



University of Georgia
2026 Ph.D. Student Research Symposium

February 6-7, 2026

All presentations will be held in Correll Hall, Room 321

Schedule

Friday, February 6, 2026

- 5:00 p.m. – 5:20 p.m. Reception
315 Correll Hall
- 5:20 p.m. – 6:15 p.m. Welcome and Introductions
“Interest Rate Sensitivity, Deposit Substitution and Lapse
Dynamics in Single-Premium Life Insurance”
Felix Langwald, University of Cologne
- 6:20 p.m. – 7:05 p.m. “Income Risk, Self-Control, and Valence-Dependent Updating:
A Non-Bayesian Model of Precautionary Saving Behavior ”
Jialing Lin, LMU Munich
- 7:30 p.m. Dinner
Porterhouse Grill (459 E. Broad St.)

Saturday, February 7, 2026

- 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Breakfast
315 Correll Hall
- 9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. “Insurance as Anxiety Antidote? Preference for Uncertainty
Resolution and Insurance Demand”
Felix Walthes, University of St. Gallen
- 10:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. Panel: Research Trends
(Evan Eastman, Marc Ragin, and Joan Schmit)
- 11:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. “Pricing Weather Contracts Under Persistent Memory in Temperature”
Jayen Tan, Cornell University
- 11:45 a.m. – 1:50 p.m. Lunch (Downtown Athens)
- 1:50 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. “Enterprise Risk Management and Workplace Safety”
Yuchen Qi, University of North Texas
- 3:00 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. Panel: RMI Professor AMA
(Rob Hoyt, Andre Liebenberg, and Tice Sirmans)
- 4:00 p.m. – 4:45 p.m. “Two Levers of Income Smoothing: Loss Reserving and Investment Return
Discretion in German P&C Insurance”
Luca Heumann, University of Cologne
- 4:45 p.m. Adjourn

Participants

Randy Dumm <i>University of South Florida</i>	Yuchen Qi <i>University of North Texas</i>
Evan Eastman <i>Florida State University</i>	Joan Schmidt <i>University of Wisconsin-Madison</i>
Kim Ferrero <i>American Academy of Actuaries</i>	Tice Sirmans <i>Illinois State University</i>
Luca Heumann <i>University of Cologne</i>	Jayen Tan <i>Cornell University</i>
Steve Jackson <i>American Academy of Actuaries</i>	Felix Walthes <i>University of St. Gallen</i>
Felix Langwald <i>University of Cologne</i>	Polin Wang <i>University of South Florida</i>
Andre Liebenberg <i>University of Mississippi</i>	Kenny Wunder <i>University of Alabama</i>
Jialing Lin <i>LMU Munich</i>	HB Zeff <i>University of North Carolina</i>

University of Georgia Participants

Lalita Adhikari
James Carson
David Eckles
Qi Feng
Robert Hoyt
Tobias Huber
Hyunjung Kim
David McCarthy
Marc Ragin
Justin Waller
Eric Yu

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