

# Shaoda Wang

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## Academic Appointments

Assistant Professor, Harris School of Public Policy, University of Chicago, 2021–  
Deputy Faculty Director, Energy Policy Institute at UChicago-China (EPIC-China), 2022–  
Postdoctoral Scholar, Department of Economics and EPIC, University of Chicago, 2019–2021

## Affiliations

Faculty Research Fellow (DEV, EEE), National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), 2022–  
Fellow, The Coase Project, 2021–  
Invited Researcher (K-CAI), Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (JPAL), 2020–  
Affiliated Faculty, Energy Policy Institute at the University of Chicago (EPIC), 2019–  
Guest Researcher, Alibaba Research Center for Rural Dynamics, 2019–

## Education

Ph.D., Agricultural and Resource Economics, UC Berkeley, 2019  
B.A., Economics, Peking University, 2014

## Research Interests

Development Economics, Political Economy, Environmental Economics

## Publications

"When Information Conflicts with Obligations: the Role of Motivated Cognition," (with Ao Wang, and Xiaoyang Ye)  
*Economic Journal*, Forthcoming

"Buddha's Grace Illuminates All: Temple Destruction, School Construction, and Modernization in 20th Century China," (with Boxiao Zhang)  
*Economica*, Forthcoming

"Subjective Performance Evaluation, Influence Activities, and Bureaucratic Work Behavior: Evidence from China" (with Alain de Janvry, Elisabeth Sadoulet, Guojun He, and Qiong Zhang)  
*American Economic Review*, Forthcoming

"Watering Down Environmental Regulation in China" (with Guojun He and Bing Zhang)  
*Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 2020, 135(4), pp.2135-2185

"Do College Graduates Serving as Village Officials Help Rural China?" (with Guojun He)  
*American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 2017, 9(4), pp 186-215

## Working Papers

"Policy Experimentation in China: the Political Economy of Policy Learning," (with David Y. Yang)  
Revise and Resubmit, *Journal of Political Economy*

"Does the Squeaky Wheel Get More Grease? The Direct and Indirect Effects of Citizen Participation on Environmental Governance in China," (with Mark Buntaine, Michael Greenstone, Guojun He, Mengdi Liu, and Bing Zhang)  
Revise and Resubmit, *American Economic Review*

"The Environmental and Economic Consequences of Internalizing Border Spillovers," (with Zenan Wang)  
Revise and Resubmit, *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*

"Judicial Independence, Local Protectionism, and Economic Integration: Evidence from China," (with Ernest Liu, Yi Lu, and Wenwei Peng)

"Cognitive Limitation in Complex Decision Making: Evidence from Centralized College Admission," (with Ao Wang, and Xiaoyang Ye)

"English Curriculum and Educational Inequality: Evidence from 22 Million College Entrance Exam Takers in China" (with Hongbin Li, Lingsheng Meng, and Kai Mu)

"Fiscal Competition and Coordination: Evidence from China."

## Selected Works in Progress

"The Selection and Making of Civil Servants: Evidence from China's College Graduate Civil Services Program," (with Guojun He, David Y. Yang, and Qiong Zhang)

"Policy Learning and Policy Diffusion in China," (with Kaicheng Luo and David Yang)

"Revolving Door in China's Judicial System," (with Zhuang Liu, Wenwei Peng, and Daniel Xu)

"The Political Economic Determinants of Nuclear Power: Evidence from Chernobyl," (with Alexey Makarin, and Nancy Qian)

"Judicial Mediation: Determinants and Consequences," (with Zhuang Liu and Boli Xu)

"Long Run Effects of Higher Education on Financial Outcomes," (with Hongbin Li, Yi Lu, and Binzhen Wu)

"The Costs of Deliberate Destabilization of Ecosystems: Evidence From the Eradication of Sparrows in China and the Great Famine," (with Eyal Frank, Xuebin Wang, Yunqin Wang, and Yang You)

## Grants and Awards

EPIC-China Grant (\$52500, with David Y. Yang), 2023

EPIC-China Grant (\$65000, with Allan Hsiao), 2023

Zhang Peigang Development Economics Outstanding Achievement Award, 2022

Tsinghua-UChicago Joint Research Center for Economics and Finance (\$30000, with Hongbin Li, Yi Lu, and Binzhen Wu), 2022

