

## Itai Sher

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### Employment

2017-Present Associate Professor of Economics, University of Massachusetts Amherst  
2015-2017 Visiting Assistant Professor of Economics, University of California, San Diego  
2007-2015 Assistant Professor of Economics, University of Minnesota.

### Education

2001-2007 Northwestern University, Ph.D. Economics  
1998-2001 University of Texas at Austin, M.A. Philosophy  
1994-1997 Reed College, B.A. Philosophy

### Editorial Positions

Co-Editor, The Oxford University Press *Philosophy, Politics and Economics* Book Series (with Ryan Muldoon, Carmen Pavel, Geoff Sayre-McCord, and Eric Schliesser)

Member of Editorial Board, *Politics, Philosophy, and Economics*

Co-Editor (January 2019-June 2024), *Economics & Philosophy*

### Publications

1. "Generalized Social Marginal Welfare Weights Imply Inconsistent Comparisons of Tax Policies", *American Economic Review* **114**(2), pp. 3551-3577 (2024).
2. "Freedom and Voting Power", forthcoming at *Social Choice and Welfare*.
3. "Voting Rules", *The Routledge Handbook of Philosophy, Politics, and Economics*, pp. 401-415, (2022).
4. "Neutral Freedom and Freedom as Control," *Social Choice and Welfare* **56**, pp. 21-56 (2021).
5. "Normative Aspects of Kantian Equilibrium," *Erasmus Journal for Philosophy and Economics*, **13**(2), 43-84 (2020).
6. "How Perspective-based Aggregation Undermines the Pareto Principle" *Politics, Philosophy & Economics* **19**(2) (2020), pp. 182-205.
7. "Comparative Value and the Weight of Reasons," *Economics & Philosophy* **35** (2019), pp. 103-158.

8. "Evaluating Allocations of Freedom," *The Economic Journal* **128** (2018), pp. F65-F94.
9. "Ethical Considerations on Quadratic Voting," (with Ben Laurence) *Public Choice* **172**(1-2) (2017), pp.195-222.
10. "Price Discrimination through Communication," (with Rakesh Vohra) *Theoretical Economics* (2015), pp. 597-648.
11. "Children's Strategic Theory of Mind," (with Melissa Koenig and Aldo Rustichini) *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, **111**(37) (2014), pp. 13307-13312.
12. "Identifying Combinatorial Valuations from Aggregate Demand," (with Kyoo il Kim), *Journal of Economic Theory* **153** (2014), pp. 428-458.
13. "Persuasion and Dynamic Communication," *Theoretical Economics* **9** (2014), pp. 99-136.
14. "Optimal Skill Bidding in the VCG Mechanism," *Economic Theory* **50** (2012), pp. 341-387.
15. "Credibility and Determinism in a Game of Persuasion," *Games and Economic Behavior* **71** (2011), pp. 409-419.
16. "Individual Error, Group Error, and the Value of Information," (2005) *Proceedings of the 10th Conference on Theoretical Aspects of Rationality and Knowledge*.

### **Working Papers**

17. "Value Pluralism: Subordination and Balancing"

### **Work in Progress**

18. "Tax Salience: The Equality-Honest-Efficiency Tradeoff"

### **Other Writings**

"Economics needs to consider freedom" *LSE Business Review*, July 30, 2018 <http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/businessreview/2018/07/30/economics-needs-to-consider-freedom-of-choice/>. Reprinted at the *World Economic Forum* as "Why economists need to think about freedom", August 2, 2018 <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2018/08/economics-needs-to-consider-freedom-of-choice/>

### **Professional Memberships**

Affiliate, Stone Center for Research on Wealth Inequality and Mobility, Harris School of Public Policy, University of Chicago.

Human Capital and Economic Opportunity Global Working Group, Inequality: Measurement, Interpretation, and Policy Network.

American Economic Association

American Association of University Professors

Academic Freedom Alliance

### **Conference Organization**

Co-organizer of Conference on *Normative Ethics and Welfare Economics* held at the Becker Friedman Institute at the University of Chicago on October 24-25, 2014. Funded by the Becker Friedman Institute.

Co-organizer of second biennial Conference on *Normative Ethics and Welfare Economics* held at the Harvard Business School on October 21-22, 2016. Funded by Harvard Business School, The Foundations of Human Behavior Initiative at Harvard, and the Harvard Philosophy Department.

