

Serra Boranbay Akan

Tepper School of Business
Carnegie Mellon University
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EDUCATION

Department of Politics, Princeton University

Postdoctoral Research Associate, July 2010
Advisor: Adam Meirowitz

Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University

Ph.D. in Managerial Economics and Strategy, December 2009
Dissertation: *Essays on the Influence of Institutions on Decision Making*
Advisor: David Austen-Smith

Sabanci University, Istanbul, Turkey

B.A. *Valedictorian* in Mathematics and Economics, June 2003

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Associate Teaching Professor of Economics: 07/2024 – present
Carnegie Mellon University

Assistant Teaching Professor of Economics: 07/2020 – 06/2024
Carnegie Mellon University

Assistant Teaching Professor of Economics: 07/2017 – 06/2020
Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar

Visiting Associate Professor of Economics: 01/2016 – 05/2016
Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar

Visiting Assistant Professor of Economics: 01/2014 – 12/2016
Tepper School of Business, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh

Researcher, Political Economy of Reforms: 08/2010 – 12/2014
Collaborative Research Center, SFB 884, University of Mannheim

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Political Economy, Law and Economics, Microeconomics

TEACHING INTERESTS

Microeconomics, statistics, political economy, law and economics, public economics, industrial organization.
Focuses on comparative political institutions, non-market strategy, negotiation/conflict resolution, legislative politics, non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

PUBLICATIONS

Boranbay-Akan, Serra and Carmine Guerriero (2019) “Endogenous (In)formal Institutions” *Journal of Comparative Economics*. Volume 47, Issue 4, Pages 921-945. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jce.2019.07.004>.

Boranbay-Akan, Serra and Thomas König and Moritz Osnabrügge (2017) “The Imperfect Agenda Setter: The imperfect agenda-setter: Why do legislative proposals fail in the EU decision-making process?” *European Union Politics*. Vol 18. No. 2. pp. 168-187. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1465116516674338>

Huang, H., Boranbay-Akan, S., & Huang, L. (2016). “Media, Protest Diffusion, and Authoritarian Resilience”. *Political Science Research and Methods*, 1-20. <https://doi.org/10.1017/psrm.2016.25>

Boranbay, Serra and König, Thomas E. and Proksch, Sven-Oliver (2012) “A Strategic Model of Coalition Governance in Parliamentary Democracies”. *American Political Science Association (APSA) 2012 Annual Meeting Paper*. Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=2106492>

COMPLETED WORKING PAPERS

“Sequencing, Agenda Setting, and Voting in Budget Procedures” (2020)

“Time Constrained Plea Bargaining and Prosecutorial Risk Attitudes” (2018)

“Competitive Agenda Setting” (with Thomas Koenig) (2016)

STUDENT SUPERVISION

Undergraduate Student Supervision (at Carnegie Mellon)

70-501/70-502 Senior Honors Thesis Faculty Adviser

Sheil Patel (ECON’ 23) and Marissa Dones (ECON’ 23)

"Immigration Legislation: Accountability in Congressional Voting."

INFORMAL STUDENT MENTORING

Assisted students from other CMU Colleges to pursue Business Minors

2025-2026 Kayla Huang

2025-2026 Shreyan Deo

Mentored economics students in their graduate school applications

2025-2026 Robert Jin

2025-2026 Skyler Jin

2025-2026 Sarah Shu

2025-2026 Ilia Guillemin Laborne

2025-2026 Jessie Zhou

OTHER EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS (at Carnegie Mellon)

New Courses

73-104 Principles of Microeconomics Accelerated (Fall 2023)
(Designed, developed and taught)

Substantial revision

73-102 Principles of Microeconomics (Spring 2018)
(First time this course was taught at CMU-Q)

70-100 Global Business (Fall 2020)
(Revised the content and rigor to be in line with the core business courses)

73-497 Senior Project (Fall 2020)
(Developed new assessments to reinforce teamwork on projects)

73-497 Senior Project (Fall 2021)
(Executed three team projects for an industry sponsor)

Teaching as Research (TAR) project

73-348 Behavioral Economics (Fall 2019)
(Introduced and tested methods of concept maps and think-pair-share)

PRESENTATIONS

“Special Interest Politics”, Undergraduate Economics Club Research Seminar (April 2025)

“Spotlight Session: Using Teaching as Research to Inform Course Design” (February 2020) CMU-Qatar

Workshop in Social Protests and Political Influence, Barcelona (October 2013)

17th Annual Conference of The International Society for New Institutional Economics, Florence (June 2013)

Midwest Political Science Association, Annual Meeting, Chicago (April 2012)

The Political Economy of Reforms, Mannheim (December 2011)

ACLE Workshop, The Origins of Formal and Informal Institutions, Amsterdam (May 2011)

Department of Politics, Princeton University (April & May 2010)

American Law and Economics Association, Annual Meeting, San Diego (May 2009)

Managerial Economics and Decision Sciences, Northwestern University (October 2008)

SERVICE

Member, UG Economics Educational Affairs Committee (EEAC) (2023– present)

Member, Tepper Committee on Student Professionalism (2025– present)

Member, Effective Teaching at CMU Focus Group, Vice Provost for Faculty (March 2025)

Panelist, CMU's Incoming Faculty Orientation (IFO) (August 2025)

Member, Faculty Recruiting Committee for CMU-Q Business Program, Economics (2018, 2020)

Member, Faculty Recruiting Committee for CMU-Q Business Program, International Business (2019)

Member, Management Game Board. (2017-2019)

Internal Judge, CMU-Q Case Competition. (2017-2019)

Committee Judge, poster competition at CMU-Q's Meeting of the Minds (2017)

Organizer, 'Explore Your Major' break-out session for newly admitted students and their parents (2019)

Scientific/Professional Journals

Ad Hoc Referee for *Journal of Politics*, *European Union Politics*, and *Journal of Comparative Economics*.

CONSULTING

Member, *Qatar Research Development and Innovation Council* (2018 – 2019)