Tsinghua-UChicago Joint Research Center for Economics and Finance (\$20000, with Ernest Liu, Yi Lu, and Wenwei Peng), 2022

Provost's Global Faculty Award (\$25000), 2022

Tsinghua-UChicago Joint Research Center for Economics and Finance (\$40000, with Yi Lu, and Wenwei Peng), 2021

Tsinghua-UChicago Joint Research Center for Economics and Finance (\$40000, with Bo Li), 2021

JPAL PPE Grant (\$30360, with Ao Wang), 2020

IGC State Effectiveness Grant (£70000, with David Y. Yang), 2020

Tsinghua-UChicago Joint Research Center for Economics and Finance (\$40000, with Yi Lu, and Wenwei Peng), 2020

Tsinghua-UChicago Joint Research Center for Economics and Finance (\$20000, with Jing Cao), 2020

BFI Gender Initiative Grant (\$17000), 2020

BFI Political Economics Initiative Grant (\$4000), 2019

EPIC-UCAS Grant (\$58000, with Michael Greenstone, Guojun He, and Zifa Wang), 2019

EPIC-UCAS Grant (\$41500, with Michael Greenstone and Guojun He), 2019

EPIC-UCAS Grant (\$58400, with Fiona Burlig, Michael Greenstone, Guojun He, Koichiro Ito, and Zifa Wang), 2019

JPAL GI Pilot Grant (\$49797, with David Y. Yang), 2019

BFI Development Grant (\$21000), 2019

JPAL PPE Grant (\$43901, with Ao Wang), 2019

Gregory Chow Best Paper Award, Chinese Economists Society, 2018

Masahiko Aoki Best Paper Nomination Award, 2017

PEDL Exploratory Grant (£26922, with Guojun He and Bing Zhang), 2017

HK UGC General Research Fund (HK\$364876, with Guojun He and Bing Zhang), 2017

All-UC Econ History Group Fellowship (\$3500), 2017

UC Berkeley Grad Division Summer Grant (\$3500), 2017

JPAL GI Full Grant (\$200000, with Alain de Janvry, Elisabeth Sadoulet, and Qiong Zhang), 2017

HKUST IEMS Grant (HK\$150500, with Guojun He, Alain de Janvry, Elisabeth Sadoulet, and Qiong Zhang), 2017

Weiss Family Program Fund Research Grant (\$11200), 2016

Sidney Hoos Award for Best Second-Year Econometrics Paper, 2016

UC Berkeley CCS Summer Grant (\$2500), 2016

Gregory Chow Best Paper Award, Chinese Economists Society, 2015

JPAL GI Pilot Grant (\$50000, with Alain de Janvry and Elisabeth Sadoulet), 2015

BEHL Grant (\$2400), 2014

UC Berkeley ARE Travel Grants (Multiple), 2014-2019

Tai-Sun Chen Award for Academic Talents, Peking University, 2013

Chancellor's Undergrad Research Grant, Peking University, 2012

Yihai-Kerry Scholarship, Peking University, 2012

Outstanding Student, Peking University, 2012

Outstanding Winner, Challenge Cup Academic Competition, Peking University, 2012

## Professional Activities

### *Invited Talks*

2024: AEA/ASSA, Stanford University (SCCEI)

2023: AEA/ASSA (Discussant), Harvard University (Law and Econ), ABFER, NBER Chinese Economy Group, University of Oregon (Econ), Duke Kunshan (Econ), Renmin University (Finance), EPIC Junior Workshop, NUS (Business School), Tsinghua Growth and Institutions Conference, CCER Summer Institute, Barcelona School of Economics Summer Forum, Queen Mary University of London (Econ)

2022: AEA/ASSA, University of Hong Kong (Law), HKBU-NUS-CEIBS-NTU joint seminar (Econ), NBER EEE, NBER Organizational Economics, NBER Chinese Economy Group, CUHK-Shenzhen (Econ), BFI-China Conference, Poli Sci Speaker Series, University of Wisconsin-Madison (AAE), Norwegian School of Economics, Barcelona School of Economics Summer Forum, China Economics Summer Institute, UC Berkeley (Haas), University of Chicago (Poli Sci), LSE Environmental Week, Symposium on Natural Resource Governance for Young Scholars (Indiana University), Duke University (Econ), University of Chicago (Booth)

