

## D. CHRIS FERGUSON, Ph.D.

Professor of Economics  
Director, Honors College  
Co-Director, LAKES Research Experience for Undergraduates Program  
University of Wisconsin-Stout  
Social Science Department  
445E Harvey Hall  
Menomonie, WI 54751  
[fergusond@uwstout.edu](mailto:fergusond@uwstout.edu)  
[www.uwstout.edu/directory/fergusond](http://www.uwstout.edu/directory/fergusond)  
[www.uwstout.edu/honors](http://www.uwstout.edu/honors)  
[www.uwstout.edu/lakes](http://www.uwstout.edu/lakes)

### Education

Ph.D. in Economics, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, 2012  
*Primary Specializations:* Public Economics, Game Theory  
*Secondary Specializations:* Applied Econometrics, Macroeconomics  
M.S. in Economics, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI, 2003  
M.A. in Economics Miami University, Oxford, OH, 2001  
B.A. with Honors in Chemistry & Economics, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC, 2000

### Professional Appointments

Director, Honors College, University of Wisconsin-Stout, Menomonie, WI, May 2016-present  
Co-Director, LAKES Research Experience for Undergraduates Program, 2013-present  
Professor of Economics, University of Wisconsin-Stout, Menomonie, WI, July 2020-present  
Associate Professor of Economics, University of Wisconsin-Stout, Menomonie, WI,  
2015-2020  
Assistant Director, Honors College, University of Wisconsin-Stout, Menomonie, WI,  
May 2013-May 2016  
Assistant Professor of Economics, University of Wisconsin, Stout, Menomonie, WI, 2009-2015  
Associate Instructor, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, August 2004-May 2009  
Instructor, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, Whitewater, WI, September 2003-May 2004  
Teaching Assistant, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI, January 2002-May 2003  
Research Assistant, Miami University, Oxford, OH, August 2000 – July 2001

### Honors, and Awards

- *Teacher of the Year Award*, University of Wisconsin-Stout College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, 2016-2017
- *Honors College Professor of the Year*, University of Wisconsin- Stout, 2014-15
- *W. Phillip Saunders Award for Excellence in Teaching*, Indiana University, 2009
- *S.T.E.P. Teaching Award*, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, 2004
- *Distinguished Teaching Award*, University of Wisconsin-Madison Economics Department, 2003
- *Charles S. Davis Award* for Excellence in Graduate Study, Miami University, 2001

## RESEARCH

### Research Interests

Public policy and mechanism design issues relating to education, health, environment, and related areas of market externalities and market failures

### Grants

#### *Research Grants*

- National Science Foundation (NSF) Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) Site Grant. 2021-2024. Senior Personnel (w/ Tina Lee and Arthur Kneeland), NSF SMA Award #1950289; **\$342,128**
- National Science Foundation (NSF) Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) Site Grant. 2017-2020. Principal Investigator (w/ Nels Paulson, Arthur Kneeland), NSF SMA Award #1659791; **\$303,427**
- Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) Lake Protection Grant and United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Section 22 Funding. Co-Principal Investigator, 2016-2019; **\$500,000**
- National Science Foundation (NSF) Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) Site Grant. 2014-2017. Co-Principal Investigator (w/ Nels Paulson), NSF SMA Award #1357837; **\$281,938**
- Research Incubation Grant. University of Wisconsin-Stout (with A. Little, S. Nold, and N. Paulson), 2012; \$10,000
- Help or Hindrance: The Impact of Teacher Rules, Roles, and Rights on Teacher Quality. 2008. Finalist in Research Competition: National Council on Teacher Quality; \$5,000 grant + \$5,000 prize award

