conference. May 18, 2026. Nashville, TN

“Food Prices in 2026: An Economic Update.” Invited presentation to the Council for Food Integrity Trust Insights Council. Presented virtually. May 8, 2026.

“Labor and Employment in US Food and Agriculture.” Invited seminar. Friedman School of Nutrition, Tufts University. March 5, 2026. Boston, MA.

“Labor and Employment in US Food and Agriculture.” Invited seminar. Agricultural and Resource Economics Department, North Carolina State University. March 3, 2026. Raleigh, NC.

Invited panelist for “Market Outlook: 2026 for Berries, Leafy Greens, Pome Fruit and Grapes” at the 2026 Organic Growers Summit, Monterey, CA.

“Generalized Facts about Labor and Employment in US Food and Agriculture.” Invited seminar. Agricultural and Resource Economics Department, Seoul National University. September 5, 2025. Seoul, Korea.

Invited panelist for “Navigating Uncertainty: Supply Chain Challenges for the Wine and Spirits Industry.” Webinar hosted by the Council on Food, Agricultural, and Resource Economics (C-FARE). May 9, 2025.

“Economic Realities in the US Food Supply Chain.” Invited presentation and panelist at the Center for Food Integrity workshop “Evolving Consumer Expectations and the Impact on Our Food System.” March 13, 2025. Newport Beach, CA

“Food Price Formation in the U.S.” Invited presentation to the Washington State Senate Committee on Agriculture. February 6, 2025. Olympia, WA.

Master of ceremonies and discussant for the PC52 Workshop on Food Prices and Forecasting, AAEA Post Conference Workshop. July 31-August 1, 2024. New Orleans, LA.

Delivered the keynote Economic Update presentation at the Food Marketing Institute Financial Executive and Internal Auditing Conference. May 20, 2024. Scottsdale, AZ.

“Grocery Mergers and Acquisitions and Food Prices.” Invited seminar. Agricultural and Resource Economics Department, University of Florida. May 2, 2024. Fort Collins, CO.

“Refrigerated Truck Availability and Specialty Crop Prices.” Presented at the Australian Agricultural and Resources Economics Society Annual Meeting, February 9, 2024. Canberra, Australia.

“Retail Price Inflation and Demand for California Specialty Crops, 2020-2022.” AAEA Selected Track Session on Trends in Fruit and Vegetable Demand and Implications for Prices, Marketing, and Agribusiness. July 25, 2023. Washington, DC.

“The Impact of COVID-19 on Food Prices and Food Availability.” Invited Seminar, Food and Resource Economics Department, University of Florida. September 9, 2022. Gainesville, FL

“COVID-19 and Food Price Inflation, 2020-2022.” Invited presentation to the Corn Refiners Association. April 21, 2022.

“Overcoming Supply Chain Challenges, COVID-19.” Food Integrity 2022. Panelist. March 22, 2022.

“Retail Mergers and Acquisitions and Food Prices: Evidence from California.” Invited Presentation, Workshop on Reforming America’s Food Markets. Yale Law School. March 12, 2022. New Haven, CT

“Retail Mergers and Acquisitions and Food Prices: Evidence from California.” Invited Seminar, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of Connecticut, November 10, 2021. Storrs, CT

“Retail Mergers and Acquisitions and Food Prices: Evidence from California.” Invited Seminar, Department of Economics, Colby College, November 3, 2021. Waterville, ME

“Covid-19 and the Food Supply Chain.” Tufts Friedman Speaker Series. October 27, 2021. Boston MA.

“Retail Mergers and Acquisitions and Food Prices: Evidence from California.” Invited Seminar, Department of Economics, Clark University, October 25, 2021. Worcester, MA

“Retail Mergers and Acquisitions and Food Prices: Evidence from California.” IO Brown Bag Presentation, Department of Resource Economics, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, October 22, 2021. Amherst, MA

“The Local Food Environment, Grocery Purchases, and Dietary Quality.” Invited seminar, Department of Applied Economics and Statistics, University of Delaware, September 23, 2020.

“The Local Food Environment, Grocery Purchases, and Dietary Quality.” AAEA Organized Symposium: Measuring the Retail Food Environment and Analyzing Its Effects on Consumers. Presented Virtually. September 18, 2020.

