

Faculty Profile

David Sunding is the Co-Director for the Center for Sustainable Resource Development in the College of Natural Resources, and a Cooperative Extension economist in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at UC Berkeley.

Dave's research program focuses on agricultural and environmental policy, particularly government programs to deal with the environmental and public-health side effects of farming. His main research areas include the economics of pesticide use and regulation, water allocation (especially water markets), the generation and adoption of agricultural technologies, and the economics of endangered species preservation. He is currently active in the debates about the 2002 Farm Bill, particularly the conservation provisions which will put billions of dollars into the U.S. farm economy and generate measurable benefits for the environment. Dave is also very actively involved in the CALFED program and is currently evaluating the economics of the new round of dam construction that is being considered in California.

Dave has an extensive publication record in agricultural and resource economics. A recent paper, which he co-authored with Joshua Zivin, "Insect Population Dynamics, Pesticide Use and Farmworker Health" (*American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 2000), received the annual Outstanding Journal Article Award from the American Agricultural Economics Association. His research is also interdisciplinary with some publications in law, policy and scientific journals which result in the most favorable exposure for his work.

Dave works frequently with federal and state legislatures and government agencies, and is regularly asked to testify and present informal briefings for members and their staffs. He is a frequent consultant to private industry on matters relating to environmental regulation and public policy. Dave also takes an active role in advising and mentoring graduate students and in departmental, university and statewide committees.

Dave has a unique background. During the Clinton Administration, he was a Senior Economist at



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the White House Council of Economic Advisers in the Executive Office of the President. In this role, he had responsibility for helping to develop agricultural, environmental and natural resource policy. He also teaches regularly at UC Berkeley's Boalt Hall School of Law. Early in his career, he was an Assistant Professor in the Department of Economics and School of Law at Boston College.

Dave received his Ph.D. in Agricultural and Resource Economics from UC Berkeley. Dave, his wife, and their two dogs are enjoying their 6-month old daughter. They enjoy hiking, camping and gardening.

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