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U.S. Citizen

Education Ph.D., Finance, Oklahoma State University, June 2014
M.S., Quantitative Financial Economics, Oklahoma State, May 2011
M.B.A., Multimedia University (a.k.a Universiti Telekom), Malaysia, 2008
B.S., Mechanical Engineering, Azad University, Tehran/Iran, 2005

Academic Positions Assistant Professor, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, September 2017
Lecturer, California Polytechnic State University, September 2016 - June 2017
Visiting Assistant Professor, Ohio University, August 2014-May2016

Research Interest Corporate Finance; Corporate Governance; Financial Intermediation
Empirical Asset Pricing; Investments; Fixed Income; Credit Risk

Teaching Experience Principles of Finance; International Finance; Financial Derivatives;
Advanced Investments;(Global) Financial Markets & Institutions;
Advanced Corporate Finance; Empirical Asset Pricing Seminar (PhD)

Publications

1. “The Impact of Stronger Shareholder Control on Bondholders,” with Sadra Amiri-Moghadam and Mahdi Rastad, *Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis*, Accepted and Forthcoming
2. “Environmental Regulation and the Cost of Bank Loans: International Evidence,” with I. Kim and A. Fard, *Journal of Financial Stability*, Conditionally Accepted
3. Do FOMC Actions Speak Loudly? Evidence from Corporate Bond Credit Spreads (with A.Nejadmalayeri and T.Krehbiel), *Review of Finance*, 2018, Vol.22(5), 1877–1909
4. Debt Market Illiquidity and Correlated Default Risk (with Mohsen Mollagholamali), *Finance Research Letters*, 2018, Vol.26, 266-273
5. Beyond Market Timing Theory (with S.Iyer), *Studies in Economics and Finance*, 2018, Vol.35(4),458-480 (lead article)
6. Measuring Correlated Default Risk: A New Metric and Validity Tests (with S.Kim, T.Krehbiel, and A.Nejadmalayeri), *Journal of Fixed Income*, 2017, 27(2), p.6-29, (lead article)

Working Papers

1. “The Impact of Climate Change on the Cost of Bank Loans,” with A. Al Masum, *R&R, Journal of Corporate Finance*
 - The Finance of Climate Change (EDHEC Business School, Paris - December 2019)
 - Northwestern-Duke Causal Inference Workshop 2019 (Durham, NC - August 2019)
 - Scheduled for presentation at Southwest Finance Meeting (San Antonio, TX - March 2020; Withdrew due to COVID-19)
2. “Corporate Cash Holdings, Twin Agency Problems and Economic Policy Uncertainty,” with M. Mollagholamali and S. Al-Thaqeb, **Under Review**
 - On the program of Eastern Finance Association meeting 2020 (Boston, MA- April 2020; Canceled due to COVID-19)
 - On the program of Southwest Finance meeting 2020 (San Antonio, TX- March 2020; Withdrew due to COVID-19)
 - Financial Management Association meeting 2019 (New Orleans, LA- October 2019)
 - Northwestern-Duke Causal Inference Workshop 2019 (Durham, NC - August 2019)
 - The 2015 Southern Finance Association (Captiva, FL - November 2015)
3. “Future Orientation and Uncertain Tone: Evidence from Corporate Discourse,” with Tuugi Chuluun, Takeshi Nishikawa, and Andrew Prevost, **Under Review**
4. “The Dark Side of Competition: Evidence from Private and Small Firms in Developing Economies,” with Y.Liu, **Under Review**
5. “Climate change Risk and Corporate Bond Credit Spreads”, with A.Masum, M.Mollagholamali, A.Nejadmalayeri
6. “Climate Change Risk and Corporate Cash Holding”, with A.Masum, M.Mollagholamali, R.Rao
7. “Hedge Fund Activism and Workforce Reduction”, with Incheol Kim and Yuree Lim
8. “CEO Marital Status and Corporate Cash Holdings”, with Md.N.Hossain and Ahmed Elnahas
9. “Unemployment Stigma Through the Business Cycle and Across the Workforce,” with E. Quercioli
 - Northwestern-Duke Causal Inference Workshop 2019 (Durham, NC - August 2019)
10. “The Costs of Financial Distress: Evidence from Credit Default Swaps,” with Mohsen Mollagholamali
11. “Conditional Volatility, Volume Shocks and GARCH Effects”
 - Midwest Finance Association 2012 (New Orleans, LA-February 2012)
 - Eastern Finance Association 2012 (Boston, MA-April 2012)

Book Chapter

Energy Finance and Economics: Analysis and Valuation, Risk Management, and the Future of Energy (John Wiley Sons), 2013 (ISBN 978-1-118-01712-8) Coauthored a chapter with Professor Betty Simkins and Mary Wicker titled “Chapter 9: Financial Statement Analysis for Oil and Gas Companies and Competitive Benchmarking”.

Honors & Awards

- “Measuring Correlated Default Risk: A New Metric and Validity Tests,” Semifinalist for best paper award, FMA Asia Pacific Conference 2016 (14 - 15 July, 2016 – Sydney, Australia)
- “Do FOMC Actions Speak Loudly? Evidence from Corporate Bond Credit Spreads,” Top 10 sessions, FMA 2013 (Chicago, IL-October 2013)
- Recipient of Spears School of Business Teaching Award, May 2013
- Recipient of Travel Grant to AFA in Chicago, IL-January 2012
- Sponsored by Spears School of Business to attend Wall Street Prep Course in Financial and Valuation Modeling in Oil and Gas in Houston, TX-March 2009
- Recipient of \$5,000 Scholarship from OSU’s Graduate college, August 2009

Service to the Profession

- Referee for: *Financial Review; Economics Letters; Finance Research Letters; Bulletin of Economic Research; Journal of Applied Finance; Managerial Finance; Studies in Economics and Finance*
- Ad hoc reviewer for Midwest Finance Association 2013
- Session Chair at: Midwest Finance Association 2013; Midwest Finance Association 2016; Southwest Finance Association 2016; Financial Management Association 2019
- Discussant at: Southwest Finance Association 2011; Midwest Finance Association 2012; Eastern Finance Association 2012; Midwest Finance Association 2013; Desert Finance Festival 2013; Financial Management Association 2013; Midwest Finance Association 2014; Eastern Finance Association 2015; Midwest Finance Association 2016; Southern Finance Association 2016; Midwest Finance Association 2018; Financial Management Association 2018; Financial Management Association 2019

Research Supervision

- Abdullah Al-Masum (Dissertation chair; Doctoral Independent research advisor at UTRGV)
- Theo Osah (Doctoral Independent research advisor at UTRGV)
- Elaheh Alikhani (Chairing Thesis for a Master’s degree in Financial Economics at Ohio University, currently a finance PhD student at the University of Iowa.)

References

Dr. Betty Simkins
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