Thayer Morrill

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT

Professor, North Carolina State University, 2020 – present.
Visiting Associate Professor, Stanford University, 2020 – 2021.
Associate Professor, North Carolina State University, 2015 – 2020.
Assistant Professor, North Carolina State University, 2008 – 2015.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Economics, University of Maryland, College Park, 2008
M.A. Mathematics, University of Wisconsin, Madison, 1999
B.S. Mathematics, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, *Summa Cum Laude,* 1997

FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION

Matching Theory, Game Theory, Economics of Education, Auction Theory

NONACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Consultant, Auction Consulting, Market Design Inc. 2004 – 2020
Assisted in the design and implementation of high-stakes spectrum and natural gas auctions in Trinidad and Tobago, Hungary, and Denmark
Actuary, Watson Wyatt Worldwide, Washington, DC 2000 – 2003

GRANTS

NSF #1824744. "Decentralized Engineering Decision Models to Support Product Transitions" (with R. Uzsoy (PI), K. Kempf, and O. Ozaltin), Sept., 2018 – Aug., 2021, $618,910.
NC State University, DELTA grant, "Games are interesting – so should a game theory textbook", $8,000.
NC State University, Library grant for creating an open source textbook, $3,000.

PUBLICATIONS

"The Attraction of Magnet Schools: Evidence from Embedded Lotteries in School Assignment" (with Umut Dur, Robert Hammond, Matthew Lenard, Melinda Morrill, and Colleen Paeplow), *Economics of Education Review,* 107 (2025): 102663.
"Top Trading Cycles" (with Alvin E. Roth), *Journal of Mathematical Economics*, 112 (2024): 102984.
"Partitionable Choice Functions and Stability" (with Umut Dur and Will Phan), *Social Choice and Welfare*, 63.2 (2024): 359-375.
"Interview Hoarding" (with Vikram Manjunath), *Theoretical Economics*, 18.2, (2023): 503-527.
"Family Ties: School Assignment with Siblings" (with Umut Dur and Will Phan), *Theoretical Economics*, 17.1, (2022), 89 – 120.
"How to Assign Scarce Resources Without Money: Designing Information Systems that are Efficient, Truthful, and (Pretty) Fair" (with Martin Bichler, Alexander Hammerl, and Stefan Waldherr), *Information Systems Research*, 32.2 (2021), 335-355.

"Obvious Manipulations" (with Peter Troyan), *Journal of Economic Theory*, 185 (2020), 104970.

"(Il)legal Assignments in School Choice" (with Lars Ehlers), *Review of Economic Studies,* 87.4 (2020): 1837 – 1875.

"What You Don't Know Can Help You in School Assignment" (with Umut Dur), *Games and Economic Behavior*, 120 (2020), 246-256.

"The Secure Boston Mechanism: Theory and Experiments" (with Umut Dur and Robert Hammond) *Experimental Economics*, 22.4 (2019), 918-953.

"Competitive Equilibria in School Assignment" (with Umut Dur) *Games and Economic Behavior*, 108 (2018), 269 – 274.

"Identifying the Harm of Manipulable School-Choice Mechanisms" (with Umut Dur and Robert Hammond) *AEJ: Economic Policy,* 10 (2018), 187 – 213.

"Efficient Procurement Auctions with Increasing Returns" (with Oleg Baranov, Christina Aperjis, and Lawrence Ausubel) *AEJ: Microeconomics,* 9 (2017), 1-27.

"Personality Traits and Bidding Behavior in Competing Auctions" (with Robert Hammond) *Journal of Economic Psychology,* 57 (2016), 39 - 55.

"Making Just School Assignments", *Games and Economic Behavior,* 92 (2015), 18 - 27.

"Two Simple Variations of Top Trading Cycles," *Economic Theory,* 60 (2015), 123 - 140.

"Sequential Kidney Exchange," (with Lawrence Ausubel), *AEJ: Microeconomics*, 6.3 (2014), 265 – 285.

"Strategic Exclusion of the Highest-Valued Bidders in Wholesale Automobile Auctions," (with Robert G. Hammond) *Economic Inquiry,* 52 (2014), 1219 – 1230.

"An Alternative Characterization of the Deferred Acceptance Algorithm," *International Journal of Game Theory*, 42 (2013), 19 – 28.

"An Alternative Characterization of Top Trading Cycles," *Economic Theory*, 54 (2013), 181 – 197.

"Intergenerational Links in Female Labor Force Participation" (with Melinda Morrill), *Labour Economics,* 20 (2013), 38 – 47.

"Network Formation Under Negative Degree-Based Externalities," *International Journal of Game Theory,* 40 (2011), 367 – 385.

"The Roommates Problem Revisited," *Journal of Economic Theory*, 145 (2010), 1739 - 1756

PAPERS UNDER REVIEW

"Desirable Rankings: A New Method for Ranking Outcomes of a Competitive Process" (with Gaurab Aryal and Peter Troyan). Revision requested, *American Economic Review.*

"Degrading the Grade: Grading Variance as Evidence of Shirking."