“The Economic Impact of Mergers and Acquisitions in the Food Supply Chain.” CAFES Research Seminar, Cal Poly. January 31, 2020. San Luis Obispo, CA.

“Is Light Beer the Healthier Choice? Evidence from Scanner Data.” Selected paper presented at the AAWE Annual Conference. July 15, 2019. Vienna, Austria.

“The Impact of Volatile Fuel Prices on Produce Purchases among U.S. Households.” Invited seminar, University of Alberta. April 24, 2019. Edmonton, BC, Canada.

“The Impact of Volatile Fuel Prices on Produce Purchases among U.S. Households.” Invited seminar, Morrison School of Agribusiness, Arizona State University. April 17, 2019. Tempe, Arizona.

“The Impact of Volatile Fuel Prices on Produce Purchases among U.S. Households.” Selected paper presented at the WEAI Annual Conference. March 24, 2019. Tokyo, Japan.

“The Food and Fiber Supply Chain in the U.S.” Webinar prepared and delivered for UnitedAg. August 24, 2018.

“WIC Redemption Rates and Retail Market Structure: Evidence from the LA Market.” Selected paper presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, Washington, DC.

“Market Concentration, Market Shares, and Retail Food Prices: Evidence from the U.S. Women, Infants, and Children Program.” Invited seminar, Department of Resource Economics, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

“Market Concentration and Retail Markups: Evidence from Military Commissary Data.” Invited seminar, Food Economics Division, USDA Economic Research Service. Washington, DC.

“WIC Redemption Rates and Retail Market Structure: Evidence from the Los Angeles Market.” Invited seminar, Food and Resource Economics Department, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL.

“Grocery Store Format Choices among U.S. Households: The 2015 Eating & Health Module Data.” Selected paper presentation at the Southern Economics Association Annual Meeting, Tampa, FL.

“Craft Beer Expenditures and Health Outcomes: A Difference-in-Difference Approach.” Selected paper presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, Chicago, IL.

“Food Retail Market Structure and Produce Purchases in the U.S.” Selected paper presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, Chicago, IL.

“Market Structure Determinants of Performance for Independent Supermarkets.” Selected paper presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, Chicago, IL.

“Market Concentration and Retail Markups: Evidence from Commissary Data.” Invited seminar, Department of Economics and Agricultural Economics, Montana State University. April 2017. Bozeman, MT.

“Market Concentration and Retail Markups: Evidence from Commissary Data.” Invited seminar, University of Alberta. March, 2017. Edmonton, BC, Canada.

“Grocery Store Format Choices among U.S. Households: The 2015 Eating & Health Module Data.” Food for Thought presented at USDA Economics Research Service. February 23, 2017. Washington, DC.

“Market Concentration and Retail Markups: Evidence from Commissary Data.” Invited presentation at the USDA Ag Outlook Forum. February 23, 2017. Arlington, VA.

“The Economic Impact of the California Grocery Industry: Challenges and Opportunities.” Poster and presentation given at the Summer Undergraduate Research Program, Cal Poly College of Agricultural, Food, and Environmental Sciences. August 25-26, 2016. San Luis Obispo, CA.

“Measuring Market Structure for Studies on Food Choices.” Selected paper presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, Boston, MA.

“Beer Purchasing Behavior, Dietary Quality, and Health Outcomes among U.S. Adults.” Selected paper at the annual meeting of the American Association of Wine Economists, Bordeaux, France.

“The Impact of the Great Recession on Household’s Food Purchasing Decisions.” Invited paper presented at the Applying IRI Store and Household Scanner Data in Food Policy Studies workshop, RTI International, Washington DC.

“Market Structure and Food Price Inflation.” Selected paper presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, San Francisco, CA.

“Produce Purchasing Behavior and Health Outcomes among U.S. Consumers.” Selected paper presentation at the AAEE/EAAE Seminar: Consumer Behavior in a Changing World. Naples, Italy

“Agricultural Cycle Drivers and Outlook.” Invited speech, Northwest Farm Credit Services Executive Producer Summit

“Store Formats, Grocery Purchases, and Health Outcomes.” Invited presentation, 2015 Southern Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA.