Co-organizer of third biennial Conference on *Normative Ethics and Welfare Economics* to be held at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania on October 26-27, 2018. Funded by the University of Pennsylvania.

Co-organizer of Conference on *Normative Ethics and Welfare Economics* to be held jointly at Duke University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Originally scheduled for October, 2020, but currently delayed due to covid. Funded by the Center for Law, Economics and Public Policy and the Kennan Institute for Ethics at Duke University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Organizer of Session on “Voting Institutions: Political Equality and Popular Control” at the 2019 Annual Conference of the *Philosophy, Politics & Economics*

Organizer of Session on “Freedom” at the 2020 Annual Conference of the *Philosophy, Politics & Economics* (canceled due to covid)

Scientific Committee Member for the 2021 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference for *International Network for Economic Method* (INEM)

Program Committee Member for *Formal Ethics 2020* at Vanderbilt University (cancelled due to covid)

Society for the Advancement of Economic Theory (SAET) Conference 2013 session organizer. Session Title: Mechanism Design and Distributive Justice.

## Grants, Honors, and Awards

Single Semester Leave, University of Minnesota, 2012

Grant-in-Aid of Research, Artistry, and Scholarship, University of Minnesota, 2009-2011.

Northwestern University Fellowship, 2001-2002

Commendation for Excellence in Scholarship, Reed College, 1994-1995, 1995-1996.

## Presentations

2024: University of Massachusetts Amherst, Australian Public Economics Exchange (APEX) 2024, University of Connecticut, W. Allen Wallis Institute of Political Economy at the University of Rochester.

2023: Oxford Workshop on Global Priorities Research, Global Priorities Institute, Oxford University, Northwestern Conference in Honor of Eddie Dekel, King's College London

2022: Brandeis University, New Approaches to Normative Economics Workshop and Oxford Martin School, University of Oxford.

2021: UC Riverside, Welfare Economics and Public Policy Seminar, University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy Political Economy Workshop.

2020: Politics, Philosophy, and Economics Society Fourth Annual Meeting (canceled due to covid); Political Economy Seminar at the Harris School (canceled due to covid).

2019: North American Winter Meeting of the Econometric Society; Politics, Philosophy, and Economics Society Third Annual Meeting; Analytical Political Economy Workshop; Stockholm Region Workshop on Economics and Philosophy, University at Albany—SUNY,

2018: ASSA Annual Meeting; Politics, Philosophy & Economics Conference (Tulane University); Politics, Philosophy, and Economics Society Second Annual Meeting; Annual Meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology; Workshop on Economics and Philosophy; Conference on Normative Ethics and Welfare Economics (University of Pennsylvania)

2017: University of California, Merced; London School of Economics; University of Massachusetts Amherst; Politics, Philosophy, and Economics Society Inaugural Meeting; Amherst College; National Tax Association Annual Conference; Virginia Tech Politics, Philosophy, and Economics Public Speaker Series.

2016: Conference on Normative Ethics and Welfare Economics (Harvard Business School), Conference on Quadratic Voting and the Public Good (Becker Friedman Institute, University of Chicago); University of California, Davis; Claremont Graduate University; Workshop on Reasons and Mental States in Decision Theory (London School of Economics).

2015: University of California, San Diego; Econometric Society World Congress; Canadian Economic Theory Conference; Kansas State University.

2014: University of California, San Diego; Conference on Normative Ethics and Welfare Economics (Becker Friedman Institute, University of Chicago); Social Choice and Welfare Conference; Paul Sabatier University; Formal Ethics Conference; Canadian Economic Theory Conference.

2013: Society for Advancement of Economic Theory Conference; University of Wisconsin-Madison.

2012: Econometric Society North American Summer Meeting; Allied Social Science Associations Annual Meetings.

2011: Conference on Bounded Rationality, Revealed Preferences and Consumer Demand (University College London); Université de Montréal; Conference on Economic Design; Canadian Economic Theory Conference.

2010: Midwest Economic Theory Meetings; Econometric Society World Congress; Tel Aviv University; Hebrew University; Midwest Economic Theory Meetings.