#### *Travel & Professional Development Grants*

- UW-Stout Professional Development grant (NCUR Faculty travel), Spring 2019; \$4500
- UW-Stout Professional Development grant (NCHC Faculty travel), Fall 2018; \$1800
- UW-Stout Professional Development grant (NCUR Faculty travel), Spring 2018; \$4577
- UW-Stout faculty-student co-presentation grant (Midwest Economics Association Conference), Spring 2017, \$1592
- UW-Stout faculty-student co-presentation grant (National Collegiate Honors Conference), Spring 2017; \$1000
- CAHSS Professional Development Grant (Midwest Economics Association Conference). University of Wisconsin-Stout, 2014; \$825
- Just-in-Time Professional Development Grant (NCHC Faculty travel). University of Wisconsin-Stout, 2014; \$921
- CAHSS Professional Development Grant (Summer Statistics Institute). University of Wisconsin-Stout (with N. Paulson), 2013; \$2500
- Course Development Grant for ECON 360. University of Wisconsin-Stout (with N. Paulson), 2012; \$1400
- Course Development Grant for SOC/ECON 325. University of Wisconsin-Stout (with N. Paulson), 2012; \$1400
- Course Development Grant for APSS 300. University of Wisconsin-Stout, 2012; \$1400
- Course Development Grant for Honors ECON 215, 2010. University of Wisconsin-Stout; \$700

## Book Chapter

Paulson, N., K. Zagorski, and **D. C. Ferguson**. 2015. "On harm and mediated space: The BP Oil Spill in an age of globalization." In *Environmental Crime and Social Conflict: Contemporary and Emerging Issues*, edited by A. Brisman, N. South, and R. White. Ashgate Press.

## Publications, Reports, White Papers

Quilling, A., N. Paulson, **C. Ferguson**. 2020. "[Red Cedar Watershed Community Capacity Report](#)." Prepared for Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers., LAKES REU, University of Wisconsin-Stout.

Donovan, L., **C. Ferguson**, A. Geogakopoulos, T. Lee, A. Quilling. 2019. "[UW-Stout Red Cedar Basin Research: Soil, Water, Community](#)." Report prepared for Dunn County & City of Menomonie, WI. Social Science Research Center, University of Wisconsin-Stout.

Ferguson, D.C., "Private Use of Public Space" & "History as a Public Good" two essays in *City Squares and Coastal Ports of Greater Boston: (Re) Configuring Public Spaces*. National Collegiate Honors Council City-as-Text Monograph, edited by S. Quay, A.Fink, S. Cannata.

Ferguson, D.C., 2012. *Three Essays on Public Economics Issues of Human Capital*. PhD Thesis. Indiana University, Bloomington, IN.

**Ferguson, D.C.** and Greg Gilpin, 2012. "Wage Frictions and Teacher Quality: An Empirical Analysis of Differential Effects Across Subject Areas," Working Paper.

Ferguson, D.C., 2012. "Longevity, Health Care, Human Capital, and Growth," Working Paper.

Ferguson, D.C., 2012. "Retirement Migration and Community Choice: Effects on Public Goods Provision," Working Paper.

Ferguson, D.C., 2003. "Motion Picture Soundtracks and Box Office Revenue: An Empirical Study," Working Paper.

Ferguson, D.C., 2001. *Survival and Success in the Billboard 200*. Master's Thesis, Miami University, Oxford, OH.

Melvin, M.S., **Ferguson, D.C.**, Lindquist, N. and R.A. Manderville. 1999. DNA Binding by 4-Methoxypyrrrolic Natural Products. Preference for Intercalation at AT Sites by Tambjamine E and Prodigisoin. *Journal of Organic Chemistry* 64(18): 6861-6869.