“Market Structure and Food Price Inflation.” Invited seminar, UC Davis Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics

“Retail Price Formation in the United States.” Invited speaker, OECD Meeting of the Food Chain Analysis Network, Paris France.

“Store Formats and Consumers’ Food Purchasing Decisions,” Departmental seminar, Department of Agricultural Economics, ETH Zurich, Switzerland.

“Disaggregated Retail Food Price Indices Using Homescan Data: An Application to Income Levels and SNAP Benefits.” Selected Poster at the 2013 AAEA Annual Meeting, Washington, DC.

“Somatic Cell Counts in the Dairy Industry: A Quantile Regression for Count Data Approach.” Selected Paper at the 2013 AAEA Annual Meeting, Washington, DC.

“Private Labels, National Brands, and Food Price Inflation.” Selected Paper at the 2013 WAEA Annual Meeting, Monterey, CA.

"Projected Food Prices: The Impact of Environmental Constraints." Invited speaker, Institute of Medicine Workshop on Sustainable Eating, Washington, DC.

"Produce Sourcing and Transportation Cost Effects on Wholesale Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Prices," Food for Thought, USDA-ERS, Washington, DC.

"Outlook for U.S. Food Prices and Inflation, 2013," Invited speaker, Informa Economics Roundtable Meeting, Arlington, VA.

"Store Formats and Consumers' Food Purchasing Decisions," Distance Learning Seminar presented for various universities.

"Store Formats and Consumers' Food Purchasing Decisions," Departmental seminar, Department of Applied Economics, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN.

"Outlook for U.S. Food Prices and Inflation, 2013," Invited plenary speaker, USDA Agricultural Outlook Forum, Arlington, VA.

"Alcohol Purchases and Food-at-Home Dietary Quality," Invited seminar, Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology, Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA.

“Disaggregated Price Indexes Using Homescan Data: Maximizing Usefulness for ERS Researchers,” ERS Food for Thought, Washington, DC.

"The 2012 Drought and Implications and Impacts for Retail Food Prices," Invited paper presented at the 60th Annual RSQE Economic Outlook Conference, University of Michigan Department of Economics, Ann Arbor, MI.

"The Effect of Supercenter-format Stores on Consumers' Grocery Purchases," Invited seminar, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, University of Georgia, Athens, GA.

"The 2012 Drought: Impacts for Consumers and Food Prices," Distance Learning Panel Discussion.

"The Who, When, Why, and How of Retail Food Price Forecasting at the Economic Research Service," Selected paper presented at the 19th Federal Forecasters Conference, Washington, DC.

"The Effect of Supercenter-format Stores on Consumers' Food Purchasing Decisions," Distance Learning Seminar presented for New Mexico State University.

"Store Formats and Consumers' Food Shopping Decisions," Track session paper presented at Annual AAEA Meeting, Seattle, WA.

"Store Formats and Consumers' Food Shopping Decisions," Selected paper presented at AAEA/EAAE Conference on the Food Environment, Boston, MA.

"Supercenters, Unionized Labor, and Performance in Food Retail," Selected paper presented at International Industrial Organization Conference, Arlington, VA.

"Outlook for U.S. Food Prices and Inflation, 2012," Invited plenary speaker, USDA Agricultural Outlook Forum, Arlington, VA.

"National Brand and Private Label Competition in the Supermarket," Food for Thought, USDA-ERS, Washington, DC.

"The Effect of Supercenter-format Stores on Consumers' Food Purchasing Decisions," Food for Thought, USDA-ERS, Washington, DC.

"Do Consumers' Food Purchasing Decisions Vary by Store Format?" Selected Paper, 2011 Annual Meeting of the Southern Economics Association, Washington, DC.

"The Effect of Retailer Concentration and Store Format on Consumers' Food Purchasing Decisions," Selected Paper presented at Annual AAEA Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA.

"The Relationship between Farm Prices and Retail Prices," Briefing on Bioenergy to RRE and Office of Energy, Washington, DC.

"Do Consumers' Food Purchasing Decisions Vary by Store Format?" Invited paper presented at USDA-ERS Conference on Using Scanner Data to Answer Food Policy Questions, Washington, DC.

