Curriculum Vitae

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Current Position

Professor for Business Economics and Public Policy, School of Economics and Political Science, Department of Economics, University of St. Gallen, since 2015.

Managing Director of the Swiss Institute for International Economics and Applied Economic Research (SIAW-HSG), since 2024 (Director since 2019)

Previous Positions

Associate professor, Department of Economics, Tilburg University, 2014 – August 2015.

Tenured assistant professor, Department of Economics, Tilburg University, 2011 - 2014.

Tenure-track assistant professor, Department of Economics, Tilburg University, 2006 – 2011.

Postdoctoral Fellowship, European Network for the Advancement of Behavioural Economics (ENABLE) at IDEI, University of Toulouse, 2005 – 2006.

Assistant at the Chair for Public Finance and Macroeconomics (Head: Prof. Josef Falkinger), University of Zurich, 2000 - 2005.

Research Assistant at the Chair for Macroeconomics (Head: Prof. Josef Zweimüller), University of Zurich, 1998 - 1999.

Education

Doctoral Degree in Economics (PhD), *summa cum laude*, University of Zurich, June 2004.

Swiss Program for Beginning Doctoral Students in Economics, Study Center Gerzensee, 2001.

Master in Economics ("Lizenziat"), *summa cum laude*, University of Zurich, 2000.

Research Interests

Macroeconomics; uncertainty; subjective expectations, beliefs, and models; learning.

Awards

Award for the Best Doctoral Thesis in Economics ("Jahrespreis 2004"), University of Zurich.

Selected for the final round of the "CESifo Prize in Public Economics," 2004.

Funded Research Projects

"Uncertainty, Beliefs, and Crises in Macroeconomics", SNF project 189088, CHF 500,000 (together with Manuel Oechslin), 2020 – 2024.

Publications

Refereed journals

"Investor Beliefs about Transformative Innovations under Uncertainty" (together with Anja Garbely and Manuel Oechslin), *Economica*, 90 (2023), 1119 – 1144.

"Better Statistics, Better Economic Policies?" (together with Manuel Oechslin), *European Economic Review*, 130 (2020), 1 – 13.

"Does Everyone Use Probabilities? The Role of Cognitive Skills" (with Martin Salm), *European Economic Review*, 98 (2017), 73-85.

"Disagreement and Learning about Reforms" (together with Manuel Oechslin), *Economic Journal*, 125 (2015), 853–886.

"Panel Conditioning in Difficult Questions" (together with Daniel Schunk and Vera Toepoel), *Public Opinion Quarterly*, 77 (2013), 783-797.

"Life Cycle Saving: Insights from the Perspective of Bounded Rationality," *European Economic Review*, 56 (2012), 605-623.

"What is an Adequate Standard of Living during Retirement?" (together with Daniel Schunk), *Journal of Pension Economics and Finance*, 11 (2012), 203-222.

"How Real People make Long-Term Decisions: The Case of Retirement Preparation" (together with Katie Carman), *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, 81 (2012), 39-60.

"Imperfect Information, Democracy, and Populism" (together with Jens Prüfer), *European Journal of Political Economy*, 28 (2012), 358-372.

"Dynamic Decision Making with Feasibility Goals: A Procedural-Rationality Approach," *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, 78 (2011), 219-228.

"Understanding the Heterogeneity of Savings and Asset Allocation: A Behavioral-Economics Perspective," *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization,* 76 (2010), 296-317.

"Risk Management of Pensions from the Perspective of Loss Aversion," *Journal of Public Economics,* 91 (2007), 641-667.

Working Papers

"Propagation versus Perception: Identification under Distorted Expectations in DSGE Models" (2026, together with Albert Flak)

"A Macroeconomy with Intuitive Thinkers" (2024, together with Maren Bartels, Albert Flak, and Manuel Oechslin)

"Personal Income Expectations and Attention to News" (2024, together with Franziska Bender)

"Choice under Fundamental Uncertainty: The Case of Aggregate Consumption" (2022, together with Albert Flak and Manuel Oechslin)

"Uncertainty, Openness to Novelty, and Economic Growth" (2022, together with Maren Bartels and Manuel Oechslin)

"From the Human Brain to Political Polarization (2021, together with Manuel Oechslin)

"The Economics of Beliefs under Fundamental Uncertainty" (2020, together with Manuel Oechslin).

"The Spreading of Next-Big-Thing Beliefs in a Network" (2019, together with Max Christl).

Books

Reise in die moderne Geldwirtschaft: Wirtschaftszusammenhänge verstehen und mitreden können (together with Carolin Güssow), Wiley, 2023.

Policy and Media Contributions

"Investoren im KI-Rausch" (together with Manuel Oechslin), Die Volkswirtschaft, April 2025.

"HSG Research Insight #4: The History of the Modern Monetary Economy", podcast (together with Carolin Güssow), University of St. Gallen, October 2024.

"Mit Kryptowährungen zur maschinellen Geldpolitik?", guest commentary, Neue Zürcher Zeitung, 30 September 2022.

"Echtzeitdaten in der Wirtschaft: Chancen, aber auch Gefahren" (together with Manuel Oechslin), guest commentary, Neue Zürcher Zeitung, 11 November 2021.