## Works in Progress

- "Economic Impacts of Algae: An Hedonic Pricing Analysis of Water Quality Valuation," (co-authored with Helena Pedrotti, Erin Melly, Caitlin Delaney)
- "Reducing phosphorus, connecting people: The politics and opportunities of community participatory research." (with Nels Paulson, Tina Lee)
- "Honors Contracts: An alternative approach" (with Xanthi Gerasimo)
- "An Empirical Analysis of the Growth and Development of Youth Rugby in the Upper Midwest,"
  - (co-authored with Xanthi Gerasimo) – under revision, 2018
- "Teaching Utility Theory and Consumer Optimization using Gloom®"
- "City-As-Prices: Honors Pedagogy for Economics"

## Conference Presentations

- “Be Careful What You Wish For: Lessons Learned From Implementation of a Five-Year Retention Plan,” with Xanthi Gerasimo and “Engaging Students in the Process: Planning & Organizing a Regional Honors Conference” with Amy Brostrom. National Collegiate Honors Council conference, New Orleans, LA – November 2019.
- “Honors Contracts: an alternative approach,” with Xanthi Gerasimo. National Collegiate Honors Council conference, Boston, MA – November 2018.
- “Honors Contracts: an alternative approach,” with Xanthi Gerasimo. Upper Midwest Honors Council conference, Lamoni, IA – March 2018.
- “Economic Impacts of Algae: An Hedonic Pricing Analysis of Water Quality Valuation” with Helena Pedrotti and Erin Melly. Presented at the annual meetings for the Midwest Economics Association, Cincinnati, OH – April 2017.
- “The LAKES Project: Cleaning up Watersheds with Interdisciplinary Social Science Praxis.” Presented at the annual meetings of the Society for Applied Anthropology, Pittsburgh, PA – April 2015 (w/ Nels Paulson & Tina Lee).
- "Factors in Honors Student Engagement, Retention, and Completion: A Survival Analysis" and "Creating and Implementing an Honors Assessment Plan" (co-presentation with Lopa Basu, Tina Lee), *National Collegiate Honors Council Conference*, Denver, CO - November, 2014
- "Improving our Water, Our Communities, and Our Economy" with Ron Verdon, *Dunn County Economic Development Conference*, Menomonie, WI - September 2014
- "City-as-Prices: An Exploration of Place Through Economics" and "Teaching Utility Theory and Consumer Optimization using Gloom" *National Collegiate Honors Council Conference*, New Orleans, LA - November 2013
- "An Empirical Analysis of the Growth and Development of Youth Rugby in the Upper Midwest," (co-authored with Xanthi Gerasimo) *Midwest Economic Association Meeting*, Columbus, OH, March 2013
- "Growth and Distributional Effects of Retirement Migration and Community Choice," *Midwest Economic Association Meeting*, Chicago, IL, March 2012
- "Human Capital Investment, Longevity, Health Care, & Growth" and "Contract Rigidities & the Quantity and Quality of Teachers (co-authored with Greg Gilpin)," *Annual Association for Education Finance & Policy Conference*, Seattle, WA, March 2011
- "Retirement Migration & Community Choice: Effects on Public Goods Provision," *Midwest Economic Association Meeting*, St. Louis, MO, March 2011
- "Contract Rigidities and the Quantity and Quality of Teachers: An Analysis of Differential Effects Across Teaching-Subject Areas" *Southern Economic Association Meeting*, Atlanta, GA, November 2010
- "Wage Frictions, Teacher Quality, and Teacher Quantity: An Empirical Analysis of Differential Effects Across Subject Areas" *Midwest Economics Association Meeting*, Chicago, IL, March 2010
- "Retirement Migration & Community Choice: Effects on Public School Funding" *American Education Finance Association Meeting*, Richmond, VA, March 2010
- "Wage Frictions, Teacher Quality, and Teacher Quantity: An Empirical Analysis of TR3 Data " *National Council on Teacher Quality Annual Conference*, Washington, D.C., March 2009

- "Wage Frictions, Teacher Quality, and Teacher Quantity: Differential Effects Across Subject Areas" *American Education Finance Association 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference*, Nashville, TN, March 2009
- "Wage Frictions and Teacher Quality," *American Education Finance Association 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference*, Denver, CO, April 2008
- "Longevity and Growth Effects of Health Care Subsidies," *Jordan River Conference*, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, April 2007

