Minwoo Ahn

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updated: 28 Oct 2026

Current Positions

College of Charleston — Assistant Professor
Department of Political Science — 2026 Aug - present
Master of Public Administration
Master of Science in Environmental and Sustainability Studies

Previous Positions

University of Arizona — Postdoctoral Researcher
Climate Assessment for the Southwest — 2024 Aug – 2026 Jul
School of Landscape Architecture and Planning — PI: Ladd Keith

Arizona State University — Postdoctoral Researcher
Center for Behavior, Institutions, and the Environment — 2023 Jan – 2024 Jul
School of Complex Adaptive Systems — PI: Marco Janssen

Education

University of Arizona — Ph.D. Government and Public Policy, 2023
Dissertation Chair: Kirk Emerson and Elizabeth Baldwin
Dissertation Title: "Managing Uncertainty in Collaborative Governance"

Yonsei University — M.A. Public Administration, 2016
Dissertation Chair: Lee Jong Soo
Dissertation Title: "Local governance power structure and community organization: An exploratory theorization of symbolic participation"

Yonsei University — B.A. Public Administration, Minor in Economics, 2014

Research Interests

I am an environmental policy and governance scholar, and my overarching research question is: "How can communities and stakeholders address collective action problems in environmental and climate issues?" I am practically and theoretically interested in how contextual factors (social-ecological and institutional environments) shape collaboration processes and, in turn, social and environmental outcomes, including effectiveness, equity, and sustainability. I apply and test my theories across multiple environmental fields, including extreme heat resilience, water governance, climate change mitigation and adaptation policy, energy policy, and common-pool resource management.

Publications

10. **Ahn Minwoo** and McLaughlin Danielle. 2026. Examining the Public's Water Policy Tool Preferences: The Role of Blame Attribution. Environmental Management 76, 181. https://doi.org/10.1007/s00267-026-02483-4

9. Boyer Anne-lise, **Ahn Minwoo**, Keith Ladd, Brown Heidi. 2026. Striving for Rural Heat Resilience: A Systematic Literature Review. *Weather, Climate, and Society,* 18(1), 17-31. https://doi.org/10.1175/WCAS-D-25-0047.1

8. Baldwin Elizabeth and **Ahn Minwoo.** 2025. Using strategic games to illustrate environmental policy concepts for undergraduates. *Journal of Political Science Education,* https://doi.org/10.1080/15512169.2024.2394500

7. **Ahn Minwoo**, Brown Heidi, Keith Ladd. 2025. Rural heat health disparities: Evidence from the U.S. National Emergency Medical Services Information System (NEMSIS). *Journal of Climate Change and Health*. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.joclim.2025.100432

6. Candice Carr Kelman, Jaishri Srinivasan, Tracie Lorenzo, **Minwoo Ahn**, Aireona Bonnie Raschke, Rebecca Kariuki, Elke Kellner, Michael Simeone, Rhoda NS Brown-Wood, Mike Schoon. 2024. Convergence research as transdisciplinary knowledge coproduction within cases of effective collaborative governance of social-ecological systems. *Ecology and Society*, https://ecologyandsociety.org/vol29/iss4/art23/

5. **Ahn Minwoo**, Balakrishna Raksha, Simeone Michael, Janssen Marco. 2024. When does group chat promote cooperation in shared resource governance? *Humanities and Social Science Communications*, https://www.nature.com/articles/s41599-024-03992-5

4. **Ahn Minwoo**, Baldwin Elizabeth, Girone Dylan. 2024. Caution as a Response to Scientific Uncertainty: A Groundwater Game Experiment. *International Journal of the Commons*, 18(1), 369-383. https://thecommonsjournal.org/articles/10.5334/ijc.1347

3. **Ahn Minwoo** and Baldwin Elizabeth. 2024. Who Benefits from Collaborative Governance? An empirical Study from the Energy Sector. *Public Management Review*, 26(1), 89-113. https://doi.org/10.1080/14719037.2022.2044505

2. Jeong Myungeun and **Ahn Minwoo**. 2016. Organizational Field, Institutional Logic, and Constructed Actor: The Institutionalization of Local Government Fund in South Korea, *Korean Policy Studies Review*(한국정책학회보), Vol. 25, No. 3, 37-74.(Korean) https://www.dbpia.co.kr/journal/articleDetail?nodeId=NODE10774778

1. Kim Mihyun, **Ahn Minwoo**, and Cho Namwook. 2015. Taking an Environmental Justice Perspective: Socioeconomic Minority's Public Park Accessibility in Seoul, *Korea Local Administration Review*(지방행정연구), Vol. 29, No. 2, 77-105. (Korean) https://www.kci.go.kr/kciportal/ci/sereArticleSearch/ciSereArtiView.kci?sereArticleSearchBean.artiId=ART002006786

