

KEHINDE ELIZABETH OJO

Saint Leonard, MD 20685 | Kehinde.ojo@morgan.edu | +1 (850)-345-7727

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Applied Economics

August 2018 - August 2022

University of Georgia (UGA), Athens, Georgia, USA

Concentration: Environmental and Natural Resource Economics

MS Food and Resource Economics

August 2016 – August 2018

University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, USA

BS Agricultural and Resource Economics

November 2011 – August 2016

Federal University of Technology, Akure, Ondo State, Nigeria

Exchange Student, Agribusiness

August 2015 – April 2016

Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, Tallahassee, Florida USA

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Environmental and Natural Resource Economics, Non-market Valuation, Outdoor Recreation, Development Economics, and Agricultural Economics.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Senior Research Economist, Morgan State University.

June 2024 – Present

Patuxent Environmental & Aquatic Research Laboratory

- Research focuses on environmental economics and behavioral economics involving survey development, analysis of access to blue/green spaces among underserved communities, recreational behavioral research on blue catfish in Chesapeake Bay, understanding consumer benefits of controlling Harmful Algal Blooms in freshwater, lakes, and reservoirs, and understanding consumer preferences for salmon purchases.

Key accomplishments

- Supported grant proposal submission as Senior Personnel, wrote the consumer behavior portion of NIH grant titled “Coastal Microplastic Pollution: Human Exposure, Health Impacts and Consumer Behavior”, with funding totals \$2 million, which is currently under review.
- Wrote grant proposal as Senior Personnel on “Assessing Community Perspectives and Benefits Relating to the Masonville Cove Connector” with a grant total of \$221,000, which is funded.
- Supported writing a governmental technical report on a public survey to identify a quantitative and qualitative trash threshold for recreation in rivers and streams.
- Mentors two research associates, an economist, and an environmental policy master graduate.
- Mentors two undergraduate interns and an MBA student on research that focused on examining consumer preference for salmon purchase in the United States
- Co-advises Bioenvironmental Science PhD student whose research primarily centers on environmental justice and access to coastal urban green spaces in Baltimore.
- Leading the project on “Determining Recreational Angler Spending Related to the Recreational Harvest Fishery for Blue Catfish”.

Postdoctoral Research Associate, Morgan State University.

July 2022 – May 2024

Environmental Economics Researcher at Patuxent Environmental & Aquatic Research Laboratory

- Research focuses on assessing individual preferences and economic valuation of coastal urban green spaces among underserved communities in Baltimore City. Analyzed impacts of environmental justice information on individual economic value for coastal urban green spaces.
- Evaluated the economic impact assessment of offshore wind energy on ocean fisheries stakeholders.

Key accomplishments

- Supported grant writing as a CO-PI and secured \$500,000 for Maryland Sea Grant Research titled “Bluespace Collaborative Research for Urban Coastal Access and Climate Resilience in South Baltimore”. It is research that focuses on environmental justice and access to urban coastal blue/green spaces.

- Led two projects funded by the Maryland Port Administration and Maryland Department of Natural Resources from start to finish and submitted technical government reports to enact policy related to coastal urban green space in Baltimore and offshore wind farms' impact on commercial fisheries in Maryland
- Mentored PhD student in Bioenvironmental Sciences who graduated in Fall 2024 with PhD dissertation titled "Human Dimensions of Sika Deer Management".

Graduate Research Assistant, University of Georgia.

August 2018 –August 2022

Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics

- Research focused on behaviors and attitudes towards travel and recreation, health, and well-being in times of COVID-19

Key accomplishments

- Wrote a three-essay dissertation; the first essay discussed a model to explain recreational travel behavior during COVID-19 using survey data; in the second essay, a model to test the impacts of subjective norms on recreational demand model was developed; and in the third essay, the economic impact analysis of canceled recreational and leisure travels on the state of Georgia economy was assessed. One essay has been published while other two are in the pipeline for publication.

