

Nick Pretnar

July 22, 2026

Address

University of California, Santa Barbara
Laboratory for Aggregate Economics and Finance (LAEF)
2112 North Hall
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-9215

Contact Info

Phone: +1 217 972 1901
E-mail: npretnar@gmail.com
Home Page: www.npretnar.com

Citizenship

United States of America

References

Finn Kydland; kydland@econ.ucsb.edu
Carlos Garriga; garriga.carlos@gmail.com
Karen Kopecky; zoe9kk@gmail.com
Loukas Karabarbounis; loukas@umn.edu
Laurence Ales; ales@andrew.cmu.edu
Stephen Spear; ss1f@andrew.cmu.edu
Lars-Alexander Kuehn; lakuehn@andrew.cmu.edu
Alan Montgomery; alm3@andrew.cmu.edu

Academic Positions

Assistant Professor, University of Austin Texas (UATX), (2026 — current)

- Curriculum design.
- Undergraduate instruction.

Assistant Director, UCSB Laboratory for Aggregate Economics and Finance (LAEF), (2024 — current)

- Doing research.
- Manage $\approx$ \$200,000 annual budget for research services.
- Academic workshop and conference organization (see **Conferences Organized** section of CV).
- Building partnerships with other universities, banks, and policy organizations.
- Member of scientific committee for multiple macroeconomic research initiatives.

Adjunct Professor, Carnegie Mellon University, Tepper School of Business, (2020 — 2026)

- PhD, MBA, Masters of Computational Finance, and undergraduate economics instructor.
- Undergraduate research program (SURA) supervisor, mentoring and guiding individual undergraduate research projects.
- Board member for undergraduate simulated management game, critiquing strategies and advising students on strategic business decision making.

Adjunct Professor, University of Rochester, Simon Business School, (2023 — 2024)

- MBA and Executive MBA instructor for Managerial Economics and Macroeconomics.

- In-person, hybrid, and online teaching modes.
- Case-based instruction.

Postdoctoral Scholar, UCSB Laboratory for Aggregate Economics and Finance (LAEF), (2020 — 2024)

- Doing research.

Education

Degree	Field	Institution	Year Degree Issued
Ph.D.	Economics	Carnegie Mellon University, Tepper School of Business	2020
M.S.	Economics	Carnegie Mellon University, Tepper School of Business	2018
B.A.	English	University of Missouri – Columbia	2015
B.S.	Mathematics	University of Missouri – Columbia	2015
B.S.	Economics	University of Missouri – Columbia	2015

Short Term Academic Research Visiting Positions

- Indiana University, Economics (August 2025 — December 2025)
- Federal Reserve Bank of Saint Louis (September 2023; March 2025)
- Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland (April 2023; May 2024)
- Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia (December 2022; November 2023)
- UCSB, LAEF 2018 — 2020

Publications & Accepted Papers

Feldman, Maria and Nick Pretnar. (October, 2026). “Health Sector Structural Change.” *AEJ: Macroeconomics*. 18.4.

Albrecht, Brian C., Thomas Phelan, and Nick Pretnar. (September, 2026). “Time Use and the Efficiency of Heterogeneous Markups.” *Journal of Economic Theory*. 236.

Abajian, Alexander and Nick Pretnar (November, 2024). “Subsidies for close substitutes: Aggregate demand for residential solar electricity.” *European Economic Review*. 170.

Papers Under Requested Revision (R&R)

W.L. Bednar and Nick Pretnar (October, 2025). “Structural Change with Time to Consume.” *Revise & Resubmit, International Economic Review*.

Working Papers

See <https://www.npretnar.com/research>.

Technical Skills

- *Fluent programming languages*: Python, R, Fortran, C++, Stata, Bash (Unix shell scripting).
- *Fluent computational architectures*: TensorFlow Serving, OpenMP (shared memory parallelism), MPI (distributed memory parallelism), all Unix-based architectures, Slurm (for high-performance computing clusters).
- Bayesian particle filtration, including customized, non-linear filtration mechanisms (see paper “Mental Accounting Through Two-stage Budgeting Under Bounded Rationality”).
- Hamiltonian Monte Carlo methods for integration of Bayesian-style estimators over real-valued parameters (see papers “Structural Change with Time to Consume,” “Measuring Inequality with Consumption Time,” and “A Theory of Long-run Development with Capital”).
- Using both deep neural networks and endogenous grid point methods for global solutions of large general equilibrium models with heterogenous agents.

