

# Liqing Li

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

326 Mumford Hall  
1301 W. Gregory Dr  
Urbana, IL 61801 USA

*phone:* (217) 898-8612  
*E-mail:* lli40@illinois.edu  
*Website:* www.liqing-li.com

## EDUCATION

**Ph.D. in Agricultural and Applied Economics** Expected 2020  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

**B.A. in Economics** 2009-2013  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

- Minor in Statistics and Math
- Graduate with College Distinctions (Top 7 %)

## RESEARCH FIELDS

### Primary

Environmental and Natural Resource Economics

### Secondary

Agricultural Economics  
Urban Economics

## WORKING PAPERS

**Li, L.** “The Effect of Urban Tree Planting on Residential Property Values and Gentrification”  
(**Job Market Paper**)

**Li, L.,** Ando, A., & Kirwan, B. E. “The Impact of the Conservation Reserve Program on Local Employment”

## WORK IN PROGRESS

**Li, L.,** Ando, A. “Early Life Experience and Willingness To Pay for Conservation”

**Li, L.,** Ando, A. “The Impact of Bison Reintroduction on Local Economies”

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

### “The Effect of Urban Tree Planting on Residential Property Values and Gentrification”

- Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (**AAEA**) Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA. 2019
- Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (**AERE**) Annual Summer Meeting, Incline Village, Nevada. 2019
- Applied Economics, Regional and Urban Studies (**AERUS**) Annual Midwest Graduate Student Summit, Urbana, Illinois. 2019

### “The Impact of the Conservation Reserve Program on Local Employment”

- Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (**AAEA**) Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL. 2017
- Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (**AERE**) Annual Summer Meeting, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. 2017
- Northeast Agricultural and Resource Economics Association (**NAREEA**), Washington, DC. 2017

### “Early Life Experience and Willingness To Pay for Conservation”

- **W4133 Annual Meeting:** Costs and Benefits of Natural Resources on Public and Private Lands Santa Fe, New Mexico. 2019

### “The Impact of Bison Reintroduction on Local Economies”

- Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (**AAEA**) Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA. 2019
- **W4133 Annual Meeting:** Costs and Benefits of Natural Resources on Public and Private Lands Santa Fe, New Mexico. 2019 (Presented by co-author)

GRADUATE RESEARCH EXPERIENCE	<p><b>Research Assistant</b>, University of Illinois 2015 - 2018  <i>National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) project on “Building rural community resilience in the context of protected grasslands”</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Processed geospatial raster data on land cover and climate data</li> <li>• Resolved endogeneity issue by using impact evaluation techniques (Matching, Double Difference, Synthetic Control)</li> <li>• Reviewed literature and prepared manuscripts</li> <li>• Cooperated with researchers from multidisciplinary areas efficiently</li> </ul>	
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	<p><b>Instructor</b>, University of Illinois Fall 2018; Spring 2019  <i>Had full teaching responsibility</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ACE 161 Microcomputer Applications (25 students)</li> <li>• Teaching evaluation score: 4.5/5 (Fall 2018); 4.4/5 (Spring 2019)</li> </ul> <p><b>Teaching Assistant</b>, University of Illinois  <i>Taught weekly discussion sessions, held office hours, graded exams and essays</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ACE 210 Environmental Economics Fall 2015; Fall 2016</li> <li>• ACE 100 Agricultural Consumer and Resource Economics Spring 2016</li> <li>• ACE 449 Retirement &amp; Benefits Planning (undergraduate and graduate) Spring 2015</li> <li>• ACE 222 Agricultural Marketing Fall 2014; Spring 2019</li> </ul> <p><b>Graduate Teacher Certificate</b> Spring 2019  <i>Center for Innovation in Teaching&amp; Learning  University of Illinois</i></p>	
AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS	<p><b>University-wide “List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent”</b> Fall 2018; Spring 2019  University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign</p> <p><b>Department of Agricultural Consumer Economics Fellowship</b> Fall 2018; Spring 2019  University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign</p> <p><b>Conference Scholarships</b> 2017  Northeast Agricultural and Resource Economics Association (NAREA)</p>	
OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES	<p><b>Abstract Reviewer</b> 2018  Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA) Annual Meeting</p> <p><b>Secretary of the Graduate Student Organization</b> 2017 - 2018  Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics, UIUC</p> <p><b>Organizational Assistant</b> 2016 2017  Heartland Workshop in Environmental and Resource Economics, UIUC</p> <p><b>Organizational Assistant</b> Spring 2017  program in Environmental and Resource Economics (pERE) Seminar Series, UIUC</p>	
OTHER SKILLS	<p><b>Software Proficiency:</b> R, STATA, Arcgis, Latex, GAMS, MS Office, Qualtrics XM</p> <p><b>Languages:</b> English (fluent), Chinese (native)</p>	

REFERENCE

**Amy W. Ando**

Professor  
 Department of Agricultural Consumer Economics  
 University of Illinois  
 amyando@illinois.edu  
 (+1) 217-333-5130

**Benjamin Gramig**

Associate Professor  
 Department of Agricultural Consumer Economics  
 University of Illinois  
 bgramig@illinois.edu  
 (+1) 217-300-5716

**Peter Christensen**

Assistant Professor  
 Department of Agricultural Consumer Economics  
 University of Illinois  
 pchrist@illinois.edu  
 (+1)217 -300-3054

SELECT WORKING PAPER ABSTRACTS *The Effect of Urban Tree Planting on Residential Property Values and Gentrification*  
**Job Market Paper**

This paper studies the potential unintended consequences of public goods provision in urbanized areas. Specifically, this paper focuses on one of the largest tree-planting programs in the US, the MillionTreeNYC Program, and examines the impact of an increased supply of urban street trees on housing values and neighborhood composition. The distribution of the urban tree canopy often disproportionately benefits high-income neighborhoods. To correct the unbalanced distribution of urban green spaces, the program specifically prioritized neighborhoods with fewer green spaces. I use a difference-in-difference (DID) hedonic model to examine the impact of urban tree planting on housing prices in New York City at the property level. Results show that values of the properties near tree planting locations increase by 1.2%. Furthermore, I analyze whether gentrification happens in a community with improved environmental amenities using a DID model with a continuous treatment (tree planting intensity). I find that a higher intensity of street tree planting attracts more educated and younger households. It also leads to the in-migration of a white population. The results suggest that residential sorting induced by urban tree planting programs does take place, yet the magnitudes of neighborhood effects found in this paper are relatively small compared to the sizable effects found in previous environmental gentrification literature that focus on other environmental justice policies such as superfund clean-ups. This small effect indicates that it is possible for so-called "Environmental-Justice" policies to provide public goods without significant displacement of the existing population.

*The Impact of the Conservation Reserve Program on Local Employment*  
 ( **Li, L.**, **Ando, A.**, & **Kirwan, B. E** )

Conservation programs may entail a trade-off between environmental quality and local economic growth as they negatively affect local agricultural production while generating environmental benefits. At the same time, land conservation may provide more non-farm job opportunities and promote rural economic growth. This paper studies the general equilibrium effects of a land conservation policy on local employment, using empirical evidence from the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). We examine the impact of CRP enrollment on local employment for the entire U.S. to generate a nation-wide analysis on the impacts of land conservation on the rural economy. A panel fixed effects model with instrumental variable(IV) is applied to identify the causal relationship between CRP enrollment and local employment for the agricultural sector, non-agricultural sector, and the whole economy. Results show that the CRP program negatively impacts farm employment due to land-use change from agricultural production. However, it also provides more non-farm job opportunities. As a result, the total number of jobs for the whole economy increases with CRP enrollment.