Graduate Research Assistant, University of Florida.

August 2016 – June 2018

Department of Food and Resource Economics

- Research focused on international development economics, specifically the cost and competitiveness of milk production in Nepal and Rwanda.

Key accomplishments

- Traveled to Nepal and Rwanda in the summer of 2017 to conduct stakeholder meetings to gather information on the cost and competitiveness of milk production in Nepal and Rwanda
- Wrote master thesis on the cost and competitiveness of Nepal's milk production, published in a peer-reviewed journal, and presented at two scientific conferences.
- Wrote a blog post competition with the winner announced and recognized at World Food Day 2018. I emerged as one of the top 10 finalists among 39 students representing 34 universities in 14 countries on five continents

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Morgan State University

Guest Lecturer, Coastal Science and Policy

November 2024

Course: Introduction to Coastal Science and Policy, Fall 2024

- Served as a Guest Lecturer (online) for two sections of the freshman class, one focusing on social science aspects of coastal recreation. The other section focused on coastal sustainability.

University of Georgia

Teaching Assistant, African Studies Institute UGA

June 2019 – July 2022

Course: Introduction to Africa, AFST 2100E, Summer 2019, Summer 2020, Summer 2021, Summer 2022

- Taught undergraduate summer asynchronous class, which provides a general introduction to the field of African Studies. An aspect of the class covers environmental, agricultural, and economic development in the context of Africa. I taught a class size of 120 students in 2019 and 2021 and 80 students in 2020 and 2022.
- Served as a lead teaching assistant (TA), coordinating other TAs and revised course materials each summer.
- Coordinated all class activities from the start to the end of each semester, including daily email correspondences and keeping track of class progress and deadlines.
- Graded weekly summaries and essays and computed students' final grades.

Guest Lecturer, Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources UGA

February 2022

Course: Community Tourism: Impacts, Planning and Management, PRTM 5700/7700, Spring 2022.

- Taught in-person graduate students in the class section that focused on quantitative measurement of tourism's social impacts and the quantitative methods used in tourism.

Teaching Assistant, Agricultural and Applied Economics Department UGA

August 2020 – December 2020

Course: Applied International Development Economics, AAEC/ENVM 4720, Fall 2020

- Taught 40 undergraduate students in a synchronous teaching format, proctored and graded quizzes, assignments, exams, and class projects. Held office hours to address students' questions about class materials

- Proctored and graded the five exams and twenty-three quizzes taken by the students in this class. Provided helpful insights on a topic spanning natural resource management in developing countries and moderated a participatory class discussion.

Varsity Tutors

Tutor, Applied Economics Classes

January 2021 – April 2023

- Taught varieties of applied economics classes to both undergraduate and graduate students in the Spring of 2021, Fall 2022, and Spring 2023

JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

Ojo, K. E., Ferreira, S., Salazar, J., Bergstrom, J., & Woosnam, K. M. (2023). Recreational travel behavior and COVID-19: Insights from expected utility and the theory of planned behavior. *Tourism Economics*, 29(3), 643-663.

Ojo, K. E., VanSickle, J. J., & Thapa, B. (2022). Nepal's Sacred Cattle: Profitability Analysis and Policy Implications. *Asian Journal of Agriculture and Development*, 19(1362-2022-710), 61-76.

GOVERNMENT TECHNICAL REPORTS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Scott Knoche, Kaitlynn Ritchie, Emily Hoyt, and **Kehinde Ojo** (March 2025). Public survey to identify a quantitative and qualitative trash threshold for recreation in rivers and streams. *Maryland Department of the Environment and District of Columbia Department of Energy and Environment*.

Kehinde Ojo, Scott Knoche, and Kaitlynn Ritchie (December 2024). Valuing Coastal Urban Green Spaces and Masonville Cove Urban Wildlife Refuge. *Maryland Port Administration*.

