

# Rui Chen

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Economics of Food, and Nutrition, Innovative Statistical Methods, Machine Learning, Experimental Econ., Finance, Resource and Envi. Econ.

## EDUCATION

Ph. D in Applied Economics (**Minor in Statistics**), Auburn University, Auburn, AL, USA, 12/2017

M.A. in Applied Economics, Ocean University of China, Qingdao, China, 06/2013

B.A. in Applied Economics, Inner Mongolia University, Hohhot, China, 06/2010

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor, Tuskegee University, 08/2021-present

Instructor, Auburn University, 05/2018-12/2020

Postdoctoral Researcher/Collaborator, Auburn University, 12/2017-12/2020

## HONORS AND AWARDS

- (1) *Outstanding Young Professional Award*, the Committee on the Opportunities and Status of Blacks in Agricultural Economics (COSBAE) and the Committee on Women in Agricultural Economics (CWAE) of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA), 2022
- (2) *Agricultural & Applied Economics Association (AAEA) Travel Grants*, 3 times, 2016-2018
- (3) *Graduate Travel Fellowships*, 5 times, Auburn University, 2016
- (4) *Graduate Student Professional Development Award*, Shandong Province, China, 2011

## SELECTED GRANTS

- (1) Co-PI, “Addressing Environmental Justice Issues and Assessing Economic Impacts of Drought on Agriculture for Underserved Communities,” Alabama University/USGS: 07/2023-06/2025.
- (2) Co-PI, “Strengthening Institutional Procurement: Lessons from LFPA,” USDA AMS/COOPs, 09/2023-09/2025, \$290,000.
- (3) PI (Collaborative PI: Angela Green-Miller, UIUC), “Partnership: Decision Support For Management of the Swine Breeding Herd Through An Extensible Web And Iot Platform,” USDA/NIFA/AFRI: 2023-2026, \$768,000 (Tuskegee portion: Approx. \$155,717).
- (4) PI (Collaborative PI: Ye Su, LU), “Assessing Opportunities and Challenges of the Small Ruminant Industry: **Consumer Preferences**, Market Trends, and Potential Economic Impacts,” USDA/NIFA/AFRI:10/2023 – 9/2025, \$300,000 (Tuskegee portion: Approx. \$30,470).
- (5) Co-PI, “Improved Practices of Climate-Smart Livestock Production Systems and Agricultural Commodities while Enhancing Carbon Sequestration in the Southern USA: Innovating toward a new climate-smart commodity by investing in minority producers” USDA/Climate Smart Commodities: 08/2023-08/2027, \$4,081,100.

- (6) PI, “Advancing Food Security and Nutrition through **Machine Learning**-based Forecasting and Interventions for Food Pantries in Alabama,” USDA/NIFA/AFRI: 06/2023-05/2027, \$650,000.
- (7) PI (Collaborative PI: Brendan Higgins, AU), “Reimagining controlled environment agriculture in a low carbon world,” USDA AFRI Sustainable Agricultural Systems (SAS): 2022-07526, 04/2023-03/2027, Approx. \$10,000,000 (Tuskegee portion: Approx. \$1,900,000).
- (8) PI, “Post-harvest Loss Reduction of Small Farmers and Ranchers for Profitability, Food, and Nutrition Security in Alabama,” Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers Policy Research Center (Policy Center): 02/2023-09/2023, \$75,000.
- (9) PI, “Strengthening HBCU Student Success through **Data Science and Machine Learning** Experimental Education in FANH,” 1890 Land Grant Universities Center of Excellence: 02/2023- 12/2023, \$40,000.
- (10) PI, “Advancing Sustainability and Profitability for Small-Scale Under-represented Minority Forestry Landowners,” USDA NIFA McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Research Program: ALX-SRS22, 12/2022 - 01/2027, app. \$650,000.
- (11) Co-PI, “Farm Workers’ Mental Health: What Role for the Farm Economy and Resources from the Broader Community”, SCAHIP Pilot Studies Program: 10/2020-9/2021, \$15,000.
- (12) PI, “Distance Education Course Development Grant,” Auburn University, 05/2020, \$2,000.
- (13) Co-PI, “Farmers' Accidental Deaths and Suicides: Contributing Factors and Effective Prevention,” SCAHIP Pilot Studies Program: 10/2019-9/2020, \$12,088.69.

