

Hannah Kim

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<https://hannahkim-econ.github.io/>

RESEARCH FIELDS

Environmental Economics, Development Economics, Agricultural Economics, Applied Microeconomics

EDUCATION

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Ph.D. in Agricultural and Consumer Economics

Expected May 2027

– Committee: Sarah Janzen (co-chair), Andrew Hultgren (co-chair), Hope Michelson, Andrew Margenot

Cornell University

M.S. in Applied Economics and Management

Aug 2021

Ewha Womans University

B.A. in Economics

Aug 2019

Dual Major in International Development and Cooperation Studies

REFERENCES

Sarah A. Janzen

Associate Professor

Dept. of Agricultural and Consumer Economics

University of Illinois

sjanzen@illinois.edu

Andrew Hultgren

Assistant Professor

Dept. of Agricultural and Consumer Economics

University of Illinois

ahultgr@illinois.edu

JOB MARKET PAPER

“Replanting Under Risk: Weather Shocks and Portfolio Choice in Perennial Agriculture”

(Solo Authored)

I study how weather risk shapes perennial crop allocation among Ethiopian smallholders choosing between coffee, a relatively profitable but weather-sensitive crop, and khat, a more weather-tolerant alternative. I develop a portfolio model treating perennial crops as long-lived assets and linking farmer decision to expected profits and profit variance. Using four rounds of Ethiopia’s LSMS household panel merged with ERA5 weather data, I estimate crop-specific weather impacts on profits and construct weather-based expected profitability and variance using recent local weather histories. Coffee profits respond more strongly to weather than khat. While higher variance in coffee profits predicts a lower future coffee share, higher khat profit variance and lower expected khat returns predict a higher coffee share. These findings suggest farmers reallocate perennial crops in response to weather-driven changes in risk and returns.

· *Presentations*: AAEA Annual Meeting (2026)

WORKING PAPERS

“Global Extreme Weather and Early Childhood Undernourishment”

Hannah Kim, Andrew Hultgren, Sarah Janzen

Estimates the causal effects of prenatal and early-life extreme weather exposure on child nutritional status across 56+ low- and middle-income countries, linking ERA5 weather data to DHS child level data. Extreme heat exacerbates the risk of stunting, underweight, and wasting, with effects strongest among toddlers aged 12–36 months; drought increases underweight risk and heavy rainfall raises wasting, particularly in rural households.

- *Presentations:* Midwest International Economic Development Conference (MWIEDC) (2026); AERE Annual Summer Meeting (2025); AAEA-WAEA Joint Annual Meeting (2025); KDIS-World Bank DIME Development Impact Conference (2024)

WORKS IN PROGRESS

“Wildfire Damages in the United States” (with Andrew Hultgren)

This paper estimates the economic impacts of wildfire exposure using county-level panel data in the United States. It constructs a LitPop-weighted measure of wildfire exposure from MODIS burned area data and applies distributed lag models to capture wildfire impacts. The results show limited population responses, declines in unemployment consistent with post-fire reconstruction, and heterogeneous effects across high- and low-fire-frequency regions.

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

ACE Travel Grant	2024–2026
AAEA-WAEA Section Sponsored Travel Grant	2025
Jonathan Baldwin Turner Fellowship	2021–2023
3rd Place, Food Law and Policy Paper Competition, National Food Safety Information Service	2020
Euncheon Scholarship, Euncheon Scholarship Foundation, Korea	2020
Appenzeller Memorial Scholarship, International Foundation for Ewha Womans University, NY	2020
Creative Social Science Academy Award, Ewha Womans University	2017
Excellence Student Scholarship, DB Cultural Foundation, Korea	2017
National Full Scholarship, Korea	2014–2018

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant 2023 – Present

Prof. Andrew Hultgren, University of Illinois

- Collaborated with private sector partners on data integration and empirical analysis of wildfire damages using county-level panel data.

Research Assistant 2020

Dept. of Food and Resource Economics (IFRO), University of Copenhagen & SEGES, Denmark

- Selected as a government-sponsored research fellow (Ministry of Agriculture, Republic of Korea).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

- ACE 264: Applied Statistical Methods and Data Analytics II Spring 2025, 2026
- ACE 251: Global Food Security Fall 2022, Spring 2023

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Referee Report

- Journal: Science Advances (AAAS), Applied Economic Perspectives and Policy (AEPP)
- Conference: Midwest International Economic Development Conference

SKILLS

Statistical Software Stata, R, and Python
Computing High-Performance Computing (HPC)

WORK AUTHORIZATION

Citizen of the United States and Korea