

# Blessing Ngozi Ugwuanyi

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[bugwuanyi@gmail.com](mailto:bugwuanyi@gmail.com) | (806) 300-3842

## **EDUCATION**

**Ph.D. in Agricultural and Applied Economics** (May 2020)

Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX

**Master of Science, Analytics** (May 2024)

Georgia Institute of Technology; Atlanta, GA

**Master of Science in Agricultural and Applied Economics** (August 2015)

University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY

**Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Economics and Farm Management** (October 2010)

Federal University of Agriculture Abeokuta, Nigeria

Summa Cum Laude

## **CERTIFICATION**

Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria

Certified Accounting Technician (August 2009)

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**Assistant Professor, Texas A&M University - Kingsville**, (August 2024 – Present)

✓ Teaching the following classes:

- Farm Management
- Price Analysis
- Agribusiness Market

**Assistant Professor, Southern Arkansas University (SAU)**, Magnolia (August 2020 – July 2024)

✓ Taught the following classes:

- Data Management
- Financial Statements and Planning
- Entrepreneurship
- Risk Management
- Futures and Options
- Marketing of Agricultural Products
- International Agribusiness

**Instructor**, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas, (Spring 2018, Fall 2019)

- Price Theory
- Applied Optimization

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

*Assistant Professor of Agribusiness*

*Texas A&M University – Kingsville (RELLIS campus), (August 2024 – Present)*

- Conducts research in Applied Economics and Analytics.

*Assistant Professor of Agricultural and Applied Economics*

*Southern Arkansas University, Magnolia, Arkansas (August 2020 – July 2024)*

- Conducted research in Applied Economics and Analytics.

*Analytics Practicum - Credit Risk Modeling Intern*

*Equifax, Atlanta, Georgia (January 2024 – May 2024)*

- Collaborating with the Equifax team to develop a robust credit risk propensity model.
- Utilizing advanced analytics tools, such as Python and SQL, to analyze large datasets.
- Conducting in-depth analysis to predict customer behavior, specifically in opening new credit card accounts, and obtaining personal loans and mortgages.
- Working closely with cross-functional teams to integrate the propensity model into Equifax's decision-making processes.
- Presenting findings and actionable insights to stakeholders, contributing to strategic financial planning in the dynamic landscape of credit risk.

*Research Assistant/Data Analyst*

*Texas Tech University, (August 2015 – May 2020)*

- Identified researchable questions for projects and developed analytical models.
- Designed surveys and sourced primary and secondary data for studies.
- Tested and validated theoretical models using various statistical packages like R, Stata, SAS, and MATLAB.
- Prepared comprehensive reports on research outcomes.
- Presented research findings at conferences.

*Research Assistant/Data Analyst*

*University of Wyoming, (January 2013 – August 2015)*

- Sourced secondary data for research and conducted analysis using GAMS and Stata.
- Interpreted results, identified patterns, and drew conclusions.
- Wrote reports on research work.
- Published research findings and presented reports summarizing key insights.

*Business/Management Experience*

*Farm Manager*

*Saint Paul Ranch, Ogun State, Nigeria (January 2010 - August 2010)*

- Supervised a team of less than 10 employees, overseeing day-to-day operations and ensuring adherence to established protocols and procedures.

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- Managed all farm activities to ensure smooth operations and maximize productivity and profitability.

## RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

- Solomonson, J. K., Wells, T., Rank, B. D., & Ugwuanyi, B. (2023, June). What Factors influence Students' decisions to pursue Agricultural Degrees at Non-Land Grant Colleges of Agriculture? NACTA Journal.
- Devadoss, Stephen, Blessing Ugwuanyi, and William Ridley (2021). "Determinants of Global Agricultural Trade." Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics.
- Blessing Ugwuanyi and Chian Jones Ritten. (2016) "Explaining the Gender Wage Gap: The Role of Discrimination and the Mining Industry." Chapter Nine in Sternadori, Miglena and Carrie Prentice (eds.) Gender and Work: Intersectionality, Resistance, and Identity, Cambridge Scholars Publishing (Original Research).
- Jones Ritten, Chian and Blessing Ugwuanyi (2015). "Is Wyoming still the State of Equality?" The Wyoming Lawyer 32(2), 20-23.

