CAROLINA CONCHA-ARRIAGADA

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ADVISORS

Garance Genicot

Professor

Department of Economics

Georgetown University

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Provost's Distinguished Associate Professor

Department of Economics

Georgetown University

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Christopher Neilson

Assistant Professor

Department of Economics

Princeton University

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Economics *Fall 2017 - Present*
Georgetown University, District of Columbia, USA

M.A. in Economics (Summa cum laude) *May 2016*
ILADES-Universidad Alberto Hurtado, Santiago, Chile

B. Sc. in Economics *March 2012*
Business Engineer *March 2012*
Major in Economics
Universidad de Santiago, Santiago, Chile

SCHOLARSHIPS, HONORS AND AWARDS

Graduate School Dissertation Travel Grant *Spring 2021*
Georgetown University, USA

Georgetown University Summer Research Grant *Summer 2020*
Georgetown University, USA

Full Scholarship for Graduate Studies in Economics *Fall 2017 - Present*
Georgetown University, USA

Full Scholarship for Graduate Studies in Economics *March 2013 - February 2015*
Comision Nacional de Investigacion Cientifica y Tecnologica (CONICYT), Chile

Graduates and Friends University of Santiago de Chile Fundation Award *2012*
(Award to one of three best students in the class for his or her GPA and compromise with the university)

RESEARCH PROJECTS

It's always sunny in politics. (with JJ Naddeo)
Submitted
Abstract: The extant literature suggests that precipitation—mainly in the form of rainfall—has a significant impact on electoral outcomes. This paper adds to this literature by investigating an understudied dimension of weather—sunshine. Using novel daily weather measurements from satellites, linked to county-level U.S. Presidential electoral returns from 1948-2016, we document how sunshine affects the decision making of voters. We find that election-day exposure to sunshine increases support for the Democratic party on average. Additionally, we show that, contrary to prior findings that do not control for sunshine, precipitation has no detectable impact on partisan support, but universally depresses turnout. To rationalize our results we propose a mechanism whereby sunshine modulates voter mood which causes a change in voter choice, while precipitation only impacts turnout through increasing the cost of voting. We then build a theoretical model, which features this mechanism, and

generates additional tests that we take to our data. Our results suggest that uninformative weather on election day, specifically sunshine, has detectable electoral impacts that teach us about voter choice.

Should They Stay or Should They Go? High School Students Responses to College Admissions Policies.
Working Paper
Abstract: A policy reform in Chile in 2012 meant to increase college admission rates for high-performance students from low-income backgrounds. In this context, I study whether high school students react to changes in college admission by switching high schools. I construct a theoretical model to understand which students have incentives to switch schools in 12th grade. The model predicts that students whose performance is neither at the top nor at the bottom of the school-specific grade distribution have an incentive to move to a school with weaker academic competition. Empirically, I test this prediction and show that students who switch schools as a result of the policy come from top public schools, and they tend to target high schools with lower average GPAs. These strategic movers earn a marked increase in their application scores. The results suggest that about one-fifth of students who moved would not have access to their preferred major-college if they did not relocate. The magnitude of the effect suggests that these strategic movers are among the only beneficiaries of the policy. Students switching schools is an important unintended consequence to account for when designing college admission policies since it could impede or propel a policy's stated goals.

College Admission Policies and Students' High School Choice: Evidence from Chile.
Work in progress
Abstract: This paper empirically studies the consequences of college admission policies in students' high school choice in the context of a centralized college admission system. I examine the effects of a large-scale policy in Chile that mandated all institutions using the centralized system to incorporate a student's high school specific criterion, intended to help students with high performance during high school from socioeconomically marginalized groups. After the policy was put in place, the representation of high school students from low-quality schools in the most selective universities increased by 5 percentage points. I exploit the adoption of the policy and the local school market structure to estimate the effects of the college admission criteria on the quality of the school attended by students. My estimates indicate that students in local markets with high scope for gains are two percentage points less likely to attend a high-quality public school. To study the effects of larger changes in the college admission process, I estimate a joint model of school choice and outcomes. I identify the parameters of the model using exogenous variation in schools' thresholds in local market, and students pre-reform gains.

The Value of Gaining a Peer, the Value of Losing a Peer: Evidence from a Policy Reform in Chile. (with Jesús Villero)
Work in progress
Abstract: We exploit a change in the college admission policy occurred in 2014 in Chile, a country with a centralized admission system, that increased the probability of relatively high achieving high school students moving from higher- to lower-quality schools (as measured by average standardized test scores) to study the effects of being exposed to highly motivated peers on academic outcomes. We use a strategy that compares 12th-grade students in classrooms that received more high achieving students with those from the same schools but who were exposed to fewer or no high achieving students. Using both basic and nonlinear-in-means specifications, we show evidence of heterogeneous effects depending on the ability of the incumbent students.

RELEVANT POSITIONS

Research Assistant Prof. Garance Genicot   *Spring 2021- Present*
NBER WP #29796. "Measuring Upward Mobility". (with Debraj Ray)

Research Assistant Prof. Garance Genicot and Laurent Bouton   *Summer 2021*

Research Assistant Prof. Garance Genicot and Laurent Bouton   *Spring 2019 - August 2020*
Ongoing Project."Majoritarian Systems and Inequalities in Government Interventions: Evidence from India". (with Micael Castanheira and Guilhem Cassan)

Research Assistant Prof. William Jack *Spring 2018 and Fall 2019*

Ongoing Project. "Demand for and impacts of mobile phone-based index insurance in agriculture: Experimental evidence from Kenya." (with Andrew Zeitlin and Jacobus Cillier)

Research Assistant Prof. Nieves Valdes *Fall 2015 - Fall 2017*

"Publicly insured caesarean sections in private hospitals: a repeated cross-sectional analysis in Chile". Florencia Borrescio-Higa and Nieves Valdes. BMJ Open, 2019.

Work in progress. "Asymmetric information with multiple risks: the case of the Chilean Private Health Insurance Market". (with Dolores de la Mata, Matilde Machado and Pau Olivella).

Research Assistant Prof. Facundo Sepulveda *2010*

"Legalization and human capital accumulation". Fabio Mendez, Facundo Sepulveda and Nieves Valdes. Journal of Population Economics, 2016, Volume 29, Issue 3, pp 721-756.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor *Summer'21*
Intermediate Microeconomics (undergraduate's level)
Georgetown, Washington DC, US

Instructor *Summer'19,'20*
Principles of Microeconomics (undergraduate's level)
Georgetown, Washington DC, US

Teaching Assistant at Georgetown University
Econometrics I (undergraduate's level) *Spring'20,'21*
Intermediate Microeconomics (undergraduate's level) *Fall'18,'20*

Teaching Assistant at ILADES
Economics of Social Policies (master's level) *Spring'15*
Microeconomics II (master's level) *Spring'15*
Econometrics I (master's level) *Fall'14*
Macroeconomics I (master's level) *Spring and Fall'14*

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Junior Consultant, Centro de Libre Competencia *2011-2015*
Law Department, P. Universidad Catolica de Chile, Santiago, Chile

Intern *January to March 2010*
Fiscalia Nacional Economica (National agency responsible for safeguarding fair competition in all markets or productive sectors of the Chilean economy), Santiago, Chile

TECHNICAL STRENGTHS

Technical: LaTeX, Stata, Matlab, R
Language: Spanish (native), English (fluent)

Carolina Concha-Arriagada

February 2022