Kehinde Ojo, Kaitlynn Ritchie, and Scott Knoche (August 2024). Baseline Profiles of Maryland Ocean Fisheries – Revised and Updated. *Maryland Department of Natural Resources*.

Kehinde Ojo, Kaitlynn Ritchie, and Scott Knoche (June 2023). Baseline Profiles of Maryland Ocean Fisheries. *Maryland Department of Natural Resources*.

Kehinde Ojo (2018). Nepal's Cattle Slaughter Ban: Impacts on Dairy Producers' Profit. [AGRILINKS](#)

WORKING PAPERS

Ojo, K. E., Ferreira, S., Salazar, J., Bergstrom, J., & Woosnam, K. M. Augmenting recreational demand models with subjective norms. (Targeted journal - *Tourism Management*)

Ojo, K. E., Ferreira, S., Salazar, J., Bergstrom, J., & Woosnam, K. M. Economic impact analysis of COVID-19 on the State of Georgia economy: A perspective from canceled recreational trips. (Targeted journal - *Journal of Southern Agricultural Economics*)

Kehinde Ojo, Scott Knoche, and Kaitlynn Ritchie. Valuing Coastal Urban Greenspaces Located in Underserved Communities. (Targeted Journal: *Ecological Economics*)

WORK IN PROGRESS

Economics Valuation of Freshwater Lakes and Reservoirs Experiencing Harmful Algal Blooms

Determine recreational angler spending related to the recreational harvest fishery for blue catfish.

Market Research and Economic Analysis of Recirculating Aquaculture System Salmon – Examining Grocery Salmon Purchases using Household and Retail Scanner Data

RESEARCH GRANTS

Funded and Ongoing

Maryland Sea Grant “Baltimore BLUE-CORE – BLUEspace Collaborative REsearch for Urban Coastal Access and Climate Resilience in South Baltimore.” (February 2024 – January 2027). Co-PI (\$500,000) – *Funded*

US Army Corp of Engineers (USACE). “Economics Valuation of Freshwater Lakes and Reservoirs Experiencing Harmful Algal Blooms.” (September 2023 – September 2026). Senior Personnel (Sub-Award \$127,511) - *Funded*

Maryland Department of Natural Resources. “Determining Recreational Angler Spending Related to the Recreational Harvest Fishery for Blue Catfish.” (September 2024 – December 2026). Senior Research Economist (\$75,000) – *Funded*

Maryland Port Administration. “Assessing Community Perspectives and Benefits Relating to the Masonville Cove Connector”. (July 2024 – June 2026). (\$221,029) Senior Research Economist – *Funded*

Under Review

National Institutes of Health (NIH). “Coastal Microplastic Pollution: Human Exposure, Health Impact, and Consumer Behavior” (July 2025 – June 2029). Senior Research Economist (\$2 million) – *Under Review*

Not Funded

National Science Foundation Analytics for Equity. “Examining the potential equity implications of exposure to seafood contamination within the context of climate change.” January 2024 – September 2024. Co-PI (\$75,000). – *Not Funded*

HONORS AND AWARDS

Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, University of Georgia	February 2022
1st Place Contest Winner, 3-Minute Thesis Presentation, Region II MANRRS Regional Conference	October 2021
3rd Place Contest Winner, Graduate Oral Research Division II MANRRS National Conference	April 2021
Finalist, AGRILINKS Young Scholar Food Security Blog Contest.	October 2018
Recipient, Int’l Honorary Awards for Leader in University Communities, University of Florida	May 2018
Recipient, Food and Resource Economics, University of Florida, SAEA Travel grant	February 2018
Recipient, Mr. and Mrs. John V. D’Albora, Jr. Scholarship in Honor of J. Wayne Reitz \$500	May 2017
Recipient Adopt your student scholarship \$300	November 2014
Recipient, Ekiti State Student Bursary \$70	July 2014

PRESENTATIONS

Kehinde Ojo, Scott Knoche, and Kaitlynn Ritchie (2024). Valuing Coastal Urban Greenspaces Located in Underserved Communities. *Northeastern Agricultural and Resource Economics Association (NAREA) Conference* June 2024. Rehoboth Beach Delaware.

