Sean Higgins

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CURRENT POSITION	**University of California, Berkeley**, Center for Effective Global Action Post-Doctoral Fellow	Berkeley 2016–present
EDUCATION	**Tulane University**, Department of Economics Ph.D. (fields: Development Economics, Public Finance) B.S., *summa cum laude* and Phi Beta Kappa	New Orleans 2016 2011
VISITING POSITIONS	**Banco de México** (Central Bank), Payment Systems Division Visiting Researcher	Mexico City 2017
	University of California, Berkeley, Haas School of Business Visiting Scholar	Berkeley 2014–2015
	El Colegio de México, Center for Economic Studies Visiting Researcher	Mexico City 2013–2014

PUBLICATIONS

Digital Financial Services Go a Long Way: Transaction Costs and Financial Inclusion (with Pierre Bachas, Paul Gertler, and Enrique Seira). *AEA Papers & Proceedings*, forthcoming.

Can a Poverty-Reducing and Progressive Tax and Transfer System Hurt the Poor? (with Nora Lustig). *Journal of Development Economics* 122, 63–75, 2016.
  Media coverage: *The Washington Post*

Comparing the Incidence of Taxes and Social Spending in Brazil and the United States (with Nora Lustig, Whitney Ruble, and Timothy M. Smeeding). *Review of Income and Wealth* 62, S22-46, 2016.

The Effects of Brazil's Taxation and Social Spending on the Distribution of Household Income (with Claudiney Pereira). *Public Finance Review* 42, 346–367, 2014.
  Media coverage: *Bloomberg Businessweek*; *Folha de São Paulo*; *Le Monde*

The Impact of Bolsa Família on Poverty: Does Brazil's Conditional Cash Transfer Program Have a Rural Bias? (undergraduate honors thesis). *Journal of Politics and Society* 23, 88–125, 2012.

WORKING PAPERS

How Debit Cards Enable the Poor to Save More (with Pierre Bachas, Paul Gertler, and Enrique Seira).

The Political Economy of Antipoverty Spending and Poverty Measurement (with Stefano Barbieri).

GRANTS

Digital Credit Observatory	2017–2019
"Gender-Differentiated Credit Scoring Algorithms using Call Detail Records and Machine Learning" (PI)	$268,263
Pilot Fund (PI)	$19,645
Data 2X/UN Foundation	2017–2019
Big Data for Gender Challenge (Co-PI)	$49,986
Innovations for Poverty Action	2016–2019
"Leveraging Digitized Government Transfers to Offer Low-Interest Microcredit" (Co-PI)	$345,000

J-PAL 2017–2018
Government Partnership Initiative (Co-PI) $28,012

World Bank 2017–2018
"Enhancing Equitable Opportunities through Access to Productive Assets for Female Entrepreneurs" (Co-PI) $154,000

Development Impact Lab/USAID 2017
Explore Travel Grant $4,890

CEGA–Visa Financial Inclusion Lab 2016–2017
"Leveraging Digitized Government Transfers to Offer Low-Interest Microcredit" (Co-PI) $150,000
Pilot Fund (PI) $10,000

National Science Foundation 2015–2016
Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant $16,481

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation 2014–2016
"The Impact of Fiscal Policy on Inequality and Poverty in Low-income Countries" (Co-PI) $581,162

Fulbright Program 2013–2014
Fulbright–García Robles Public Policy Initiative $13,384

HONORS AND AWARDS

School of Liberal Arts Summer Merit Fellowship ($9570)	2014, 2015
Schloss Prize for Excellence in Economics Research ($2500)	2014
School of Liberal Arts Graduate Fellowship	2011–2016
William Wallace Peery Society (top percentile of graduating class)	2011
Paul Tulane College Award in Economics	2011
James H. Clark Fellowship	2010, 2011
Phi Beta Kappa	inducted as a junior in 2010
Liberal Arts Research Award ($1000)	2010
Stone Center Award for Best Paper on Latin America	2010
David Cameron Taylor Summer Research Grant ($1500)	2010
Raytheon Scholarship ($2000)	2009, 2010
Omicron Delta Epsilon Economics Honor Society	inducted in 2009
Stone Center Summer Grant ($500)	2009
Dean's Honor Scholarship (full tuition merit-based scholarship)	2007–2011