"Supermarket Competition through Price Promotions: A Cross-Category Analysis" at the 2009 Annual AAEA Meeting, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

"Price Transmission and Retail Price Rigidity during the Food Crisis" at the 2009 Annual WAEA Meeting, Kauai, Hawaii.

"Expanding the Transition to Organic Production through a Tax on Consumer Goods" at the NEC-63 / FAMPS Conference, San Diego, California.

"Estimating the Supply of California Wine Grapes Using Regional Systems of Equations" at The Workshop on the Role of Innovation and Science in the Wine Industry, Novara, Italy.

"Recent Trends in the California Wine Grape Industry" at the 2nd Annual Meeting of the American Association of Wine Economists, Portland, Oregon.

"Estimating the Supply of California Wine Grapes Using Regional Systems of Equations" at the 15th Annual Enometrics Conference, Collouire, France.

"The Effect of the Conservation Security Program on Equilibrium Price and Quantity in American Agriculture" at the 10th Occasional Workshop on Environmental Economics, Santa Barbara, CA.

"Exploring the Potential Effects of Organic Production on Contracting in American Agribusiness" at the 2006 Annual AAEA Meeting, Long Beach, CA

"The Effect of Wal-Mart Supercenters on Grocery Prices in New England" at the 2005 Annual AAEA Meeting, Providence, RI

Professional Societies

Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, Western Agricultural Economics Association, Industrial Organization Society, European Association of Agricultural Economics, American Association of Wine Economists

Editorial Appointments

Member, Editorial Board for *Applied Economics Education and Extension*, 2026-present

Associate Editor, *Applied Economic Policy and Perspectives*, 2025-present

Co-Editor, *Journal of Food Distribution Research*, 2021-2025

Member, Editorial Board for *Sustainability*, 2018-2023

Member, Section Editor Board: Sustainable Food, 2020-2023

Member, Editorial Council for *Choices*, 2015-2020.

Editor for *Sustainability* special issue, “Diet and Health Economics for Sustainability.”

Co-Editor for a special issue of the *International Food and Agribusiness Management Review* on food demand, diet, and health, 2013

Service

Convener and Host, 17th Annual Conference of the American Association of Wine Economists, San Luis Obispo, CA June 18-22, 2025.

Member, National Grocers Association Foundation Board of Regents, 2024-present

AAEA Graduate Student Section Advisor, 2025-2026

AAEA Distinguished Teaching Award Review Committee, 2023-2024, Chair 2025

Co-founder of the Brewing and Enology Economics Research (BEER) section of AAEA.

Member, Scientific Committee, Food Access at Dollar Stores Workshop, Tufts University Friedman School, June 3-4, 2022.

BEER Secretary/Treasurer, 2015-2018; Chair-elect 2020-2021, Chair 2021-2022.

More than 100 manuscripts reviewed for more than 30 peer-reviewed journals as well as government agencies. Ad hoc review service includes *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, *Applied Economics Education & Extension*, *Journal of Industrial Economics*, *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, *Economic Inquiry*, *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*, *Journal of Retailing*, *Review of Industrial Organization*, *Contemporary*

Economic Policy, Applied Economic Perspectives and Policy, Agricultural Economics, Ecological Economics, Journal of Agribusiness, Discover Public Health, Journal of Regional Analysis and Policy, Canadian Journal of Agricultural Economics, Journal of Agribusiness in Developing and Emerging Economies, Journal of Forecasting and Food Policy. The complete list is available upon request.

Other Selected Professional Reviewer Assignments

Reviewer, USDA FNS draft report *Estimating Costs of the Thrifty Food Plan in Alaska and Hawaii*, 2022

Judge, Food Distribution Research Society, Student Food Marketing Challenge, 2022-present

Reviewer, best MS Thesis Award, Journal of Food Distribution Research, 2022-present

Member, Scientific Committee, Research Workshop on Food Access at Dollar Stores (FADS), Tufts Friedman School. Also reviewer for submitted abstracts. 2022

Reviewer for Campus Agricultural Research Institute proposals, Cal Poly, 2022

Reviewer of proposals for the 2020 USDA-NIFA Rapid Response to Novel Coronavirus Impacts Across Food and Agricultural Systems grants

