

Tennecia Dacass

405 South Sampson Street
Ellensburg, WA 98926

Phone: 509-963-2044
Email: tenneciadacass@gmail.com
Homepage: <https://sites.google.com/view/tenneciadacass>

Academic Profile

Economist and academic leader specializing in labor economics and public policy research, with a strong record in teaching, curriculum innovation, and program development. Experienced in graduate supervision and building external partnerships that support student success and institutional growth.

Employment

Associate Professor and Chair, Economics, Central Washington University	2025–present
Associate Professor Economics (Received Early Tenure), Central Washington University	2024–2025
Assistant Professor Economics, Central Washington University	2019–2024
Graduate Teaching Assistant, Kansas State University	2014–2019
Economist, Bank of Jamaica	2012–2014

Education

Kansas State University, USA

Ph.D., Economics	2019
M.A., Economics	2017

University of the West Indies, Jamaica

M.S., Economics	2012
B.S., Economics	2010

Research Interests

Applied Microeconomics, Labor Economics, and Public Economics

Research

My research examines labor market outcomes with a focus on gender, immigration, and policy-driven inequality.

Peer-Reviewed Publication

Dacass, T., Dilden, E. B., & Jiao, Y. (2025, May). Parental Time Allocation and Gender Disparities: The Role of Child Tax Credit Reform. In *AEA Papers and Proceedings* (Vol. 115, pp. 700-705). 2014 Broadway, Suite 305, Nashville, TN 37203: American Economic Association.

Dacass, T., Sipic, T., & Tenerelli, T. (2024). Examining the effect of female directors on US firm ESG performance. *International Journal of Corporate Governance*, 14(1), 1-23.

Dowdy, Z. J. (undergraduate student advisee), & **Dacass, T.** (2023). Student Loan Debt Response to Tuition Changes. *The American Economist*, 0(0), 1–27.

Dacass, T., & Dilden, E. B. (2023). Teaching Price and Income Elasticities of Demand Using EXCEL and Federal Reserve Economics Data. *Journal for Economic Educators*, 23(1), 43-60.

Lee, Y., & **Dacass, T.** (2022). Reducing the United States' Risks of Dependency on China in the Rare Earth Market. *Resources Policy*, 77, 102702.

Cassidy, H., & **Dacass, T.** (2021). Occupational licensing and immigrants. *The Journal of Law and Economics*, 64(1), 1-28.

Working Papers

"Not Just Surviving, Thriving Black Caribbean Immigrant Women Navigating Higher Education," with Neisha Terry, Jesselle Cudjoe, and Kerlouche Thomas, second stage R&R at Journal of Women and Gender in Higher Education.

"Education-Occupation Mismatch Among Immigrants in the U.S.: The Role of Gender, Credential Origin, and Visa Pathways," with Betty Mittelstaedt (graduate student advisee), Devon Lynch, and Elif B. Dilden, R&R Education Economics.

"How Does the Child Tax Credit Change the Time Allocation of Parents? Evidence from American Time Use Data," with Elif B. Dilden and Yang Jiao, under review at Journal of Family and Economic Issues.

Works in Progress

"Handbook of Research on Immigration and Entrepreneurship: Female Immigrant Entrepreneurship and Labor Market Policy in the United States," with Elif B. Dilden

"Source Country Culture and Female Immigrant Assimilation in the U.S.," with Elif B. Dilden.

"Causal Inference: Using the Removal of Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation as a Case Study," with Charles Wassell.

Teaching Experience

Central Washington University

2019–Present

Designed and delivered undergraduate and graduate courses in labor economics, microeconomics, and business analytics.

Integrated applied data analysis, Excel- and Python-based labs, and real-world policy applications into teaching.

Primary Instructor, Kansas State University

Intermediate Macroeconomics, Principles of Macroeconomics & Money and Banking

2015–2019

Student Supervision

Supervised Master's student (Economics), including thesis development and empirical research design.

Mentored undergraduate research results in peer-reviewed publications and students presenting at campus-wide, regional, and national conferences.

Select Administrative and Faculty Leadership Experience

Chair, Department of Economics

2025–Present

Led a department of 8 full-time faculty and adjunct instructors, overseeing department name change, faculty workload, professional development, and strategic planning.

Led curriculum redesign and program development, integrating applied analytics and AI across undergraduate and graduate programs.

Launched an eight-member Economics Advisory Council to strengthen industry partnerships and align curriculum with workforce competency needs.

Guided the department through organizational challenges, including service on the College of Business Dean Search Committee and supporting the successful appointment of a new dean.

Developed student and alumni engagement initiatives, including the Economic Outlook Conference (2024 and 2026) and the Business Analytics Club, to expand experiential learning and professional networks.

Strengthened community engagement through partnerships with the Chamber of Commerce and regional high schools.

Faculty Senate Executive Committee Member

2024–Present

Served on the university's faculty governance body, providing leadership, coordination, and continuity in shared governance processes.

Represented faculty interests and concerns to senior university leadership, including the Provost, President, and Board of Trustees, serving as a formal College of Business liaison between faculty governance and upper administration.

Led faculty governance during a period of significant institutional challenge, including a formal vote of no confidence in presidential leadership, ensuring a transparent process, faculty voice, and continuity of shared governance.

