

Gabe R. Lara

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Environmental Economics, Penn State University	2024
M.S. Applied Economics, Johns Hopkins University	2017
B.S. Economics, Penn State University	2011
B.A. Intl. Politics, Penn State University	2011

PROFESSIONAL
EXPERIENCE

Senior Principal Scientist (Natural Resource Economist) July 2025 - Present
Hollywood, FL

- Perform benefit-cost analyses, input-output modeling, and willingness-to-pay studies to evaluate the value and feasibility of natural resource and water infrastructure projects.
- Collaborate with engineers and scientists to develop cost-effective, evidence-based solutions for challenges related to restoration, utility finance, and asset management.
- Lead and contribute to research, professional development, and strategic marketing initiatives within Hazen’s Financial and Economic Services Group.

**Academic Specialist: Public Health
and Drinking Water Equity (Postdoctoral Researcher)** 2024 - 2025
Advisor: Dr. Maura Allaire
Arizona State University (Visiting Scholar)
Univeristy of California, Irvine (Postdoctoral Researcher)
Tempe, AZ

- Lead large-scale population health analyses using STATA and R, focusing on so-
ciodemographic disparities in health outcomes
- Design and implement longitudinal studies examining health inequities across diverse
demographic groups
- Develop reproducible research workflows for population-based studies using statisti-
cal programming
- Collaborate with interdisciplinary teams to analyze social determinants of health
outcomes

Project/Task Lead 2015 - 2025
Binera, Inc.
Rockville, MD

- Lead complex statistical analyses using STATA and R to evaluate population-level
impacts of environmental hazards
- Mentor junior analysts in quantitative research methods and statistical programming
- Design and implement data harmonization protocols for longitudinal demographic
and health datasets
- Present technical findings to diverse stakeholders, emphasizing equity considerations
and population impacts

Advisor: Dr. Daniel A. Brent, Penn State (EEFE)
University Park, PA

- Apply advanced statistical methods in STATA and R to analyze population-level impacts of environmental policies
- Collaborate on interdisciplinary research examining health disparities and demographic trends
- Mentor undergraduate researchers in quantitative analysis and research methodologies
- Design and implement reproducible research protocols for longitudinal data analysis

PUBLICATIONS

- Gabriel R. Lara, Daniel A. Brent, Allison Lassiter, Hui Tian, *Causal effects of urbanization and winter weather on salinity in the Delaware River Basin*, *Journal of Environmental Management*, Volume 391, 2025, 126288, ISSN 0301-4797, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jenvman.2025.126288>.

WORKING PAPERS

- *Birth Outcomes and Drinking Water Regulation: Evaluating the Impact of Arsenic Standards in California* (with Qi Bing, Jun Wun, and Maura Allaire; in preparation)
- *Peer effects in voluntary environmental policies: An application to urban water quality* (with Daniel A. Brent, Joseph Cook, and Douglas H. Wrenn; Pending Publication at JAERE)
- *Flood Risk in Historically Disadvantaged Communities* (in preparation)

GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 2023 Penn State Office of Student Activities:
Outstanding Organization Member
UCOWR\NIWR Annual Water Resources
Conference Mid Atlantic Region Winner
- 2020 Graduate Student Fellowship
- 2018 NASA Group Achievement Award, Human Architecture Team

WORKSHOPS AND PRESENTATIONS

- 2025 Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (AERE) Summer Conference (Presentation)
 - Western Economic Association International (WEAI) (Presentation)
 - 2024 American Geophysical Union (AGU) Fall Meeting (Presentation)
 - Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (AERE) Summer Conference (Poster)
 - Northeastern Agricultural and Resource Economics Association (NAREA) Annual Meeting & Workshop (Presentation)
 - Penn State Climate Solutions Symposium (Presentation)
 - Scripps Institution of Oceanography (SIO) Flood Workshop (Presentation)
 - 2023 UCOWR\NIWR Annual Water Resources Conference (Poster)
 - Penn State Climate Solutions Symposium (Poster)
 - 2022 8th Annual Conference on Environmental Politics & Governance (EPG) (Poster)
 - 2022 Berkeley/Sloan Summer School in Environmental and Energy Economics
 - 2021 Northeast Agricultural and Resource Economics Association (NAREA) 2021 Virtual Annual Meeting (Presentation)
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**RESEARCH
INTERESTS**

- Health Disparities and Social Determinants of Health
 - Population-Based Research Methods
 - Policy Analysis and Evaluation
 - Environmental Justice and Health Equity
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**PROFESSIONAL
ASSOCIATIONS**

- Diversity and Inclusion Committee Member, Northeast Agricultural and Resource Economics Association (NAREA)
- Member, Society for Benefit-Cost Analysis (SBCA)
- Member, American Economic Association (AEA)