Panelist, NIFA FY2013 AFRI AERC Markets, Trade, and Environmental Competitive Grants Panel, 2013, 2020

Reviewer for MacMillan textbooks, 2019-2020

Reviewer of submitted abstracts to the AAEA and WAEA Annual Meetings, 2009-present

Judge for the National Grocers Association Creative Choice Awards, 2016-present

Judge for the Best Paper in the Food Safety and Nutrition section of AAEA, 2018-present

WAEA Teaching Awards Committee Member, 2018-present

Reviewer, University of Missouri Research Board, 2017-2018

Reviewer, Massachusetts Agricultural Experiment Station, 2017-2018

Reviewer; Judge, Best of USDA *Amber Waves*, 2019

Reviewer, Ohio State University CFAES SEEDS Funding, 2019-2020

I have served as an external review for tenure and/or promotion packets three times as of 2025.

Cal Poly

Member, Part-Time Lecturers Review Committee, 2024-present

Member, CAFES Dean Search Advisory Committee, 2024-2025

Faculty advisor, Cal Poly Hacky Sack Club, 2023-present

Chair, Agribusiness Industry Outreach Committee, 2023-present
Developed and executed inaugural CFP3P at IFPA

Member, Professional Leave Committee, 2022-present

Member, 2022-2024 Cal Poly Store Advisory Committee

CAFES representative on the Senate Budget and Long-Range Planning Committee, 2019-2023.

Summer Undergraduate Research Program

2019 Supervised: Jorge Coronel (Hancock student): “Food Prices and the Farm-Retail Price Spread.”

2018: Supervised: Ramy Joseph, “The Economic Determinants of the Size and Health of the Grocery Industry.” Michaela Jud, “Employment in the CA Grocery Industry: Trends, Challenges, and Opportunities.”

2017: Supervised: Kaelyn Hayes, “The Economic Impact of the California Grocery Industry: Mergers and Acquisitions.” Brent Jarvis, “The Economic Impact of the California Grocery Industry: Regulation.”

2016: Supervised Matthew Paul, “The Economic Impact of the California Grocery Industry: Challenges and Opportunities.”

Chair, Undergraduate Scholarship Committee, Agribusiness Department, Cal Poly, 2015-2019.

Member, campus Committee on Conflict of Interest in Research, 2017-present

Member, campus Committee on Substance Use and Abuse, 2017-2020

Faculty Adviser, Agribusiness Management Club (ABM), 2016-2017.

Member, Curriculum Committee, Agribusiness Department, Cal Poly, 2015-2016.

National Grocers Association Annual Case Study Competition, 2014-present.

California Grocers Association Annual Strategic Summit, 2015-present.

Judge, Future Farmers of America State Finals, Agricultural Policy, 2015-present.
Chair in 2016

Chair, Future Farmers of America State Finals, Marketing Plans, 2021-2022.

USDA-ERS

Completed media training through Qorvis Communications in Washington, DC., 2012

Reviewer of submitted abstracts and moderator for USDA-ERS Conference on Using Scanner Data to Answer Food Policy Questions, 2011.

Forecasted retail food prices, maintained Food CPI Topic Page, USDA-ERS, 2011-2014.

Author of the retail food price portion of the ERS topic page on the economic impacts of the 2012 drought and 2014 drought.

Member, RPCS review panel for GS-12 candidates, USDA-ERS, February-March 2014.

Academic Advising

Delaney Farkas, 2026, Cal Poly – San Luis Obispo. “Best Practices for Designing Effective Food Waste Mitigation Strategies: A Holistic Approach to the US Food System.”
Bioresource and Agricultural Engineering Department. Thesis advisor.

Stephanie Cain, 2023. Cal Poly – San Luis Obispo. “Reducing Scope 3 Emissions by Investing in Regenerative Agriculture in Supply Chains.” City and Regional Planning Department.

Salvador Lopez, 2020. Cal Poly- San Luis Obispo. Agricultural Education Department.

Maria Handley, 2018. Cal Poly - San Luis Obispo. “Food Neophobia in Elementary Schools.” Food Science and Nutrition Department.