General Education Initiative – Cat Team Member (Faculty & Staff Consultation) Central Washington University 2025–Present

Participated in a 13-member university-wide General Education Initiative Catalyst Team tasked with evaluating and redesigning CWU's General Education program.

Presentations & Conference Attendance

Association for Education Finance and Policy, USA.	2024 & 2023 & 2018
CWU Symposium of University Research and Creative Expression (SOURCE), USA.	2022 & 2021
Pacific Northwest Regional Economic Conference, USA.	2022 & 2021
Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, USA.	2019
Western Economic Association International, Canada.	2018
Population Association of American Annual Meeting, USA.	2018
West Indies Economic Conference (WECON), Jamaica.	2025, 2018

Awards & Professional Training

Awards

Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award, College of Business, Central Washington University, 2024.

Faculty Student Provost Research Grant (\$1500), Central Washington University, 2023.

President's Diversity Award, Central Washington University, 2023.

Travel Fund Award (\$5000), Central Washington University, 2022, 2025.

Mentor Award, SOURCE, Central Washington University, 2022.

Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award, College of Business Leadership Board, Central Washington University, 2021.

Faculty Excellence in Professional Service Award, College of Business Leadership Board, Central Washington University, 2021.

Graduate Student Teaching Award for undergraduate teaching excellence, Kansas State University, 2018.

College of Arts and Sciences Student Recognition, Kansas State University, 2018.

Three Minute Thesis competition, 2nd Place & People's Choice Award Winner, Kansas State University, 2018.

John A. Nordin Memorial Scholarship awarded for outstanding performance in theory courses and Ph.D. qualifying exams, Kansas State University, 2016.

Carroll B. Greene Award for the best academic performance in the graduate program and for high potential for future achievement, Kansas State University, 2016.

Best Student Paper Award for outstanding research, Southwestern Economics Association, 2012.

Training

Master's in Online Teaching Certification, Central Washington University, Fall 2025–Present.

Faculty AI-Literacy Badge, Central Washington University, Fall 2025–Present.

Participant in Central Washington University's Enhancing Learning and Belonging Through Transparency Course, January–March 2025.

Participant in Central Washington University's Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, 2023-2024.

Participant in Central Washington University's High Impact Practices Institute, June–July 2023.

Participant in the Committee on the Status of Women in the Economics Profession CeMENT Workshop, 2021.

Participant in the American Council on Education Course in Effective Teaching Practices, 2018-2019.

Participant in IPUMS CPS Summer Data Workshop, the Minnesota Population Center at the University of Minnesota, June 2018.

One of twelve students accepted nationally to participate in the Summer Dissertation Proposal Workshop hosted by the University of Wisconsin, Madison, Institute for Research on Poverty and Howard University's Center on Race and Wealth, 2017.

University Service & Other Professional Activities

Central Washington University Committees

CWU College of Business Dean Search Committee Member, Winter 2026–Present

Co-chair of the College of Business Curriculum Committee, Fall 2025–Present.

Active Member of the College of Business Faculty Development Committee, Fall 2025–Present.

Faculty Senate Executive Committee (FSEC), Fall 2024–Present.

FSEC Liaison on the University Curriculum Committee, Fall 2024–Present.

Symposium of University Research and Creative Expression (SOURCE) Planning Committee, Fall 2023–Spring 2025.

Equity Advisory Committee, Fall 2023.

Faculty Recruitment, Department of Management and Marketing, Fall 2023–Spring 2024.

Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program Faculty, Winter 2023–Present.

Faculty Senate Academic Affairs Committee, Fall 2022–Spring 2024.

Faculty Recruitment, Accounting Department, Fall 2022–Winter 2023.

Library Advisory Council, Fall 2020–Spring 2022.

College of Business Diversity Committee, Fall 2020–Spring 2025.

Student Advising Committee, Fall 2019–Spring 2021.

Diversity Advocate, 2020–2024.

College of Business Diversity Task Force, June 2020–August 2020.

Service to Economics Department

Faculty Advisor for the Business Analytics & AI Club, Fall 2025–Present.

Proposed and designed a Departmental Honors Program, Fall 2022–July 2023.

Established and coordinated quarterly Economics Star Student Event, Winter 2022–Spring 2024.

Established and advised more than 20 students regarding the campus-wide Student Price Index, Fall 2019–Spring 2022.

Faculty Advisor for the Economics Association, Fall 2019–Spring 2021, Fall 2025–Present.

Faculty Recruitment, Fall 2021–Winter 2022 & Fall 2019–Winter 2020, Fall 2025–Present.

Referee/Reviewer Activity

Applied Economics, The B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis and Policy, International Journal of Accounting and Information Management, and Review of Black Political Economy.

Professional Activities

Board Member, Pacific Northwest Regional Economic Conference

Chair & Member of the Planning Committee, Kansas State University Annual Economics Alumni Conference, Virtual, August 2023–August 2025.

Discussant, Kansas State University Annual Economics Alumni Conference, Virtual, August 2023 & August 2022.

Contributor, The Council for Community and Economic Research (C2ER) Cost of Living Index, Summer 2022–Present.

Software

Stata, R, Python, Latex, EViews.

Last updated: June 10, 2026