

ZHEXU(EDWARD) AI, PHD, CFA

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ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Wagner College <i>Assistant Professor of Finance (Tenure Track)</i>	08/28/2023-Present <i>Staten Island, NY</i>
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EDUCATION

University of Connecticut <i>Ph.D. in Finance</i>	08/2023 <i>Storrs, CT</i>
University of Maryland <i>M.S. in Finance</i>	02/2016 <i>College Park, MD</i>
Tianjin University of Finance and Economics <i>B.A. in Finance</i>	06/2014 <i>Tianjin, China</i>
Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) Charterholder	2025-present

FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION

Financial Distress and Bankruptcy, Large Language Models and the Application in Finance, Behavioral Finance, ESG Finance, Executive Compensation

WORKING PAPERS

“[Human Capital Metrics and CEO Pay](#),” (with Diane Burton, Lingling Wang, and Karen Wruck)
Ohio Fisher College of Business Working Paper
Charles A. Dice Center Working Paper

“[Inheriting from Bankrupt Firms? Evidence on Long-term Performance of Local Firms](#),” (sole-authored), *Revise and Resubmit in British Accounting Review*

“[Do SEC Enforcement Actions Deter Real Earnings Manipulations of Industry Peers?](#),” (sole-authored), *Forthcoming in Accounting and Finance*

“[CEO Disposition Effect and the Chapter 11 Filing Decisions](#),” (with Edward Lawrence), *Under Review*
2025 FMA Best Paper Semifinalist

“Sentiment Distortions and Financial Distress: Evidence from Companies’ 8K Filings with LLM-Based Analysis,” (with Tarun Chordia, Qiang Kang, and Suchismita Mishra)

“AI Meets Corporate Strategy: Leveraging Large Language Models to Evaluate Product Changes in Distressed Firms,” (with Samuel Piotrowski)

WORKS IN PROGRESS

“COVID-19, Work from Home, and Racial Attitudes,” (with Shiyi Chen)
presented at AEA

“Do Bankruptcy Filings of Industry Rivals Mitigate Shareholder-Manager Conflict? Evidence on Earnings Management and Acquisitions,” (with Shiyi Chen, and Rui Sun)

REFeree SERVICE

Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Finance

TEACHING INTERESTS

Corporate Finance, Asset Pricing, Financial Technology, Financial Derivatives and Risk Management, Fixed Income Securities, Algorithmic Trading, Portfolio Management, Machine Learning and Big Data Analysis

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor, Portfolio Theory and Investments (MBA), Wagner College, Fall 2024
Instructor, Financial Risk Modeling (MBA), Wagner College, Spring 2024
Instructor, Principles of Finance, Wagner College, Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Summer 2024, Fall 2024

Instructor, Investments, Wagner College, Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Fall 2024

Instructor, Managerial Finance (MBA), Wagner College, Fall 2023

Instructor, Financial Management, University of Connecticut, 2019-2021

Teaching Assistant, Financial Programming and Modeling, University of Connecticut, Fall 2021

Teaching Assistant, Financial Data Mining and Big Data Analytics, University of Connecticut, Spring 2022

MEDIA COVERAGE

[CNN: Best Alternatives to Saving Accounts](#)

[US News: What You Should Know About Financing Appliances](#)

[WSJ: I Want to Start on the Best Financial Foot, What’s My First Move?](#)

[US News: Credit Card APRs Are on the Rise: What This Means for You](#)

[Forbes: Meet the World’s Best Insurance Companies 2024](#)

[CNET: Best Saving Rates Today - APYs Remain High Ahead of Today’s Fed Meeting, June 12, 2024](#)

[CBS News: Need Your Credit Card Debt to be Written Off? 3 Options to Consider](#)

[CBS News: 5 Expert-Driven Tips for Paying Off \\$30,000 in Credit Card Debt](#)

CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

2025: FMA Annual Conference (*Scheduled to Present*)
2025: SFA Annual Conference (*Scheduled to Present*)
2025: MRS International Risk Conference
2025: RCEA International Conference
2025: American Economic Association (AEA) Annual Meeting
2024: The Conference Board Annual Meeting-Exec. Compensation in Context
2024: Cornell ICS Symposium: Paying for Human Capital Performance?
2024: International Behavioral Finance Conference
2024: Southwestern Finance Association Annual Conference (*presented, discussed, and chaired*)
2024: Eastern Finance Association Annual Conference (*presented, discussed, and chaired*)
2024: Florida International University Conference
2023: British Accounting Review Annual Conference
2023: Southern Finance Association Annual Meeting
2023: Academy of Behavioral Finance & Economics
2023: The Business and Applied Sciences Academy of North America
2022: Financial Management Association Annual Meeting
2022: World Finance & Banking Symposium
2021: American Finance Association (AFA) Annual Conference

SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Faculty Award for Exceptional Performance in the area of Scholarship
Wagner College Robinson Family Fellowship
Wagner College Summer Research Grant, Summer 2024
Wagner College Faculty Research Aid, Fall 2023, Spring 2024
Nicolais School of Business Research Conference Support, Fall 2023
Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, Fall 2022
Doctoral Student Travel Fellowship, Spring 2021
Dean's Summer Fellowship, 2017 - 2020
Finance Summer PhD Fellowship, 2017 – 2020
Finance Department Graduate Assistantship, 2016 - 2021

SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Associate Editor, *Journal of Data Science and Artificial Intelligence*, 2025 - present

Active researcher, The George Washington Institute of Data Science and Artificial Intelligence at the International Society of Data Scientists (ISODS), 2024 - present

Academic Policy Committee (APC) at Wagner College, Fall 2024 - present

Student Managed Investment Fund (SMIF) faculty advisor, 2023 - present

Accountant, UConn Graduate Data Science Student Organization, 2018 – 2022

Member in CFA Institute New York, AFA, AAA, Eastern Finance Association, European Finance Association

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

World Bank, Washington DC
Short-term Consultant

Spring 2022

GF Securities Co., Ltd., China
Customer Manager Intern

Summer 2015

Tianjin Datong Investment Group Co., Ltd., China
Manager Assistant Intern

Summer 2012

OTHER SKILLS AND CERTIFICATIONS

Bloomberg Market Concepts (BMC) Passed

FINRA Securities Industry Essentials (SIE Exam Passed)

The Council of Independent Colleges (CIC): Fostering a Culture of Belonging
(completed)

SAS Certified Base Programmer

Fluent in Stata, Python, R studio, LaTeX

Proficient in English and Mandarin