# Cora J. L. Wigger

### EDUCATION

Northwestern University

Evanston, IL

Ph.D. Candidate in Human Development and Social Policy, Advisor: Kirabo Jackson

2016-Current

- Dissertation: "Exploring the Influence of Education Policy on Social Geography"

Vanderbilt University

Nashville, TN

M.P.P., Quantitative Methods in Education Policy

2014-2016

The College of Wooster

Wooster, OH

B.A., International Economics

2007-2011

- Undergraduate Thesis: "Core Labor Standards and Economic Growth"

### RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

# Institute for Policy Research, Northwestern University

Evanston, IL

Graduate Research Assistant

2020-2021

 Working closely with Dr. Kirabo Jackson, examined the impact of school spending cuts after the Great Recession on students' academic achievement and college-going rates.

### Evanston Township High School (ETHS) and Northwestern University

Evanston, IL

Multidisciplinary Program in Education Sciences Research Practicum

2017-2018

 Working in close collaboration with ETHS, conducted descriptive research on the use of disciplinary action for ETHS students, including the relationship between disciplinary use, race, and academic achievement.

# Vanderbilt Peabody College and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Nashville, TN

Graduate Research Assistant

2014-2016

- Coordinated the development of a guide to aid school leaders' use of data for human capital decision-making.
- Coordinated a randomized control trial of the implementation of the guide with Vanderbilt Professors Jason Grissom and Ellen Goldring with support from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

### Jefferson County Public Schools

Louisville, KY

Graduate Research Intern

Summer 2015

- Conducted analysis of reliability and validity of the district's annual Comprehensive School Survey and made recommendations for survey improvement.
- Analyzed the relationship between student commute to school time and school climate ratings.

### Peabody Research Institute, Vanderbilt University

Nashville, TN

Research Assistant

2014

- Coded empirical research for a meta-analysis on science education programming.

### The College of Wooster

Wooster, OH

Research Assistant

2009-2011

- Conducted literature reviews and archival research on the United Nations Secretary-General.

# PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

1. "Do School Spending Cuts Matter? Evidence from the Great Recession" (With C. Kirabo Jackson and Heyu Xiong). NBER Working Paper 24203. Forthcoming American Economic Jounal: Economic Policy. Link to Working Paper

# Conference Presentations

- 1. Midwestern Economics Association, Annual Meeting (Presentation), March 2020\*, Evanston, IL. \*Cancelled due to COVID-19 Pandemic
- 2. Association for Education Finance and Policy, Annual Conference (Presentation), March 2020, Zoom.
- 3. Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, Fall Research Conference (Presentation), November 2019, Denver, CO.
- 4. Eastern Economics Association, Annual Meeting (Presentation), February 2011, New York, NY.

# OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- 1. "The Costs of Cutting School Spending: Lessons from the Great Recession" (With C. Kirabo Jackson and Heyu Xiong). **Education Next** (Summer 2020). *Link to Article*
- 2. "Mental Scars Linger from Killings," The Courier Journal (Deceber 2, 2016). Link to Article
- 3. "The PGES Student Growth Component," Kentucky Education Report: Education Politics and Policy in the Bluegrass State (2015).

# SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

• National Academy of Education/Spencer Foundation Dissertation Fellowship	2020-2021
• Multidisciplinary Program in Education Sciences Graduate Fellowship (IES Training Grant)	2017-2020
• Northwestern University Graduate Fellowship	2016-2017
• Vanderbilt University Dean's Tuition Scholarship	2014-2016
College of Wooster College Scholar Award	2007-2011
• Peter H. Gore Prize for Research in International Relations	2011

### TEACHING ASSISTANT EXPERIENCE

- Probability and Statistics (Graduate-Level) Northwestern University
- Regression Analysis (Graduate-Level) Northwestern University
- Empirical Tools for Causal Quantitative Analysis (Graduate-Level) Northwestern University
- Statistics and Research Methodology (Undergraduate-Level) Northwestern University
- Statistical Analysis (Undergraduate-Level) Vanderbilt University
- The United Nations System (Undergraduate-Level) The College of Wooster

# Professional Service

### Peer Reviewer for Academic Journals

- American Economic Journal: Economic Policy
- Journal of Human Resources
- Economics of Education Review
- AERA Open
- Educational Policy

### Conference and Seminar Service

- Association for Economic Finance and Policy (AEFP), Panel Chair
- Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM), Panel Chair
- Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM), Panel Organizer
- Graduate Students in Economics of Education Zoom Seminar Series (GEEZ), Co-Organizer
- American Educational Research Association (AERA), Conference Submission Reviewer

# Programming Languages and Software

• Stata: Advanced

ArcGIS: IntermediatePython: Intermediate

# OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

## Tennessee Department of Education

Lead Graduation Cohort Specialist

The Center for Women and Families

Integrated Data Manager

Nashville, TN

2016

Louisville, KY 2011–2014