
CHRISTOPHER A. NEILSON
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor, Princeton University, 2015 -
Faculty Research Fellow, National Bureau of Economic Research, since 2015
J-PAL Academic Affiliate, since 2017

PAST APPOINTMENTS

Visiting Researcher, Microsoft Research, New England, 2017 - 2018
Visiting Scholar at Stern School of Business, New York University. 2014-2015
Aide to the Governor at Banco Central de Chile, 2005-2008

EDUCATION

Ph.D, Economics, Yale University, 2014
Msc. and B.A., Economics, Universidad de Chile, 2005, 2006

FEATURED RESEARCH - PUBLISHED AND WORKING PAPERS

O Brother, Where Start Thou? Sibling Spillovers on College and Major Choice in Four Countries
The Quarterly Journal of Economics, *forthcoming*
with A.Altmejd, A.Barrios-Fernandez, M.Drlje, J.Goodman, M.Hurwitz, D.Kovac, C.Mulhern, J.Smith

Heterogeneous Beliefs and School Choice Mechanisms
American Economic Review, 110(5): 1274-1315, May 2020
with A.Kapor and S.Zimmerman

Early Life Health Interventions and Academic Achievement
American Economic Review, 103(5): 1862-91, August 2013
with P. Bharadwaj and K. Loken

Targeted Vouchers, Competition Among Schools, and the Academic Achievement of Poor Students
Revise and Resubmit at Econometrica
PhD Thesis, Yale University

Approximating The Equilibrium Effects of Informed School Choice
Revise and Resubmit at The Review of Economic Studies
Princeton IR Section WP No. 628, with C. Allende and F. Gallego

Equilibrium Effects of Asymmetric Information on Consumer Credit Markets
Revise and Resubmit at The Journal of Finance
NBER Working Paper No. 25097, with A. Liberman and S. Zimmerman

Are Some Degrees Worth More than Others? Evidence from College Admission Cutoffs in Chile
NBER Working Paper No. 19241, with J. Hastings and S. Zimmerman

PUBLISHED RESEARCH PAPERS (in chronological order, featured repeated)

O Brother, Where Start Thou? Sibling Spillovers on College and Major Choice in Four Countries
The Quarterly Journal of Economics, forthcoming
with A.Altmejd, A.Barrios-Fernandez, M.Drlje, J.Goodman, M.Hurwitz, D.Kovac, C.Mulhern, J.Smith

Information Frictions and Access to the Paycheck Protection Program
The Journal of Public Economics 190(9), August 2020
with J. E. Humphries and G. Ulyssea

Heterogeneous Beliefs and School Choice Mechanisms
American Economic Review , 110(5): 1274-1315, May 2020
with A. Kapor and S. Zimmerman

Health at Birth, Parental Investments, and Academic Outcomes
Journal of Labor Economics 36(2): 349-394, April 2018
with P. Bharadwaj and J. Eberhard

Gray Matters: Fetal Pollution Exposure and Human Capital Formation
Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists, 4(2): 505-542, June 2017
with P. Bharadwaj, M. Gibson, J. G. Zivin

The Gender Gap in Mathematics: Evidence from middle/low income countries
Economic Development and Cultural Change, 65(1):141-166, Oct 2016
with G. Giorgi, D. Hansen and P. Bharadwaj,

(Un)informed College and Major Choice: Evidence from Linked Survey and Administrative Data
Economics of Education Review 51: 136-151, April 2016
with J. Hastings, A. Ramirez and S. Zimmerman

Connecting Student Loans to Labor Market Outcomes: Policy Lessons from Chile
American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings, Vol. 105 No. 5, May 2015
with H. Beyer, J. Hastings and S. Zimmerman

The Effect of School Construction on Test Scores, School Enrollment, and Home Prices
Journal of Public Economics, Volume 120, Pages 18-31, December 2014
with S. Zimmerman

Chile's Fiscal Rule as Social Insurance
in: Luis Felipe Céspedes and Jordi Galí (ed.) *Fiscal Policy and Macroeconomic Performance*, December 2013
with E. Engel and R. Valdes

Early Life Health Interventions and Academic Achievement
American Economic Review, 103(5): 1862-91, August 2013
with P.Bharadwaj and K.Loken