2009: Stony Brook Game Theory Conference; Conference on Economic Design; Journées Louis-André Gérard-Varet Conference in Public Economics; Econometric Society North American Summer Meetings, Canadian Economic Theory Conference; University of Western Ontario; London School of Economics; University College London; University of Oxford.

2008: University of Wisconsin-Madison; University of Texas at Austin; Midwest Economic Theory Meetings; Game Theory Society World Congress; Logic and the Foundations of Game and Decision Theory Conference; Econometric Society North American Summer Meetings; Midwest Economic Theory Meetings; Canadian Economic Theory Conference.

2007: Université de Montréal; Arne Ryde Symposium on Communication in Games and Experiments; Penn State; University of Rochester; University of Minnesota; Princeton University; University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; University of British Columbia.

2005: Econometric Society World Congress; Theoretical Aspects of Rationality and Knowledge Conference; Conference on Deliberation and Collective Choice (Northwestern University)

## Department Service

Undergraduate Program Director, Department of Economics, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Sept 2021-Present

Associate Chair, Department of Economics, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Sept 2020- Aug 2021

Honors Program Director, Department of Economics, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Sept 2019-Present

## Teaching

### University of Massachusetts Amherst

Economics and Ethics 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024

Economics of Risk and Uncertainty 2019

Honors Thesis Seminar, 2017-2018, 2018-2019, 2019-2020, 2021-2022

Game Theory (Graduate Class), 2018, 2020

Honors Game Theory (Undergraduate Class) 2023

Game Theory (Undergraduate Class) 2024

Mathematical Methods in Economics (Graduate Class) 2020

### University of California, San Diego

Microeconomics, Part A, 2016.

Microeconomics, Part B, 2015-2017.

Microeconomics Principles, 2017.

Operations Research, 2016.

Decisions Under Uncertainty, 2016.

### University of Minnesota

Noncooperative Game Theory (Graduate Class), 2007, 2009, 2014, 2015.  
Game Theory and Applications (Honors Undergraduate Class), 2007-2015.  
Freshman Seminar: Strategic Thinking and Social Interaction, 2008-2015.

**Advising** (at the University of Minnesota)

Jose Garces Ceballos, Dissertation Committee Member  
Se Ho Kwak, Dissertation Committee Member  
Weikai Chen, Dissertation Committee Member (Graduated 2020).  
Murat Ali Cengelci, Dissertation Committee Member (Graduated 2013).  
Cristoph Mueller, Dissertation Committee Member (Graduated 2010).  
Evsen Turkey, Dissertation Committee Member (Graduated 2009).  
Nathan Gutt (Philosophy), Non-Departmental Dissertation Proposal Committee Member.  
James Cooper, Advisor for Undergraduate Honors Thesis on “Banzhaf Power with Correlated Preferences”, 2014.  
Anton Okhrimchuk, Advisor for Undergraduate Honors Thesis on “Game Theoretic Analysis of Economic Sanctions”, 2014.  
Dillon Dropik, Advisor for Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP) project on “Internet Auctions”, 2009.  
Dimitriy Rozenblat, Advisor for Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP) project on “Voting Power and the Elimination of the Electoral College”, 2014.

**Professional Service**

Referee for ACM Transactions of Economics and Computation, American Economic Journal: Microeconomics, American Economic Review, American Economic Review: Insights, B. E. Journal of Theoretical Economics, Canadian Journal of Economic Theory, Econometrica, Economic Modelling, Economic Theory, Economics Letters, Economics and Philosophy, Ethical Theory and Moral Practice, Ethics, European Journal of the History of Economic Thought, Feminist Economics, Games and Economic Behavior, International Journal of Game Theory, International Journal of Industrial Organization, Journal of Applied Philosophy, Journal of Dynamics and Games, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Journal of Economic Theory, Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy, Journal of the European Economic Association, Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization, Journal of Political Economy, Journal of Political Economy Microeconomics, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Theoretical Politics, Management Science, Mathematical Social Sciences, Mathematics of Operations Research, Mind, National Science Foundation, *Œconomia*, Politics, Philosophy, and Economics, Public Choice, Review of Economic Design, The Review of Economic Studies, Review of Economics and Statistics, The Scandinavian Journal of Economics, Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Social Choice and Welfare, Swiss National Science Foundation, Theoretical Economics, Theory and Decision.