

Chuck Boyer

CONTACT INFORMATION	University of Chicago Booth School of Business 5807 S. Woodlawn Ave. Chicago, IL 60637	chuckboyer.com cboyer@chicagobooth.edu
PLACEMENT DIRECTOR	Malaina Brown malaina.brown@chicagobooth.edu (773) 702-0093	
RESEARCH INTERESTS	Empirical asset pricing, municipal debt markets, political economy	
EDUCATION	University of Chicago , Chicago, IL <i>Booth School of Business and Kenneth C. Griffin Department of Economics</i> PhD, Joint Program in Financial Economics, (expected graduation: 2020) Job Market Paper: “Public Pensions and State Government Borrowing Costs” M.B.A., (expected graduation: 2020) University of Michigan , Ann Arbor, MI B.S., Economics (High Honors), Financial Mathematics, Minor: History, 2011 Honors Thesis: “On the Euro Exchange Rate Volatility Exposure of U.S. Firms”	
REFERENCES	<u>Lubos Pastor</u> (chair) Booth School of Business Lubos.Pastor@chicagobooth.edu <u>Eric Zwick</u> Booth School of Business ezwick@chicagobooth.edu	<u>John C. Heaton</u> Booth School of Business John.Heaton@chicagobooth.edu
JOB MARKET PAPER	“Public Pensions and State Government Borrowing Costs” I explore what U.S. state government bond prices imply about the relative recovery rates of pensioners and debtholders in a state default. Across U.S. states from 2005 to 2016, a one-standard-deviation increase in the ratio of unfunded pension liabilities to GDP is associated with a 27–32 basis point increase in bond spreads over the Treasury rate. Unfunded pensions cost U.S. states over \$2 billion in lost bond issuance proceeds in 2016. Event study exercises examining the reactions of bond spreads to a pension reform in Illinois provide evidence that this relationship is causal. The effect of unfunded pension liabilities on bond spreads is stronger in states where pensioners are likely to have higher bargaining power or legal protection in a default. These facts are consistent with predictions from a structural model of municipal government credit, and model estimates reveal substantial cross-sectional variation in investor perceptions of pension seniority. These perceptions are related to state-level political and legal factors which may affect recovery rates of pensioners in a default.	

RESEARCH PAPERS “Legal Uncertainty and Municipal Debt: Market Reactions to Puerto Rico”

There is a large degree of uncertainty regarding what would occur if a U.S. state government defaulted on its debt. The legal framework for state government default is non-existent, and there is no modern-day precedent for such an event. Recent events in the Puerto Rican debt crisis, however, may provide a blueprint for how a state default would play out. I find that state bond spreads over the Treasury rate react to various legal events and decisions related to the Puerto Rican bankruptcy. I also find that reactions are stronger in states with worse credit conditions. This suggests that markets may perceive these events and decisions as setting precedent for potential future state default events. Moreover, that precedent is likely more relevant for states that are closer to default. These findings provide unique evidence of the role legal uncertainty plays in asset markets.

“The Impact of the Shadow Banking Sector on Public Finance” (with Kelly Posenau)

Money market mutual funds (MMMF) are the primary source of short-term financing for municipal governments. In response to the financial crisis, the SEC implemented a series of reforms in 2016 designed to make these funds more stable. We study the effects of the reforms on the U.S. municipal debt market. We show tax-exempt fund holdings of municipal variable rate demand notes (VRDN) dropped precipitously around implementation of the reform. Moreover, we observe an increase in VRDN interest rates. However, we do not observe any significant changes in issuance patterns around the reform. Our results suggest the reform may have increased short-term borrowing costs for municipal governments.

“Tail Risk and Asset Pricing Anomalies”

I test whether various asset pricing anomalies can be explained through exposure to tail-risk. I find that asset pricing anomalies persist, in the sense of generating excess returns in relation to standard factor pricing models, when controlling for exposure to tail-risk. Thus, existing cross-sectional asset pricing anomalies are not proxies for underlying tail-risk. Results are similar for broader measures of systemic risk. Finally, I investigate firm-level tail-risk exposures and tail-risk pricing and provide evidence that previous cross-sectional evidence regarding the presence of tail-risk has been overstated or misidentified.

TEACHING
EXPERIENCE

Portfolio Management - T.A. for Lubos Pastor
Chicago Booth Executive MBA Program

Summer 2017-2019

Investments - T.A. for John Heaton
Chicago Booth Full-Time MBA Program

Fall 2018

Investments - T.A. for Andreas Neuhierl
Chicago Booth Full-Time MBA Program

Fall 2017

Investments - T.A. for Amir Sufi
Chicago Booth Executive MBA Program

Summer 2017

Portfolio Management - T.A. for Lubos Pastor
Chicago Booth Full-Time MBA Program

Spring 2017

Investments - T.A. for Bryan Kelly
Chicago Booth Full-Time MBA Program

Fall 2016

Theory of Financial Decisions I - T.A. for Eugene Fama
Chicago Booth/Dept. of Economics PhD Program

Fall 2016

CONFERENCE
PRESENTATIONS

Public Pensions and State Government Borrowing Costs

Brookings Municipal Finance Conference, July 2018

AFA PhD Poster Session, January 2018

Economics Graduate Student Conference, Washington University, October 2017

Legal Uncertainty and Municipal Bond Yields: Market Reactions to Puerto Rico

Brookings Municipal Finance Conference, July 2019

HONORS,
FELLOWSHIPS, AND
GRANTS

K.D. Miller PhD Fellowship, 2018-2019

Fischer Black PhD Fellowship, 2017-2018

Liew Fama-Miller Fellowship (top 3rd year finance paper), 2017

Fama-Miller Center Research Grant, 2016

CRSP Summer Paper Research Grant, 2015

Chicago Booth PhD Fellowship, 2014-2017

Phi Beta Kappa, 2011

David Bunzel Prize in Economics, 2011

RESEARCH
EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant for Bryan Kelly and Stefano Giglio

2015-2016

Research Assistant for Kathryn Dominguez

2011

PROFESSIONAL
EXPERIENCE

Cornerstone Research, Boston, MA

Senior Analyst

Analyst

August, 2013 - May, 2014

August, 2011 - July, 2013

OTHER
EXPERIENCE

Co-Organizer U Chicago Economics Skit Show, 2017

Co-Organizer U Chicago Finance Student Brownbag, 2015-2016

COMPUTER SKILLS

Proficient: MATLAB, SAS, Stata, \LaTeX , Excel

Experience with: Python, R

Updated: November 13, 2019