Poverty Dynamics in Chile 1996 – 2001 (2008)
Journal of Latin American Studies Vol. 40, No. 2 (May, 2008), pp. 251-273
with Dante Contreras, Ryan Cooper and Jorge Herman

Pro-poor growth in Chile (2008)
El Trimestre Económico Vol. 75, No. 300(4) (October 2008), pp. 931-944
with Dante Contreras and Ryan Cooper

Another Passthrough Bites the Dust? Inflation and Oil Prices (2007)
ECONOMIA, Journal of LACEA Vol. 7, No. 2 (Spring, 2007), pp. 155-208
with Jose De Gregorio and Oscar Landerretche

Financial Diversification, Sudden Stops and Sudden Starts (2007)
in Cowan, K., S. Edwards, and R. Valdes (eds.), *Current Account and External Finance*
with Jose De Gregorio, Kevin Cowan, Alejandro Micco

WORKING PAPERS (*in chronological order, featured repeated*)

The Equilibrium Effects of Public Provision in Education Markets: Evidence from a Public School Expansion
Princeton IR Section Working Paper No. 645 (November 2020)
with M. Dinerstein and S. Otero

Centralized School Choice with Unequal Outside Options
Princeton IR Section Working Paper No. n644 (September 2020)
with M. Akbarpour, A. Kapor, W. van Dijk, S. Zimmerman

Screening and Recruiting Talent At Teacher Colleges Using Pre-College Academic Achievement
Princeton IR Section Working Paper No. 636 (December 2019)
with F. Calle and S. Gallegos

Aftermarket Frictions and the Cost of Off Platform Options In Centralized Assignment Mechanisms
Princeton IR Section Working Paper No. 635 (December 2019, updated October 2020)
with A. Kapor and M. Karnani

Approximating The Equilibrium Effects of Informed School Choice
Princeton IR Section Working Paper No. 628 (July 2019). revision requested at *The Review of Economic Studies*
with C. Allende and F. Gallego

Equilibrium Effects of Asymmetric Information on Consumer Credit Markets
NBER Working Paper No. 25097 (September 2018) revision requested at *Journal of Finance*
with A. Liberman and S. Zimmerman

The Effects of Earnings Disclosure on College Enrollment Decisions
NBER Working Paper No. 21300 (June 2015, updated July 2017)
with J. Hastings and S. Zimmerman

Targeted Vouchers, Competition Among Schools, and the Academic Achievement of Poor Students
PhD Thesis, Yale University (October 2013), revision requested at *Econometrica*

Are Some Degrees Worth More than Others? Evidence from College Admission Cutoffs in Chile
NBER Working Paper No. 19241 (July 2013)
with J. Hastings and S. Zimmerman

The Effect of School Choice on Intrinsic Motivation and Academic Outcomes
NBER Working Paper No. 18324 (August 2012)
with J. Hastings and S. Zimmerman

ADVISING

<u>Students Advised</u>	<u>Initial Placement</u>
2020 Claudia Allende	Assistant Professor, Stanford University GSB Economics
<u>Students Supported</u>	<u>Initial Placement</u>
2019 Federico Huneeus	Senior Researcher, Banco Central de Chile
2019 Andres Barrios-Fernandez	Senior Researcher, VATT Helsinki, Finland
2017 John Klopfer	Assistant Professor, United States Naval Academy

REFEREEING

American Economic Review, Econometrica, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Economic Studies, Journal of Political Economy, Review of Economics and Statistics, American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, American Economic Journal: Policy, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Labor Economics, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Economic Theory, Economic Journal, Journal of the European Economic Association, Journal of Money, Credit and Banking, Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis, The International Economic Review, Journal of Human Resources, Labour Economics, Oxford Economics Papers and the Education Economics Review, World Bank Economic Review.

PUBLIC POLICY ACTIVITIES

Founder and Interim CEO of ConsiliumBots 2018 - 2020

Topics: EdTech NGO focused on helping governments design, test and implement online matching platforms.

Consultant for the World Bank, 2020-

Topics: Assist with the design and implementation of education vouchers in response to COVID19.

Founder Researcher of DataLAB Republica Dominicana 2019

Topics: Incubating the data science capabilities inside the government of the Dominican Republic.

