

Jonathan Michael Leganza

Contact Information

John E. Walker Department of Economics
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Education

2021 Ph.D., Economics, University of California San Diego
2015 B.A., Economics, Indiana University, high distinction
2015 B.S., Mathematics, Indiana University, high distinction

Employment

2021–present Assistant Professor, John E. Walker Department of Economics, Clemson University

Additional Appointments and Affiliations

2024–present Powers Emerging Fellow, Wilbur O. and Ann Powers College of Business, Clemson University
2021–present Fellow, Hayek Center for the Business of Prosperity, Wilbur O. and Ann Powers College of Business, Clemson University

Publications

“Plugging Gaps in Payment Systems: Evidence from the Take-Up of New Medicare Billing Codes” (with Jeffrey Clemens and Alex Masucci), *Contemporary Economic Policy*, Vol. 44, No. 1, pp. 105-130, January 2026.

“Health Professional Shortage Areas and Physician Location Decisions” (with Stephanie Khoury and Alex Masucci), *American Journal of Health Economics*, Vol. 11, No. 3, pp. 487-527, Summer 2025.

“Public Pensions and Private Savings” (with Esteban García-Miralles), *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, Vol. 16, No. 2, pp. 366-405, May 2024.

“The Effect of Required Minimum Distributions on Intergenerational Transfers,” *Journal of Public Economics*, Vol. 232, 105091, April 2024.

“Joint Retirement of Couples: Evidence from Discontinuities in Denmark” (with Esteban García-Miralles), *Journal of Public Economics*, Vol. 230, 105036, February 2024.

Working Papers

“Labor Supply and Savings Responses to Increasing the Pension Eligibility Age in South Korea” (with Janghyeok An and Devon Gorry)

“Retirement and Consumption Insurance” (with Frank Caliendo, Erin Cottle Hunt, and Aspen Gorry)

“The Effects of Tax Incentives to Donate Wealth to Charity: Evidence from Qualified Charitable Distributions,” *Revise and Resubmit*, *Journal of Political Economy Microeconomics*

“Public Pensions and the Strategic Timing of Formal Employment” (with Mariano Bosch, Tatiana Mojica, Maria Laura Oliveri, and Diego Vera Cossio)

“Revisiting the Effects of Health on Retirement Expectations” (with Aspen Gorry)

Research in Progress

“The Effects of Social Security on Retirement Savings: Evidence from U.S. Tax Data” (with Victoria Bryant, Dhiren Patki, and Ellen Stuart)

Policy Oriented Writing and Other Publications

“Public Policy Can Encourage Physicians to Practice in Underserved Areas,” (with Stephanie Khoury and Alex Masucci), *VoxEU*, Centre for Economic Policy Research, September 2025.

“Why Do Workers in Ecuador Go Formal at Age 50? And What Do Pensions Have to Do With It? (with Mariano Bosch, Tatiana Mojica, María Laura Oliveri, and Diego Vera-Cossio), *Ideas Matter* (IDB’s Research Department Blog), July 16, 2025.

“Savings Responses to Increases in Retirement Ages” (with Esteban García-Miralles), *VoxEU*, Centre for Economic Policy Research, May 2024.

“Understanding Retirement Expectations” (with Aspen Gorry), *TIAA Institute Trends and Issues*, April 2024.

“How Do Life Events Affect Retirement Timing? Evidence from Expectations Data” (with Aspen Gorry), *TIAA Institute Research Dialogue*, Issue no. 210, April 2024.

¿Cómo afectan las pensiones públicas al ahorro privado? (with Esteban García-Miralles), *Nada es Gratis* (Economics Blog of the Nada es Gratis Association), May 2023.

