

SANDRA POLANIA-REYES

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UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON Placement Director: Vasiliki Skreta v.skreta@ucl.ac.uk
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS Graduate Coordinator: Daniella Harper economics.jobmarket@ucl.ac.uk

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DESIRED RESEARCH AND TEACHING FIELDS

PRIMARY

Experimental Economics
Microeconomics
Development and Public Policy

SECONDARY

Behavioral Economics
Impact Evaluation
Microeconometrics

FIELDS OF CONCENTRATION

Experimental Economics, Impact Evaluation, Microeconometrics

DOCTORAL DEGREES

2015 Ph.D Economics

University College London – UCL, London, UK

Dissertation title: *Essays on the experimental economics in the field: lessons for public policy*

Advisors and References

Syngjoo Choi – UCL, Seoul National University
Orazio Attanasio – UCL, IFS

syngjoo@gmail.com +82 02 880 4109
o.attanasio@ucl.ac.uk +44 020 7679 5880

Dissertation committee:

Antonio Cabrales – UCL
Simon Gaechter – University of Nottingham

2015 Ph.D Economics

University of Siena, Siena, IT

Dissertation title: *Essays on heterogeneous social preferences and incentives*

Advisors and Other References

Samuel Bowles – Santa Fe Institute, University of Siena
Luigi Luini – University of Siena
Juan Camilo Cárdenas – University of Los Andes

bowles@santafe.edu +1 505 984 8800
luini@unisi.it +39 577 232 608
jccarden@uniandes.edu.co +57 1 249 4343

Dissertation committee:

Daniela Di Cagno – Guido Carli University LUISS
Luca Stanca – University of Milano-Bicocca
Silvia Tiezzi – University of Siena

PRE-DOCTORAL STUDIES

University of Los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia
University of Los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia

DEGREE

M.A.
B.A.

DATE FIELD

2005 Economics
2003 Economics and Anthropology

PROFESIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Post-doctoral Fellow. Department of Economics and Centre for Ethics and Culture. Aug 2016 – May 2017
University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN, USA

PUBLICATIONS

- 2015 “[Building social capital: Conditional cash transfers and cooperation](#)”. With Orazio Attanasio and Luca Pellerano *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*. 118, October, 22–39.
- 2012 “[Economic incentives and social preferences: substitutes or complements?](#)” With Sam Bowles. *Journal of Economic Literature*. 50, June, 368-425.
- 2009 “[Building trust? Conditional cash transfer programs and social capital](#)”. With Orazio Attanasio and Luca Pellerano. *Fiscal Studies*, 30, 139–177.
- 2005 “[Social Capital and Household Income in Urban Colombia](#)”. *Revista Desarrollo y Sociedad*. University of Los Andes. 56. September, 221-284.

Manuscripts in Submission

[Coordination as a Collateral Benefit: Lab-in-the-Field Evidence from a Conditional Cash Transfer Program](#) (Job Market paper).

Conditional cash transfer (CCT) programs have positive effects on health and education. This economic field experiment tests the collateral benefits of a CCT program on improving coordination. A novel minimum effort coordination game captures the ability to overcome risk uncertainty within a sample of 714 CCT beneficiaries in Colombia. There is a sizeable effect of the CCT program on coordination, as those exposed to the program for over a year are more likely to exert the highest level of effort and reach the highest level of earnings possible.

CCT beneficiaries not only have to comply with health and education requirements but also interact with local program officials and community leaders, and other neighbor beneficiaries. Beneficiaries also have the choice to attend other group meetings that provide support to community-based initiatives, teamwork, group identity, and solidarity. Though this raises different possible channels, the analysis reveals that the improvement in coordination is not due to potential confounds such as cooperation (measured with a public goods game), connectivity (measured with network data for each participant within a session) or socio-economic characteristics.

A structural choice model of the individual decision to coordinate highlights the role of beliefs about others’ behavior as they determine whether individuals choose the highest level of effort. The findings support nascent initiatives to influence beliefs through policy instruments.

[Prosocial behavior, Heterogeneity and Incentives: Experimental evidence from the local commons in Colombia](#). I examine efficiency of incentives by estimating a structural model of social preferences. The paper studies the role of composition of preference types in the groups with 1095 participants.

