

Mei Cheng

Professor of Accounting

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Research Interests

Capital markets and their relation to accounting information, with particular interests in disclosures and related economic consequences; market intermediaries, including analysts, credit rating agencies, banks and underwriters.

Academic Appointments

Eller College of Management, University of Arizona Full Professor	August 2025 to present
Eller College of Management, University of Arizona Associate Professor	August 2013 to present
Eller College of Management, University of Arizona Assistant Professor	August 2006 to July 2013

Education

Ph.D. in Accounting University of Southern California	2001-2006
Bachelor in Accounting Tsinghua University	1997-2001

Publications

Cheng, M., P. Michas., and M. Zhao°. 2024. The responses of non-switching audit clients to auditor office reputation damage. *Auditing, a Journal of Practice and Theory*, October
<https://doi.org/10.2308/AJPT-2023-048>

Cheng, M. and E. Zhang. 2024. The Impact of Short-selling Threats on Credit Rating Performance and Usage: Evidence from a Natural Experiment. *Journal of Business, Finance and Accounting*, May <https://doi.org/10.1111/jbfa.12807>

Cheng, M., Zhang, Y. and Zhao, M. ° 2024. The role of equity underwriters in shaping corporate disclosure. *Review of Accounting Studies* January <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11142-023-09817-1>

Cheng, M., and Y. Zhang. 2023. Corporate stakeholders and CEO-worker pay gap: evidence from CEO pay ratio disclosure. *Review of Accounting Studies*. August. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11142-023-09803-7>

Cheng, M., J. Jaggi., and S. Young °. 2022. Customer concentration of targets in mergers and acquisitions. *Journal of Business Finance & Accounting*, 49(7–8): 1314–1355. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jbfa.12587>

Cheng, M., L.D. Hodder., and J. Watkins. 2021. Usefulness of interest income sensitivity disclosures. *The Accounting Review*, 96(1), 117–146. <https://doi.org/10.2308/tar-2017-0072>

Bens, D., M. Cheng, and M. Neamtiu. 2016. The impact of SEC disclosure monitoring on the uncertainty of fair value estimates. *The Accounting Review* 91 (2): 349-375. <https://doi.org/10.2308/accr-51248>

Cheng, M., D. Dhaliwal, and Y. Zhang. 2013. Does investment efficiency improve after the disclosure of material weaknesses in internal control over financial reporting? *Journal of Accounting and Economics* 56 (1): 1–18. (lead article) <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jacceco.2013.03.001>

Cheng, M., D. S. Dhaliwal, and M. Neamtiu. 2011. Asset securitization, securitization recourse, and information uncertainty. *The Accounting Review* 86 (2): 541–568. <https://doi.org/10.2308/accr.00000020>

Cheng, M. and M. Neamtiu. 2009. An empirical analysis of changes in credit rating properties: Timeliness, accuracy and volatility. *Journal of Accounting & Economics* 47 (1): 108–30. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jacceco.2008.11.001>

Cheng, M. and K.R. Subramanyam. 2008. Analyst following and credit ratings. *Contemporary Accounting Research*, 25: 1007-1044. <https://doi.org/10.1506/car.25.4.3>

Working Papers (active)

“Social capital and Labor Cost Stickiness in Nonprofit Organizations: Evidence from Credit Unions” (with Curtis Hall and Yifan Wang), Under review at *Contemporary Accounting Research*

“Do firms strategically plan consecutive information events? the case of earnings press releases and conference calls?” (with J. Kang° and Y. Zhang), Preparing for submission

“Do Firms Strategically Plan Sequential Information Events? The Case of Earnings Releases and Earnings Calls” (with Yuan Zhang and Meiling Zhao), Preparing for submission

Working Papers (inactive)

“Connected auditors and bank loan spreads” (with L. Cheng, D. Dhaliwal and S. Kaplan)

“Bank auditor connection, accountability, and audit quality” (with L. Cheng, D. Dhaliwal and S. Kaplan)

“Banks’ accounting conservatism and credit rating differences” (with L. Cheng and S. Bonsall)

“Earnings smoothing and future cash flow volatility” (with L. Li)

“Earnings guidance and managerial myopia” (with K.R. Subramanyam and Y. Zhang)

“Analyst quality, institutional investors, and the post-earnings-announcement drift” (with T. Goodman and O. Li)

*“Probability of meeting/beating analysts’ forecasts and market reaction to earnings announcements” (*Thesis*)

“State laws and accrual quality” (with S. Mansi and J. Wald)

Works in Progress

“Employee stock option plan in the audit firm and audit quality” (with Preeti Choudhary and Tao Peng^o)

“Determinants and consequences of firms’ cybersecurity risk management and governance” (with Monica Neamtiu and Yifan Wang^o)

“ChatGPT vs. In house AI: the cases for financial analysts” (with Yuan Zhang and Meiling Zhao)

Teaching Experience

PhD Seminar in Financial Accounting (PhD), Spring 2024, Spring 2025

Financial Statement Analysis (Undergrad), Spring 2007-2014, Fall 2015-2020, Spring 2023-2026

Accounting Institution and Theory (Master), Spring 2013-2014, Fall 2014-2018, Fall 2020-2021, Spring 2022-2023

Introduction to Management Accounting (Undergrad), Spring 2004

Financial Accounting Concepts (Undergrad), Fall 2003

Honors and Awards

The Dean's Research Impact Award for Associate Professors at Eller 2024

DRSOA Master Program Most Valuable Faculty Award Tenure Track 2023

Eller Dean's Fellowship, 2015-2023

Eller Research Fellowship, 2013-2014

PricewaterhouseCoopers Xtreme Games Case Competition Faculty Mentor for the Winning Team, 2009

