



Caitlin Kearns

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Education

University of California, Berkeley

Ph.D. in Economics, Expected May 2020

Dissertation advisor: Jesse Rothstein

Research areas: School choice, School finance, Housing and Real estate

Courses: Econometrics, Applied Econometrics, Time Series Econometrics, Statistical Learning Theory

Wellesley College

B.A. in Economics with Honors, May 2010

Dissertation research

“School finance reforms and neighborhood change.”

Presented at OSU Real Estate and Housing PhD Conference, May 16, 2019.

Poster presentation at All-California Labor Economics Conference, October 4, 2018.

“What’s in a review? Using text analysis to understand how parents value schools.”

Presented at UC Berkeley Computational Text Analysis Working Group, October 8, 2018.

(with Chris Campos) “Options and Opportunity in LAUSD: Evaluating Zones of Choice.”

Publications and Working Papers

(with Doug Lauen and Bruce Fuller) “Competing with Charter Schools - Student Selection, Retention, and Achievement in Los Angeles Pilot Schools.” 2018.

(with Gene Amromin) “Access to Refinancing and Mortgage Interest Rates: HARPing on the Importance of Competition.” FRB of Chicago Working Paper No. 2014-25.

Media coverage: “Here’s How Lack of Competition Can Hurt Consumers.” By Binyamin Appelbaum, *The New York Times*, January 5, 2015. ([link](#))

(with Kristin Butcher and Patrick McEwan) (2013). “Giving Till it Helps? Alumnae Giving and Children’s College Options.” *Research in Higher Education*, 54(5), 499-513.

Awards and Fellowships

NSF Graduate Research Fellowship, Fall 2014 - Spring 2019

Fisher Center for Real Estate Research Grant Program, Fall 2017 - Spring 2018

Phi Beta Kappa, Fall 2009

Katharine Malone Prize for Academic Excellence, Spring 2008

Professional Experience

American Institutes for Research, San Mateo, CA

Researcher (Principal researcher: Jesse Levin, *Aug 2018 - Present*)

- Collaborated on analysis of survey and school budget data for evaluation of weighted student funding

Uber, San Francisco, CA

Data Science Intern (Supervisor: Elizabeth Mishkin, *May 2019 - Aug 2019*)

- Performed independent quasi-experimental estimation of the effect of Instant Pay on driver hours
- Produced descriptive report on driver debit card spending

Petris Center for Health Care Markets and Consumer Welfare, UC Berkeley

Graduate Student Researcher (Principal researcher: Richard Scheffler, *Jan 2018 - May 2019*)

- Collaborated on analysis of effects of healthcare market concentration on insurance premiums
- Coordinated publication of market concentration and hospital price findings in *New York Times* ([link](#))

Institute for Human Development, UC Berkeley

Graduate Student Researcher (Principal researcher: Bruce Fuller, *Jan 2016 - Aug 2017*)

- Performed data analysis and co-authored evaluation of Los Angeles pilot high schools
- Compiled records for Bay Area preschool students and coordinated integration into state education database (CALPADS)

Haas School of Business, UC Berkeley

Graduate Student Researcher (Principal researcher: Amir Kermani, *Jun 2016 - Aug 2017*)

- Performed event study analysis of large housing and stock trading datasets (McDash, DataQuick, TAQ, ANcerno) and visualized results
- Assisted evaluation of Home Affordable Refinance Program's effects on household consumption

Research Department, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago

Senior Associate Economist (Supervisor: Anna Paulson, *Jun 2010 - Jun 2014*)

- Analyzed large mortgage, consumer credit, and survey datasets using quasi-experimental methods (2SLS, regression discontinuity, matching, parametric survival models)
- Managed 10+ long-term projects from analysis to submission, coordinated with outside academics

Grupo de Análisis para el Desarrollo, Lima, Peru

Research assistant (Principal researcher: Martín Benavides, *Jun 2009 - Aug 2009*)

- Analyzed written survey responses of Peruvian students on education and career expectations

Teaching and Mentoring

Department of Economics, UC Berkeley

Mentoring Program, Fall 2018

- Provided one-on-one guidance and feedback on undergraduate data analysis and programming

Department of Economics, UC Berkeley

Graduate Student Instructor: Introduction to Economics

Instructor: Martha Olney, *Fall 2017*

- Reinforced concepts for 60 undergraduate students in interactive class sections and one-on-one
- Created original course materials to aid students in exam preparation

Department of Economics, Wellesley College

Supplemental Instruction Leader: Introduction to Econometrics

Instructor: Adrienne Lucas, *Spring 2009*

- Led review sessions and created original materials to reinforce econometric concepts

Skills

Languages: English (native), Spanish (professional written and spoken)

Data analysis: R, pandas, MATLAB, Stata, SAS

Databases: SQL (Presto, Hive)

GIS: ArcGIS, GeoPandas

Other: L^AT_EX, TikZ

Professional Memberships

American Economic Association (AEA)

Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM)

Last updated: August 30, 2019