## TEACHING

### *Department of Agricultural & Environmental Sciences, Tuskegee University, Tuskegee, AL*

Instructor for Applied Statistics and Machine Learning 01/2023-present

Instructor for Biostatistics 1 08/2021-present

### *Department of Economics, Auburn University, Auburn, AL*

Instructor for International Economics

Instructor for Principles of Microeconomics

### *Auburn Global, Auburn University, Auburn, AL*

Instructor for Principles of Microeconomics

Guest Lecturer for Principles of Macro-econ & Micro-econ & International Economics

## PUBLICATIONS

- (1) Ulucak, R., Khan, D. Zhang, Y., **Chen, R.**, Qiu, Y. 2023. “Income inequality, economic complexity, and renewable energy impacts in controlling consumption-based carbon emissions.” *Evaluation Review*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0193841X231173766>
- (2) Min, B., Lee, S., Jung, H., Miller, D., **Chen, R.** 2022. “Enteric Methane Emissions and Animal Performance in Dairy and Beef Cattle Production: Strategies, Opportunities, and Impact of Reducing Emissions.” *Animals*, 12(8), 948. DOI: 10.3390/ani12080948
- (3) **Chen, R.**, V. Hartarska and Wilson, N.L. 2018. “The Causal Impact of HACCP on Seafood Imports in the US: An Application of Difference-in-Differences within the Gravity Model.” *Food Policy* 79:166-178. DOI: 10.1016/j.foodpol.2018.07.003
- (4) Chen, H., **R. Chen**, S. Bernard, and Rahman, I. 2019. “U.S. Hotel Industry Revenue: An ARDL Bounds Testing Approach”. *International Journal of Contemporary Hospitality Management* 31(4): 1720-1743. DOI: 10.1108/IJCHM-01-2018-0031

## UNDER REVIEW

- (1) Chen, R., & Hartarska, V. “Banking Crises and the Performance of Microfinance Institutions.” *Journal of Banking and Finance*, reject and resubmit.
- (2) Chen, R., Adu, D., Li, W., Wilson, N.L. “Virtual Water trade: Does Bilateral Tariff Matter.” *Ecological Economics*, review and resubmit.

#### **SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

- (1) Chen, R. & Y., Su, L., Tran. “Producer Perceptions of Climate Change and Their Willingness to Adopt Climate-smart Practice: A Case in Missouri.” Southern Agricultural Economics Association Annual meeting, January 2023. Oklahoma, OK(Scheduled).
- (2) Chen, R., Shisher, M. K. C., Orrison, T., Sun, Y. “Demand Forecasting at Alabama Food Pantries Using Machine Learning Methods.” Southern Agricultural Economics Association Annual meeting, January 2023. Oklahoma, OK(Scheduled).
- (3) Chen, R. & Zabawa, R. “Traditional financial service providers and social-demographic factors associated with predatory lending in Alabama.” Southern Economic Association (SEA) Annual Meeting, November 19-21, 2022. Fort Lauderdale, FL.
- (4) Chen, R. D. Fang and Hartarska, V. “The Impact of the Affordable Care Act Depended Coverage Expansion on Young Adults’ Income, Health Care Utilization and Expenditure” Agricultural & Applied Economics Association (AAEA) Annual Meeting, July 26-28, 2020. Virtual Meeting.
- (5) Chen, R. and Hartarska, V. “Banking Crises and the Performance of MIFs.” Agricultural & Applied Economics Association (AAEA) Annual Meeting, August 5-7, 2018. Washington, D.C.
- (6) Chen, R. “The Impact of Regulatory Similarity on Seafood Trade.” Agricultural & Applied Economics Association (AAEA) Annual Meeting, July 30- August 1, 2017. Chicago, IL.
- (7) Chen, R. & Wilson, N.L. “Virtual Water trade: Does Bilateral Tariff Matter?” International Agricultural Trade Research Consortium (IATRC) Annual Meeting, December 11-13, 2016. Scottsdale, AZ.

#### **REFEREE SERVICE**

*Agricultural Finance Review*, Southern SARE, *Agricultural Economics*, *International Journal of Contemporary Hospitality Management*, *International Food and Agribusiness Management Review*, AAEA Annual Meeting.

#### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Agri. & Applied Econ. Assoc. (AAEA), American Economic Assoc. (AEA), Int’l Agri. Trade Research Consortium (IATRC), American Socs. of Health Econ (ASHEcon), Southern Economics Association (SEA), Southern Agricultural Economics Association (SAEA)

#### **COMPUTER SKILLS**

Stata, R, SAS, EViews, ArcGIS, Python