

PIYUSH GANDHI

CONTACT INFORMATION

Department of Economics
University of California, Santa Cruz

☎ : (831) 266-5378
✉ : pigandhi@ucsc.edu

EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

- University of California, Santa Cruz (2021-present): PhD, Economics
- University of Oxford (2017-2019): MPhil, Economics
 - MPhil Thesis - 'Banking the Unbanked: Explaining Financial Inclusion in India'
- University of Delhi (2014-2017): B.A. (Hons) Economics
 - Secured First Division

EMPLOYMENT

- Good Business Lab, India
2019- 2021: Senior Research Associate for Prof. Achyuta Adhvaryu and Prof. Anant Nyshadham

RESEARCH PROJECTS

- "Extinguishing the Blaze: Impact of Crop Residue Management on Stubble Burning in India".
- "Credit access and firm pollution in India" with Patrick Behrer and Teevrat Garg (on-going analysis).
- "Evaluating Tools for Adaptation Strategies and Cost-Benefit Assessment of Coastal Climate Solutions in California" with Galina Hale, Borja Gonzalez Reguero and Drishan Banerjee (on-going analysis).
- "Worker Voice: Evidence from Manufacturing in India" with Achyuta Adhvaryu, Anant Nyshadham, Teresa Molina and Smit Gade (on-going RCT in India).
- "Banking The Unbanked: Explaining Financial Inclusion in India" (MPhil Thesis, Oxford University)

RESEARCH GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

- 2025 Center for Coastal Climate Resilience Fellowship (\$32,430)
- 2025 J-PAL SARWA Pilot Grant- with Aprajit Mahajan (\$75,000)
- 2025 Agricultural Experiment Station Fellowship (\$6,000)
- 2024 CEGA Development Economics Challenge (\$18,350)
- 2024 Dissertation Research Grant, University of California, Santa Cruz (\$4,650)
- 2024 Agricultural Experiment Station Fellowship (\$6,000)
- 2023 Blum Scholar Grant, UC Santa Cruz (\$4,000)
- 2023 Dissertation Research Grant, University of California, Santa Cruz (\$4,850)
- 2023 PEDL Exploratory Research Grant (£22,450)

-
- 2022 ATAI Travel/ Proposal Development Grant (\$5,520)
 - 2022 Dissertation Research Grant, University of California, Santa Cruz (\$4,535)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

PRESENTATIONS (includes scheduled)

- 2025 All California Labor Economics Conference, Stanford University
- 2025 Blum Scholars & Agricultural Experiment Station Symposium, UC Santa Cruz
- 2025 AFE Conference, University of Chicago (to be presented by co-author)
- 2025 Summer School on Socioeconomic Opportunity & Inequality (IPEA Brasília, Brazil)
- 2025 BITSS Research Transparency and Reproducibility Training, UC Berkeley
- 2025 LAERE Conference (Bogota, Colombia)
- 2025 Graduate Symposium, UCSC (Best Presentation Award, Social Sciences)
- 2025 Grad Slam, UCSC (People's Choice Award & Best Presentation, Social Sciences)
- 2024 Graduate Symposium, UCSC (Best Presentation Award, Social Sciences)
- 2023 Eileen Brooks Award for Best Second Year Paper, UC Santa Cruz
- 2023 UC Berkeley Summer School in Environmental and Energy Economics
- 2019 "Global Metropolis" conference, Pantheon- Sorbonne University, Paris, France.
- 2018 "Future of Work" conference, University of Helsinki, Finland
- 2018 World Youth Forum, Egypt.

OTHER EMPLOYMENT, RESEARCH EXPERIENCE AND POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY

-
- Summer 2025 UC Santa Cruz, Research Assistant for Prof. Ariel Zucker
 - Winter & Spring 2025 UC Santa Cruz, Research Assistant for Prof. Galina Hale
 - Summer 2024 UC Santa Cruz, Research Assistant for Prof. Ariel Zucker
 - Winter 2023 Best Teaching Assistant Award, UCSC
 - Summer 2022 & 2023 Consultant, The World Bank (DEC-Sustainability & Infrastructure)
 - Summer 2022 University of California Santa Cruz, Research Assistant for Prof. Ariel Zucker
 - Summer 2018 Summer Intern, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy

PUBLICATIONS

-
- "Impact of Intergovernmental Fiscal Transfers on Gender Equality in India: An Empirical Study" with Lekha Chakraborty and Janet Stotsky- McGill University: <http://grow.research.mcgill.ca/working-papers/>
 - "Breaking the shackles of Financial Deprivation" with Lekha Chakraborty
Featured in October 2018 in Yojana- a development journal published by Government of India.

CODING SKILLS

- Stata, R, Python, MS Excel, SurveyCTO

LANGUAGES

- Hindi (Native), English (Advanced), Punjabi (Advanced)