WORK IN PROGRESS

"Prices and Prestige: the connection between desirable rankings and competitive equilibria" (with Gaurab Aryal and Peter Troyan).

"The Robustness of Desirable Rankings" (with Gaurab Aryal and Peter Troyan).

"A Random Graph Theoretic Approach for Large Discrete Economies: the Sangmok Principle" (with Peter Troyan).

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Teaching Award, Dept. of Economics, NC State University, 2022.

Research Leadership Award, Dept. of Economics, NC State University 2020.

Summer Research Award, Poole College of Management, 2020.

Zelnak Scholar, Poole College of Management, 2016-2017.

Research Leadership Award, Dept. of Economics, NC State University 2015.
Research Leadership Award, Dept. of Economics, NC State University 2012.
Research Growth & Innovation Award, Dept. of Economics, NC State University 2011.
Gill Grant, NC State University, 2009 – 2011.
Faculty Research Grant, NC State University, 2011.
University of Maryland Dean's Dissertation Fellowship, 2007 – 2008
Fellowship, University of Maryland, 2003 – 2005
Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship (Congressional Award for Undergraduate Research in Mathematics and the Physical Sciences), 1997

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Program Review (external reviewer), Department of Economics, University of Texas at San Antonio, 2022.
Renewal, Tenure, and Promotion Committee, Poole College of Management, 2017 – 2019.
Program Review (internal reviewer), Department of Operations Research, NC State, 2016.

ADVISING

De Fen Hsu (co-advisor, 2025)
Carlos Luca (OR, 2024)
Yanning Zhang (2023)
Kihong Kim (2023)
William Harris (2023)
Greg Hauser (2022)
Abdullah Almeer (2022)
John Westall (2021)
Siyan Liu (co-advisor, 2021)
Hossein Tohidi (2020)
Yifan Xie (2020
Fatma Kalkan (2020)
Feier Lian (2019)
Ankit Bansal (2019)
Zhiyi Xu (2018)
Chrystelle Khalaf (2017)
Huijie Yu (2015)
Erdogan Hatunoglu (2014)
Boris Zhukov (2013)
Quingxin He (2013)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Microeconomic Theory II (Ph.D. Core), 2011 – 2021, 2025 – present.
Game Theory (undergraduate), 2018 – present.
Topics in Game Theory (Ph.D.), 2010 – 2019.
Introduction to Microeconomics (honors), 2013 – 2016.
Economics of Business Strategy (Capstone Course), 2010 – 2012.
Pre-Ph.D. Microeconomic Theory, Fall 2008 – 2010

CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

2024 – Rochester, UC Riverside
2022 – EC ’22 (Boulder, CO), Iowa State Workshop on Market Design
2021 - INFORMS
2020 – Stanford University, Johns Hopkins University, UC Davis, Iowa State University (covid casualty)
2019 – CED ’19 (Budapest, Hungary), EC ’19 (Phoenix)
2018 – University of Colorado Boulder, INFORMS Workshop on Mathematical Optimization in Market Design (co-organizer), Frontiers in Market Design Conference (Lund, Sweden), Ottawa, Informs (Phoenix), Wake Forest University
2017 – University of Virginia, Informs (Houston)
2016 – Virginia Tech, Games 2016, EC 16, Workshop on Market Design Technologies (Yokohama, Japan), Carnegie Mellon, Wake Forest, Informs (Nashville), CIREQ microeconomic theory conference (Montreal), Workshop on Matching and Market Design (Santiago, Chile)
2015 – Boston College, Texas A&M, Informs (Philadelphia), Matchup 2015 (Glasgow)
2014 – Social Choice and Welfare (Boston), Informs (San Francisco)
2013 – Society of Economic Design (Lund), Informs (Minneapolis)
2012 – GAMES 2012 (Istanbul), Matchup 2012 (Budapest), IIOC, Informs (Phoenix).
2009 - 14th Coalition Theory Network Workshop (Maastricht).
2008 - GAMES 2008 (Evanston).
2007 - DIMACS (New Brunswick)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Treasurer, INFORMS Auctions and Market Design section.
Program Committee: EC ’15, EC ’17, EC ’19, EC ‘20.
Program Committee: Match-Up 2019.
Selection Committee Chair: EC ’20 Best Presentation Award
Selection Committee: EC ’19 Best Presentation Award

Referee for: *Econometrica, American Economic Review, Journal of Political Economy, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Journal of Economic Theory, Theoretical Economics, Management Science, American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, American Economic Journal: Microeconomics, Review of Economics and Statistics, Economic Theory, Games and Economic Behavior, International Economic Review, Social Choice and Welfare, Journal of Mathematical Economics, Journal of Environmental Economics and Management, Review of Economic Design, Journal of Market Design and Innovation, Economics Bulletin.*