"Ohne Mythen entsteht kaum Neues" (together with Manuel Oechslin), guest commentary, Neue Zürcher Zeitung, 18 December 2020.

"Auf dem Weg zur digitalen Knechtschaft" (together with Martin Kolmar), guest commentary, Neue Zürcher Zeitung, 1 April 2019.

Teaching

<u>Executive Level</u>

"Ökonomie", mandatory 4.5-day course in Executive MBA program, Executive School, University of St. Gallen, taught biannually since 2021.

"Kritisches Denken und datenbasiertes Entscheiden", mandatory 4.5-day course in Executive MBA program, Executive School, University of St. Gallen, taught biannually since 2022.

"Datenbasierte Wertschöpfung und KI" (together with Marc Schöni, Salesforce), elective 4.5-day course in Executive MBA program, Executive School, University of St. Gallen, taught annually since 2018.

"Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence – Impact on Business" (together with Marc Schöni, Salesforce), elective 3.5-day course in MBA program, Executive School, University of St. Gallen, taught annually since 2017.

«KI (Künstliche Intelligenz)-Projekte erfolgreich managen: Vom Datenrohstoff zur wertschöpfenden automatisierten Musterkennung» (together with Marc Schöni), 3-day course in Open Enrollment program, Executive School, University of St. Gallen, 2019, 2020.

"Ökonomie und Datenkompetenz für Managers", mandatory 4.5-day course in Executive MBA program, Executive School, University of St. Gallen, taught biannually 2016 – 2021.

«Ökonomische Grundlagen», Hengeler Mueller Akademie, Executive School, University of St. Gallen, biannually since 2017.

Bachelor level

"Workshop Data Science Fundamentals"; core part of a certificate program in "Data Science Fundamentals" that is open to all Majors at the bachelor's level of University of St. Gallen. The program is organized as an "Honors Program" with selective admission procedure. Taught annually since 2017.

"Machine Learning und künstliche Intelligenz für Ökonomen", University of St. Gallen, 2017.

"Programmieren für praxisorientierte Datenanalysen", University of St. Gallen, 2016, 2017.

"Microeconomics 2", Tilburg University, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014.

"Public Sector Economics", 2011, 2012.

"Comparative Public Economics", Tilburg University, 2009, 2010.

Tutorial in "Money, Banking and Financial Markets," Tilburg University, 2006, 2007.

Seminar on Pension Finance, University of Zurich, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004.

Seminar on "Public Wealth Management", University of Zurich, 2002.

Tutorials in "Public Economics," University of Zurich, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004.

Tutorials in "Introductory Macroeconomics," University of Zurich, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003.

Graduate (PhD) level

"Macroeconomics I", CentER Graduate School, Tilburg University, Fall 2006, 2007.

Teaching-Related Projects

DataSight web application; visualizes economic data and allows for interactive data-based research without any coding; developed for executive education and high schools; prototype available at https://datasight.unisg.ch/default.html.

Doctoral Supervision (University of St. Gallen)

Albert Flak, dissertation "Essays on Uncertainty and Expectations in Macroeconomics" (main supervisor).

Franziska Bender, dissertation "Essays in Economics: The Economics of Uncertainty and Belief Formation" (main supervisor).

Micha Villing, dissertation "Essays on Reinforcement Learning and Applied Bayesian Modeling for Insurance" (main supervisor).

Lucas Gurovich, ongoing.

Refereeing

Econometrica, Economic Journal, Journal of the European Economic Association, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control, Journal of Economic Growth, Journal of Economic Psychology, European Economic Review, European Journal of Political Economy, Public Opinion Quarterly, Journal of Pension Economics and Finance, International Tax and Public Finance, Economica, Journal of Socio-Economics, Journal of Macroeconomics, Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Labour Economics.

Professional Tasks

Managing Director of Swiss Institute for International Economics and Applied Economic Research (SIAW), University of St. Gallen (Director since 2019, Managing Director since 2024).

Mentor in the AI stream of the Creative Destruction Lab (CDL-Paris, organized by HEC Paris), a global startup program for seed-stage, science-based companies (since 2023).

Academic Director of certificate program "Data Science Fundamentals" (Bachelor level), University of St. Gallen (2017 - present).

Member of AG Lehre, a strategic advisory body for teaching innovation supporting the Vice-President Studies and Academic Affairs (since 2020).

Director of Bachelor study *Economics and Business Economics* ("Economie en Bedrijfseconomie"), Tilburg University, 2013 - 2015.

Management of Dutch Country Team of the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE), 2011 - 2014.

Leader of Work Package" of European FP7 Grant ("SHARE M4") on implementing a European time use module within the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE).

Job market coaching for PhD students, CentER Graduate School, Tilburg University, 2008-2012.

Coordinator in Microeconomics for the CentER Graduate School, Tilburg University, 2009-2011 (supervision of the progress of graduate students, screening of application for the Research Master, redesigning the Research Master program, annual review talks with PhD students).

Member of the Educational Board for the Bachelor study International Economics and Finance, Tilburg University, 2007-2009.

Member of the Program Committee for Bachelor study Economics, Tilburg University, 2008-2010 (design of new curriculum and course contents).

Other Information

Languages: German (native), English (fluent), French (fluent), Dutch (fluent), Italian (basic), Spanish (basic).

Citizenship: Swiss.