#### **Invited Presentations (selected)**

- Invited Speaker, Student Debt Forum, League of Women Voters – Greater Chippewa Valley, Menomonie, WI – November 2019
- Invited Speaker, "Water Quality Economics." Northwest Wisconsin Lakes Conference, Hayward, Wisconsin – June 2017
- Invited Speaker, "Renewing community and water: Lessons from the LAKES project." Keynote Address with Nels Paulson and Tina Lee, Global Water Awareness Week Plenary Address, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire – April 2017
- Invited Speaker, "Why the Red Cedar Watershed will not fail: What the LAKES REU research tells us." Keynote Address with Nels Paulson and Tina Lee, Red Cedar Watershed Conference, Menomonie, Wisconsin – March 2017
- Invited Speaker, "Watershed Economics" Lake Leaders Institute, organized by UW-Extension Lakes program. Tomahawk, WI – October 2016
- Invited Speaker, "Social Science: A Brief Introduction to its Purpose and Process in Watershed Planning", Presentation to Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources - 2015

#### **Campus and Community Presentations (selected)**

- "Accidental Courtesy" *UW-Stout Free Speech Week Film Screening and Panel Discussion*, Menomonie, WI, November 2017
- "Inequality for All," *Social Science Speaker Series -Film Screening and Panel Discussion*, Menomonie, WI, October 2014
- "Privacy in the Era of 'Big Data,'" *UW-Stout Constitution Day Speaker Series*, Menomonie, WI, September 2013
- "Return of Depression Economics," *Honors Colloquium Introductory Keynote*, Menomonie, WI, September 2012
- "Economic Issues Surrounding the Affordable Care Act," *UW-Stout Constitution Day Speaker Series*, Menomonie, WI, September 2012
- "Current Issues Surrounding Economic Inequality," *UW-Stout Social Science Speaker Series*, Menomonie, WI, November 2011
- "National Debt, Public Finance, Growth, and Social Welfare," *UW-Stout Constitution Day Speaker Series*, Menomonie, WI, September 2011

## Popular Media

- Quoted in “Two month student study of Red Cedar Watershed revealed,” WQOW News, August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014
- Quoted in “Stocks Plummet Thursday,” WQOW News, June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013
- Quoted in “Governor Walker weighs in on tax reform proposals,” WQOW News, January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013
- Quoted in “Nearly half of college grads are overqualified for their jobs,” WQOW News, January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013
- Quoted in “Debt ceiling debate rages on,” WQOW News, January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013
- Quoted in “The Road to the Future,” WEAU News, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

## TEACHING

### Teaching Interests

Public Finance, Game Theory, Econometrics and Quantitative Research Methods, Microeconomics, Growth, Environmental Economics, Economics of Education

### Courses Developed

ECON 215HON: Honors Principles of Microeconomics (Developed)  
SOC/ECON 325: Economic & Social Issues of Leisure and Sports (Co-Developed)  
ECON 360: Game Theory & Strategic Behavior (Developed)  
ECON 380: Economic Model Building and Forecasting (Revised)  
APSS 300: Applied Social Analysis II – Quantitative Research Methods (Developed)  
APSS 400: Applied Social Analysis III – Capstone Research (co-Developed)

### Courses Taught

*Social Science Department, University of Wisconsin-Stout, 2009-present*

- ECON 210: Principles of Macroeconomics
- ECON 215: Principles of Microeconomics
- ECON 215HON: Honors Principles of Microeconomics
- SOC/ECON 325: Economic & Social Issues of Leisure and Sports
- ECON 360: Game Theory & Strategic Behavior
- ECON 380: Economic Model Building & Forecasting
- ECON 410: Intermediate Microeconomics
- ECON 415: Intermediate Macroeconomics
- ECON 445: Public Finance
- APSS 300: Applied Social Analysis II – Quantitative Research Methods
- APSS 400: Applied Social Analysis III – Capstone

*Associate Instructor (full teaching responsibilities), Indiana University, 2006-2009*

