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POSITIONS

- Associate Professor, Department of Economics, University of Maryland, (2014 -)
- Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, University of Maryland, (2011-2014)
- NBER Research Faculty (since April 2010)
- IZA Research Fellow (since September 2009)
- International Research Fellow, Centro Latinoamericano de Estudios Sociales y Economicos, Universidad Catolica de Chile (Since March 2014).
- Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Northwestern University, (2007 – 2011)

FIELDS

Applied Micro-econometrics, Labor and Development Economics

EDUCATION

The University of Chicago
PhD in Economics, July 2007.
Master of Arts in Economics, March, 2003.

Universidad de Chile
Master of Arts in Economics, August 2001.
Bachelor of Arts, March 2000. Major: Economics

PUBLICATIONS

[1] Heterogeneous Economic Returns to Postsecondary Degrees: Evidence from Chile” (with J. Rodriguez and L. Reyes), *Journal of Human Resources*, forthcoming.

[2] Cost benefit analysis of an integrated ECD program in a low-income country (with F. Lopez Boo and G. Palloni), *Annals of the New York Academy of Science*, 1308 (2014) 129-138.

- [3] Economic Perspectives on Integrating Early Child Stimulation with Nutritional Interventions (with H. Alderman, J. Behrman, S. Grantham-McGregor, F. Lopez Boo), *Annals of the New York Academy of Science*, 1308 (2014) 139-148..
- [4] Do as You're Told! Facets of Agreeableness and Early Adult Outcomes for Inner-City Boys (with M. Kern, A. Duckworth, R. Loeber, M. Loeber and D. Lynam), *Journal of Research in Personality*, forthcoming, 2014.
- [5] Economic Perspectives on Some Important Dimensions of Early Childhood Development in Developing Countries (with J. Behrman). In *Handbook of Early Childhood Development Research and Its Impact on Global Policy*, Rebello, P., Engle, P., and Super, C. (Eds). Oxford University Press, 2013.
- [6] The Labor Market Return to an Attractive Face: Evidence from a Field Experiment (with F. Lopez Boo and M. Rossi). *Economics Letters*, Vol. 118, Issue 1, Jan. 2013 (Top 10 downloads from March 2012, IZA)
- [7] The Effects of Participation in Public Child Care Centers: Evidence from Chile (with G. Noboa-Hidalgo). *Journal of Human Capital*, Vol. 6, N. 1, Spring 2012.
- [8] The Education Health-Gradient (with G. Conti and J. Heckman). *American Economic Review (Papers and Proceedings)*, May 2010.
- [9] Testing the Correlated Random Coefficient Model (with J. Heckman and D. Schmierer). *Journal of Econometrics*, vol. 157, 2010. (featured by *The Economist* <http://www.economist.com/node/21552566>)
- [10] Comparing IV With Structural Models: What Simple IV Can and Cannot Identify (with J. Heckman). *Journal of Econometrics*, Vol. 156(1), 2010.
- [11] Occupational Choice with Financial Intermediation: Linking Mechanism Design with Heterogeneity to Econometric Policy Evaluation (With R. Townsend). *Macroeconomic Dynamics*, 13 (2), 2009-268-316, 2009.
- [12] Racial Labor Market Gaps: The Role of Abilities and Schooling Choices. *Journal of Human Resources*, Vol. 43(4): pp. 919-971, 2008.
- [13] Instrumental Variables in Models with Multiple Outcomes: The General Unordered Case (with J. Heckman and E. Vytlacil). *Les Annales d'Economie et de Statistique*, 91-92, 2008.
- [14] The use of instrumental variables in the presence of heterogeneity and self-selection: an application in breast cancer patients (2007) (With A. Basu, J. Heckman and S. Navarro). *Health Economics* 16(11):1133-1157, 2007.
- [15] Understanding instrumental Variables in Models with Essential Heterogeneity (with J. Heckman and E. Vytlacil). *Review of Economics and Statistics*, v88, n3, 2006.

[16] The effect of cognitive and Non-cognitive factors in behavioral and labor outcomes” (With J. Heckman and J. Stixrud). *Journal of Labor Economics*, v24, n3, 2006.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

[1] Review of *The Biological Consequences of Socioeconomic Inequalities* edited by Barbara Wolfe, William Evans, and Teresa E. Seeman, *Journal of Economic Literature*, forthcoming. 2014.

[2] Human Capital and the Economic Development in Latin America: Where are we? Where are we going? (with G. Rucci and M. Bassi), chapter prepared for *Development in the Americas* (DIA) 2014, Interamerican Development Bank, forthcoming, 2014.

[3] El Impacto de los Establecimientos Educativos de Excelencia: El caso del Instituto Nacional de Chile. (with A. Bucarey, M. Jorquera and P. Muñoz) *Estudios Públicos*, forthcoming, 2014.