Doctoral Fellowship, Marshall School of Business, 2001-2005

PricewaterhouseCoopers/Long Tao Scholarship, 2000

Federal Express Scholarship, 1999

Other Work Experience

June 2000- August 2000 Summer Intern, Arthur Andersen Hua Qiang Certified Public Accountants, Tax, Legal and Business Division, Beijing

Paper Presentations and Discussions

2024	2024 Haskayne and Fox Accounting Conference
2024	AAA 2024 FARS meeting
2023	2023 Haskayne and Fox Accounting Conference
2021	AAA2021 annual meeting
2020	Hawaii Accounting Research Conference
2019	AAA 2019 FARS meeting, 2019 Western Region Meeting
2019	Hawaii Accounting Research Conference
2017	AAA 2017 FARS meeting
2015	Tsinghua University, Beijing University, The University of Hong Kong, AAA 2015 annual meeting
2014	AAA 2014 annual meeting, AAA 2014 FARS meeting
2013	University of Southern California 2013 Alumni Ph.D. Symposium,
2012	National University of Singapore, Tsinghua University, AAA 2012 FARS meeting
2011	University of Illinois at Chicago, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, AAA 2011 annual meeting
2009	CAPANA 2009 Annual Conference, AAA 2009 FARS meeting
2008	University of Southern California 2008 Alumni Ph.D. Symposium, Oregon State

2007	University, AAA 2008 FARS meeting, AAA 2008 annual meeting, 2007 <i>Journal of Accounting & Economics</i> Conference
2006	2006 Financial Economics and Accounting Conference, AAA 2006 annual meeting
2005	University of Toronto, University of Georgia, University of Arizona AAA 2005 FARS meeting

Invited Conference

2024	2024 Trueblood Case Seminar, Deloitte University
2023	2023 Review of Accounting Studies Conference (Virtual)
2022	2022 Review of Accounting Studies Conference (Virtual)
2022	2022 Contemporary Accounting Research Conference (Virtual)
2015	Tsinghua International Corporate Governance Conference
2014	2014 Contemporary Accounting Research Conference
2012	2012 Contemporary Accounting Research Conference
2008	2008 AAA/Robert M. Trueblood Seminars, PricewaterhouseCoopers University Conference
2007	2007 American Accounting Association New Faculty Consortium, 2007 <i>Journal of Accounting & Economics</i> Conference, 2007 Wakonse– Arizona Teaching Conference
2005	2005 PAC 10 Doctoral Consortium
2004	2004 PAC 10 Doctoral Consortium

Press Citation of Research

Harvard Law School Forum on Corporate Governance, September 6, 2023

The CLS Blue Sky Blog: Columbia Law School's Blog on Corporations and the Capital Markets, September 22, 2015

U.S. Chamber of Commerce Report, March 2007, “Commission on the Regulation of U.S. Capital Markets in the 21st Century - Report and Recommendations”

The Economist, April 27, 2006, "The Sound of Silence"

Research Advising Activities

Dissertation co-chair

Shoaib Shirazi (Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University) 2023

Dissertation committee member

Jinseo Kang 2026

Aditi Khatri (Cornerstone) 2023

Meiling Zhao (Chinese University of Hong Kong) 2022

Spencer Young (University of Oklahoma) 2020

Remington Curtis (Binghamton University) 2018

Summer project advisor

Xinxuan Li (Accounting) 2023

Honors thesis advisor

Sydelle Harrison (Accounting) 2017

Professional Memberships and Certification

Member: American Accounting Association
Certified General Accountant of Canada

Ad hoc reviewer: *The Accounting Review*
Journal of Accounting & Economics
Contemporary Accounting Research
Review of Accounting Studies
Management Science
Accounting Horizon
Journal of Accounting Auditing and Finance
Journal of Accounting and Public Policy
Managerial Auditing Journal
Management Accounting Research
Journal of International Money and Finance
Journal of Business Finance & Accounting
Journal of Corporate Finance
Review of Quantitative Finance and Accounting
The Financial Review
European Accounting Review
American Accounting Association Annual Conference, 2008-2011
Canadian Accounting Association Annual Conference, 2010
Financial Accounting & Reporting Section Mid-Year Meeting, 2009, 2011-2015 2024
Management Accounting Section Mid-Year Meeting 2024
CAPANA Conference 2010, 2015, 2017
MIT Asian Conference 2015
Hong Kong Government RGC Grant 2013 2017

Service

National Committee

American accounting association annual meeting section liaison 2014

College Committees

Eller College Faculty Status Committee 2025
Eller College Career Track Promotion Review Committee 2025
Eller quantitative requirement task force 2025
Eller McGuire center chair searching committee 2024
Eller college undergraduate studies committee 2021-2022
Eller college advisory committee 2013-2015
College student assessment representative committee 2012

Departmental Committees

Dhaliwal-Reidy school of accountancy recruiting committee (chair) 2025-2026

Dhaliwal-Reidy school of accountancy performance and evaluation committee 2013-2020, 2024

Dhaliwal-Reidy school of accountancy PhD. committee 2016 2021-2025

Faculty mentors of the accounting undergraduate students 2015-2024

Dhaliwal-Reidy school of accountancy promotion and tenure committee 2013-2019, 2023

Dhaliwal-Reidy school of accountancy recruiting committee 2017 2022

Faculty advisors of the PWC Case competition 2012-2019

Finance department performance and evaluation committee 2016