Research Grants

- 2025 Powers Summer Research Grant, Wilbur O. and Ann Powers College of Business, Clemson University, \$15,000
- 2023–2027 National Science Foundation, Senior Personnel: Economics Evaluation Team (with Devon Gorry and Christy Zhou), “The Future of Aviation Inspection: Artificial Intelligence and Mixed Reality as Agents of Transformation,” PI: Anand K. Gramopadhye, \$1.5 million
- 2023 TIAA Institute, Co-PI (with Aspen Gorry), “How Do Life Events Affect Retirement Timing? Evidence from Expectations Data,” \$70,000

Honors, Awards, and Fellowships

- 2025–2026 Junior Teaching Excellence Award, John E. Walker Department of Economics, Clemson University
- 2025 Junior Scholar Research Excellence Award, John E. Walker Department of Economics, Clemson University
- 2024 Finalist, TIAA Paul A. Samuelson Award for Outstanding Scholarly Writing on Lifelong Financial Security, “Public Pensions and Private Savings”
- 2023–2024 Junior Teaching Excellence Award, John E. Walker Department of Economics, Clemson University
- 2020–2021 NBER Pre-Doctoral Fellowship in Retirement and Disability Policy Research
- 2020 RAND Summer Institute Scholarship
- 2019 Clive Granger Research Fellowship, UCSD Economics
- 2017 Graduate Summer Research Fellowship, UCSD Economics
- 2016 Graduate Summer Research Fellowship, UCSD Economics
- 2015 Regents Fellowship, UCSD Economics
- 2014 Carroll L. Christenson Prize, Indiana University Department of Economics
- 2014 Carrington Scholarship, Indiana University Department of Economics
- 2014 Phi Beta Kappa, Gamma of Indiana Chapter
- 2011–2015 IU Excellence Scholarship, Indiana University

Conference Presentations

2025: Carolina Regional Empirical Economics Day, National Tax Association Annual Conference on Taxation

2024: National Tax Association Annual Conference on Taxation

2023: Carolina Regional Empirical Economics Day, International Institute of Public Finance Annual Congress, National Tax Association Annual Conference on Taxation

2022: American Society of Health Economists Annual Conference, International Institute of Public Finance Annual Congress

2021: NBER Summer Institute (Economics of Social Security), National Tax Association Annual Conference on Taxation

Invited Seminars

2025: Hitotsubashi University, Powers College of Business at Clemson University, Texas A&M University: Microeconomics Empirical Research Workshop

2024: Investment Company Institute

2023: University of South Carolina

2022: Clemson University, University of Georgia

2021: Boston College Center for Retirement Research, Charles River Associates, Clemson University, Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, Federal Trade Commission, George Washington University Global Financial Literacy Excellence Center, Institute for Fiscal Studies, Mississippi State University, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Università della Svizzera italiana, U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Treasury Office of Economic Policy, U.S. Treasury Office of Tax Analysis

2020: University of California San Diego

Discussions

2025: National Tax Association Annual Conference on Taxation

2024: National Tax Association Annual Conference on Taxation

2023: International Institute of Public Finance Annual Congress, National Tax Association Annual Conference on Taxation

2022: American Society of Health Economists Annual Conference, International Institute of Public Finance Annual Congress

Teaching Experience

Undergraduate: Principles of Microeconomics (Clemson University Econ 2110)

Graduate: Advanced Seminar in Labor Economics (Clemson University Econ 9170)

Doctoral Committees

Current PhD Students: *Pratistha Adhikari, *Janghyeok An, Sebastian Anasasi, Jonghyeok Choi, Matthew Eaton, Chukwuma Nwoye, Shivangi Sarkar

2025: Ben Jaros (*Hoover Institution*), Krishna Sharma (*Hoover Institution*), Youwei Xing (*Florida State University*)

2024: Brian Bifulco (*U.S. Army*), Yue Louise Hu (*Freie Universität Berlin*)

2023: Lan Lan (*Liaoning University*), Illia Polovnikov (*Boston College Mary E. Walsh Center for Thriving Children*)

* Chair or Co-chair of committee
(*first job in parentheses*)

Referee Service

Reviewer: *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, Applied Economics, Applied Economics Letters, Canadian Journal of Economics, Contemporary Economic Policy, Economic Development and Cultural Change, Economic Journal, Empirical Economics, Health Affairs, Industrial Relations, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Journal of Health Economics, Journal of Human Capital, Journal of Pension Economics and Finance, Journal of Population Economics, Journal of Public Economics, Labour Economics, Management Science, Scandinavian Journal of Economics, Social Science & Medicine*

Other Professional Service

2023: Co-Organizer, Clemson Conference on Labor Markets and Public Policy

Media Coverage

Financial Planning

Last updated: February 18, 2026