Founding Researcher of MineduLAB within the Ministry of Education, Government of Peru

founding Principal Investigator 2014, Board member 2015

Advisor to New Haven Public Schools Office of Choice and Enrollment. 2018-2020

Topics : The design and implementation of centralized school choice mechanism.

Advisor to the Ministry of Education, Government of Chile. 2015

Topics : The design and implementation of the recent adoption of centralized school choice mechanism.

Associate Partner of IDEICE, Research Unit of the Ministry of Education of the Dominican Republic 2014-2017

Topics: The study of education issues and the scale up of policies proven to improve outcomes.

Consultant for MINEDU of the Ministry of Education, Government of Peru, 2016

Topics: The design and implementation of informational platforms for college choice in Peru.

Consultant for the World Bank, 2014-2015

Topics: The design and implementation of free tuition policy in higher education in Chile.

Consultant for the IDB 2016, 2018

Topics: The design of platforms to disclose earnings by field and type of study in Peru.

GRANTS

Biased Beliefs and Search in Education Markets 2019-2021

Donor: **National Science Foundation (NSF)** via Princeton University - Grant Amount: USD 558,589.00

Beliefs, Understanding, and Strategic Behavior in School Choice Mechanisms 2015-2018

Donor: **National Science Foundation (NSF)** via NBER - Grant Amount: USD 457,853.00

Incubation of Human Capital Technology Organization 2018-2020

Learning the Value of Education in the Dominican Republic 2014-2019

Donor: **DIV-USAID** via JPAL - Grant amount: USD 1,258,979 + 240,000 expansion

Getting children to stay in school and out of work: The role of Informative and Persuasive Marketing 2015-2020

Donor: **United States Department of Labor (DoL)** via IPA- Grant amount: USD 977,690.00

Donor: **Post Primary Initiative JPAL Global** via IPA - Grant amount: USD 256,464

Leveraging Administrative Data and Machine Learning Techniques to Improve Education Policy in Developing Countries 2018

Donor: **Microsoft Research** via JPAL - Grant Amount: USD 40,000 on Azure Computing Resources

Evaluating online platform to reduce information asymmetries w/in students and parents 2017-2019

Donor: **International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IDB)** and MINEDU

via IPA - Grant amount: USD 202,000

Education Mismatch and Information about Relative Performance 2018

Donor: **Post Primary Initiative JPAL Global** - Grant amount: USD 50,000

Building a better future with informed investment in higher education:

Evaluating the impact of personalized provision of information on earnings and financial aid in the Dominican Republic 2019

Donor: **Skills for Youth Program, J-PAL LAC** - Grant amount: USD 49,479

Financial Aid and College Access in the Dominican Republic 2018-2020

Donor: **Post Primary Education Initiative, J-PAL** - Grant amount: USD 256,893

Reducing free-riding in public goods: An experimental approach to

improving payment compliance for trash collection in the Dominican Republic 2017-2018

Donor: **Governance Initiative, J-PAL** - Grant amount: USD 48,990

Making Centralized School Choice Work in Practice: Evaluating Informational Interventions in Equilibrium 2020

Donor: **Overdeck Princeton Education Fund** - Grant amount: USD 95,000

How the Design of School Choice Systems Affects Welfare and Student Outcomes 2019

Donor: **Overdeck Princeton Education Fund** - Grant amount: USD 85,000

Invited Presentations:

2020 **Invited Seminars:** MIT Economics; Harvard University (HKS); UCLA ; University of Chile; World Bank Research Group/Georgetown University; Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta;

Conference Presentations: AEAs San Diego; SITE, World Congress of the Econometric Society, NBER Education

Public Policy Talks : Launch of *The Evidence Laboratory of the Cabinet for Social Policy Coordination* of the government of the Dominican Republic; Presentation to Vice Minister of Education of the Dominican Republic; Presentation to *Comisión Nacional de Productividad* of the government of Chile.

