

Crystal S. Yang

Contact Information

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Appointments

Professor of Law, Harvard Law School, 2019 – present
Affiliated Faculty, Malcolm Wiener Center for Social Policy, 2019 – present
Assistant Professor of Law, Harvard Law School, 2014 – 2019

Visiting Appointments

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

Professional Affiliations

Co-Director, Crime Working Group, National Bureau of Economic Research, 2020 – present
Board of Editors, *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, 2019 – present
Research Associate, National Bureau of Economic Research, 2019 – present
Director, American Law and Economics Association, 2018 – present
Faculty Research Fellow, National Bureau of Economic Research, 2017 – 2019

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
Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz, Summer Associate, 2012
United States Attorney's Office Boston, Law Clerk, Criminal Appeals Division, 2011

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

Peer-Reviewed Publications

1. Judicial Politics and Sentencing Decisions, with Alma Cohen, *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, 11(1): 160-191, 2019.
2. Racial Bias in Bail Decisions, with David Arnold and Will Dobbie, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 133(4): 1885-1932, 2018.
3. 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.

4. Consumer Bankruptcy and Financial Health, with Will Dobbie and Paul Goldsmith-Pinkham, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 99(5): 853-869, 2017.
5. Local Labor Markets and Criminal Recidivism, *Journal of Public Economics*, 147: 16-29, 2017.
6. Resource Constraints and the Criminal Justice System: Evidence from Judicial Vacancies, *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, 8(4): 289-332, 2016.
7. Free At Last? Judicial Discretion and Racial Disparities in Federal Sentencing, *Journal of Legal Studies*, 44(1): 75-111, 2015.

Law Review Publications and Other Publications

1. Equal Protection Under Algorithms: A New Statistical and Legal Framework, with Will Dobbie, *Michigan Law Review*, forthcoming.
2. Proposals for Improving the U.S. Pre-Trial System, with Will Dobbie, *The Hamilton Project*, March 2019.
3. Toward an Optimal Bail System, *New York University Law Review*, 92(5): 1399-1493, 2017.
4. Does Public Assistance Reduce Recidivism?, *American Economic Review: Papers and Proceedings*, 107(5): 551-55, 2017.
5. 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

6. Fear and the Safety Net: Evidence from Secure Communities, with Marcella Alsan.
7. Are Two Heads More Lenient Than One?, with Marit Rehavi.

Research Grants

1. William T. Grant Foundation: "Reducing Racial Disparities in Bail Decisions: An Experiment on Public Accountability and Feedback in Texas," with Will Dobbie, 2020-2021
2. J-PAL North America: "Evaluating the Effect of NCCHC Accreditation on Health Care and Health Outcomes in US Jails," with Marcella Alsan, 2020-2023
3. J-PAL North America: "Reducing Racial Disparities in Bail Decisions," with Will Dobbie, 2019-2020
4. National Science Foundation Grant SES-1849427: "Fear and the Safety Net: Evidence from Secure Communities," with Marcella Alsan, 2019-2021

Awards, Honors, and Fellowships

John M. Olin Prize (co-winner for best paper in law and economics), 2013
 Harvard Law School Summer Academic Fellowship, 2013
 Terence M. Considine Fellowship, 2012-2013

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)

Referee and Reviewer

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 Policy Analysis and Management*, *Journal of Public Economics*, *Journal of Quantitative Criminology*, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, *Review of Economic Studies*, *Harvard Law Review*

Reviewer for *National Science Foundation*, *J-PAL North America*, *Conference on Empirical Legal Studies*, *American Law and Economics Association Annual Meeting*

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

2020 – 2021 (including scheduled): University of Texas Law School Faculty Workshop, Ohio Association for Court Administration Conference, Bates College Economics Seminar, Duke University Artificial Intelligence Conference, Federal Magistrate Judges Association Seminar, University of Virginia Law and Economics Seminar, UT Austin Development, Labor, and Public Seminar

2019 – 2020: American Bar Association Bail Reform Webinar, University of Alabama Birmingham Economics Seminar, Fordham Law Faculty Workshop, Duke Law Faculty Workshop, Boston University Microeconomics Seminar, Stanford Law and Economics Seminar, UCLA Applied Microeconomics Seminar

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

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