John Hatfield

Professor, Departments of Finance; and Business, Government & Society at The University of Texas at Austin, McCombs School of Business

Austin, TX, US

How rules and regulations impact market functions and outcomes; matching theory, and interactions of business and non-market forces

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Biography

John W. Hatfield is an educator and researcher who studies market design, an engineering-oriented field of economic theory that considers how the design of the rules and regulations of a market affects the functioning and outcomes of that market. Hatfield also specializes in political economy, the interactions of business and non-market forces such as governments, legal bodies, activist groups and the media.

He researches matching theory, a field of economics that studies markets in which agents have explicit preferences over whom they buy from and sell to, not just over the underlying goods bought and sold. Examples of such economies include the markets for medical residency positions, the assignment of students to public schools, and the formation of collaborative research enterprises.

Hatfield is an associate professor in the departments of finance, and business, government & society at the McCombs School of Business, The University of Texas at Austin. He was previously an assistant professor of political economy at Stanford University, and a research fellow at Harvard Business School.

His work in market design has led to a deeper understanding of such diverse markets as kidney exchange, assigning U.S. Army military cadets to branches of service, and the dynamics of shareholder voting. He has also contributed to our understanding of federalism, in particular how the assignment of tax and expenditure powers to either local or central governments affects economic policy.

Hatfield currently teaches a class on advanced managerial strategy, focusing on using the tools of economics to enhance managers' understanding of contractual relationships within firms, interactions between firms, and the legal environment in which firms operate. He also teaches a PhD course on market design.

He is on the board of editors of the Journal of Economic Literature, and is an associate editor for Economic Theory.

Industry Expertise

Research, Management Consulting, Public Policy, Government Administration

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Areas of Expertise

Market Design, Microeconomic Theory, Political Economy, Market Regulation, Matching Theory, Price Controls, Supply Chain Networks, Non-Price Competition, Trade Policy, Game Theory, Tax Policy and Allocation, Management Strategy, Political and Social Environment for Business

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Affiliations

Journal of Economic Literature: Board of Editors, Economic Theory: Associate Editor, U.S. National Science Foundation: Reviewer, American Economic Association: Member, Econometric Society: Member, European Economic Association: Member, Game Theory Society: Member, National Tax Association: Member

Event Appearances

Frontiers of Market Design
American Economic Association

New Challenges for Market Design
American Economic Association

Frontiers of Matching Theory
American Economic Association

Decentralized Governance
Stanford Institute for Theoretical Economics

Education

Stanford University
Ph.D. Economics

California Institute of Technology
B.S. Mathematics and Physics

Accomplishments

Faculty Honor Role
For excellence in undergraduate teaching.

Excellence in Refereeing Award
Excellence in Refereeing Award, American Economic Review, 2009, 2011, and 2012.

Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research
Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research (SIEPR) Dissertation Fellowship

Burt and Deedee McMurtry Stanford Graduate Fellowship
Fellowship 2000-2003

Testimonials

David Wenger

John Hatfield has a unique insight on how firms interact with other firms, the influence of policy and regulation on business and economic outcomes, and the impact of market preferences and behaviors on the strategic decisions that enable organizations to thrive.

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