2021: AEA/ASSA, University of Virginia (Econ), Cambridge Society for Economic Pluralism, University of Southern California (Marshall), University of Chicago (EPIC), Xiamen University (WISE), UC Riverside (Econ), University of Munich (Econ), Tsinghua University (SEM), Environmental Workshop (XMU), NBER/BREAD Development Meeting, NEUDC (BU), Stanford University (GSB), University of Nottingham (NICEP), Ball State University (Econ), University of Chicago (Econ)

2020: Tsinghua Growth and Institutions Conference, NYU Politics China Workshop, NBER Chinese Economy Group (Discussant), ASHEcon (Discussant), GoSee (Discussant), Tsinghua University, Fudan Social Sciences Lab Webinar, University of Iowa (Econ), Zhongshan University, Renmin University, University of Idaho (Ag Econ)

2019: LSE (Management), University of Chicago (Harris), ASREC, UC Berkeley PE Lunch, Northwestern Development Rookiefest, Environmental Workshop (NJU), CAAS, Renmin University, China Economics Summer Institute, AFE (Chicago), NBER Chinese Economy Group, University of Tokyo, Hitotsubashi University, GRIPS, Purdue University (Ag Econ), Fudan University, Jinan University (IESR), Peking University (NSD)

2018: PEDL Conference (LSE); PEDL Workshop (Oxford), EMCON (Northwestern), Occasional Workshop (UCSB), AFE (BU), Heartland Workshop (UIUC), UC Berkeley Development Lunch, UC Berkeley ERE Seminar, Camp Resources, APSA (Boston), ABCDE (World Bank), Peking University, MIEDC (UMN), IPWSD (Columbia), CES North America, PacDev (UCD)

2017: PEDL Workshop (Oxford), CSES (Chengdu), Environmental Workshop (NJU), ES China, BCCDS (SJTU), YSC (UCSD), MIEDC (UWM), PacDev (UCR)

2016: All-UC Conference (UCD), NEUDC (MIT), UC Berkeley PE Lunch, PacDev (Stanford)

2015: NEUDC (Brown), All-UC Conference (UCB)

## Referee

*American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, American Economic Review, American Economic Review: Insights, American Journal of Political Science, American Journal of Agricultural Economics, China Economic Review, Econometrica, Economica, Economic Development and Cultural Change, Economic Inquiry, Economic Journal, Energy Journal, Environmental and Resource Economics, Explorations in Economic History, Journal of Comparative Economics, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of European Economic Association, Journal of Health Economics, Journal of Industrial Economics, Journal of International Economics, Journal of Law and Economics, Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, Journal of Political Economy, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Urban Economics, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Economics and Statistics, Review of Economic Studies, World Development*

## Services

Junior Faculty Recruitment Committee (EEE), UChicago Harris (2022–2023)  
Junior Faculty Recruitment Committee (PE of Dev), UChicago Harris (2021–2022)  
EPIC Lunch Seminar Series Co-Organizer, UChicago (2021–)  
PhD Admissions Committee (student member), UC Berkeley ARE, 2017–18  
Freelance Columnist for CNPolitics.org, 2013–

## Teaching and Advising

### *Teaching at UChicago:*

Chinese Economy, Winter 2022 (Average Rating: 4.6/5)  
Environmental Economics, Winter 2022 (Average Rating: 4.6/5)

### *PhD advising at UChicago*

Haoran Gao (Harris PhD, in progress)

### *PhD program placements of RAs*

Qingyu Chen (Oxford Econ), Chi Cheng (Virginia Econ), Siyuan Hu (Wisconsin AAE), Yujing Huang (UCLA Anderson GEM), Alex Xi Lan (UChicago Harris), Dingding Li (Berkeley ARE), Ziyi Liu (Berkeley Haas BPP), Bobing Qiu (Berkeley ARE), Fanyu Wang (Columbia SIPA), Yiyuan Wang (Yale SOM Finance), Yujia Wang (Harvard Econ)

## References

Available upon request

Last updated: January 2023