

Diversity Statement

I believe all people have equal value, regardless of race, religion, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, disability, age, or class. The world is diverse, and I appreciate institutions that reflect this diversity.

I have spent my life in Western Canada, where the population has a large fraction of recent immigrants from many different countries. I attended a high school that focused on the fine arts, with a student body that was very supportive of LGBTQ students. I have had wonderful female and minority academic instructors and advisors. In my current neighborhood I meet people from all over the globe. These experiences have enriched my life.

I cannot contribute much to diversity through my presence alone. However, I am committed to supporting people of all identities and backgrounds. Economics as an academic discipline is an outlier in terms of a low proportion of women and minorities at every career stage. I follow the ongoing debate about the sources of this imbalance, and I intend to take actions where I can. As a researcher, I will take my fair share of administrative duties, co-author with and cite women and minority researchers, demand diversity in any panels or groups I participate in, listen more than I speak in seminars, and avoid the sort of aggressive debating style that economists sometimes fall into. As a teacher, I will ensure that my classroom is a safe space for people of all backgrounds and encourage participation from all students. As much as possible, I like to make myself available to students for additional assistance and mentoring, and I make an extra effort for students who may be facing additional challenges because of their identity.

I look forward to participating in and supporting diverse communities throughout my life.