

EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCES

- 2022-PRESENT Assistant Professor
Department of Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning
Texas A&M University, College Station TX
- 2019-2022 Researcher/Project Coordinator
Good Jobs First, Washington D.C.

EDUCATION CREDENTIALS

- 2019 Ph.D. in City and Regional Planning, Cornell University, Ithaca NY
2014 M.S. in Urban Planning, Columbia University, New York NY
2012 A.B. in Physics, Princeton University, Princeton NJ (Sigma Xi-eligible)

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- 2024 Wen, C. (2024). Do economic development tax abatements affect school finances? *Economic Development Quarterly*, 38 (1), 3-14.
- 2023 Wen, C., & LeRoy, G. (2023). Making the students pay? The gross cost of property tax abatement for US school districts. *Community Development*, 54 (4), 479-495.
- 2020 Wen, C. (2020). Educating rural migrant children in interior China: The promises and pitfalls of low-fee private schools. *International Journal of Educational Development*, 79.
- 2020 Wen, C., Xu, Y., Kim, Y., & Warner, M.E. (2020). Starving counties, squeezing cities: Tax and expenditure limits in the US. *Journal of Economic Policy Reform*, 23 (2), 101-119.
- 2019 Wen, C., & Wallace, J. (2019). Toward human-centered urbanization? Housing ownership and access to social insurance among migrant households in China. *Sustainability*, 11 (13), 3567-3581.
- (in progress)
- 2024 Wen, C., & LeRoy, G. The Cost of Tax Incentives to Public Schools. Warner, M.E., Reece, J., & Zhang, X. (eds.) *Community Development and Schools: Conflict, Power, and Promise*. New York: Routledge. forthcoming.
- 2024 Wen, C., Marcello, E., & Warner, M. The fiscal impact of tax abatements on New York's public school districts. under review.

PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS

>> Reports and white papers:

- 2023 Wen, C. *Corporate Subsidies versus Publication Education: How Tax Abatements Cost New York Schools.* [Link.](#)
- 2022 Wen, C. *The Revenue Impact of Corporate Tax Incentives on South Carolina Public Schools 2017-2021.* [Link.](#)
- 2021 Wen, C., & LeRoy, G. "Revealing the true costs of tax incentives: Eight critical improvements to GASB Statement No. 77." [Link.](#)
- 2021 Wen, C., Furtado, K., & LeRoy, G. *Abating our future: How Students Pay for Corporate Tax Breaks.* [Link.](#)
- 2020 Wen, C., Tarczynska, K., & LeRoy, G. "The revenue impact of corporate incentives on South Carolina public schools." [Link.](#)
- 2020 Wen, C. *Putting Pension Costs in Context: How Corporate Tax Breaks Are Diverting State Revenue Needed for Public Employees' Retirement.* [Link.](#)
- 2014 Wen, C., Williams, M., Economides, C., & Dove, N. "Assessment of water resources, green infrastructure, and utility rates in San Diego County." [Link.](#)

>> Opinions, editorials, and commentaries:

- 2024 Business tax breaks cost Texas Schools \$800 per pupil. *The Houston Chronicle.* [Link.](#)
- 2024 Students lose out as cities and states give billions in property tax breaks to businesses—draining school budgets and especially hurting the poorest students. *The Philadelphia Inquirer.* [Link.](#)
- 2024 How tax breaks siphoned millions from Missouri public schools that serve poor students. *Missouri Independent.* [Link.](#)
- 2021 School boards must speak up when money goes away. *The Cincinnati Enquirer.* [Link.](#)
- 2021 NY school boards needn't be powerless against corporate tax breaks. *The Post-Standard.* [Link.](#)
- 2021 Black and Brown students pay for this tax break. Texas should not extend it. *The Houston Chronicle.* [Link.](#)
- 2021 How economic development is killing Michigan school funding. *The Detroit News.* [Link.](#)

>> Professional blog posts:

- 2021 "Tax abatements in context: Digger deeper on race and inequality." [Link.](#)
- 2021 "Tax abatements in context: SC's poor pay more." [Link.](#)
- 2021 "The method and madness behind *Abating Our Future.*" [Link.](#)
- 2021 "How corporate subsidies harm our youngest community members." [Link.](#)
- 2020 "SC public schools lost \$423 Million to corporate tax breaks in FY 2019." [Link.](#)
- 2020 "These states are missing a lot of tax-break disclosure data" [Link.](#)
- 2020 "9 common reasons govts decline to provide tax abatement disclosures." [Link.](#)
- 2020 "Are local governments backsliding on tax abatement disclosures?" [Link.](#)
- 2020 "State and local GASB 77 tax abatement disclosures for FY18 & FY 19." [Link.](#)

