

## Crystal S. Yang

### Contact Information:

Harvard Law School  
Cambridge, MA 02138

Phone: 617-496-4477  
Email: cyang@law.harvard.edu

### Current Appointments:

Assistant Professor of Law, Harvard Law School, 2014 – present  
Faculty Research Fellow, National Bureau of Economic Research, 2017 – present

### Visiting Positions:

Stephen Friedman Visiting Professor of Law, Columbia Law School, Fall 2018  
Visiting Professor of Law, New York University School of Law, Fall 2017  
Visiting Associate Research Scholar, Princeton University, Fall 2016

### Education:

Ph.D. in Economics, Harvard University, 2013  
J.D., *magna cum laude*, Harvard Law School, 2013  
A.M. in Statistics, Harvard University, 2008  
A.B. in Economics, *summa cum laude*, Harvard University, 2008

### Teaching and Research Interests:

Criminal Law and Procedure, Sentencing, Consumer Bankruptcy, Consumer Finance,  
Judicial Behavior, Law and Economics, Empirical Methods

### Publications:

- “Judicial Politics and Sentencing Decisions” (with Alma Cohen), forthcoming at  
*American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*
- “Racial Bias in Bail Decisions” (with David Arnold and Will Dobbie), *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 133(4): 1885-1932 (2018)
- “The Effects of Pre-Trial Detention on Conviction, Future Crime, and Employment: Evidence from Randomly Assigned Judges” (with Will Dobbie and Jacob Goldin), *American Economic Review*, 108(2): 201-240 (2018) (lead article)
- “Consumer Bankruptcy and Financial Health” (with Will Dobbie and Paul Goldsmith-Pinkham), *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 99(5): 853-869 (2017)
- “Toward an Optimal Bail System,” *New York University Law Review*, 92(5): 1399-1493 (2017)
- “Does Public Assistance Reduce Recidivism?,” *American Economic Review: Papers and Proceedings*, 107(5): 551-55 (2017)

“Local Labor Markets and Criminal Recidivism,” *Journal of Public Economics*, 147: 16-29 (2017)

“Resource Constraints and the Criminal Justice System: Evidence from Judicial Vacancies,” *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, 8(4): 289-332 (2016)

“Free At Last? Judicial Discretion and Racial Disparities in Federal Sentencing,” *Journal of Legal Studies*, 44(1): 75-111 (2015)

“Have Inter-Judge Sentencing Disparities Increased in an Advisory Guidelines Regime? Evidence From *Booker*,” *New York University Law Review*, 89(4): 1268-1342 (2014)

**Working Papers and Works in Progress:**

“Are Two Heads More Lenient Than One?” (with Marit ReHAVI)

“Fear and the Safety Net: Evidence from Secure Communities” (with Marcella Alsan)

“Equal Protection under Algorithms: A New Statistical and Legal Framework” (with Will Dobbie)

**Past Employment:**

Special Assistant United States Attorney, United States Attorney’s Office for the District of Massachusetts, 2014-2015

Olin Fellow and Instructor in Law, The University of Chicago Law School, 2013-2014

Harvard University, Economics Concentration Adviser and Tutor, 2010-2013

Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz, Summer Associate, 2012

Research Assistant for Professors Jeannie Suk and Scott Hemphill, 2011

United States Attorney’s Office Boston, Law Clerk, Criminal Appeals Division, 2011

Research Assistant for Professors Claudia Goldin and Lawrence Katz, 2005-2010

Veritas Tutors, Economics and Statistics Tutor, 2007-2010

Research Assistant for Professor Steven Shavell, 2009

**Awards, Grants, and Honors:**

John M. Olin Prize (co-winner for best paper in law and economics), 2013

Harvard Law School Summer Academic Fellowship, 2013

Terence M. Conside Fellowship, 2012-2013

Simon Kuznets Travel and Research Grant, 2012

Lab for Economic Applications and Policy (LEAP) Research Grant, 2012

John M. Olin Fellowship, 2010-2012

Harvard Law School Fellowship in Law and Graduate Studies (full tuition), 2010-2013

NSF-IGERT Doctoral Fellowship, Program in Inequality and Social Policy, 2009-2012

