

September 8, 2022

## Clint Harris

### Contact Information

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### Academic Positions

Postdoctoral Research Associate, University of Wisconsin-Madison 2019-Present

### Nonacademic Positions

Disability Claims Adjudicator, State of Indiana 2009-2014

### Education

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|--|------|
| Ph.D., Economics, Purdue University, Krannert School of Management | 2019 |
| Committee Chair: Victoria Prowse                                   |      |
| M.S., Economics, Purdue University                                 | 2016 |
| B.A., Economics, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis | 2014 |
| B.A., Marketing, Taylor University                                 | 2009 |

### Research Fields

Labor Economics, Entrepreneurship, Economics of Education, Applied Econometrics

I am interested in targeted interventions that allocate individuals to optimal levels and types of education and training. My work in economics of education relates to returns to college and policies that assign resources (from financial aid to college roommates) to students in accordance with their idiosyncratic costs and benefits. My research on entrepreneurship focuses on educational policies in postsecondary institutions that identify potential entrepreneurs and equip them with skills to improve their career success.

### Job Market Paper 1

“Interpreting Instrumental Variable Estimands with Unobserved Treatment Heterogeneity: The Effects of College Education”

Abstract: Many treatment variables used in empirical applications nest multiple unobserved versions of a treatment. With unobserved treatment heterogeneity, instrumental variable (IV) estimands for the effect of a composite treatment are IV-specific weighted averages of effects of unobserved component treatments. It follows that instruments which shift individuals out of some treatments and into others may yield IV estimands without a clear causal interpretation. I describe a uniform unordered monotonicity condition that ensures that 2SLS estimands place positive weights on all unobserved treatments’ effects. Additionally, I develop a factor-

augmented treatment effects model that leverages variation in instruments that violate uniform unordered monotonicity to estimate treatment effects across multiple outcomes by constraining them to place outcome-invariant, nonconvex weights on unobserved treatments. Applying the method to lifecycle returns to college, I estimate “high-type” college returns that range from 10% to 26% over the life cycle and “low-type” returns that range from 2% to 14%. This finding supports the relevance of policies that encourage students to attend “high-return college” in addition to those that encourage “high-return students” to attend college.

## **Job Market Paper 2**

“The Effects of Peer Diversity on Entrepreneurship: Evidence from University Residence Halls”, with Jon Eckhardt and Brent Goldfarb

**Abstract:** We estimate the effects of peer academic diversity and peer gender diversity within college dorms on student entrepreneurship at a large public research university over a period of 4 years. To obtain causal estimates, we instrument for realized peer traits with simulated peer traits determined by the peers students would have been assigned had they been assigned to rooms by a room allocation mechanism that we select, while controlling for the expected peer traits implied by the same mechanism. We find that exposure to peer gender diversity differentially affects men and women and contributes to the gender gap in entrepreneurial intentions. We also find that exposure to peer verbal skill diversity reduces entrepreneurial ideation. Our findings suggest that residentially clustering students by gender and academic strengths can increase student entrepreneurship and reduce the entrepreneurship gender gap.

## **Publications**

“Student Regional Origins and Student Entrepreneurship”

*Regional Studies*, 2022, vol. 56(6): pp 956-971, with Jon Eckhardt, Chuan Chen, Bekhzod Khoshimov, and Brent Goldfarb.

## **Working Papers**

“Identifying and Estimating Perceived Returns to Binary Investments” (**Under Review**)

**Abstract:** I introduce a new method for estimating agents’ perceived returns to binary investments that exploits the mechanical relationship between perceived prices and perceived returns in binary choice settings. Identification is achieved using instruments for prices that are uncorrelated with both price misperceptions and unobserved components of perceived returns. The method provides estimates of perceived returns in terms of compensating variation, which naturally implies effects for subsidies and taxes. These estimates condition on observed characteristics, allowing for heterogeneity in predicted subsidy and tax effects across types of individuals. Because these estimates are of distributions instead of point elasticities, they imply effects that are nonlinear in policy magnitude. I demonstrate the advantages of the new method relative to two related alternatives in a series of data simulations.

“Estimating the Perceived Returns to College” (Preparing for Submission)

Abstract: The primary determinant of an individual’s college attendance is their perceived lifetime return to college. I infer agents’ perceived returns by exploiting the dollar-for-dollar relationship between perceived returns and tuition costs in a binary choice model of college attendance. This method has the advantage of estimating perceived returns in terms of compensating variation without assuming rational expectations on actual returns. Estimating the model using both maximum likelihood and moment inequalities, I find that the scale of the distribution of perceived returns is an order of magnitude lower than past work has found when assuming rational expectations on income returns. The low variance I find in perceived returns implies high responses to financial aid. I predict a 2.6 percentage point increase in college attendance from a \$1,000 universal annual tuition subsidy, which is consistent with quasi-experimental estimates of the effects of tuition assistance on college attendance. Because I estimate the complete distribution of perceived returns, my results can be used to predict heterogeneous effects of counterfactual financial aid policies.

