

# Yunru Barbara Lu

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## Education

### **Ph.D, Public Policy and Administration, *In Progress***

Joseph R. Biden, Jr. School of Public Policy and Administration  
University of Delaware  
Advisor: Dr. Jessica Sowa

### **MAS-GIS, Geographic Information Systems**

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
Arizona State University, August 2023

### **Master of Public Administration (Nonprofit Management)**

Watts College of Public Service and Community Solutions  
Arizona State University, May 2021

### **Bachelor of Arts in Business English**

Guangzhou College of Commerce, June 2018

## Publications

### *Under Review*

\*Agyare-Aggrey, B., \*Lu, Y., \*Strickland, L. M., & Barbieri, C. A. (Under review). *Perceptions of healthcare access and inequity among racial/ethnic groups during the COVID-19 pandemic*. Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, National Harbor, MD, USA. \* indicates equal contribution to authorship

## Honors, Fellowships, and Awards

Public Administration Theory Fellowship	2024
Maricopa County Leadership and Education Advancing Public Service Program	Spring 2023
Maricopa County Leadership and Education Advancing Public Service Program	Spring 2021

## Research Experience

### **Research Assistant, University of Delaware**

Joseph R. Biden, Jr. School of Public Policy and Administration  
Advisor: Dr. Jessica Sowa

Fall 2023 - Present

- Creating a comprehensive Delaware Nonprofit Database for future HRM research.

- Working on a research project on the Employee Engagement Survey in Vermont (*in progress*).

### **Research Assistant, Arizona State University**

**Geospatial Research and Solutions, Arizona State University** 2023

- Collected spatial data at the Boyce Thompson Arboretum.
- Analyzed and repaired auto-CAD files to create a new digital map for the arboretum.

**Watts College of Public Service and Community Solutions, Arizona State University** Spring, 2021

- Conducted research on Economic Development Strategic Planning and Benchmarks Evaluating Arizona Cities on behalf of Arizona State University and the Arizona Association for Economic Development (AAED).
- Provided valuable practical implications to participating cities and AAED for developing and evaluating future economic strategic plans.

## **Research Projects**

**Understanding the Impact of Socio-Economic Factors on Waste Generation Using Geographic Information Systems: Case Study in Tempe, Arizona** Summer, 2023

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Arizona State University

- Retrieved and sorted the U.S. Census data, performed SQL queries, and performed apportion analysis in ArcMap and ArcGIS Pro to find the waste generation pattern and demographic information in the City of Tempe.
- Created ESRI Story Map, Dashboard, and WebApp to deliver online interactive maps and maintained metadata for the dataset.
- The research project provided valuable insights into the relationship between solid waste generation and demographic patterns and practical implications for the City of Tempe's waste management team.

**Response to Request for Proposal to Public Arts in the City of Tempe** Fall, 2022

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Arizona State University

- Performed SQL queries, point density analysis, reclassify, raster to polygon analysis, and overlay analysis in ArcMap and ArcGIS Pro to find the three locations for new public arts installation in the City of Tempe.
- Created Webapp to deliver online interactive maps and maintained metadata for the dataset.
- Designed and created four maps to display the final suitable locations for public arts.

**Economic Development Strategic Planning and Benchmarks: An Evaluation of AZ Cities** Spring, 2021

Watts College of Public Service and Community Solutions, Arizona State University

- Conducted research on behalf of Arizona State University and the Arizona Association for Economic Development (AAED).
- Co-authored a capstone project assessing Economic Development strategic planning and benchmarks in Arizona cities and towns to inform best practices around strategic planning benchmarks and how to measure progress.
- Interviewed economic development staff from 20 cities to explore how they create and use strategic plans.
- Based on the findings, we provided practical recommendations to participating cities based on the findings to help improve their future strategic plans.

## Teaching Experience

**Teaching Assistant, Arizona State University** January 2020 – April 2023

Teaching Assistant, with Dr. Minhyu Kim, Prof. Tamara Shreeve, and Dr. Sarah Bryant, at ASU

- Assisted in teaching four different courses, PAF201 Economics and Public Policy, PAF300 Public Administration and Management, PAF311 Leadership and Change, PAF 400 Senior Capstone Project, and PAF507 Public Human Resources Management, leading to students' academic success and improving my teaching and communication skills.
- Assisted in grading assignments, course material preparation, tutoring, discussion board moderation, and emails.
- Responded to the instructors, followed their directions, and maintained regular communication.

## Professional Experiences

**Intern, Maricopa County Environmental Services Department** January 2023 - May 2023

- Created new layers for a new permitting system using ArcGIS Pro and ArcGIS online.
- Assessed, configured, and implemented a new permitting database system - MCPPermitting.
- Collected and sorted existing business and permitting data in Excel.

**Grants/Contracts Administrator, Maricopa County Public Health Department** August 2021 – June 2022

- Coordinated with staff and different departments to ensure the effective and efficient processing of agreements and contracts and the meeting of deadlines.
- Assisted with the planning and completing of federal and state funding applications to meet programs' financial needs.
- Supervised and delivered timely and successful execution of federal and state grant deliverables by coordinating and facilitating daily operational and planning activities.
- Developed, monitored, and led the implementation of agreements for formal approval with community partners, contractors, and funding providers.

**Finance and Budget Intern, Maricopa County Human Services Department** January 2021 - May 2021

- Researched financial and budget best practices with other County/State departments, emphasizing Health and Human Services, advancing my knowledge of finance and budget and communication skills.
- Aided in creating new financial templates, policies, and manual guides and helped the department transition to more efficient and effective grant tracking and efforts tracking systems.
- Reviewed and checked grant and procurement contracts and different vendor accounts.
- Researched federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations affecting budgeting in human services and human resources fields.

## Language

**Chinese** (Cantonese and Mandarin): Native Language      **English**: Advanced Listening, Reading, Speaking, and Writing

## Skills

Software: R, Stata, Python, SQL, ArcGIS Pro, ArcMap, and ESRI related products