

DR. YU-LUEN MA

Glen L. Taylor Professor of Insurance

BIOGRAPHY

Dr. Ma holds a Ph.D. degree in risk management and insurance and a master's degree in actuarial science from The University of Wisconsin-Madison. Prior to joining UNT, she served as a full professor at the Katie School of Insurance and Financial Services at Illinois State University. Dr. Ma has extensive research and teaching experience. She has taught risk management and insurance courses for over 18 years, received national recognition for teaching excellence, and was named one of the most prolific contributing authors in the leading risk management and insurance journals in 2014.

Dr. Ma's work appears in the Journal of Risk and Insurance, Geneva Papers on Risk and Insurance, Risk Management and Insurance Review and Journal of Insurance Regulation, among others. In addition to her extensive publication record, Dr. Ma has also been a frequent recipient of research awards and grants, including winning a highly competitive Federal grant worth \$300,000 in funding from the Federal Highway Administration.

Dr. Ma has taken leadership roles in several professional associations and assumed the role as a co-managing editor for the Journal of Insurance Issues. She is a member of American Risk and Insurance Association, Western Risk and Insurance Association, Southern Risk and Insurance Association and Asia Pacific Risk and Insurance Association.



DR. NAT POPE

Associate Professor of Risk Management and Insurance

BIOGRAPHY

Dr. Nat Pope earned his doctorate in risk management and insurance at the University of Wisconsin in 1999, where he met Yu-Luen Ma. The two married and have become a noted risk management and insurance team.

Dr. Pope joins UNT from the Katie School of Insurance and Financial Services at Illinois State University. Dr. Pope has previously held academic appointments at the University of New South Wales and Bradley University.

While broad ranging, Dr. Pope's research interests are frequently rooted in international insurance issues. Dr. Pope's record includes over 20 publications, including publications in the pre-eminent journals in the risk management and insurance discipline.

Dr. Pope is widely regarded as an excellent teacher and in 2016 won the Excellence in Teaching Award by the American Risk and Insurance Association (ARIA).

Despite having lived in 23 different locations, Dr. Pope considers himself a native of Wisconsin. He is an avid sports fan (and yes, he says he "cheer for the Packers"). Included in the many locations Dr. Pope have lived are Sydney, Tokyo, Boston, Fairbanks, and Chicago, among others. With a degree in art education, Dr. Pope has a keen interest in the visual arts

In 2017, Drs. Ma and Pope were appointed to three-year terms as the managing co-editors of the Journal of Insurance Issues. Drs. Pope and Ma bring the journal editorship to UNT, representing the first time the department and the College have housed a respected academic journal in the risk management and insurance discipline.



A circular portrait of Dr. Jianren Xu, a man with dark hair, wearing a dark suit jacket, white shirt, and a patterned tie. The background of the portrait is blurred.

DR. JIANREN XU

Assistant Professor of Risk Management and Insurance

BIOGRAPHY

Dr. Jianren Xu joins UNT from his position as an Assistant Professor of Finance in Mihaylo College of Business and Economics at California State University, Fullerton. Dr. Xu earned his Ph.D. with a major in Risk Management and Insurance (RMI) and a minor in Finance in 2014 from the University of Georgia.

Dr. Xu's research interests include corporate risk management, insurance markets, earnings management, and capital structure. He has published two articles in the *Journal of Risk and Insurance*.

Dr. Xu won Best Paper Awards from the Southwest Finance Association and the Western Risk and Insurance Association. He has also received several research grants and teaching awards. In addition, he has presented in dozens of academic conferences and invited seminars, and served as a referee for six peer-reviewed journals. He is now a board member at the Western Risk and Insurance Association.

Dr. Xu has taught principles of risk management and insurance, enterprise risk management, and financial management.

Prior to entering the academy, Dr. Xu worked in the insurance industry for three years as a risk analyst, underwriter and account consultant. He holds the designation of ARM (Associate in Risk Management) and has passed two actuarial exams: Exam P (Probability) and Exam FM (Financial Mathematics).

The new faculty members join other outstanding faculty members in the risk management and insurance program.