>> *Miscellaneous pieces:*

- 2024 forthcoming issue brief with Dr. Elizabeth Marcello and Dr. Mildred Warner.
- 2024 Louisiana governor makes it easier for companies to receive lucrative tax breaks that take money away from cash-strapped schools (co-authored). *The Conversation*. [Link](#).
- 2024 Students lose out as cities and states give billions in property tax breaks to businesses - draining school budgets and especially hurting the poorest students (co-authored). *The Conversation*. [Link](#).
- 2021 Wen, C. et al. ArcGIS StoryMap: *Mapping Amazon.com 2.0: Where the Online Giant Locates its Warehouses and Why*. [Link](#).
- 2020 Wen, C. et al. ArcGIS StoryMap: *Mapping Amazon.com: Where the Online Giant Locates its Warehouses and Why*. [Link](#).
- 2018 Wen, C. Book review: Eggleston, K., Jean Ol, and Yiming Wang (eds). 2017. *Challenges in the Process of China's Urbanization*. Stanford, CA: Shorenstein APARC. *Pacific Affairs Review* 91: 2. [Link](#).

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, HONORS

- 2022 ADVANCE Success Fellow, Spring 2023 (\$4,150)
- 2018 C.V. Starr Fellowship, Fall 2018 (\$21,620)
- 2018 Cornell University Graduate School Conference Travel Grant (\$675)
- 2017 Cornell University Institute for the Social Sciences Research Grant (\$2,000)
- 2017 Cornell University Graduate School Research Travel Grant (\$2,000)
- 2016 Cornell University East Asia Program Travel Grant, Summer 2016 (\$1,250)
- 2016 Cornell University City and Regional Planning Research Grant (\$1,500)
- 2015-2018 Cornell University Graduate School Conference Travel Grant (\$1300)

COURSES TAUGHT

AS INSTRUCTOR (TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY):

- 2023 FALL Planning Theory [graduate core theory class]
- 2023 SUMMER Building Better Cities [undergraduate core class]
- + SPRING
- 2023 SPRING Applied Planning [graduate core studio/workshop class]
- 2022 FALL Sustainable Communities [undergraduate elective class]
- Urban Issues [undergraduate elective class]

AS TEACHING ASSISTANT (CORNELL UNIVERSITY):

- 2016-2018 Inferential Statistics [graduate core methods class]
- 2015 SPRING The Global City [undergraduate core theory class]
- 2014 FALL Contemporary Planning [undergraduate core class]

LECTURES AND INTERVIEWS

- 2024 Interviewed by *Economic Development Quarterly* for my publication which the editors chose as the first feature in their "author spotlight" video series.
- 2022 "The impact of Texas Chapter 313 on property values and demographics." Center for Housing and Urban Development Monthly Meeting, TAMU
- 2022 "How to craft a research question?" TAMU URSC 601 (doctorate): *Foundations of Research in Urban and Regional Science*, TAMU
- 2021 "Researching the impact of tax incentives on educational inequality: A how-to guide." Investigative Reporters and Editors: The inaugural *Diversity, Belonging, Equity, and Inclusion* symposium (online).
- 2021 Interviewed by the America's Work Force (AWF) Union Podcast on the new report *Abating Our Future: How Students Pay for Corporate Tax Breaks*.
- 2021 Interviewed by In the Public Interest (ITPI) for the article "Corporate subsidies not only rarely work, but they're also starving public schools."
- 2021 Interviewed by the Sanctuary for Independent Media, Hudson Mohawk Radio Network, for the article "Corporate tax breaks hurt schools."
- 2020 "Using the Tax Break Tracker." Investigative Reporters and Editors (virtual).
- 2019 "Public subsidy research in union organizing." AFL-CIO Strategic Research Training for Intermediate/Advanced Researchers (Silver Springs, MD).
- 2019 "Take the offense on school finance." National Council of State Education Associations Fall Conference (San Antonio, TX).
- 2018 "Development, education, and the urban integration of rural migrants in interior China." Cornell Contemporary China Initiative Student Symposium: *China in Transition* (Ithaca, NY).

CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

- 2024 Roundtable Discussion: "Community Development and Schools: Conflict, Power, and Promise." International Conference on Urban Affairs (NYC, NY).
- 2022 "Mapping Amazon.com: Why some warehouses need not have been subsidized." Esri User Conference (abstract accepted).
- 2022 "How tax incentives constrain K-12 Education." Labor and Employment Relations Association Annual Meeting (online).
- 2021 "Do tax abatements affect school finance?" the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Annual Conference (online).
- 2020 "What do tax abatement disclosures reveal about the price of economic development?" Urban Affairs Association Annual Conference (abstract accepted; event canceled due to COVID-19).
- 2018 "Migrant housing ownership in urban China: Evidence from survey data." Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Annual Conference (Buffalo, NY).
- 2018 "Development, education, and the urban integration of rural migrants in interior China." International Conference of China Urban Development (Glasgow, UK).

2018	"Linking fiscal stress and social equity: A municipal toolbox." New York State City Managers Association Annual Conference (Ithaca, NY).
2018	"Development, education, and the urban integration of rural migrants in interior China." Urban Affairs Association Annual Conference (Toronto, CA).
2017	"Engineering urbanization and growth in China's poor periphery." Association of American Geographers Annual Conference (Boston, MA).
2016	"Urbanization as development: Understanding China's new growth strategy." Association of American Geographers Annual Conference (San Francisco, CA).
2015	"Restrictiveness of TEL and impact on local fiscal stress." Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Annual Conference (Houston, TX).
2014	"New York property tax cap: Implications for local fiscal health." Conference on Local Fiscal Stress (Saratoga Springs, NY).

MEDIA MENTIONS

2024	Co-authored investigative report for The Conversation being featured in multiple news outlets. Link .
2023	Quoted in Bloomberg Tax: "New York lawmakers push for new limits on School Tax Breaks." Link .
2022	Co-authored report featured in a Bloomberg exclusive: "Hidden tax breaks still used by many states to lure big business." Link .
2021	Lead-authored ArcGIS StoryMap featured in a Washington Post exclusive: "Amazon is building warehouses in 'opportunity zones' that provide tax breaks and secrecy." Link .
2021	Quoted in Consumer Reports: "When Amazon expands, these communities pay the price." Link .
2021	Lead-authored report featured in <i>Post & Courier</i> : "Property tax incentives for businesses cost SC schools more than \$472 million in 2020." Link .
2021	Quoted in <i>MinnPost</i> : "There's little evidence that film and TV tax credits work. Why Minnesota lawmakers funded a new one anyway?" Link .
2021	Quoted in <i>Chalkbeat Philadelphia</i> : "Report stating Philadelphia schools lose \$112 million a year to tax breaks is incomplete, City says." Link .
2021	Quoted in <i>The Philadelphia Inquirer</i> : "Philly schools lose more money to tax breaks than any district in the country, a new report says." Link .
2021	Quoted in <i>Bloomberg CityLab</i> : "What corporate tax breaks mean for school funding." Link .
2020	Lead-authored report featured in WCSC Live 5 News.
2020	Lead-authored report featured in <i>The State</i> : "Costly corporate tax breaks are taking away money to improve South Carolina's schools." Link .
2020	Lead-authored report featured in Substack Blog by Paul Bower. <i>Brutal South</i> : "Tracking the elusive tax dodge." Link .
2020	Lead-authored report featured in <i>Fortune</i> : "Why are local governments paying Amazon to destroy Main Street?" Link .

SKILLS AND TRAININGS

PROGRAMMING LANGUAGE: R, Java, C, C++, HTML, SQL, assembly language

SOFTWARE APPLICATIONS: ArcGIS, Stata, MATLAB, ATLAS.ti, IMPLAN, OpenGL

FOREIGN LANGUAGES: Chinese, Russian (advanced), French (intermediate), Polish (basic)

COURSES I CAN TEACH: urban planning theory, methods, and studios; GIS; AI and machine learning; international development; urban sociology and economics

SERVICE ENGAGEMENTS

Member, TAMU Landscape Architecture & Urban Planning 2023 PLAN Search Committee

Member, TAMU Curriculum Redesign Committee: master's in urban planning

Member, Economic Analysis and Research Network (EARN) Grant Selection Committee

Discussant, Labor and Employment Relations Association (LERA) 2022 annual meeting

Reviewer for:

Journal of Planning Education and Research

Network and Spatial Economics

Buildings

Sustainability

Community Development

Asia Pacific Journal of Education

Pacific Affairs Review