National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, 2008-2010

Phi Beta Kappa, 2008

Thomas Temple Hoopes Prize for Outstanding Undergraduate Thesis, 2008

United States Presidential Scholar, 2004

**Judicial Citations:**

“Have Inter-Judge Sentencing Disparities Increased in an Advisory Guidelines Regime? Evidence From *Booker*,” *New York University Law Review*, 89(4): 1268-1342 (2014)

- *Molina-Martinez v. United States*, 136 S. Ct. 1338 (2016)
- *United States v. Mathurin*, 868 F.3d 921 (2017)
- *United States v. G.L.*, 305 F.R.D. 47 (2015)

**Professional Activities:**

Referee for *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, *American Economic Review: Insights*, *American Economic Review*, *American Law and Economics Review*, *Criminology*, *Economic Inquiry*, *International Review of Law and Economics*, *Journal of Labor Economics*, *Journal of Law and Economics*, *Journal of Law, Economics, & Organization*, *Journal of Legal Analysis*, *Journal of Legal Studies*, *Journal of Empirical Legal Studies*, *Journal of Public Economics*, *Journal of Quantitative Criminology*, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, *Conference on Empirical Legal Studies*, *Harvard Law Review*

Member, American Economic Association, American Law and Economics Association, Society for Empirical Legal Studies

Area Organizer, American Law and Economics Association (2016)

Director, American Law and Economics Association (2018-present)

**Bar Admissions:**

New York (2014), U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit (2014), U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts (2014)

**Invited Talks and Presentations:**

2018 – 2019: Columbia Law School, Northwestern Law School, Northwestern Kellogg Strategy Seminar, Berkeley Law School, Harvard Law and Economics Seminar

2017 – 2018: American Enterprise Institute, Federal Judicial Center National Workshop for Bankruptcy Judges, Clemson University Economics Seminar, NYU School of Law, USC Gould School of Law, Center for Advancing Opportunity State of Opportunity in America Summit, MIT Applied Microeconomics Seminar, UCLA Law and Economics Workshop, Fifth Circuit Bankruptcy Bench-Bar Conference, UC Davis School of Law, Harvard Law, Economics, and Organizations Research Seminar, Yale Law School Liman Colloquium, Midyear Meeting of the National Association of Women Judges, University of New South Wales Law School, University of Texas Law and Economics Workshop, Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, Berkman Klein AGTech Forum, American Law and Economics Association Meeting, NBER Summer Institute Children, Tenth Circuit Bench-Bar Conference

2016 – 2017: University of Connecticut School of Law Faculty Workshop, University of British Columbia Economics Seminar, Yale Law Economics and Organization Workshop, American Economic Association Annual Meeting, NBER Law and Economics Meeting, Columbia Law School, Federal Judicial Center National Workshop for Bankruptcy Judges, Harvard Law and Economics Seminar, Harvard Law, Economics, and Organizations Research Seminar, Federal Judicial Center Law and Society Conference, Criminal Law Roundtable, American Law and Economics Association Meeting, Sciences Po Law School

2015 – 2016: Hudson Valley Bankruptcy Bar Association, Vanderbilt Law School Financial Regulation and Consumer Choice Conference, Zurich Law and Finance Workshop, Boston University Law and Economics Workshop, Michigan Law and Economics Workshop, Young Bankruptcy Scholars' Work-in-Progress Workshop, Loyola Marymount Economics Seminar, Hebrew University Applied Economics Workshop, Hebrew University Law and Economics Seminar, University of Pennsylvania Criminology, Harvard Law and Economics Seminar, NYU Law and Economics Colloquium, Brookings Institution, American Law and Economics Association Meeting, NBER Summer Institute Law and Economics

2014 – 2015: University of Toronto Law School Law and Economics Workshop, Harvard Law, Economics, and Organizations Research Seminar, Georgetown Law and Economics Workshop, University of Texas Law and Economics Workshop, NBER Law and Economics Meeting, Harvard Law and Economics Seminar, American Law and Economics Association Meeting, Western Economic Association International Conference, NBER Summer Institute Crime

2013 – 2014: Chicago Junior Faculty Workshop, Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, University of Virginia Law and Economics Colloquium, University of Chicago Workshop on Judicial Behavior, University of Chicago Law and Economics Workshop, University of Chicago Law School Faculty Workshop, Columbia Law School, Harvard Law School, University of Virginia Law School, NYU School of Law, Northwestern Law School, Stanford Law School, American Law and Economics Association Meeting

2012 – 2013: Harvard Law and Economics Seminar, American Law and Economics Association Meeting