Non-refereed Publications & Media Appearances

NPR's *Marketplace Morning Report* radio program (March 14, 2025), discussing economic impacts of discount-store closures.

NPR's *The Confluence* radio program (June 30, 2023), discussing economic impacts of population aging.

“Who Will Care for All the Old People?” (joint with Finn Kydland) VoxEU in: *Live Long and Prosper? The Economics of Ageing Populations* (2019) | [PDF](#)

Textbook Credits

Modeling Monetary Economics, 4th Edition, Editorial Assistance, (authors Bruce Champ, Scott Freeman, and Joseph Haslag)

Grants & Awards (Total: \$145,000)

- The Alexander Henderson Award for Excellence in Economic Theory – Carnegie Mellon University, Tepper School of Business (\$500; February, 2020)
- Academic Research Colloquium for Financial Planning, Best Paper Award – Household Finance (\$2,500; February, 2020)
- National Science Foundation, Graduate Research Fellowship Program (\$102,000) 3 years of Ph.D. funding (March, 2016)
- With PIs Alan Montgomery and Christopher Olivola. “*An Empirical Analysis of Consumer Mental Accounting*” (\$40,000), PNC Center for Financial Services, Carnegie Mellon University, Tepper School of Business (June, 2015)

Academic Presentations & Seminars ($\mathcal{I}$ = Invited)

Scheduled Seminars/Conferences (upcoming):

2026 University of Tokyo ($\mathcal{I}$); Hitotsubashi University, Tokyo ($\mathcal{I}$); Hong Kong University ($\mathcal{I}$); Peking University, HSBC Business School, Shenzhen ($\mathcal{I}$); Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen ($\mathcal{I}$); GRIPS, Tokyo ($\mathcal{I}$); University of Montreal ($\mathcal{I}$); Concordia University ($\mathcal{I}$).

“Unbalanced Growth Across Sectors and Space”

2026 XI Workshop on Structural Transformation and Macroeconomic Dynamics, Frankfurt am Main, Germany ($\mathcal{I}$); University of Mohammed VI Polytechnic (Virtual; $\mathcal{I}$).

“Two-stage Budgeting with Bounded Rationality”

2025 Indiana University, Kelley School of Business ($\mathcal{I}$); **2022** FUR Conference, Ghent, Belgium; **2021** Columbia University ($\mathcal{I}$); **2020** INFER Virtual Conference, Paris; NBER-NSF SBIES, Virtual Conference Hosted by Washington University, Saint Louis, MO.

“Measuring Inequality with Consumption Time”

2026 University of the Thai Chamber of Commerce ($\mathcal{I}$); **2025** Indiana University, Economics ($\mathcal{I}$); University of North Carolina — Charlotte ($\mathcal{I}$); **2024** SAEe, Palma de Majorca, Spain; Southern Economic Association Meetings, Washington D.C.; UC, Irvine ($\mathcal{I}$); Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland ($\mathcal{I}$); SED, Barcelona, Spain; **2023** University of Warwick, UK ($\mathcal{I}$); Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia ($\mathcal{I}$); University of Connecticut ($\mathcal{I}$); Federal Reserve Board of Governors ($\mathcal{I}$); Federal Reserve Bank of Saint Louis ($\mathcal{I}$); Australian National University ($\mathcal{I}$); **2022** Williams College ($\mathcal{I}$); Southern Methodist University ($\mathcal{I}$); Stony Brook University (SUNY) ($\mathcal{I}$); Midwest Macro, Logan, UT.

“A Theory of Long-run Development with Capital”

2026 SED, Athens, Greece; **2025** Finn’s Skäl, IE Tower, Madrid ($\mathcal{I}$); National University of Singapore ($\mathcal{I}$); University of Pretoria, South Africa ($\mathcal{I}$).

“One Production Function”

2025 Midwest Macro, Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland; European University Institute, Florence, Italy ($\mathcal{I}$).

“Stimulating the Industrial Revolution”

2025 Federal Reserve Bank of Saint Louis ($\mathcal{I}$).

“Coffee, Tea, and the Industrial Revolution”

2024 2024 European Winter Meeting of the Econometric Society, Palma de Majorca, Spain; SED, Buenos Aires, Argentina; Vanderbilt University (*I*); University of Barcelona, Spain (*I*); Midwest Economic Association Meetings, Chicago.

