

Academic Research Council

Biographies



Vice Chair, Vicki Bogan is Associate Professor of Finance in the SC Johnson College of Business at Cornell University. She is the Founder and Director of Cornell's Institute for Behavioral and Household Finance, which studies investment decision making behavior with the goal of shedding light on how to better model observed financial behavior and informing consumer finance related policies and regulation. Bogan also is a founding Co-Editor of the journal, *Financial Planning Review*.

Bogan's current research focuses on household finance, behavioral finance, and applied microeconomics, with a particular focus on questions at the intersection of household financial decision-making and health issues. Bogan has published in numerous top journals and has several book chapters including a book chapter on "Household Investment Decisions," in *Investor Behavior: The Psychology of Financial Planning and Investing*. Bogan's research has received considerable media attention including radio interviews and coverage in the *Wall Street Journal*, *Forbes.com*, *PsychologyToday.com*, and the *Harvard Business Review Blog*.

Bogan has a Ph.D. in economics from Brown University. She also holds an M.A. in economics from Brown University, an M.B.A. in finance and strategic management from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, and an Sc.B. in Applied Mathematics and Economics from Brown University. She also has held a visiting fellow appointment at Princeton University. She is the recipient of the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching and is a two-time recipient of the Cornell Outstanding Educator Award.



Mathieu Despard, PhD, MSW is an Associate Professor in the Department of Social Work at the University of North Carolina-Greensboro, a Faculty Director at the Social Policy Institute at Washington University in St. Louis, an Adjunct Assistant Professor at the Kenan-Flagler Business School at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, and a Faculty Associate with the Center on Assets, Education, and Inclusion at the University of Michigan.

Dr. Despard conducts research on access to and use of financial products and services among low- and moderate-income (LMI) households, including tax-time savings, child savings accounts, field experiments incorporating behavioral economics, workplace financial wellness programs, financial counseling, and financial technology apps and platforms. He also conducts research on a wide array of household financial security issues affecting LMI households including student debt, emergency savings, financial shocks and material hardship, the Earned Income Tax Credit, and self-employment.

His current work includes a study of employer benefit use among frontline health care workers, a study of the impacts of COVID-19 on small businesses in the food services industry, and a longitudinal study of the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on U.S. households. Dr. Despard is also serving as an evaluation consultant with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation on a project to expand access to the Earned Income Tax Credit among frontline workers.

Despard has published 46 peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters in publications such as *Journal of Consumer Affairs*, *Journal of Economics, Race, and Policy*, *Journal of Financial Counseling and Planning*, *Journal of Family and Economic Issues*, and *Behavioral Science and Policy*. His work has been featured in media outlets such as the *Atlantic Monthly*, *Consumer Reports*, *Forbes Magazine*, *Axios*, and *MarketWatch* and through think tanks including the Brookings Institution, New America Foundation, and Prosperity Now. He has presented research findings before diverse audiences including Society for Social Work and Research, Society for Human Resource Management, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, Society for Judgement and Decision Making, The Conference Board, U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation, PlanSource, and the American Council on Consumer Interests.

In addition to his research, Dr. Despard has taught graduate level courses on Nonprofit Leadership, Financial Management of Nonprofit Organizations, Financial Inclusion and Social Innovation, and Asset Building Practice and Policy. Prior to his academic career, Dr. Despard

worked for 12 years in and with community-based nonprofit organizations on financial empowerment and access to health care issues.

Dr. Despard earned his PhD in social work and master's in social work at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and a B.S. in Psychology from Virginia Tech.



Eric Johnson is a faculty member at the Columbia Business School at Columbia University where he is the inaugural holder of the Norman Eig Chair of Business, and Director of the Center for Decision Sciences. His research examines the interface between Behavioral Decision Research, Economics and the decisions made by consumers, managers, and their implications for public policy, markets and marketing. Among other topics, Johnson has explored how the way options are presented to decision-makers affect their choices in areas such as organ donation, the choice of environmentally friendly products, and investments. Prof. Johnson's research and comments have appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Money*, *Discover*, *Business Week* and *The Financial Times*, and on *The CBS Evening News* and *National Public Radio*. His

