Nathan Atkinson

Updated: August 28, 2026

Contact Information

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Affiliations

University of Wisconsin Law School — 2021-Present
Assistant Professor and John W. Rowe Junior Faculty Fellow

ETH Zurich Center for Law & Economics
Research Affiliate — 2021-Present
Postdoctoral Scholar of Law, Business, and Economics — 2019-2021

Education

Stanford University — 2013 - 2019
Ph.D Business, Stanford Graduate School of Business — 2019
J.D., Stanford Law School — 2018

Oregon State University — 2008-2011
B.A. Economics and Philosophy (Honors)

Published and forthcoming Papers

(1) "Designing Remedies to Compensate Plaintiffs for Unobservable Harms." *American Law and Economics Review*, 20(2):460-511, 2018.
(2) "If Not the Index Funds, Then Who?" *Berkeley Business Law Journal*, 17(1):44-90, 2020.
(3) "Profiting from Pollution" *Yale Journal on Regulation Bulletin* (2023), 41(1):1-28.
(4) "Corporate Liability, Collateral Consequences, and Capital Structure." *Columbia Business Law Review*, (2023): 1-68.
(5) "Beyond the Spoiler Effect: Can Ranked Choice Voting Solve the Problem of Political Polarization?" (with Edward B. Foley and Scott C. Ganz) *University of Illinois Law Review* (2024), 1655-1698.
(6) "Robust Electoral Competition: Rethinking Electoral Systems to Encourage Representative Outcomes." (with Scott C. Ganz) *University of Maryland Law Review* (2024), 84:102-142.
(7) "The Strong Maximum Circulation Algorithm: A New Method for Aggregating Preference Rankings" (with Scott C. Ganz, Dorit S. Hochbaum, and James B. Orlin) *INFORMS Journal on Optimization* (2025):7(2), 142-155
(8) "Norm-Based Enforcement of Promises" (with Rebecca Stone and Alexander Stremitzer), *Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization* (2026).
(9) "Mirroring the Market: Passive Voting and Outcome Non-Neutrality" (with Jonathan Macey). *Yale Journal on Regulation Bulletin* (forthcoming).
(10) "Leverage as Leverage in Corporate Misconduct: Collateral Harms, Underenforcement, and Equity Fines" *Journal of Law and Economics* (forthcoming).
(11) "Fusion Voting and Its Discontents: History, Incentives, and the Limits of Constitutional Mandates" (with Alexander Tahk) *Harvard Law & Policy Review* (forthcoming).

Working Papers

(12) "Top-Two Runoff Elections (Uniquely) Dominate Plurality Rule" (with Ezra Friedman). *R&R at Social Choice and Welfare.*
(13) "Profitable Misconduct, Corporate Governance, and Law Enforcement" (with Anat Admati and Paul Pfleiderer).
(14) "Structured Attention as an Organizational Truce" (with Scott C. Ganz)
(15) "What Corrective-Disclosure Returns Identify in Securities Litigation."

Works in Progress

(16) "Borda for Boards" (with Alan Miller)
(17) "Majority Rule with an Unknown Ideological Dimension: Characterization and Simple Implementation" (with Scott C. Ganz).

Research Reports

(18) "A Simple Agent-Based Model for Simulating Single Winner Elections" (with Scott Ganz and John Mantus)

Teaching Interests

Business Associations, Deals, Contract Law, Contract Theory and Design, Securities Regulation, Corporate Finance.
Faculty advisor to the Wisconsin Law School Business and Tax Law Club.

Funding and Awards

Institute for Humane Studies (2025-2026)
Göran Skogh Award for the best paper by a young scholar at the 2020 European Association of Law and Economics Conference ("Corporate Liability, Collateral Consequences, and Capital Structure.").
ETH Career Seed Grant (SEED-22 20-1), 2020-2021
Graduate Fellowship, McCoy Family Center for Ethics in Society, 2017-2018
Gregory Terrill Cox Fellowship in Law and Economics, John M. Olin Program in Law and Economics, 2015-2019
Stanford Interdisciplinary Graduate Fellowship, 2015-2019 (full tuition)

Invited Presentations

2027: University of Chicago Law and Economics Workshop.
2026: American Mathematical Society (D.C.), University of Pennsylvania Junior Faculty Business & Financial Law Workshop, Berkeley Law, Constitutional Law and Economics (UVA), Banff International Research Station Workshop on Mathematics of Elections, Fairness, and Representation, The Law and Economics of Mirror Voting (Columbia), American Law and Economics Association (Chicago), Securities and Exchange Commission, Ohio State University Moritz College of Law, Berkeley Corporate Governance Forum, New Frontiers of Corporate Law (Duke), University of Michigan Law and Economics Workshop, Canadian Law and Economics Association (Toronto), Corporate & Securities Litigation Workshop (Chicago).
2025: American Mathematical Society (Seattle), Western Ontario Law and Economics, University of Kentucky Law, Stanford, American Law and Economics Association (NYU), NBER Summer Institute, Research Roundtable on Law and the Allocation of Risk (Nashville), Changing Landscape of Corporate Law (Duke).
2024: National Association of Clean Air Agencies, Constitutional Law and Economics Conference (Maryland), Northwestern Law and Economics, American Law and Economics Association (Michigan), Society for Institutional & Organizational Economics (Chicago), Society for Social Choice and Welfare (Paris), George Mason University Law and Economics Workshop, USC Law, AALS Financial Regulation Mid-Year Meeting (Wharton), Berkeley ESG Workshop, International Junior Scholars Forum in Law and Social Science (Zurich).

2023: University of Minnesota Law, University of Wisconsin MEAD, American Law and Economics Association (Boston University), NYU Law and Economics, Notre Dame Law and Economics.

2022: Public Choice Society (Nashville), Oxford Faculty of Law, University of Western Ontario Law and Economics, Berkeley Law and Economics, Marquette Law.

2021: AALS Annual Meeting, Northwestern Law and Economics Seminar, George Mason University Law and Economics Workshop.

Professional Service

Referee: *American Law and Economics Review*; *Journal of Law and Economics*; *Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization*; *Journal of Legal Studies*; *Journal of Mathematical Economics*; *International Review of Law and Economics*; *Proceedings of the National Academy of Science (PNAS).*