“Structural Change with Time to Consume”

2024 X Workshop on Structural Transformation and Macroeconomic Dynamics, Cagliari, Italy (*I*).

“Health Sector Structural Change”

2023 University of Bristol, UK (*I*); University of Manchester, UK (*I*); Southern Economic Association Meetings, New Orleans; Goethe University, Frankfurt, Germany (*I*).

“The Causal Factors Driving the Rise in Health Services Prices”

2023 University of Wuerzburg, Germany (*I*); UCSB, LAEF 2nd Labor Markets and Macroeconomic Outcomes Workshop (*I*); Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland (*I*).

“An Aggregate Perspective on the Geo-spatial Distribution of Residential Solar Panels.”

2022 University at Albany (SUNY) (*I*); SED, Madison, WI.

“The Evolution of the Consumption Experience: Why the Services Share Has Risen.”

2023 Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta (*I*); **2022** Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia (*I*); Midwest Macro, Dallas, TX; UCSB, LAEF Growth, Development, and Structural Transformation Conference (*I*); University of Pittsburgh (*I*); University of Wuerzburg, Germany (*I*).

“Sectoral Re-allocation and Inequality in a Home Production Model with Consumption Time”

2021 SAEe, Barcelona, Spain.

“Home Production with Time to Consume”

2021 NBER-NSF SBIES, Virtual Conference Hosted by Washington University, Saint Louis; Vigo Workshop on Dynamic Macro, Vigo Spain; SED, Minneapolis, MN; University of Miami, Florida (virtual seminar) (*I*); **2020** SNDE, Virtual Conference Hosted by University of Zagreb; University of Miami, Florida (virtual seminar) (*I*); **2019** UCSB; Midwest Macro, East Lansing, MI; SED, Saint Louis, MO; **2018** UCSB.

“The Intergenerational Welfare Implications of Disease Contagion”

2020 Macro-Dev-Trade-Environment Group Meeting, Virtual, Iowa State (*I*).

“Two-stage Budgeting Under Mental Accounting”

2020 UCSB, Theory Underground Bag Lunch.

“A Structural Model of Mental Accounting”

2020 ARC for Financial Planning, Washington D.C.; **2019** ACR, Atlanta; **2017** INFORMS Marketing Science, Los Angeles.

“The Costs and Benefits of Caring: Aggregate Burdens of an Aging Population”

2019 SNDE, Dallas Fed; XXIV Workshop on Dynamic Macro, Vigo Spain; **2018** UCSB; University of Missouri (*I*); Midwest Macro, Madison, WI; SED, Mexico City.

“Durables, Non-Durables, and a Structural Test of Fungibility”

2019 ACR, Atlanta; Finance Forum, Madrid; **2018** Boulder Consumer Finance Conference; BDRM, Harvard; SJDM, New Orleans.

Conferences Organized

- XXIX Workshop on Dynamic Macroeconomics in Vigo, Spain (member of the scientific committee) (June 2026)
- Demographics in the 21st Century (jointly organized with Karen Kopecky, Ben Griffy, and John Bailey Jones) (LAEF and RB Cleveland; May 2026)
- Artificial Intelligence and the Macroeconomy (jointly organized with Adrian Masters and Ben Griffy) (LAEF and University at Albany, SUNY; April 2026)