Kehinde Ojo (2022). Assessing welfare effects of canceled and postponed recreation trips due to COVID-19 on Georgia State Visitors. *Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Science (MANRRS) 36th Annual National Conference*, March 23-26, 2022. Jacksonville Florida.

Ojo, Kehinde E.; Ferreira, Susana; Salazar, John; and Bergstrom, John, “Travel Behavior in the United States Amidst COVID-19” (2021). *Travel and Tourism Research Association: Advancing Tourism Research Globally*. 62.

Kehinde Ojo (2021). Nepal’s Cattle Slaughter Ban: Impacts on Dairy Producers’ Profit. *Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Science (MANRRS) Virtual 35th Annual National Conference*, April 6-10, 2021.

Kehinde Ojo and John VanSickle. “Cost of Production and Competitiveness for Production of Milk in Nepal.” *Southern Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meetings*, Jacksonville, Florida, February 3-6, 2018.

SERVICES

Professional Service

Reviewer

Journals: Leisure Sciences, Environmental and Resource Economics, Fisheries Management and Ecology

Conferences: Association of Environmental and Resource Economics Summer Meetings 2023, Northeastern Agricultural and Resources Economics Association Summer Meetings 2025

University Service

Volunteer, Environmental Education Outreaches, Morgan State University	September 2022 – October 2022
Student Feedback Committee Chair, International Student Advisory Board (ISAB), UGA	May 2021 – May 2022
COVID-19 Vaccine Ambassador, UGA	June 2021 – December 2021

Other Services

Conference Chair, MANRRS UGA Chapter	August 2020 – May 2021
Co-founder & Treasurer, African Graduate Students Forum (AGSF) at UGA	October 2020 – May 2021
Tanglewood Village Mayor, Graduate and Family Housing University of Florida,	August 2017 – July 2018

Advising and mentoring at Morgan State University

Dissertation Co-advisor

Kristen Jones (PhD 2027, Bioenvironmental Science)

Mentoring

Alberta Adegbe (MBA 2026)
 Abubakar Ringim (PhD 2024, Bioenvironmental Science):
 Dissertation topic: Human Dimension of Sika Deer Management

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Member, Northeastern Agricultural and Resource Economics Association (NAREA)	June 2023 – present
Member, American Economic Association (AEA)	October 2021 - present
Member, Travel and Tourism Research Association (TTRA)	February 2021 – present
Member, Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA)	January 2021 – present
Member, Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Science, UGA Chapter	Sept. 2018 – August 2022

OTHER RELEVANT SKILLS

Computer

Experience in Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access), STATA, R, Python, ArcGIS, Simetar, IMPLAN, SQL, PowerBI, and Latex Beamer.

Language

English (proficient) and Yoruba (native)

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

Graduate Student Assistant , J. W. Fanning Institute for Leadership Development, UGA.	June – July 2019
Program Assistant for the Mandela-Washington Fellowship – Young African Leaders Initiative	
Program Assistant , Center for African Studies, University of Florida.	May 2018 – July 2018
African Flagship Languages Initiatives (AFLI) Summer program	
Student Research Assistant , Florida A&M University.	June - August 2016
Center for Biological Control	
Intern , Olatunde International (Cocoa Exporting Firm in Nigeria).	June-August 2015

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Campus Kitchen, UGA	July 2019
Athens Area Homeless Shelter	March 2019
University of Florida, Graduate and Family Housing	
Facilitator, Annual Spring fling festival	March 2017
Tanglewood Village Community Garden Volunteer, University of Florida	February 2017 – July 2018
College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, Gator Encounter	April 2017
Farm Fest Volunteer, Florida A&M University	
College of Agriculture and Food Sciences	July 2016
Private Tutor, Tallahassee Community College Student	January 2016 – March 2016

Last Updated March 2025