[4] Desigualdad, segregación y resultados educacionales. Evidencia desde el Metro de Santiago (with J. A. Echenique) *Punto de Referencia* 359, Mayo 2013, Centro de Estudios Públicos.

[5] The Economic Returns to Secondary Technical Education (with A. Bucarey), *Estudios Públicos*, vol. 129, 2013.

[6] Pobreza y Desigualdad ¿Dónde estamos? ¿Hacia dónde vamos? (with J. A. Echenique) *Punto de Referencia* 353, Noviembre 2012, Centro de Estudios Públicos.

[7] The Demand and Supply of Early Education in Chile (with L. Reyes). *Estudios Públicos*, Vol. 126, 2012.

[8] The Economic Returns to Higher Education in Chile: Revising the Foundations of 30 Years of Public Policies. *Estudios Públicos*, Vol. 125, 2012. (cited by *The Economist* <http://www.economist.com/node/21552566>)

[9] Identifying Labor Market Discrimination using an Experimental Design (with D. Bravo and C. Sanhueza) in *Discrimination in Latin America: An Economic Perspective*, Ñopo, H., Chong, A., Moro, A. (Eds), Inter-american Development Bank, 2009.

[10] Ability, Schooling Choices and Gender Labor Market Discrimination: Evidence for Chile (with D. Bravo and C. Sanhueza) in *Discrimination in Latin America: An Economic Perspective*, Ñopo, H., Chong, A., Moro, A. (Eds), Inter-american Development Bank, 2009.

BOOKS

Disconnected: Skills, Education and Employment in Latin America (with M. Bassi, M. Buso and J. Vargas). IADB, 2012. <http://www.iadb.org/en/topics/education/disconnected-downloads,6114.html>

WORKING PAPERS

“Implementing Factor Models for Unobserved Heterogeneity in Stata: the heterofactor command” (with M. Sarzosa), R & R, Stata Journal, 2015.

“Longer School Days, Better Outcomes?” (with Tiago Pires), January 2014. (*submitted*)

“Loans for Higher Education: Does the dream come true?” (with E. Rojas and T. Rau), NBER working paper N 19138, June 2013.

Latest version: <http://www.econ.umd.edu/research/papers/645>

“One Size Does Not Fit All: The Role of Vocational Ability on College Attendance and Labor Market Outcomes” (with M. Prada), January, 2014. (*submitted*)

“Bullying, Cybercrime and Happiness: The Role of Cognitive and Non-cognitive Skills” (with M. Sarsoza), December, 2013.

“Birth Order, Education, and Family Size” (with J. Bagger, J. Birchenall, H. Mansourz). NBER working paper N 19138, June 2013 (*submitted*).

“The Effect Of Mandated Child Care On Female Wages” (with M. Prada and G. Rucci), October 2013.

“The Effects Education on Labor Market and Health Outcomes” (with J. Heckman, John Humphries and G. Veramendi).

“Lead Exposure And Its Effects On Academic Achievement: Evidence from A Case of Environmental Negligence” (with Tomas Rau and Loreto Reyes), NBER working paper N 1895, March 2013. (R & R)

“The Impact of Publically Funded Innovation Projects: Evidence from Chile’s INNOVA program” (with G. Crespi, A. Maffioli, R. Stucchi), October, 2013.

“An Evaluation of Training Programs Financed by Public Funds in Chile” (with J. Rodriguez), June 2013 (*submitted*).

“Firm Dynamics in Chile: Evidence from Matched employer-employee data”, (with M. Rodriguez-Chatruc), September, 2013.

“Using an Experimental Approach to Identify Labor Market Discrimination Based on

Gender and Social Class in a Developing Economy” (with D. Bravo and C. Sanhueza), 2011.

“Unobserved Heterogeneity, School Choice and The effects of Voucher on Academic Achievement: New Evidence from Chile” (with C. Sanchez and T. Rau), manuscript 2012.

“The Impact Of Out-Of-Home Childcare Centers On Early Childhood Development” (with Gregory Veramendi). Manuscript, 2012.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Best Chilean Economist of 2013. Elected by the alumni of the University of Chile.
- Co-organizer of the Employment, Productivity and Skills Network of Latin America and the Caribbean, (Jan 2013-)
- Organizer of the conference “Skills, Education and Labor Market Outcomes”, University of Maryland, May 2013.
- Co-organizer of Conference on Applied Microeconomics University of Maryland-College Park and the Latin American and Caribbean Chief Economist Office of the World Bank (<http://econweb.umd.edu/~urzua/AppliedMicroConf.html>), May 2012.
- Public service (Chile): Member of the presidential commission for the design of the social program “Ingreso Ético Familiar” (2010-2012), member of the committee for the evaluation of the Chilean training system (Labor Ministry 2011-2012), member of the committee for the evaluation of the Casen surveys (Ministry of Planning, 2011), member of the committee for a new minimum wage (Finance Ministry, 2010).
- Reid Dissertation Fellow, University of Chicago, 2006-2007.
- Esther and T.W. Schultz Endowment, Dissertation Fellowship, University of Chicago, 2005-2006
- University of Chicago Graduate Fellowship, 2001-2005
- Universidad de Chile Graduate Fellowship, 1999-2000
- Universidad de Chile Undergraduate Fellowship 1998
- Best Graduate Student, Department of Economics, Universidad de Chile 2000.
- Best BA Student, Department of Economics, Universidad de Chile 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999.