2019 **Invited Seminars:** Yale University; University of Chicago, Booth; University of Wisconsin Madison; Columbia University; University of Southern California; University of Minnesota; Rochester University; Bocconi University, Milan, Italy; Universidad Javeriana, Bogotá, Colombia

Conference Presentations: NBER IO, Cambridge, MA; Education Economics NBER, Cambridge, MA; APPAM, Denver, CO, Cambridge, MA; SEA Conference, Ft Lauderdale; Y-RISE Conference, Grand Cayman

Public Policy Talks : ICFES, Bogotá, Colombia; IDB, Washington D.C.; MIT SEII Conference

2018 **Invited Seminars:** Stanford GSB; UCL, London; UC San Diego; New York University; University Maryland University; Statistics Norway, Oslo University of Oslo; Arizona State University; ITAM, Mexico City

Conference Presentations: 30 year REStud Tour Reunion Conference, Copenhagen; Nordic Labor Economics Key Note Speaker, Helsinki; NBER SI Education Economics, Cambridge; Y-RISE Conference, Grand Cayman; SREE Conference, Washington, D.C.

Public Policy Talks : Policy Launch, Ministry of Education, Lima Peru ; Policy Launch, Ministry of Education, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

2017 **Invited Seminars:** London School of Economics, London; University College London, London; Warwick University; London School of Economics ; IIES, University of Stockholm, Sweden; Rice University, Texas; Paris School of Economics, Paris; Universidad Adolfo Ibanez, Santiago, Chile; Microsoft Research, Cambridge, MA

Conference Presentations: NBER IO, Stanford University; Applied Microeconomics Conference, Einaudi Rome ; SBIF, Santiago, Chile

Public Policy Talks : USAID, Washington D.C. ; IDEICE, Ministry of Education, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

2016 **Invited Seminars:** Harvard University; Rutgers University; Toulouse University, France; Paris School of Economics University, France ; Uppsala University, Sweden ; Namur University, Belgium; Pontifical Universidad Catolica de Chile

Conference Presentations: NBER IO, Stanford University; AEA, San Francisco, CA

Public Policy Talks : Policy and Evidence, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic ; GDN Annual Global Development Conference, Lima Peru ; Policy Workshop , JPAL Offices Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

2015 **Invited Seminars:** Columbia University, Washington University in St. Louis, Federal Reserve Bank of New York City, The World Bank, The Inter-American Development Bank.

Conference Presentations: Duke University, Structural Microeconometrics Conference ; Theory and Data Microeconomics Conference, Miami, FL; University of Santa Clara, Cuba

Public Policy Talks : Ministry of Education, Lima, Peru

2014 **Invited Seminars:** University of Wisconsin (Economics), UC Berkeley (Economics)

Job Market Talks: Massachusetts Institute of Technology, (Economics); Stanford University (Graduate School of Business); Stanford University (Economics); University of Pennsylvania (Wharton School of Business), University of Pennsylvania (Economics); Princeton University (Economics); Northwestern University (Economics); Northwestern University (Kellogg); New York University (Stern School of Business); Brown University; University of Chicago (Booth School of Business); University of Chicago, (Economics)

Public Policy Talks : Ministry of Education, Government of Peru; Office of the Vice president of the Dominican Republic;

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Excellence in Refereeing Award, American Economic Review, 2017
Best Graduate Student Advisor - Princeton University, 2016
Review of Economic Studies Tour, 2014
Joven Egresado Destacado, Facultad de Economía y Negocios, Universidad de Chile, 2014
George Trimis Prize for Distinguished Dissertation in Economics, Yale University, 2014
Northeast Rugby Championship and 3rd place at Nationals, All Black New Haven Rugby, 2014
Anderson Fellowship, Cowles Foundation, 2012
City of New Haven, Board of Aldermen Official Citation, 2011
Distinction - Industrial Organization field examination, Yale University, 2010
100 Jóvenes Líderes El Mercurio, Santiago Chile 2007
Highest Ranked Economics MA student at graduation, Dept. of Economics, University of Chile 2006
Highest Ranked Economics BA student at graduation, Dept. of Economics, University of Chile 2005
Alumni Association prize at graduation, University of Chile 2005
International Labor Organization (ILO) Undergraduate Thesis Fellowship, 2003
Chilean National 7's Rugby Team (Adult), 2001-2002
Chilean National Rugby Team (U21), 1998-2002
Athletic Scholarship-Rugby, Universidad de Chile 1999
Chilean National Rugby Team (U19), 1997-1998
Junior Rugby World Cup 7th place representing Chile (U19), Toulouse, France 1998

LANGUAGES

Native speaker of English and Spanish.