- Principles of Macroeconomics (E201) Fall 2007, Spring 2008
- Principles of Microeconomics (E202) Fall 2008
- Intermediate Microeconomics (E321) Summer 2008

*Teaching Assistant/Discussion section leader, Indiana University, 2004-2006*

- Principles of Microeconomics (E301) Spring 2009
- Intermediate Microeconomics (E321) Fall 2006

*Instructor, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, Whitewater, WI, 2003-2004*

- Principles of Microeconomics (ECON 201) 5 sections 2003-2004
- Public Finance (ECON 356) Fall 2003

*Associate Instructor, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI, 2002-2003*

- Principles of Microeconomics (ECON 201) 6 sections 2002-2003

## **Student Research Advising**

*Student Publications:*

- “Expanding Rugby in the United States: A Historical Analysis,” (Xanthi Gerasimo, *Journal of Student Research*, 2014, Vol XIII)
- “Fractured: Perceptions of the Frac Sand Mine Industry in the Chippewa Valley” (Danny Jay and Jon Knapp, *Journal of Student Research*, 2014, Vol XIII)
- “Increasing Student Retention among College Students” (Hillar Neumann, *Journal of Student Research*, 2014, Vol XIII)

*Student Presentations and Dissemination:*

- National Conference on Undergraduate Research; Kennesaw, GA, 2019 – accompanied 25 students; Oklahoma City, OK 2018 - accompanied 25 students and advised 5; Memphis, TN 2017 – accompanied 23 students, advised 4; Asheville, NC, 2016 – accompanied 13 students and advised 5; Lexington, KY 2014 - advisor for 6 students; Lacrosse, WI, 2013, accompanied 4 students and advised 3.
- National Collegiate Honors Council Conference; advisor and accompanied 2 students to Seattle, WA (2016), advisor for 1 student and accompanied 3 students to Denver, CO (2014), accompanied 2 students to New Orleans, LA (2013)
- Upper Midwest Honors Conference; traveled with 13 students to Lamoni, IA (2018), advised and traveled with 10 students to Brookings, SD (2017), advised 3 students and traveled with 5 students to Davenport, IA (2016), advisor for 1 student and accompanied 12 students to Waverly, IA (2014), advisor for 2 students and accompanied 8 students to Duluth, MN (2013)
- Midwest Economics Association conference – Cincinnati, OH (2017) – accompanied 3 students and advised 2.
- Society for Applied Anthropology conference – Pittsburgh, PA (2015) – accompanied 3 students and advised 1.
- Council on Undergraduate Research – Research Experiences for Undergraduates Symposium; Arlington, VA, advised and accompanied 1 student (2014)
- Posters in the Rotunda, Madison, WI; advisor for 2 student projects, 2014
- UW-System Symposium, Milwaukee, WI; advisor for 1 student project, 2014
- UW-Stout Research Day, Menomonie, WI; advisor for 13 student presentations 2014, 2 student presentations 2013

*Student Research Grants:*

- Advisor for Megan Hondl -funded 2014-15
- Advisor for Stephanie Hintz - funded 2013-14
- Advisor for Xanthi Gerasimo, Danny Jay, Jon Knapp, Cory Gunderson – funded 2012-13

*LAKES REU Advising*

- Matt Flyr ('14), Lauren L'Esperance ('14), Lisette Solis ('15), Megan Isaacs ('15), Helena Pedrotti ('16), Erin Melly ('16), Caitlin Delany('16), Ryleigh Prochnow ('17), Madison Biggs ('17), Elizabeth Saunders ('19), Lillian Strehlow ('19)

*Independent Studies and Honors Contracts:*

- Seth Arnold, 2018
- Emily Wyland, Honors Contract 2017
- Hillar Neumann, Chris Galetka, and Cory Gunderson – Econometrics independent study 2015
- Nicole Reis, Honors Contract 2012
- Xanthi Gerasimo, Honors Contract 2012