GRANTS

- Research and Scholarship Award (summer 2014), University of Maryland SEED (~9k)
- NIH (2010-2014): The Effects of Early Interventions (2.4 million dollars) (with Jere Behrman).
- IADB: Improving Early Childhood Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (~60k)
- Northwestern University Research Grant: Are Public Child-Care Centers Effective in Reducing Poverty? (~5K)

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

Consultant for World Bank, IADB, OECD, Alas Foundation.

SKILLS

Proficient in LaTeX, FORTRAN, MPI, Stata, MATLAB.

REFEREE

Econometrica, American Economic Review, Economic Inquiry, Journal of Econometrics, Review of Economics and Statistics, American Sociological Review, Journal of Labor Economics, Journal of Political Economy, Journal of Population Economics, Journal of Business and Economic Statistics, Sociology of Education, Journal of Human Capital, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Journal of Applied Econometrics, Latin American Journal of Economics, among others.

RECENT PRESENTATIONS

Forthcoming, Brown, University of Maryland (Pop center), Uppsala University and Stockholm School of Economics (March).

2013: *January*. “Equity in Middle Years: How are Skills Built for and on the Job”, Invited Speaker, bi-annual HD Forum, World Bank. *March*: “The Impact of Conditional Cash Transfers: Challenges for Public Policies” (DPS, Bogota). *May*: University of Maryland (conference on “Skills and Labor Market”). *June*: Universidad de los Andes, Bogota (Colombia), OECD (Paris) and INSPER (Brazil), *September*: Notre Dame. *October*: ICFES, Bogota (Colombia). *November*: LACEA, Mexico City; New York Fed, *December*: Rio de Janeiro (OECD) and Bureau of Labor Statistics.

2012: *May*. Aarhus University, Denmark; and IMT Institute for Advanced Studies, Lucca, Italy. *June*: Conference on Applied Economics, University of Maryland. *July*: NBER Summer Institute, Boston. *August*: New York Academy of Science. *September*: Duke University and IADB. *October*: IZA, Germany. *November*: LACEA, Lima (Peru); Toulouse School of Economics and Paris School of Economics, France; ENADE, Santiago, Chile.

2011: *January*. Conference on “Economic Perspectives on Some Important Dimensions of Early Childhood Development in Developing Countries”, Bellagio, Italy. *July*: University of Sao Paulo, Brazil. *November*: University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. *December*: Brazilian Meeting of Economics, Foz de Iguazu.

2010: *February*. National Academy of Science, Washington, DC.; University of Maryland, USA. *April*: The World Bank, Washington, DC.; La Paz, Bolivia.; Northwestern University, USA. *May*, IADB, Washington, D.C. *Sept*: SECHI09, Talca, Chile; LACEA, Medellin, Colombia (invited lecture); “What do we know about early intervention in developing economies”, ALAP, La Havana, Cuba (plenary session).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Econometrics I (Econ 422), Department of Economics, University of Maryland, Fall 2012, Spring 2013, Fall 2013, Spring 2014.
- Advanced Labor Market (Econ 771) (PhD level), Department of Economics, University of Maryland, Fall 2011, 2012, 2013.
- Economics of the Labor Market (Econ 440-1) (PhD level), Department of Economics, Northwestern University, Winter 2008., Fall 2009, Fall 2010.
- Advanced Econometrics I (Econ 381-1) and II (Econ 381-2), Department of Economics, Northwestern University, 2008 and 2009, 2010.
- The Economics of Education (Econ 341), Department of Economics, Northwestern University, Spring 2010.
- Advanced Micro-econometrics, Department of Economics, Catholic University of Chile, Summer 2008.
- Empirical Models with Unobserved Heterogeneity, Department of Industrial Engineering, University of Chile, Summer 2007.
- Econometrics B (Econ 211), Department of Economics, University of Chicago, Spring 2007.
- Econometrics A (Econ 210), Department of Economics, University of Chicago, Spring 2006.
- Elements of Economics Analysis 4 (Econ 203), Department of Economics, University of Chicago, Autumn 2004.
- Topics in Macroeconomics, Department of Economics, Universidad de Chile. Fall 2001
- Econometrics II, Department of Economics, Universidad de Chile. Fall 2001.
- Theory of Prices II, Department of Economics, Universidad de Chile. Spring and Fall 2000.
- Introduction to Economics, Department of Economics, Universidad de Chile. Fall 2000.