

Volume 33 Issue 2 From the Editor

It is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that I welcome Dr. Elisabeth Sinnewe as the incoming editor of *Financial Services Review (FSR)*. With a strong background in personal finance and superannuation research, an impressive record of publishing in top-tier journals, and proven leadership within the financial planning academic community, Dr. Sinnewe brings a wealth of experience and vision that aligns beautifully with FSR's mission to advance rigorous and practitioner-relevant research.

As chair of the Academy of Financial Services Australia–New Zealand Chapter, Dr. Sinnewe has demonstrated a clear commitment to fostering academic excellence and industry collaboration—organizing impactful symposiums, establishing research excellence awards, and facilitating expert panels on emerging issues in financial planning. Dr. Sinnewe's editorial experience and dedication to expanding *FSR*'s reach and engagement make her uniquely suited to guide *FSR* into the future. I am particularly excited about Dr. Sinnewe's plans to elevate research quality, broaden interdisciplinary connections, and explore innovative dissemination strategies that will enhance the journal's impact and visibility.

I am also pleased to present the papers in this issue of *FSR*. The first paper (*Psychophysiological Finance and Intelligent Wellness: A New Financial Planning Practice Model*) was written by Robert Hanlon, Paul Leher, Alexander Cohen, Eric Miller, Monte Hancock, and Robert Mitchell. In this invited paper, the authors point out that CFP® Board requires certificants to recognize and address client attitudes, behaviors, and stress-related factors that affect financial decisions and well-being. Using this as a framework, this paper introduces a new advice-delivery model that integrates psychophysiology, mobile health, and psychology with traditional financial planning to help reduce stress and enhance client outcomes.

The second paper (*Consumers' Basic Bank Account Complaints and Their Financial Hardships: A Content Analysis of Complaints filed with the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB)*), written by Julie Birkenmaier and Hope Stratman, analyzes consumer complaints to the CFPB to identify key banking issues—such as fraud, ATM malfunctions, and poor customer service—that increase the likelihood of financial hardship. Findings suggest financial institutions can mitigate these issues through targeted policy changes and improved customer service practices.

The third paper (*Exploring the Effect of Federal Student Loan Payment Resumption on Borrowers Through Sentiment and Textual Analysis Using X*) was written by Jason N. Anderson, Donovan Sanchez, Juan E. Gallardo, Derek Lawson, and Congrong Ouyang. The authors analyzed X (formerly Twitter) data. They found negative sentiment around student loans surged during the October 2023 payment restart, with 46% of mentions being negative and only 1% positive. The results suggest financial planners should be prepared to support borrowers emotionally in addition to offering financial guidance.

The next paper in this issue (*Consumer Margin Use: Understanding the Role of Peer Influence, Investment Literacy, and Age*), written by Kaplan Sanders and Olamide Olajide, used data from the 2021 National Financial Capability Study to examine household margin use, finding that peer influence, youth, and higher investment literacy are associated with a greater likelihood of buying on margin. The results offer insights for policymakers and financial advisors to understand consumer borrowing behaviors.

Stuart Heckman, Jodi Letkiewicz, and HanNa Lim wrote the fifth paper (*Student Willingness to Borrow for Higher Education*). This research team applied a human capital model to analyze college students' willingness to borrow for education, using data from the 2020 Study on Collegiate Financial Wellness. Findings show that borrowing decisions align with rational human capital theory, with higher tuition, career goals, and expected earnings increasing borrowing willingness, while higher income and alternative financial support reduce it.

Efthymia Antonoudi, Genti Kostandini, and HanNa Lim authored the next paper (*Immigration Law Enforcement and Immigrant Homeownership*). They used American Community Survey data and a difference-in-differences model to determine that 287(g) immigration enforcement agreements significantly reduce homeownership rates, especially among less-educated, U.S.-born Hispanics in states without E-Verify laws. While the Secure Communities program shows mixed effects, the overall results emphasize how immigration policies can unintentionally affect housing stability and economic integration.

The sixth paper in this issue (*The Association of Cryptocurrency and the Use of Alternative Financial Services*), written by David Smith and Gary Curnutt, used data from the 2023 Survey of Household Economics and Decisionmaking to explore how cryptocurrency fits into the broader landscape of alternative financial services (AFS). The paper examines whether individuals who use cryptocurrency for AFS purposes—such as payments or sending money—also use it for investing or other AFS-related activities.

The next paper (*Examining the Gender Gap in Participation in Employer-Sponsored Retirement Plans: Oaxaca Decomposition*) was written by Ferdous Ahmmed, Charlene Marie Kalenkoski, and Christopher M. Browning. These researchers used 2021 NFCS data to analyze gender differences in participation in employer-sponsored retirement plans and the role of financial literacy. Findings show that women not only have lower financial literacy on average but also receive less benefit (or "return") from that literacy compared to men, contributing to a persistent participation gap.

This issue concludes with a paper (*A Structured Literature Review on Equity in the Financial Services Profession: Unpacking Gender Barriers and Advancing Women's Participation Globally*) written by Tanya Staples, Ashlyn Rollins-Koons, and Megan McCoy. As noted by these authors, as women increasingly control a larger share of global wealth—projected to reach 55% by 2030—the financial services profession is shifting toward more holistic, advice-driven approaches. However, persistent barriers limit women's representation in financial advising, prompting a call for structural reforms, gender-conscious policies, and inclusive practices to better serve diverse clients and support female professionals. This paper provides a pathway for policymakers and certification bodies to attract more women into the profession.

Finally, on a personal note, I want to say thank you to everyone who has supported the Academy of Financial Services and *Financial Services Review* over the past several years. As my last official editorial act, I would like to encourage everyone to congratulate and support Dr. Elisabeth Sinnewe as she steps into the editor role. I step down knowing that the future of *Financial Services Review* is in excellent hands.

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