Book Chapters

- Emerson Kirk and **Ahn Minwoo** 2021. "Collaborative Governance Regimes: Informing Practice through Research," Edited by Daniel P. Gitterman and Neil Britto, "The Intersector: How the Public, Nonprofit, and Private Sectors Can Address America's Challenges. *Brookings Institution Press*. DOI: 10.48558/bzf8-wv37 https://www.researchgate.net/publication/359971948_Collaborative_Governance_Regimes_Informing_Practice_through_Research

- **Ahn Minwoo** and Lee Jongsoo 2015. "Institutional Environment and Political Appointee: A Case Study of Unseated Prime Minister Candidate," Eun Guk Lee(Ed.), Policy Case Studies: For the Improvement of

Government Capacity and Quality of Government", Chap. 10, pp. 231-249. *Yonsei University Press*, Seoul, South Korea. (Korean)

Blog Posts

Ahn Minwoo, Keith Ladd, Brown Heidi 2025. "Documenting rural heat health disparities in the U.S.", Global Heat Health Information Network, https://ghhin.org/news/blog-documenting-rural-heat-health-disparities-in-the-u-s/

a. Featured in Climate Program Office at NOAA and UN Office of for Disaster Risk Reduction https://cpo.noaa.gov/the-southwest-climate-adaptation-partnerships-team-published-a-new-study-on-rural-heat-disparities-using-the-u-s-national-emergency-medical-services-information-system/

https://www.preventionweb.net/publication/rural-heat-health-disparities-evidence-us-national-emergency-medical-services

Boyer Anne-lise, **Ahn Minwoo**, Keith Ladd 2025. "Expanding the Focus: Toward Heat Equity in Rural Area". Just Rural Futures. https://justruralfutures.substack.com/p/expanding-the-focus-toward-heat-equity

Selected Professional Reports

Ladd Keith, Sara Meerow, Anne-lise Boyer, **Minwoo Ahn** 2026. "Planning for Rural Heat Resilience" PAS Memo, American Planning Association. https://www.planning.org/publications/document/9331842/

Janssen Marco, **Ahn Minwoo**, Francesca Federico, Michelle Refuerzo, Karli Barrett, Danish Tung, Kyleigh Brown, Oak Creek Recreation Survey. Prepared for *ADEQ and ASU Project Cities*. Submitted Sep 2023.

Selected Conference Presentations

PMRC 2019 2022 2024
IASC 2023, IASC North America workshop 2023, IASC 2025
APSA 2023, 2024
MPSA 2024
ASPA 2021, 2026
APPAM 2020 2025 2026
Workshop on the Ostrom Workshop 2024
Duck Family Workshop 2022

Ahn M <Built environment, hospital access, and heat related illnesses in Arizona> in the co-organized panel <Multi-level climate adaptation and governance across individual, household, community, and city levels> with Vera Dennis. 2026 Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, Boston (Nov 2026) (Scheduled)

Ahn M and McLaughlin D <The role of collaborative design in enhancing the legitimacy of collaborative governance> in the co-organized panel <Coming full circle: design, deliberation, decision, and delivery of collaborative policymaking> with Jiho Kim. 2026 Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, Boston (Nov 2026) (scheduled)

Ahn M, et al. Comfort At Extremes (CATE) < Innovations in global heat governance: Exploring the role of Chief Heat Officers > Tucson, Arizona. (May 2026)

Boyer AL, **Ahn M**, Keith L, Austhof E. Brown H. "Building Rural Heat Resilience in the U.S. Southwest: Governance gaps and emerging responses" 2026 American Society for Public Administration, Hollywood, CA (Mar 2026)

Boyer AL, **Ahn M**, Keith L, Austhof E. Brown H. "How can county-level public managers address extreme heat?" 2025 Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, Seattle. (Nov 2025)

Ahn M, Boyer AL, Keith L, Austhof E, Brown H, Meerow S. "Governing extreme heat: The rise of chief heat officers in local governments" 2025 Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, Seattle. (Nov 2025)

Boyer AL, Roy M, **Ahn M**. "Heat Governance and Planning: Addressing Urban and Rural Challenges for Resilient Communities" 2024 Arizona Postdoctoral Conference, University of Arizona. (Sep 2024)

Ahn M. "Beneficial or harmful? Scientific Uncertainty and sustained cooperation in groundwater governance systems" 2024 American Political Science Association Conference, Philadelphia. (Sep 2024)

Ahn M, McLaughlin D. "Does blame attribution shape water governance choices? Evidence from Survey Experiment" 2024 Public Management Research Conference, University of Washington. (June 2024)

Ahn M, Aurora SR, Balakrishna R, Simeone M, Janssen M. "Navigating uncertainty in collective action: the role of emergent leadership and communication dynamics.", Workshop on Ostrom Workshop, Indiana University. (June 2024)

Ahn M, McLaughlin D. "Does blame attribution shape water governance choices? Evidence from Survey Experiment" 2024 Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago. (Apr 2024)