“The Effects of Chicago’s Teacher Walkouts on Juvenile Crime”, with Abigail Banan, Mary Kate Batistich, Jillian Carr, and Kendall Kennedy (Preparing for Submission)

Abstract: On September 10, 2012, Chicago’s teachers began a strike that forced over 400,000 students out of school for 8 consecutive school days. This study examines how this interruption in schooling affected crime in Chicago, both during and immediately after the strike. Using a variety of methods – interrupted time series analysis, synthetic controls, and place-based intensity of treatment analysis – we find that crime rates in Chicago neither significantly nor substantially changed after the strike, suggesting incapacitation has little role in the effect of education on crime.

“Coworker Gender Preferences: Effects on Gender Gaps in Occupational Selection and Wages” (Resting)

Abstract: This paper analyzes the effect of occupational gender composition on job-specific labor supply for workers of each gender. I construct a static model of job selection wherein preferences regarding coworker gender composition produce gender-specific compensating differentials. I estimate the model using maximum likelihood to identify the underlying coworker gender preference parameters. Based on estimated compensating differentials, men’s preference is highest for occupations that are 60% female and lowest for female-dominated occupations. Women prefer jobs that are female-dominated, and are least satisfied with jobs that are 25% male all else equal.

### **Works in Progress**

“A Correction for Nonresponse Bias Using Nonrandomized Followup: Evidence on The Entrepreneurship Gender Gap”, with Jon Eckhardt (Data Analysis Stage)

“Peer Effects in University Housing: Evidence from Fuzzy Central Assignment”, with Chao Fu, Jesse Gregory, and Victoria Prowse (Data Analysis Stage)

“Separate Identification and Estimation of Perceived Credit Constraints and Perceived Returns to College Using Observed Attendance Decisions” (Estimator Development Stage)

“Looking out for Number 1,2,...,T: Identity Persistence and Altruism as Microfoundations for Intertemporal Discounting” (Theory Stage)

### **Honors and Awards**

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|---|-----------|
| National Science Foundation Grant 2100017 (Collaborator): \$983,486         | 2021-2024 |
| American Family Insurance Foundation Grant (Collaborator): \$106,611        | 2021      |
| Krannert Certificate for Outstanding Research, Purdue University            | 2019      |
| Krannert Ph.D. Research Symposium Top Presentation Award, Purdue University | 2018      |
| Certificate for Distinguished Recitation Teaching, Purdue University        | 2015      |

### **Conference and Seminar Attendance**

|   |                |
|---|----------------|
| Academy of Management Annual Meeting                        | August 2022    |
| North American Summer Meeting of the Econometric Society    | June 2022      |
| Society of Labor Economists Annual Meeting                  | May 2022       |
| Southern Economics Association Annual Meeting               | November 2021  |
| Midwest Economics Association Annual Meeting (SOLE Session) | March 2021     |
| Association for Education Finance and Policy Annual Meeting | March 2021     |
| Southern Economics Association Annual Meeting               | November 2020  |
| EALE SOLE AASLE World Conference                            | June 2020      |
| Southern Economics Association Annual Meeting               | November 2019  |
| European Association of Labour Economists Annual Meeting    | September 2019 |
| Case Western Reserve University                             | May 2019       |
| U.S. Census Bureau  | April 2019     |
| Kansas State University                                     | January 2019   |
| Southern Economics Association Annual Meeting               | November 2018  |
| National Tax Association Annual Meeting                     | November 2018  |
| Krannert Ph.D. Research Symposium                           | October 2018   |
| Midwest Economics Association Annual Meeting (SOLE Session) | March 2018     |
| Midwest Economics Association Annual Meeting                | March 2017     |
| Krannert PhD Research Symposium                             | November 2016  |

### **Conference and Seminar Administration**

|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| Southern Economics Association Annual Meeting (Session Organizer) | November 2022 |
| Midwest Economics Association Annual Meeting (Discussant)         | March 2021    |
| Southern Economics Association Annual Meeting (Discussant)        | November 2020 |
| Southern Economics Association Annual Meeting (Discussant)        | November 2019 |
| Southern Economics Association Annual Meeting (Discussant)        | November 2018 |

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| Midwest Economics Association Annual Meeting (Discussant) | March 2018 |
| Midwest Economics Association Annual Meeting (Discussant) | March 2017 |

### **Teaching Experience**

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|---|---------------------------------------|
| Instructor, Introductory Microeconomics         | Summer 2016                           |
| Recitation Instructor, Principles of Economics  | Spring 2015                           |
| Teaching Assistant, Labor Economics             | Fall 2018                             |
| Teaching Assistant, Intermediate Macroeconomics | Spring 2016, Spring 2017, Summer 2018 |
| Teaching Assistant, MBA Microeconomics          | Fall 2014, Fall 2015                  |
| Teaching Assistant, MBA Macroeconomics          | Fall 2014, Fall 2015                  |

### **First-Generation College Student Pre-Doctoral Mentoring**

Marcelo Gantier Mita (PhD Student: Paris School of Economics)

### **Referee Experience**

Education Economics, Management Science

### **Professional Memberships**

Academy of Management, American Economic Association, Econometric Society, Society of Labor Economists, Southern Economic Association