research has been published in the *Science*, *Psychological Review*, *Psychological Science*, *Nature Neuroscience*, *Harvard Business Review*, the *Journal of Economic Theory*, and many other consumer, economic, marketing and psychology journals. He has co-authored two books: *Decision Research: A Field Guide*, published by Sage Publications and *The Adaptive Decision-Maker* published by Cambridge University Press, and is currently working on a book on choice architecture. After graduation from Rutgers University, he received his M.S. and Ph.D. in Psychology from Carnegie-Mellon University, and was a National Science Foundation postdoctoral fellow at Stanford. He previously has taught at Carnegie Mellon, was a visiting professor at the Sloan School at MIT, was the inaugural holder of the David W. Hauck Chair in Marketing, and a Professor of Operations and Information Management and Psychology at the University of Pennsylvania. The National Science Foundation, The National Institutes of Health, The Alfred P. Sloan and Russell Sage Foundations, and the Office of Naval Research have supported his research. He was awarded the Distinguished Scientific Contribution Award from the Society for Consumer Psychology, and named a Fellow by the Association for Consumer Research, was awarded an honorary doctorate in Economics from the University of St. Gallen, and is a Fellow of the TIAA-CREF Institute Fellow and the Association for Psychological Science. According to the Institute for Scientific Information, he is one of the most highly cited scholars in Business and Economics. He has been an Associate Editor of the *Journal of Consumer Psychology*, and is a member of several editorial boards as well as the Senior Editor for Decision Sciences at *Behavioral Science and Policy* and an Editor at *Frontiers in Decision Neuroscience*.



Dr. Michael E. Staten is the Bart Cardon Associate Dean for Academic Programs and Professor of Agricultural and Resource Economics in the University of Arizona's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. From 2007 to 2017 he also served as director of the UA's Take Charge America Institute for Consumer Financial Education and Research (TCAI) Prior to joining the University of Arizona, Staten held faculty positions at the University of Delaware, Purdue University's Krannert Graduate School of Management, Georgetown University's McDonough School of Business and the George Washington University.

Mike has extensive research experience around consumer financial services markets, with particular expertise in products related to consumer credit reporting, credit scoring and credit risk assessment, debt relief and rehabilitation, and consumer financial education. From 1990 – 2007 he directed public policy research centers at Purdue, Georgetown, and George Washington University, designing and publishing research on a wide range of consumer finance issues. He has made invited presentations on consumer financial issues at workshops sponsored by the Federal Trade Commission, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Federal Reserve Board, and Washington, DC think-tanks including the American Enterprise Institute and the Brookings Institution. Mike served as a Visiting Scholar at the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia's Payment Card Center from 2010-2013. He was Co-Principle Investigator of the Congressionally mandated FACTA 319 study of the accuracy of credit reports for the Federal Trade Commission in 2010-2012. He has testified numerous times on consumer finance issues before committees of Congress.

In addition to his research experience, Mike also has a decade of experience in developing and scaling up youth financial education programs for both local and national audiences in classroom environments through the University of Arizona's Take Charge America Institute. He has worked with both the U.S. Treasury Department and the national Council for Economic Education (CEE) to write learning standards and benchmarks for personal finance in grades K-12, including co-authoring CEE's national standards for Personal Finance.

Staten received his Ph.D. in economics from Purdue University's Krannert Graduate School of Management. He currently serves as Chairman of the National Jump\$tart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy (since 2017); on the board of directors for the Arizona Council for Economic Education; and as a member of Experian's national Consumer Advisory Council. He also served on the Advisory Council for the National Foundation for Credit Counseling (2002 – 2015), and as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Purdue Federal Credit Union from 1995-97.



Anthony Yezer is Professor of Economics in the Department of Economics at George Washington University. He has served as a consultant to the Department of Housing and Urban Development and to the Federal Trade Commission, specifically on the Credit Practices Rule and the Trade Regulation Rule governing revenue recognition on consumer services contracts.

Tony's research interests have ranged from small consumer loans through mortgage lending. He also has interests in the real side of housing markets and urban and regional economics generally. Recently, he authored *The Economics of Crime and Enforcement*, which has become a widely used textbook. His research ranges from economic theory through pure empiricism and has appeared in journals such as the *Journal of Finance*, *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, *Journal of Urban Economics*, and *Economic Inquiry*. He has served on the editorial boards of seven journals, as a member of the Board of Directors of the American Real Estate and Urban Economics Association and edited a monograph series. He has supervised a number of very successful graduate students and currently ranks 266 among advisors in subsequent publications by former dissertation writers.

He holds a doctoral degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, M.Sc. from the London School of Economics (attended on an NCAA scholar-athlete award) and B.A. awarded by Dartmouth College.