

Sharon Tennyson

Web Bio

Information

Biography

Biographical Statement

Sharon Tennyson is a Professor at Cornell University in the Department of Policy Analysis and Management and Director of the Cornell Institute for Public Affairs (CIPA). She is also the Editor of the Journal of Consumer Affairs. Her research focuses on the impact of laws and of government regulation on insurance firms, consumers and markets; the organization of insurance markets; consumer behavior in insurance transactions; and consumer protection regulation in insurance and other financial services industries. Her work has been published in economics, insurance, law and finance journals and in prestigious edited collections, and she is a frequent speaker in academic and public policy venues. Dr. Tennyson is a former President of the Risk Theory Society and previously served on the faculty of the Department of Insurance and Risk Management at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. She holds a Ph.D. in economics from Northwestern University.

Teaching

Professional

Current Professional Activities

Dr. Tennyson's current activities are centered on consumer behavior and consumer protections in retail financial markets, especially insurance markets. She is the Editor for [Journal of Consumer Affairs](#) and serves on the editorial boards of Journal of Risk and Insurance, Journal of Insurance Regulation, and Insurance Markets and Companies: Analyses and Actuarial Computations. She is a Senior Research Fellow at Networks Financial Institute.

Research

Current Research Activities

The design and impact of consumer protection regulations in insurance, credit and other markets; consumers' insurance decisions; insurance bad faith liability; automobile insurance systems; consumers' use of information in insurance and prescription drug markets.

Extension

Education

Education

Ph.D., Economics, Northwestern University

B.A., Economics, UCLA

Courses

Courses Taught

PAM 3400 - Economics of Consumer Policy

PAM 3410 - Economics of Consumer Law and Protection

PAM 3440 - Regulating Financial Institutions

PAM 3240 - Risk Management and Policy

PAM 6350 - Consumers, Information and Regulatory Policy

Websites

Related Websites

[Cornell Institute for Public Affairs](#)

[Journal of Consumer Affairs](#)

Administration

Administrative Responsibilities

Dr. Tennyson is Director of the Cornell Institute for Public Affairs (CIPA), which offers a 2-year Master of Public Administration (MPA) degree.

Publications

Selected Publications

“The Development and Regulation of China’s Insurance Market: History and Perspectives,” with Bingzheng Chen, Maoqi Wang and Haizhen Zhou, *Risk Management and Insurance Review* 17(2) Fall 2014: 241-263. [[paper](#)]

“The Role of Life Experience in Long Term Care Insurance Decisions,” with HaeKyung Yang, *Journal of Economic Psychology* 42 June 2014: 175-188. [[paper](#)]

“Does the Threat of Insurer Liability for “Bad Faith” Affect Insurance Settlements?” with Danial P. Asmat, *Journal of Risk and Insurance* 81(1) March 2014: 1-23. [[paper](#)]

“The Influence of FDA Advisory Information and Black Box Warnings on Individual Use of Prescription Antidepressants,” with Kristy Parkinson, Joseph Price and Kosali Simon, *Review of Economics of the Household* 12(4) December 2014: 771-790. [[paper](#)]

“The Effect of Prescription Drug Withdrawals on the Use of Competitor Drugs: The Case of Vioxx,” with J. Michael Collins and Kosali Simon, *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization* 86(1) February 2013: 148-168.

“Insurance Distribution,” with James I. Hilliard and Laureen Regan, chapter 23 in *Handbook of Insurance* 2nd edition, Georges Dionne, editor. Springer 2013.

“The Effects of Expanding Property Rights on Women’s Economic Activity,” with R. Richard Geddes and Dean Lueck, *Journal of Law and Economics* 55(4) November 2012: 839-867.

“Challenges and Approaches to Consumer Protection in the Insurance Industry,” in *The Fundamentals of Future Insurance Regulation and Supervision: A Global Perspective*, Patrick M. Liedtke and Jan Monkiewicz, editors. Palgrave MacMillon, 2011.

“The Impact of Rate Regulation on Claims: Evidence from Massachusetts Automobile Insurance,” with Richard A. Derrig, *Risk Management and Insurance Review* 14(2) Fall 2011: 173-200.

“Incentive Effects of Community Rating in Insurance Markets: Evidence from Massachusetts Automobile Insurance,” *Geneva Risk and Insurance Review* 35(1) June 2010: 19-46 .

“The Law and Economics of First Party Insurance Bad Faith Liability,” with William J. Warfel, *Connecticut Insurance Law Journal* 16(1) 2009-2010: 203-242.

“Do State Cost Control Policies Reduce Medicaid Prescription Drug Spending?” with Kosali I. Simon and Julie Hudman, *Risk Management and Insurance Review* 12(1) Winter 2009: 37-64.