Farnoosh Ayoughi, 2018. Cal Poly - San Luis Obispo. “Parental Perspectives on Food Neophobia in Elementary School Children.” Food Science and Nutrition Department.

Lauren Chenarides, 2017. Pennsylvania State University. “Essays on the Economics of Food Availability and Food Deserts.”

Shaoyan “Sally” Sun, 2017. University of Alberta, Canada. “Retailer Power, NB-PL Competition, and the Weather Effects.”

Jeffrey Young. 2014. Purdue University. “Competition between Private Labels and National Brands: a Simple Econometric Test and Application to Dairy Markets.”

Selected Media Coverage

I have been quoted or excerpted in more than 200 media publications, mostly for my research on food price inflation. Selected print outlets *USA Today*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Yahoo! Finance*, , *Fox Business News*, *Boston Globe*, *Dow Jones Newswires*, *Huffington Post*, *US News and World Report*, *Time.com*,, *Bloomberg Businessweek*, *Los Angeles Times*, and *The Food Institute*.

Radio and television interviews include: *Market Place Radio (NPR)*, *Food Navigator USA*, *Fox News Radio*, *ABC World News Tonight*, *CNN The Situation Room*, *Fox 5 News (DC)*, *CNBC*, *Bloomberg Television*, *Fox 4 News (Kansas City, MO)*, *Al Jazeera*, *News ProNet*, *CBS Philadelphia*, *ABC Houston*, *CBS Miami*.

I have briefed the Council of Economic Advisors, the US Secretary of Agriculture, Ag Canada Research and Analysis Directorate, and the Food Marketing Institute.

Honors and Awards

Cal Poly Distinguished Scholar Award, 2025-2026

Founders Endowed Professorship, 2025-2028

Outstanding Reviewer Award, *Food Policy*, 2025

Center for Food Integrity Trust Insights Council, 2025-

Cal Poly College of Agriculture, Food, and Environmental Sciences Award for Sustained Excellence in Scholarship, 2023-2024

Western Agricultural Economics Association, Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award (<10 Years), 2023

Agribusiness Faculty Award, 2022

SunWest Outstanding Faculty Award, Agribusiness Department, 2019.

Edgar Hyer/Dan Chase Founders Endowment, 2019. \$5,000.

AAWE Award of Merit, 2016, “Beer Purchasing Behavior, Dietary Quality, and Health Outcomes among U.S. Adults.”

Runner up, 2016, AAEA Best Paper in Food Safety and Nutrition, “A WICKed Problem? Cost Containment in the California WIC Program.”

Emerging Scholar, 2015, Southern Agricultural Economics Association.

Editor’s Pick, Best ERS Charts of Note from 2013. Numbers 3 and 8:
<http://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/best-of-charts-of-note-2013.aspx#.UtNAPPRDuSo>

2013 Secretary’s Honor Award in recognition of contributions to the USDA Drought Topic Page, Nominated.

2011-2012 Helios Honorable Mention for Excellence in Communication for contributions to the USDA Drought Topic Page.

ERS Award for Exceptional Professionalism in Communicating ERS Research on Food Prices. August 2011.

Jastro-Shields Research Scholarship. August 2009.

Gianinni Foundation mini-grant \$24,000. May 2008.

Jastro-Shields Research Scholarship. August 2008.

Social Sciences Travel Award, UC-Davis. September 2006.

Resource Economics Travel Grant, UMass-Amherst. September 2005.

Eagle Scout, Boy Scouts of America. December 1999.

Teaching

Cal Poly

AGB312: Agricultural Policy

AGB327: Data Analysis

AGB369: Agribusiness Personnel Management

AGB404: Food Retail Management

AGB405: Quantitative Methods in Marketing

AGB422: Transportation and Logistics

AGB425: Supply Chain Management

AGB427: Advanced Data Analysis

AGB462: Senior Project – Applied Agribusiness Problems

AGB463: Industry Consulting Senior Project

Tufts Friedman School

NUTR345: Food Retail and Supply Chain Management

Consulting/Industry Experience

FMI: The Food Industry Association

California Grocers Association

California Strawberry Commission

Argus Media

Atlantic Corporation

Yosemite Clean Energy

Gerson Lehrman Group

Ratio Institute