

LEAH K. LAKDAWALA

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CURRENT POSITION

Assistant Professor, Michigan State University, Department of Economics, August 2012- present

FMLA Leave: 2017

Research Fields: Development Economics, Labor Economics

PREVIOUS POSITIONS

2008 – 2010 Consultant, World Bank – Development Research Group

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Economics, University of California, San Diego, 2012

M.Sc. Economics with Distinction, University College London, 2006

B.Sc. with Honors in International Economics, Georgetown University, Walsh School of Foreign Service, 2005

Magna cum laude, Honors Certificate in International Business Diplomacy

PUBLICATIONS

Bharadwaj, Prashant and Leah K. Lakdawala. 2013. “Discrimination Begins in the Womb: Evidence of Sex-Selective Prenatal Investments.” *Journal of Human Resources* 48(1): 71-113.

Lakdawala, Leah K. and David Simon. 2017. “The Intergenerational Consequences of Tobacco Policy: A Review of Policy’s Influence on Maternal Smoking and Child Health.” *Southern Economic Journal* 84(1): 229-74.

“Perverse Consequences of Well-Intentioned Regulation: Evidence from India’s Child Labor Ban.” (with Prashant Bharadwaj and Nicolas Li) April 2018. *Journal of the European Economic Association* (forthcoming). Previously circulated as *NBER Working Paper 19602*.

WORKING PAPERS AND WORKS IN PROGRESS

“The Impact of Internet Access on Student Learning in Peruvian Schools.” (with Kevin Kho and Eduardo Nakasone) August 2018.

“Veteran Disability and Child Outcomes.” (with Prashant Bharadwaj) June 2018.

“From Loans to Labor: Microcredit, Entrepreneurship and Child Labor.” July 2018.

“Explaining the Differential Treatment of Daughters and Sons: The Role of Economic Incentives.”

“Peer Groups and Academic Achievement: Panel Evidence from Administrative Data.” (with Julian R. Betts and Andrew Zau)

AFFILIATIONS

Core Faculty Member, Center for Advanced Study of International Development (CASID)

Core Faculty Member, Center for Gender in a Global Context (GenCen)

Affiliated Faculty Member, Asian Studies Center

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

- 2018 University of Hawaii, Manoa, Department of Economics (Seminar)
Sustainability and Development Conference, University of Michigan
Inter-American Development Bank Research Department, Washington DC (Seminar)
Development Economics Conference, UC San Diego
Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada, Department of Economics (Seminar)
Summer Meetings of the Econometric Society, University of California, Davis
University of Madison, Wisconsin, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics
(Seminar)
MSU Empirical Microeconomics Lunch Workshop
- 2017 Development Day Conference, Northwestern University
MSU Development Lunch Workshop
- 2016 Summer Meetings of the Econometric Society, Philadelphia
- 2015 Labor Day Conference, University of Michigan
- 2014 Development Day Conference, Notre Dame University
Western Michigan University, Department of Economics (Seminar)
BREAD-CEPR-PODER Conference on Development, London School of Economics,
London
- 2013 Dartmouth College, Department of Economics (Seminar)
Annual Conference on Economic Growth and Development (ACEGD), Indian
Statistical Institute (Delhi)
Northeastern Universities Development Consortium (NEUDC) Conference, Harvard
Michigan State University, Department of Economics (Applied Seminar)
- 2012 University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, Department of Public Policy (Seminar)
George Washington University, Department of Economics (Seminar)
Federal Housing Finance Agency (Seminar)
U.S. Treasury, Micro Group (Seminar)

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- Department of Justice (Seminar)
 University of Colorado Boulder, Department of Economics (Seminar)
 Michigan State University, Department of Economics (Seminar)
 Claremont McKenna College, Department of Economics (Seminar)
 Simon Fraser University, Department of Economics (Seminar)
 Royal Holloway University, London, Department of Economics (Seminar)
 Consumer Finance and Protection Bureau (Seminar)
 Barnard College, Department of Economics (Seminar)
 Midwest International Economic Development Conference (MWIEDC), University of
 Minnesota, Minneapolis
- 2011 Northeastern Universities Development Consortium (NEUDC) Conference, MIT
 All-California Labor Economics Conference, RAND Santa Monica
 NBER Entrepreneurship Research Boot Camp, NBER
 Western Economic Association International Annual Conference,
 San Diego
 Conference on the Long Run Impacts of Early Life Events,
 University of Michigan
 Pacific Conference for Development Economics (Pac-Dev),
 UC Berkeley
- 2010 Northeastern Universities Development Consortium (NEUDC) Conference, MIT
 2009 Western Economic Association International Annual Conference,
 Vancouver
 Pacific Conference for Development Economics (Pac-Dev),
 San Francisco State University

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE

- Member: American Economic Association, Econometric Society
- Referee: Economic Development and Cultural Change, World Development,
 Journal of Development Economics, Canadian Journal of Economics,
 Journal of Human Resources, Proceedings of the National Academy of
 Science, Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics, Population
 Studies, Journal of Health Economics, Feminist Economics, AEJ:
 Policy, The Economic Journal, Journal of Population Economics
- Committees: Economics Advisory Committee to Chair (2012-3)
 Development Field Exam Committee (2012-3, 2014-5)
 Graduate Instruction Committee (2013-4, 2014-5)
 Econometrics Field Exam Committee (2012-3, 2014-5)
 Master's in Public Policy Advisory and Admissions Committee (2014-5)
 Labor Recruiting Committee (2014-5)
 Water (Environment/Development) Recruiting Committee (2014-5)
 University Jurisdictional Appeal Panel (2016)
 Departmental Computer Committee (2017-9)
- Misc: Co-organizer of Development Day Conference (2012, 2017)

Co-creator of MSU Development Lunch Workshop (2012-3)
Organizer of MSU Development Lunch Workshop (2013-4)
Creator and organizer of MSU Assistant Professor Lunch Workshop (2012)

TEACHING

EC410: Development Economics (Undergraduate)
EC413: Economic Analysis of Asia (Undergraduate)
EC850: Growth, Development, and Human Resources (PhD Development Economics)
PPL802: Quantitative Methods II (Master's Econometrics)

ADVISING

PhD: Committee member:
Econ: Asja Asenova, Hui Wang (Econ/AFRE), Muzna Alvi, Hyeongjun Bang, Godwin Debrah (Econ/AFRE), Kevin Kho, Sambojyoti Biswas, Kathryn Bollman
Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics (AFRE): Ayala Wineman, Aissatou Ouedraogo, Evgeniya Moskaleva, Josephat Koima

Master's: Master's in Public Policy (MPP): Eyup Civelek, Herve Mukuna, Keran Zhu, Qiang Feng, Weiqin Wu, Xiaodi Zhu, Haining Wang
Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics (AFRE): Awa Sanou

Undergraduate: Economics Scholar Advisor: Ruth Awor, Sarah Schuitt, Ruth Archer, Chelsea Wein
Social Science Scholar Advisor: Grace Hough
AEA Scholars Program – Faculty Research Mentor (2017)

HONORS, SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2010 – 2011 Clive Granger Prize, Department of Economics, UCSD
2008 – 2010 PreDoctoral Fellow, Department of International Relations and Pacific Studies Center on Pacific Economies, UCSD
2008 Summer Graduate Research Fellow, Department of Economics, UCSD
2005 William F. Notz Medal for International Economics, Georgetown University