

# Austin Moss

October 2022

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University of Colorado Boulder, Leeds School of Business  
995 Regent Drive, Office 402L  
Boulder, CO 80309 USA

Web: [austinmoss.me](http://austinmoss.me)  
E-mail: [austin.moss@colorado.edu](mailto:austin.moss@colorado.edu)

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## EMPLOYMENT

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### University of Colorado Boulder, Leeds School of Business

*Assistant Professor of Accounting*

*June 2022 - Present*

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## EDUCATION

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### University of Iowa, Henry B. Tippie College of Business

*Ph.D. Candidate in Accounting*

*Expected December 2022*

*B.B.A., Accounting & Finance (with honors and highest distinction)*

*May 2017*

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

I strive to use unique data and settings to study relevant, real-world financial market phenomena with an emphasis on the creation and use of financial information by everyday people.

*"[E]conomic knowledge advances when striking real-world events and issues pose puzzles we have to try to understand and resolve. The most important decisions a scholar makes are what problems to work on. [...] The best economists have taken their subjects from the world around them." – James Tobin*

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## RESEARCH

### Current Working Papers:

1. "How Do Brokerages' Digital Engagement Practices Affect Retail Investor Information Processing and Trading." [\[PDF\]](#)
  - Dissertation Committee: Paul Hribar (Co-Chair), Clare Wang (Co-Chair), Scott Asay, Jon Garfinkel, and Cristi Gleason
2. "The Role of Accounting Information in an Era of Fake News." [\[PDF\]](#)
  - Coauthor: Betty Liu
  - Preparing for third-round submission to the *Journal of Accounting & Economics*
  - Takeaway: A firm's accounting information plays an *ex ante* deterrence and *ex post* mitigation role in combating financial fake news.
3. "The Irrelevance of ESG Disclosure to Retail Investors: Evidence from Robinhood." [\[PDF\]](#)
  - Coauthors: Jim Naughton and Clare Wang
  - Preparing for third-round submission to *Management Science*
  - Takeaway: Despite the anecdotal and experimental evidence that retail investors prefer firms that "do good", we find that ESG press releases are irrelevant to retail investors' portfolio reallocation decisions.

4. "The Impact of Earnings Season on Election Day." [PDF]
  - Coauthor: Clare Wang
  - Takeaway: The third calendar quarter earnings season co-occurs with U.S. election season, leaving a role for corporate earnings to influence a voter's perception of the economy and, ultimately, their vote, particularly for those voters who are reasonably aware of corporate earnings.
5. "A Corrupt NBA Referee and the Sports Betting Market: Quasi-Random Tests of Informed Trading and the Price Formation Process." [Draft Available Upon Request]
  - Coauthor: Dennis Hamilton
  - Takeaway: Using the random assignment of an informed trader across NBA games, we find that informed trading increases long- and short-term price movements, decreases market liquidity, and has no meaningful impact on price informativeness. We also find evidence consistent with the informed trader engaging in strategic price bluffing.
6. "Bigger Fish to Fry: The Interdependence of Earnings and ESG News in Investor Screening." [SSRN]
  - Coauthor: Jim Naughton, Clare Wang, and Ira Yeung
  - Takeaway: Investors respond more strongly to ESG news released around earnings announcements than other periods and conduct negative screening based on ESG news. Further, investors do not screen on ESG news when earnings are negative, consistent with investors having bigger concerns to attend to than ESG news when a firm's financial performance is poor.

#### **WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS**

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University of Colorado Boulder (2022)

University of Minnesota (2022)

Texas A&M University (2022)

University of Chicago (2022)

Harvard University (2022)

University of Kentucky (2022)

University of Iowa (2021)

#### **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & DISCUSSIONS (\*plenary presentation; ^discussion)**

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Boulder Summer Conference on Consumer Decision Making (2022)\*

Conference on Emerging Technologies in Accounting and Financial Economics (2022)\*

Midwest Accounting Research Conference (2021)\*

#### **MEDIA CITATIONS**

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The Irrelevance of ESG Disclosure to Retail Investors: Evidence from Robinhood

- IR Magazine, "[IR Papers: ESG and Retail Investors](#)"
- Financial Planning, "[Do Investors Really Factor ESG Into Decisions? Robinhood Study Says No](#)"

## **CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION (\*by invitation)**

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Colorado Summer Accounting Research Conference (2022)\*  
Boulder Summer Conference on Consumer Decision Making (2022)\*  
Conference on Emerging Technologies in Accounting and Financial Economics (2022)\*  
Midwest Accounting Research Conference (2021)\*  
Future of Financial Information Conference (2021)  
FARS Mid-Year Meeting (2021)  
Stanford University COVID-19 and AI: A Virtual Conference (2020)  
Georgetown Financial Markets Quality Conference (2020)  
University of North Carolina Tax Doctoral Seminar (2020)\*  
University of Iowa Sidney Winter Lecture Series (2019)\*  
FARS Mid-Year Meeting & Doctoral Consortium (2019)\*

## **HONORS & AWARDS**

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Keith Lantz Colleague Improvement Fellowship, 2019-2020 & 2021-2022  
University of Iowa PhD Recruitment Fellow, 2017-2022  
University of Iowa Accounting Faculty Scholar, 2017  
AICPA Legacy Scholar, 2016  
Tippie 21 Under 21 Award, 2016  
University of Iowa President's List, 2015-2016  
University of Iowa Dean's List, 2015-2017  
Muscatine High School Valedictorian, 2014

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

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Referee Service:

- Contemporary Accounting Research (CAR)

University:

- University of Colorado Boulder:
  - Accounting Division Recruiting Committee (2022)
- University of Iowa:
  - Dean Interview Committee (2020)

American Accounting Association:

- FARS Midyear Meeting Referee

## **TEACHING**

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University of Colorado Boulder, Leeds School of Business

- Principles of Accounting II (Introductory Managerial Accounting)

## **NON-ACADEMIC INTERESTS**

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Hawkeye Sports – Artisanal Coffee – Mindfulness – Biotech Investing – Craft Breweries