- 5th Labor Markets and Macroeconomic Outcomes (jointly organized with Adam Blandin and Kathleen McKiernan) (LAEF and University of Vanderbilt; April 2026)
- Market Power (jointly organized with Yueyuan Ma, Thomas Phelan, and Brian Albrecht) (LAEF; April 2026)
- LAEF-HKU Joint Conference on Growth and Inequality (jointly organized with Yueyuan Ma, Boaz Abramson, Ayse Imrohoroglu, Simon Margolin, Laura Murphy, Xiaomei Sui, Lichen Zhang, Kai Zhao, Anson Zhou, and Xiaodong Zhu) (*upcoming* LAEF and Hong Kong University; December 2025)
- 14th Advances in Macro-Finance, Tepper-LAEF Conference (member of the scientific committee) (LAEF and Tepper; October 2025)
- 4th Annual Junior Workshop in Macroeconomics (jointly organized with Job Boerma and Paolo Martellini) (LAEF and NYU Stern; October 2025)
- XXVIII Workshop on Dynamic Macroeconomics in Vigo, Spain (member of the scientific committee) (July 2025)
- Finn's Skäl, IE Tower, Madrid (jointly organized with Carlos Garriga and Pedro Gete) (LAEF and IE Business School; July 2025)
- 4th Labor Markets and Macroeconomic Outcomes (jointly organized with Adam Blandin and Kathleen McKiernan) (LAEF and University of Vanderbilt; April 2025)
- Demographic Inequality in the Aggregate Economy (jointly organized with Ben Griffy, John Bailey Jones, Karen Kopecky, and Eric Young) (LAEF, FRB Cleveland, and SUNY Albany; April 2025)
- UConn Leafy LAEF Conference (jointly organized with Kanda Naknoi, Daniela Vidart, and Kai Zhao) (LAEF and University of Connecticut; October 2024)
- 3rd Annual Junior Workshop in Macroeconomics (jointly organized with Job Boerma and Paolo Martellini) (LAEF; October 2024)
- XXVII Workshop on Dynamic Macroeconomics in Vigo, Spain (member of the scientific committee) (July 2024)
- LAEF on the Lakes: UW-Madison/UCSB Macroeconomics Conference (jointly organized with Job Boerma and Paolo Martellini) (LAEF and University of Wisconsin-Madison; May 2024)
- 3rd Labor Markets and Macroeconomic Outcomes (jointly organized with David Wiczer, Ben Griffy, and Adam Blandin) (LAEF and University of Vanderbilt; April 2024)
- 2nd Annual Junior Workshop in Macroeconomics (jointly organized with Job Boerma and Paolo Martellini) (LAEF; October 2023)
- XXVI Workshop on Dynamic Macroeconomics in Vigo, Spain (member of the scientific committee) (July 2023)
- 2nd Labor Markets and Macroeconomic Outcomes (jointly organized with David Wiczer, Ben Griffy, and Adam Blandin) (LAEF; April 2023)

- Racial Inequality in the Macroeconomy (jointly organized with Karen Kopecky, Ben Griffy, and Eric Young)
(LAEF; March 2023)
- 1st Annual Junior Workshop in Macroeconomics (jointly organized with Job Boerma and Paolo Martellini)
(LAEF; November 2022)
- Growth, Development, and Structural Transformation (jointly organized with Berthold Herrendorf)
(LAEF; September 2022)
- Conference on Aging and Healthcare in the Macroeconomy (jointly organized with Tim Kehoe and Vegard Nygaard), (LAEF; August 2022)
- Labor Markets and Macroeconomic Outcomes (jointly organized with David Wiczer and Ben Griffy)
(LAEF; February 2022)
- Welfare & Inequality in the 21st Century (jointly organized with Javier Birchenall)
(LAEF; October 2021)

Teaching

- Carnegie Mellon University, Tepper School of Business: Intermediate Macroeconomics (Bachelors)
(Fall 2025) *Avg. Rating of 4.51/5*
- Carnegie Mellon University, Tepper School of Business: Principles of Macroeconomics (Bachelors)
(Fall 2023, Fall 2024) *Avg. Rating of 4.51/5*
- Carnegie Mellon University, Tepper School of Business: Macroeconomics for Computational Finance
(Masters) (Fall 2021, Fall 2022, Fall 2023, Fall 2024, Fall 2025) *Avg. Rating of 4.57/5*
- Carnegie Mellon University, Tepper School of Business: Math Skills Workshop (MBA)
(Fall 2017, Fall 2018, Fall 2019, Fall 2020, Fall 2021, Fall 2022)
- Carnegie Mellon University, Tepper School of Business: Math for Economists (PhD)
(Fall 2020)
- Carnegie Mellon University, Tepper School of Business: Business Calculus (MBA)
(Spring and Summer 2017, Spring and Summer 2018, Spring and Summer 2019)
Avg. Rating of 4.3/5 (detailed documents not available)
- University of Rochester, Simon Graduate School of Business: Managerial Economics (MBA, Executive MBA, and Professional MBA)
(Fall 2023, Summer 2024, Fall 2024) *Avg. Rating of 4.1/5*
- University of Rochester, Simon Graduate School of Business: Macroeconomics (MBA)
(Spring 2023, Spring 2024) *Avg. Rating of 4.6/5*

Peer Review Referee Services

Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization; International Economic Review; American Economic Review: Insights; Economic Letters; European Economic Review; Review of Economic Dynamics; Macroeconomic Dynamics; Southern Economic Journal

Student Advising Services

- Advised undergraduate CMU student Kausthub Satluri in CMU's SURA program (Summer 2025).
- Board member for the CMU undergraduate business capstone Management Games (Fall 2024).
- Advised undergraduate CMU student Nathan Barretto in CMU's SURA program (Summer 2024).