



# Association of Environmental and Resource Economists

## 2021 Election of Voting Members of the AERE Board of Directors: Slate of Candidates



### **Sathya Gopalakrishnan, The Ohio State University**

Dr. Sathya Gopalakrishnan is an Associate Professor in the Department of Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics at The Ohio State University. She is also a founding member and former Director of the STEAM Factory at OSU and is on the faculty of the Environmental Science Graduate Program. She completed her PhD in Environmental Economics and Policy from Duke University in 2010. She also holds a M.S in Agricultural Economics from Michigan State University and an M.A in Economics from the University of Hyderabad. Sathya's research program is motivated by an interest in applying economic theory to explore ubiquitous interdependencies between human decisions and biophysical processes that impact natural resources. Her work specifically focuses on coupled models of complex human and natural systems; non-market valuation of environmental amenities and risks; and bioeconomic analysis, applied to coastal and water resources. Her work is at the frontier in exploring resource management problems in which biophysical and economic systems are linked by spatial-dynamic processes, such as climate adaptation along an extended coastline. Her research is published in field journals in applied economics and reaches a broad scientific audience across disciplines. She has received over 1 million USD in research funding through national and state grants from the National Science Foundation and the Ohio Agricultural Research Development Center. As Director of The STEAM Factory – a diverse grassroots faculty network at Ohio State that fosters creative collaborations in research, education, and outreach – Sathya has experience in leading a unique interdisciplinary initiative that has organically grown into a diverse academic network (200+ members in 70+ departments), with significant impact on the cultural fabric of the University by creating a space for unstructured collaboration and dialogue between researchers and the Columbus community.



### **Sarah Jacobson, Williams College**

Sarah Jacobson is an Associate Professor of Economics at Williams College. She completed her PhD in Economics at Georgia State University and her Bachelor of Science in Engineering at Harvey Mudd College. She is an environmental and behavioral economist who studies environmental regulations and interactions between preferences and institutions, using laboratory experiments, applied theory, and observational data. Themes in her research include regulatory incentive structures, punishment, deterrence, charity donations, reciprocity, rationality errors, and situations in which social preferences yield inefficient outcomes. She also designs games for teaching topics in environmental economics. Sarah engages extensively with efforts to promote diversity, inclusion, and equity in the economics profession through initiatives within Williams, the mentoring programs of the American Economic Association, and the Northeast Agricultural and Resource Economics Association (NAREA). She also does some writing and speaking on inclusion and on professional development. Sarah's AERE service

comprises reviewing conference submissions since 2014 as well as 2019 service on the AERE Nominating Committee. She is on the Editorial Council for the Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists. Sarah's statement of purpose for AERE Board candidacy: I have enjoyed and appreciated attending AERE events since 2012 and am grateful for the community and professional opportunities the association provides. If elected to the AERE Board, I will happily do my part in the regular work of governance. But beyond that, I'm excited by the opportunity to help the fields of environmental and natural resource economics, as led by AERE, become a more welcoming space for all scholars. Our association can take creative steps to bring more current scholars into our fold, and to increase the diversity of the pipeline of environmental and resource economists. I'm looking forward to being part of those efforts.



### **Shanjun Li, Cornell University**

Shanjun Li is a Professor of Applied Economics and Policy, and he holds the Kenneth L. Robinson Chair in the Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management at Cornell University. He serves as co-Director of the Cornell Institute for China Economic Research (CICER). He is a research associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) and a university fellow at Resources for the Future (RFF). His research areas include environmental and energy economics, urban and transportation economics, empirical industrial organization, and Chinese economy. He holds a PhD in Economics from Duke University.



### **Steve Newbold, University of Wyoming**

Steve Newbold earned a Master's degree in Agricultural and Resource Economics and a PhD in Ecology from the University of California, Davis in 2002. Between 2002 and 2018, Steve worked as an economist in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's National Center for Environmental Economics, where his responsibilities included conducting and reviewing benefit-cost analyses of environmental regulations. Among other activities while at the EPA, Steve developed a fish population modeling framework to aid in ecological risk assessments of cooling water withdraws from U.S. waterbodies; provided technical assistance to the Interagency Workgroup on the Social Cost of Carbon; conducted research on incorporating uncertainty about climate sensitivity into climate change integrated assessment models and valuing new research designed to reduce such uncertainties; adapted statistical methods of meta-analysis to help update the Agency's estimate of the value per statistical life; and developed a bio-economic model of fisheries with links to water quality conditions including the prevalence of hypoxia for use in a benefit-cost analysis of the total maximum daily load (TMDL) limits for the Chesapeake Bay. In 2018, Steve joined the University of Wyoming as an assistant professor in the Department of Economics, where he teaches undergraduate and graduate courses on Natural Resource Economics, Advanced Environmental Economics, Advanced Econometric Theory, and Research Methods. Steve's research interests include systematic conservation planning using reserve site selection methods, bio-economic modeling including spatial models of human interactions with the environment, non-market valuation of ecosystem services using revealed and stated preference approaches, benefit transfer methods using structural and non-structural estimating equations, and applied econometrics using simulation methods. Steve's most recent work includes an application of value of information theory to non-market valuation studies, and a benefit-cost analysis of social distancing measures to control COVID-19 accounting for potential co-benefits from air pollution reductions.