## Conference Presentations

- Solomonson, J. K., Wells, T., Rank, B. D., & Ugwuanyi, B. (2022, June). What factors influence students' decisions to pursue agricultural degrees at non-land-grant colleges of agriculture? Poster presented at the 68th Annual NACTA Conference. Wooster, OH.
- Blessing Ugwuanyi and Ryan Williams. "Extortion in the Presence of Market Power." Southern Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting. Jacksonville, FL: February 26, 2018.
- Williams, Ryan, Blessing Ugwuanyi, Joseph Young, and Vikram Baliga. "Estimation of Household Willingness to Pay for Water Conserving Landscape Design." Agricultural Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL: July 30 - August 1, 2017.
- Blessing Ugwuanyi and Chian Jones Ritten. "The Gender Wage Gap: The Role of the Mining Industry and Discrimination." Western Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting. Victoria, BC: June 21-24, 2016.
- Williams, Ryan, Blessing Ugwuanyi, Joseph Young, and Vikram Baliga. "Estimation of Household Willingness to Pay for Water Conserving Landscape Design." Universities Council on Water Resources Annual Meeting. Pensacola, FL: June 21-23, 2016.
- Blessing Ugwuanyi and Chian Jones Ritten. "The Gender Wage Gap: The Role of the Mining Industry and Discrimination." Poster Presentation. Pacific Northwest Regional Economics Conference. Vancouver, WA: May 11-13, 2016.
- Blessing Ugwuanyi and Chian Jones Ritten. "The Gender Wage Gap: The Role of Discrimination and the Mining Industry." University of Wyoming Agricultural and Applied Economics Seminar Series. Laramie, WY: October 2, 2015.
- Chian Jones Ritten and Blessing Ugwuanyi. "The Gender Wage Gap: The Role of the Mining Industry." Biennial Women and Gender Research Conference. Vermillion, SD: April 9-10, 2015.

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## **AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

- Southern Arkansas University Faculty Research Grant, March 2024: Awarded \$4,430
- Graduate Research Assistantship, Texas Tech University (2015 – 2020)
- Award of Excellence (Graduate Paper Competition), Western Agricultural Economics Association, 2019
- Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Texas Tech University (2018 – 2019)
- CH Foundation Fellowship Award for Outstanding Incoming Students (2015 – 2019)
- Graduate Research Assistantship, University of Wyoming (2013 – 2015)
- Distinguished Senate Award for Outstanding First-Class graduate, University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, Nigeria (2010)

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

- Western Agricultural Economics Association (2018 - Present)
- Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (2016 - Present)
- Southern Agricultural Economics Association (2016 – Present)

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

### Referee:

- Western Agricultural Economics Association
- Journal for the Advancement of Developing Economies

## **LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE EXPERIENCES**

- Coordinator/Advisor, Delta Tau Alpha (DTA) Society, Southern Arkansas University Chapter (Fall 2021 – present).
  - Organized award ceremonies for top-performing students.
- Advised the Delta Tau Alpha Society.
  - Promoted scholarships and collegiality among DTA members and non-DTA students.
- Facilitator/Judge, FFA regional contest, 2022 -2024

### **Academic Advisement and Mentorship (SAU) (August 2020 – May 2024)**

- Advises about 30 students per semester to ensure progress towards degree completion.
- Provides support to students for employment, graduate, and professional school placements.

### **Committee Service**

- Member, Discipline Committee, Southern Arkansas University (August 15, 2023 – Present)
- Member, Assistant Professor of Agricultural Education faculty search committee (February 2, 2023 – Present).
- Member, Assistant Professor of Animal Science faculty search committee (March 2, 2023 – Present).
- Member, Entrepreneurial Access Resource Network Committee Member (December 1, 2022 – Present).

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- Tasked with setting up an accessible resource base for upcoming entrepreneurs from Southern Arkansas.
- Member, Assistance Professor Computer Science Faculty Search Committee (September 1, 2021 - October 17, 2022).
- Member, Non-Tenure Assistant Professor of Cybersecurity faculty search committee. (September 1, 2021 - October 17, 2022).
- Title IX Investigator, Southern Arkansas University. August 3, 2022 - Present.
  - Investigate faculty members, staff, or student-reported Title IX violations.
- Member, Assistance Professor Computer Science Faculty Search Committee (September 1, 2021 - October 17, 2022).
- Member, Non-Tenure Assistant Professor of Cybersecurity faculty search committee. September 1, 2021 - October 17, 2022.

## **SKILLS**

- Computing/Analytical: Financial modeling, Econometric analysis, Time Series Forecasting, STATA, R, Python, SAS, SQL, Tableau, PySpark, AWS, Google Cloud Platform, Azure, Big Data, Microsoft Office.
- Languages: English (fluent), Igbo (Native Proficiency), Yoruba (fluent), Pidgin (fluent).