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Artificial Intelligence for Economic Development (CEGA and World Bank)	2018
Comisión Nacional Bancaria y de Valores (CNBV, Economics Seminar)	2017
Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM, Business Seminar)	2017
Centro de Estudios Espinosa Yglesias (CEEY, Seminar)	2017
World Bank (Poverty Global Practice)	2017
UC Berkeley (Development Lunch)	2016
Universidad Iberoamericana (EQUIDE Seminar)	2016
Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM, Economics Brownbag)	2016
Mexico's Ministry of Social Development	2016
Bansefi (Mexican government bank)	2016
Arizona State University (Economics Seminar)	2016
Tulane University (Economics Seminar)	2015
University of San Francisco (Economics Seminar)	2015

UC Berkeley (Development Economics Seminar)	2015
Tulane University (Public Policy Working Group)	2015
UC Berkeley (Development Lunch)	2015
World Bank (Poverty Reduction and Equity)	2015
Inter-American Development Bank (Gender and Diversity Unit)	2013
Center for Inter-American Policy and Research	2013
Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (Economics)	2013
World Bank (Poverty Reduction and Equity)	2013
UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, Santiago	2013
African Development Bank, Tunis	2013
Universidad Carlos III de Madrid	2012
Inter-American Dialogue, Washington, D.C.	2011

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Pacific Conference for Development Economics (PacDev), UC Davis	2018
American Economic Association, Philadelphia (session organizer)	2018
Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association, BsAs (invited speaker)	2017
Northeast Universities Development Consortium (NEUDC), Tufts	2017
Congreso Sobre México, Universidad Iberoamericana, Mexico City	2017
Pacific Conference for Development Economics (PacDev), UC Riverside	2017
Northeast Universities Development Consortium (NEUDC), MIT	2016
Society for the Study of Economic Inequality, Luxembourg	2015
Congreso Sobre México, Universidad Iberoamericana, Mexico City	2015
Southern Economic Association, Atlanta	2014
Congreso Sobre México, Universidad Iberoamericana, Mexico City	2014
American Economic Association, Philadelphia	2014
Southern Economic Association, Tampa	2013
Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association, Mexico City	2013
International Association for Research on Income and Wealth, Rio de Janeiro	2013
Society for the Study of Economic Inequality, Bari	2013
Research Network on Inequality and Poverty, Washington, D.C.	2013
Southern Economic Association, New Orleans	2012
Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association, Lima	2012
German Association of Latin American Research, Berlin	2012
University of Texas Institute of Latin American Studies, Austin	2012

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of California, Berkeley, Haas School of Business	Berkeley
Guest Lecturer, Big Data and Better Decisions (MBA course)	Sp 2018
Guest Lecturer, Applied Impact Evaluation (Master's course)	Sp 2018
World Bank	Washington, D.C.
Instructor, Stata Training Session on Fiscal Incidence	Feb 2015, Feb, Jul 2016
Government of Paraguay	Asunción
Instructor, Stata Training Session on Fiscal Incidence	Sep 2015
Tulane University	New Orleans
Teaching Assistant, Economics of Poverty (N. Lustig)	Sp 2012, F 2013, Sp 2013
Teaching Assistant, Intermediate Microeconomics (J. Edwards)	Sp 2013

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE	**United Nations University**	Helsinki
	Consultant, World Institute for Development (UNU-WIDER)	2017
	Yale University	New Haven
	Research Assistant, Economics and Political Science (J. Roemer)	2014
	World Bank	Washington, D.C.
	Short Term Consultant, Poverty Reduction and Equity	2013–2016
	Short Term Consultant, Macroeconomics and Fiscal Management	2015–2016
	Short Term Consultant, Economic Policy Sector	2012
	Inter-American Development Bank	Washington, D.C.
	Consultant, Gender and Diversity Unit	2012–2015
	Tulane University	New Orleans
	Research Assistant, Economics (N. Lustig)	2010–2013
	Research Assistant, Portuguese (S. Beal)	2010–2011
	Instituto para la Participación y el Desarrollo	Buenos Aires
	Intern	2010

REFEREE
SERVICE

Food Policy
Journal of Environmental Economics and Management
Journal of Macroeconomics
Journal of Public Economics
Latin American Economic Review
Public Finance Review ($\times$2)
Research on Economic Inequality
Review of Income and Wealth ($\times$2)
Quarterly Review of Economics and Finance
World Development ($\times$2)

OTHER SERVICE	Volunteer, Job Market Recommendations, Women in Economics at Berkeley	2016
	Editor and Maintainer, Tulane Economics Working Paper Series	2015–2016
	Senator, Graduate and Professional Student Association, Tulane	2012–2013
	Representative, Graduate Studies Student Association, Tulane	2012–2013

LANGUAGES

English, Spanish, and Portuguese (fluent); French (advanced proficiency)

PROGRAMMING

Python, R, Stata; see www.github.com/skhiggins