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HOME ADDRESS:

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DESIRED RESEARCH AND TEACHING FIELDS:

PRIMARY
Labor Economics
Public Economics
Economics of Education

FIELDS OF CONCENTRATION:

Labor Economics, Public Economics

DISSERTATION TITLE: “Essays on College Access and Completion”

Expected Date of Completion: May 2017
Principal Advisor: Professor Jesse Rothstein
Other References: Professors David Card and Hilary Hoynes

PRE-DOCTORAL STUDIES:

	DEGREE	DATE	FIELD
San Francisco State University (SFSU)	M.A.	2011	Economics
University of California, Santa Cruz	B.A.	2001	Sociology (Highest Honors)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

RESEARCH:

Research Assistant at the Center for Studies in Higher Education, UC Berkeley (Spring 2015–Summer 2016)
Research Assistant for Prof. Christopher Walters, UC Berkeley (Summer 2014)
Research Assistant for Prof. Jesse Rothstein, UC Berkeley (Summer 2012)

TEACHING:

Instructor for Public Economics, Department of Economics, UC Berkeley (Summer 2015)
Responsible for all aspects of course including lectures, assessments, and grading

Head Graduate Student Instructor, Department of Economics, UC Berkeley (Fall 2015–Summer 2016)
Coordinated hiring of GSIs/TAs; provided enrollment assistance for undergraduates; organized course evaluations

Graduate Student Instructor (Teaching Assistant), Department of Economics, UC Berkeley
Public Economics (Emmanuel Saez, Spring 2014 and Spring 2015)
Intermediate Microeconomics (Calanit Kamala, Fall 2014)
Introduction to Economics (Martha Olney, Fall 2013)

Mathematics and Economics Instructor, Convent of the Sacred Heart High School, San Francisco, CA (2004-2007)

MILITARY SERVICE:

United States Marine Corps Reserve (2003-2009)
Honorably discharged in 2009 at rank of Sergeant; deployed to Iraq in 2008

PAPERS:

“Expanding College Access: The Impact of New Universities on Local Enrollment” (Job Market Paper)

Abstract: Do non-tuition costs constrain college access? From 1995 to 2005, California opened four new public universities. I exploit these openings to test whether distance is a binding constraint on four-year college enrollment among new high school graduates. I show that distance is highly influential: Although California has dozens of public four-year colleges, 40 percent of enrollment from new graduates is at schools within 25 miles of home. Using event study and difference-in-difference models, I find that the opening of a new university nearby raises the four-year enrollment rate among recent high school graduates from local high schools by 1.6 percentage point (an 8 percent increase), with no effect on the share of local graduates who attend farther-away campuses. The extensive margin effect and lack of displacement show up across a range of subgroups, including under-represented minority students. My findings support the view that cost-of-living constraints are binding for many prospective college students.

“The Effects of the Fall Program for Freshmen on Graduation and Other College Outcomes” (work in progress)

Abstract: UC Berkeley’s Fall Program for Freshmen (FPF) is a semester-length program available for students officially admitted for the Spring. FPF participants choose from a subset of introductory Berkeley courses and receive specialized advising, while living and participating in extra-curricular activities with other Berkeley students. FPF students then take regular Berkeley courses in the next semester. Internal analyses from UC Berkeley suggest that the six-year graduation rates of FPF participants are slightly greater than regular Fall entrants, and much greater than non-FPF Spring entrants. I will compare college outcomes of FPF participants to other Berkeley from 2006-2009, such as graduation rates, time-to degree, and major selection. Differences in group outcomes will be adjusted for selection-on-observables using students’ admissions data. I will also investigate if there exists any quasi-experimental variation between Spring- and Fall-admit students that I can exploit to determine the causal effect of FPF on retention and graduation college outcomes.

PRESENTATIONS:

2016: Labor Seminar (UC Berkeley); Center for Labor Economics Symposium (UC Berkeley); All-California Labor Economics Conference (UC Davis, poster); IRLE Seminar (UC Berkeley, planned)
2015: Center for Labor Economics Symposium (UC Berkeley); Center for Studies in Higher Education (UC Berkeley); Labor Lunch (UC Berkeley); AEA Pipeline Conference (Univ. of New Mexico); Bay Area Labor/Public Graduate Student Conference (Stanford)
2010: AEA Pipeline Conference (UC Santa Barbara, poster)

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS:

Doctoral Completion Fellowship, UC Berkeley	2016-2017
Gardner Fellow, Center for Studies in Higher Education, UC Berkeley	2015-2017
Chancellor’s Fellowship for Graduate Study, UC Berkeley	2011-2013
Master's Hood Recipient and Distinguished Achievement Award, SFSU	2011
AEA/NSF Summer Training Program Scholarship, UC Santa Barbara	2010
CSU Pre-Doctoral Program: Honorable Mention, SFSU	2010
Alumni Association Scholarship, SFSU	2010
Don Scoble Economics Scholarship, SFSU	2010
Certificate of Commendation, United States Marine Corps	2008
Highest Honors in Major and College Honors, UC Santa Cruz	2001
Regents’ Scholarship, UC Santa Cruz	1996-2000

OTHER INFORMATION:

Affiliations: American Economic Association (CSMGEP: Mentoring Program and Summer Training Program)
Languages: English (native)
Citizenship: United States of America