Ahn M, Baldwin E, Girone D. "Caution as a Response to Scientific Uncertainty: A Groundwater Game Experiment," 2023 American Political Science Association, L.A. (Sep 2023)

Ahn M, Baldwin E., Girone D. "Caution as a Response to Scientific Uncertainty: A Groundwater Game Experiment," 2023 International Association for the Study of Commons, in University of Nairobi, Kenya (Remote participation) (June 2023)

Ahn M. Managing Collaborative Performance in the Face of Uncertainty: The Case of Upper San Pedro Watershed Partnership," 2023 IASC workshop on Behavior, Institutions, and the Environment, in Arizona State University, Tempe (Mar 2023)

Ahn M. "The effects of Scientific Uncertainty on Collaborative Performance: A Groundwater Game Experiment," 8th Annual Duck Family Workshop on Environmental Politics in University of Washington, Seattle (May 2022)

Ahn M. "Managing Uncertainty in Collaborative Governance: Conceptual Framework and Empirical Exploration" "Use of information in collaborative governance" at Public Management Research Conference (May 2022)

Ahn M. "Identifying Public Manager's Perceived Uncertainty on the Ground: Concept Building and Measurement Validation from San Pedro Watershed Case Study," "Paradoxes of inter-organizational collaboration: attitudinal, relational, and structural dimensions and features at the American Society of Public Administration (Apr 2021)

Ahn M, Baldwin, E. "Examining the Distributive Effects of Collaboration Governance: An Empirical Study from the Energy Sector," Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (Nov 2020)

Invited Speaking Engagements

Academic

2026 University of Arizona's Epidemiology Seminar
2026 College of Charleston's Political Science and Environmental Studies and Sustainability
2025 Yonsei University's Department of Global Public Administration
2024 Indiana University's O'Neil School of Public and Environmental Affairs
2022 Arizona State University's Center for Behavior, Institutions, and the Environment

Community

2026	Presentation and panelist, Gallup Indian Medical Center < Building Heat-Ready Communities: The IHS, Tribal, and Community Symposium>
2025	Table host, 3rd Arizona Heat Summit table hosting <Rural and small town heat resilience>
2025	Presentation, Inter Tribal Council of Arizona Environmental Managers Working Group Meeting
2025	Presentation, Health Climate New Mexico's 2025 Extreme Heat, Health, & Resiliency Summit Speaker

Awards and Grants

*Travel and training grants excluded

"The effects of scientific uncertainty on collaborative performance: A laboratory experiment"
Funding institution and program: University of Arizona, Graduate and Professional Student Council, Research Grant
Award Value: $1,500
Award Period: September 2022-Dec 2022

"Managing uncertainty in collaborative governance"
Funding institution and program: University of Arizona, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Dissertation Fellowship
Award value: $7000
Award period: May 2022 – Aug 2022

Trainings

Research

- 2025
  - Transdisciplinary Research Academy at AIR University of Arizona
  - Indigenous Dataset Fellows training at University of Arizona
- 2021 Roots for Resilience, training for open science and computational infrastructure led by Arizona Institutes for Resilience, CyVerse and Data Science Institute at University of Arizona
- 2019 Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research workshop at Syracuse University

Teaching and Mentoring

- 2025-2026 CIRTL Postdoc Pathways Program
- 2024 Mentor Institute online training at University of Arizona

Teaching and mentoring activities

College of Charleston 2026-2027	Research and Management in Environmental Organizations (MPA/EVSS) Introduction to Public Policy (UG) Introduction to Public Administration (UG) Public Policy (MPA) Environmental Policy (UG)
University of Arizona 2020-2022, 2026	Mo's Policy Scholar (Udall Center) Environmental Policy (co-teaching) Public Policy and Administration (UG) (online) Public Organizational Management (UG) (online)

Service

Committee
Internal
2026-2027 MPA faculty committee (CoC)
2026-2027 Student engagement committee (CoC)

External
2027 award committee for Paul A. Sabatier Best Conference Paper Award (APSA STEP)
2025 award committee for Postdoc as mentor award by Postdoctoral Affairs (University of Arizona)
2024 award committee for the Evan Ringquist Best Paper Award (APSA STEP)

Editorial Assistant (2017- 2019): Perspective on Public Management and Governance (PPMG) Journal (Editor: Dr. Kirk Emerson)

Manuscript Referee (reviewed)
Public Management Review, Public Administration Review, Journal of Public and Nonprofit Affairs, Perspectives on Public Management and Governance, Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory, International Journal of the Commons, Current Research in Environmental Sustainability, Humanities and Social Science Communications, Policy and Politics, Environmental Development, Urban Governance, Environmental Management, Climate Policy, Public Performance and Management Review, GeoHealth, Local Government Studies, Weather, Climate, and Society

Professional Associations

Public Management Research Association
International Association for the Study of Commons
Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management
American Political Science Association
Midwest Political Science Association
American Society for Public Administration