

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., <i>summa cum laude</i> and Phi Beta Kappa	New Orleans 2016 2011
VISITING POSITIONS	Banco de México (Central Bank), Payment Systems Division Visiting Researcher University of California, Berkeley , Haas School of Business Visiting Scholar El Colegio de México , Center for Economic Studies Visiting Researcher	Mexico City 2017 Berkeley 2014–2015 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). <i>AEA Papers & Proceedings</i> , forthcoming. Can a Poverty-Reducing and Progressive Tax and Transfer System Hurt the Poor? (with Nora Lustig). <i>Journal of Development Economics</i> 122, 63–75, 2016. Media coverage: <i>The Washington Post</i> Comparing the Incidence of Taxes and Social Spending in Brazil and the United States (with Nora Lustig, Whitney Ruble, and Timothy M. Smeeding). <i>Review of Income and Wealth</i> 62, S22-46, 2016. The Effects of Brazil's Taxation and Social Spending on the Distribution of Household Income (with Claudiney Pereira). <i>Public Finance Review</i> 42, 346–367, 2014. Media coverage: <i>Bloomberg Businessweek</i> ; <i>Folha de São Paulo</i> ; <i>Le Monde</i> The Impact of Bolsa Família on Poverty: Does Brazil's Conditional Cash Transfer Program Have a Rural Bias? (undergraduate honors thesis). <i>Journal of Politics and Society</i> 23, 88–125, 2012.	
WORKING PAPERS	Banking on Trust: How Debit Cards Enable the Poor to Save More (with Pierre Bachas, Paul Gertler, and Enrique Seira). NBER Working Paper 23252. The Political Economy of Antipoverty Spending and Poverty Measurement (with Stefano Barbieri). Tulane Economics Working Paper 1604.	
GRANTS	Digital Credit Observatory “Gender-Differentiated Credit Scoring Algorithms using Call Detail Records and Machine Learning” (PI) Pilot Fund (PI) Data 2X/UN Foundation Big Data for Gender Challenge (Co-PI) Innovations for Poverty Action “Leveraging Digitized Government Transfers to Offer Low-Interest Microcredit” (Co-PI)	2017–2019 \$268,263 \$19,645 2017–2019 \$49,986 2016–2019 \$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	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	Pacific Conference for Development Economics (PacDev), UC Davis	2018
PRESENTATIONS	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	World Bank	Washington, D.C.
EXPERIENCE	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	United Nations University	Helsinki
EXPERIENCE	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	Food Policy	
SERVICE	Journal of Environmental Economics and Management	
	Journal of Macroeconomics	
	Journal of Public Economics	
	Public Finance Review (×2)	
	Research on Economic Inequality	
	Review of Income and Wealth (×2)	
	Quarterly Review of Economics and Finance	
	World Development (×2)	
OTHER	Volunteer, Job Market Recommendations, Women in Economics at Berkeley	2016
SERVICE	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)	