Caylee O'Connor

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579 Jane Stanford Way

Stanford, CA 94305-6072

EDUCATION Ph.D. in Economics, Stanford University 2020–2025 (expected)

B.S. in Mathematics, University of Alabama

B.A. in Economics

RESEARCH FIELDS Public, Labor, Development

REFERENCES Professor Caroline Hoxby Professor Melanie Morten Professor Nicholas Bloom

choxby@stanford.edu memorten@stanford.edu nbloom@stanford.edu

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2018

WORKING PAPERS Merging neighborhood schools to reduce socioeconomic segregation: Evidence from Charlotte, North Carolina (Job Market Paper)

Abstract: Since the end of court-mandated desegregation, many U.S. school districts have resegregated along racial and economic lines. This paper examines the impacts of a 2018 policy in Charlotte, North Carolina which merged student populations from neighboring schools with differing socioeconomic statuses (SES). I find that the policy significantly reduced economic segregation at merged schools. However, it also led to a sharp decline in enrollment as families, primarily low-SES ones, opted out of attending these schools. I also find that students from predominantly low-SES neighborhoods (who would have likely attended the low-SES school in absence of the merging) experienced declines in standardized test performance and increased short-term suspension rates, whereas those from predominantly high-SES neighborhoods showed modest gains in test scores and no change in suspension likelihood. Teacher retention increased at the merged schools. Finally, I find suggestive evidence that neighborhoods previously zoned to majority low-SES schools experienced an increase in house prices after the policy was implemented, while those previously zoned to high-SES schools saw a reduction in house prices.

Can Unconditional Teacher Salary Increases Improve Education Quality? Evidence from the Dominican Republic

Transportation, Gentrification & Urban Mobility: The Inequality Effects of Place-Based Policies with Gharad Bryan, Melanie Morten, Clare Balboni, Bilal Siddiqi

TEACHING	Stanford University	
EXPERIENCE	TA for Caroline Hoxby, ECON 146 (Economics of Education)	2024
	TA for John Taylor, ECON 1 (Principles of Economics)	2023
	TA for Melanie Morten, ECON 118 (Development Economics)	2023

AWARDS AND	B.F. Haley and E.S. Shaw Fellowship for Economics, SIEPR	2024
FELLOWSHIPS	Stanford King Center on Global Development Graduate Student Fellowship	2024
	Outstanding TA Award, Stanford University Economics Department	2023, 2024
	The University of Alabama Murray Havens Award (top senior in economics)	2018
	mi II	2014 2010

The University of Alabama Presidential Scholarship

Carol Sloan and Ernest Adams Fite Endowed Scholarship in Mathematics

2014-2018

RELEVANT Stanford University
POSITIONS Research Assistant for Prof. Melanie Morten 2023, 2024

Research Assistant for Prof. Pascaline Dupas 2021 - 2022

Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research

Predoctoral Research Fellow 2018 - 2020

SKILLS Software: R, LATEX, QGIS, MATLAB, Stata, SurveyCTO

Software: R, LATEX, QGIS, MATLAB, Stata, SurveyCTO Languages: English (native), Spanish (basic), Swahili (basic)

Updated October 2024