



The Eighteenth Annual Federal Trade Commission Microeconomics Conference

February 24-25, 2026

Washington, D.C.

A G E N D A

Tuesday, February 24

- 8:30 a.m. **Registration** (Continental breakfast provided*)
- 9:00 a.m. **Welcome**
Ted Rosenbaum (Federal Trade Commission)
- 9:15 a.m. **Paper Session** - Chaired by Matthew Grennan (Emory University)
- Information Distortion in Label Design in the Over-the-Counter Drug Market**
Anastasiia Evdokimova (Yale University)
 Discussant: Christopher Conlon (New York University)
- Welfare Effects of Buyer and Seller Power**
Michael Rubens (UCLA Economics)
co-authored with Mert Demirer (MIT Sloan)
 Discussant: Allan Collard-Wexler (Duke University)
- Combining Complements: Theory and Evidence from Cancer Treatment Innovation**
Rebekah Dix (Yale University)
co-authored with Todd Lensman (Harvard Business School)
 Discussant: Amanda Starc (Northwestern University)
- 10:55 a.m. **Break**
- 11:25 a.m. **Keynote Address, “Consumer Protection and Antitrust in Complex Markets”**
Matthew Grennan (Emory University)
- 11:55 a.m. **Lunch** (provided*)

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- 1:00 p.m. **FTC Policy and Research Session**
Chaired by Samuel Kleiner and Eric Spurlino (Federal Trade Commission)
- Loyalty Discounts and their Effects on Competition: FTC v. Surescripts**
Matthew Chesnes (Federal Trade Commission)
- Misrepresentations About Educational Investments: FTC v. Career Step**
Michel Grosz (Federal Trade Commission)
- Distributional Consequences of Privacy Regulation**
Ben Casner (Federal Trade Commission)
co-authored with Matthew Leisten (Federal Trade Commission)
- Cognitive Economic Curves: Quantifying the Clarity of Policy and Consumer Communications**
Katherine Chang (Federal Trade Commission)
co-authored with Stefan Bucher (University of Cambridge),
Andrew Caplin (New York University), Ryan Oprea (University of California, Berkeley),
and Eric Spurlino (Federal Trade Commission)
- Economies of Scope from Shared Inputs**
Devesh Raval (Federal Trade Commission)
co-authored with Paul Koh (Yonsei University)
- 2:40 p.m. **Break**
- 3:00 p.m. **Keynote Address, “Distributional Impacts of the Changing Retail Landscape”**
Kevin Williams (Yale University)
- 3:30 p.m. **Break**
- 3:50 p.m. **Paper Session** - Chaired by Avi Goldfarb (University of Toronto)
- Algorithmic Pricing in Multifamily Rentals: Efficiency Gains or Price Coordination?**
Sophie Calder-Wang (The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania)
co-authored with Gi Heung Kim (Boston College)
Discussant: Kanishka Misra (Boston College)

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Designing Consent: Choice Architecture and Consumer Welfare in Data Sharing

Chiara Farronato (Harvard Business School, NBER, and CEPR)

co-authored with Tesary Lin (Boston University) and Andrey Fradkin (Boston University and the MIT Initiative on the Digital Economy)

Discussant: Ginger Jin (University of Maryland)

Information and the Welfare Benefits from Differentiated Products

Joel Waldfogel (University of Minnesota, NBER, ZEW)

co-authored with Imke Reimers (Cornell University and ZEW) and Christoph Riedl (Northeastern University)

Discussant: Andrey Simonov (Columbia Business School)

5:30 p.m. **Hors d'oeuvres Reception***

6:30 p.m. **First Day of Conference Concludes**

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Wednesday, February 25

- 8:45 a.m. **Registration** (Continental breakfast provided*)
- 9:00 a.m. **Welcome**
- 9:15 a.m. **Paper Session** - Chaired by Kevin Williams (Yale University)
- Market Power and the Welfare Effects of Institutional Landlords**
Felipe Barbieri (Dartmouth Tuck)
co-authored with Gregory Dobbels (U.S. Department of Justice)
Discussant: Nathan Miller (Georgetown University)
- Exclusive Contracts in the Video Streaming Market**
Yihao Yuan (University of California, Los Angeles)
Discussant: Marc Rysman (Boston University)
- Long-term contracts and efficiency in the liquefied natural gas industry**
Nahim Bin Zahur (Department of Economics, Queen's University)
Discussant: Jihye Jeon (Boston University)
- 10:55 a.m. **Break**
- 11:25 a.m. **Keynote Address, “Consumer Protection and Antitrust for General Purpose Technologies”**
Avi Goldfarb (University of Toronto)
- 11:55 a.m. **Conference Concludes**

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