**SERVICE**

*University of Wisconsin-Stout:*

**University and College**

- Vice Chair, University General Education Committee, 2018-present, (member: 2014-present)
- Student Research Grant Selection Committee, 2014-present
- All-university Promotion Committee member, 2016
- University Finance Committee, Alternate, 2014-2015
- Faculty Research Fellow Selection Committee, 2014-2015
- Reviewer, Journal of Student Research, various dates, 2012-present
- CAHSS Governance Committee, 2012-2013
  
- General Education Response Team (GERT), 2019-present
- Research Practices taskforce, Chair 2020-present
- First year experience taskforce, 2017-2018
- Experiential Learning taskforce, 2016-2017
- Summer session taskforce, 2016-17

**Honors College**

- Director, Honors College, May 2016-present
- Assistant Director, Honors College, May 2013-2016
- Honors College, Advisory Board, 2012-present
- Honors College, Strategic Planning Committee, 2012-2013
- Honors College, Colloquium Leader, 2009-present
- Faculty Advisor, Honors College Student Council student organization, 2013-2017

**Departmental**

- Program Advisory Board, B.S. in Applied Social Science, 2010-Present
- Academic Advisor, B.S. APSS B.S. 2010-present
- Chair, Social Science Personnel Committee (SSPC). 2014-2016, (member 2010-2016)
- Social Science Research Center steering committee, 2013-2020

- Social Science Speaker Series Committee. 2012-present
- Social Science Department Website Committee, 2011-present
- Chair, Hiring Committee, Assistant Professor of Economics (2 positions) 2016
- Chair, Hiring Committee, Assistant Professor of Economics (2 positions) 2015
- Chair, Hiring Committee, Assistant Professor of Economics (2 positions) 2014
- Chair, Hiring Committee, Assistant Professor of Economics (2 positions) 2013
- Hiring Committee, Assistant Professor of Economics (2 positions) 2012
- Hiring Committee, Assistant Professor of Economics. 2011
- Hiring Committee, Assistant Professor of Economics. 2010
- Faculty Co-Advisor, Social Science Society student organization, 2013-2016

*Other Service and Professional Organizational Leadership Positions:*

- NSF selection panelist, Alexandria, VA, 2018
- President, Upper Midwest Honors Council Board, 2019-2020
- Wisconsin State Faculty Representative, Upper Midwest Honors Council Board, 2013-present
- Academic Advisor, Economics B.A. program, Indiana University 2004-2006.
- Midwest Economics Association Conference, 2013, Columbus, OH, Discussant for 2 papers
- Midwest Economics Association Conference, 2012, Evanston, IL, Discussant
- Midwest Economics Association Conference, 2011, St. Louis, MO, Discussant
- Midwest Economics Association Conference, 2010, Evanston, IL, Session Chair
- Annual Association for Education Finance & Policy Conference, 2011, Seattle, WA, Discussant

**Professional Development**

- NSF REU Symposium, 2014, Arlington, VA
- UW-System Faculty College, 2014, Richland Center, WI
- NCHC Pedagogical workshop, 2013, Boston, MA,
- Summer Statistics Institute, 2013, University of Texas, Austin, TX
- City-as-Text pedagogical workshop, Honors College, 2012, University of Wisconsin-Stout
- Undergraduate Program Assessment Institute training. 2011, 2012. University of Wisconsin-Stout
- NVIVO qualitative analysis software training. 2011. University of Wisconsin-Stout
- PeopleSoft Advisement software training. 2010. University of Wisconsin-Stout
- D2L instructional technology software training. 2009. University of Wisconsin-Stout

**Software Expertise**

IMPLAN, Stata, SPSS, SAS, Matlab, NVivo, R, Gephi, Qualtrics, KUMU

**Professional Association Memberships**

American Economics Association  
 Southern Economic Association  
 Midwest Economic Association  
 Association for Education Finance and Policy  
 American Education Finance Association

National Collegiate Honors Council  
 Upper Midwest Honors Council  
 Omicron Delta Epsilon National Economics Honor  
 Society

**References available upon request**