[Work pays: different benefits of a workfare program in Colombia](#). With Orazio Attanasio, Costas Meguir (Yale University), Marcos Vera-Hernandez (UCL) and Arthur Alik (University of Toulouse). We examine the effects of a workfare program in Colombia. We find that the program increased individual labor income and labor supply. The effect of the program persisted beyond its operation in rural areas.

[Identification of Other-Regarding Preferences: Evidence from a Common Pool Resource Game in Colombia](#). With David Echeverry (University of California Berkeley). We identify individuals’ types by using a structural latent class model and compare the results with the structural parameters estimated from a Quantal Response Equilibrium model.

Manuscripts in Preparation

Motivating Teamwork in Organizations: Lab-in-the-Field Evidence on Cooperation and Employee Recognition. This economic field experiment tests the effects of public and private recognition on voluntary contributions to a public good within an organization. Using a within-subjects design, 410 Colombian employees participated in an online public goods game. The analysis reveals that public recognition has a sizeable effect on contributions, while private recognition has a small effect.

Parental generosity and early child development: an experimental approach. I designed an economic experiment to measure parents' willingness to invest in their children's human capital.

Leading by non-example: do leader's social preferences matter for cooperation? Experimental evidence from Colombia. In 2014, I conducted an artefactual field experiment with 500 beneficiaries of a CCT in Colombia and examine whether how powerful leaders are determines their decision to free ride and the relationship between individual willingness to cooperate and the presence of an empowered leader in the group.

Darwin in the experimental lab: between and within group competition effects on human behavior. I examine the effect of between group and within group competition by using a Public Goods game we conducted in 2007 with the sample of Cárdenas, et al. 2008 (above)

Are Public Officials Less Pro-Social? An Artefactual Field Experiment in Colombia. With Natalia Candelo, Juan Camilo Cárdenas, Alejandro Gaviria. We designed and implemented economic experiments on social preferences to measure discrimination in the provision of social services to the poor.

Helping the Helpers: Altruism as A Rational Choice of Donors to A Students Voluntary Organization. With Juan Camilo Cárdenas and Miguel Espinosa 2009. Working paper CEDE (30). University of Los Andes.

Pasos metodológicos de un diseño experimental para medir capital social y acción colectiva en seis ciudades latinoamericanas [Methodological steps for an experimental design to measure social capital and collective action in six Latinamerican cities] With Natalia Candelo. 2008. Working paper CEDE (17) University of Los Andes.

Book chapters

- 2009 Discrimination in the Provision of Social Services to the Poor: A Field Experimental Study. With Juan Camilo Cárdenas, Natalia Candelo, Alejandro Gaviria and Rajiv Sethi. Chapter 3. In: *Discrimination in Latin America: an Economic perspective*. Edited by Hugo Ñopo, Alberto Chong, Andrea Moro. LADF Series – World Bank.
- 2008 What Extent Do Latin Americans Trust and Cooperate? Field Experiments on Social Exclusion in Six Latin American Countries. With Juan Camilo Cárdenas, Sebastian Calónico, Natalia Candelo, Alberto Chong and Hugo Ñopo. In: *IADB IPES 2008 Report: Outsiders? The Changing Patterns of Exclusion in Latin America and the Caribbean* (David Rockefeller/Inter-American Development Bank). Chapter 7.

GRANTS

- 2014 Experimental Social Science Laboratory, Institute of Business and Economic Research. UC Berkeley. Leading by non-example: do leader's social preferences matter for cooperation? Co-PI D. Echeverry,
- 2007 IADB Grant. Building Trust for Good Governance: Field Experiments in Latin America. The Latin American Research Network, Co-PI Prof. JC Cárdenas and N. Candelo (Project RG-T1258)

- 2006 IADB Grant. Discrimination in the Provision of Social Services to the Poor: A Field Experimental Study. The Latin American Research Network, Co-PI JC Cárdenas, A. Gaviria, R. Sethi, N. Candelo (Project R-544)

AWARDS

Center for Ethics and Culture Postdoctoral Fellowship, University of Notre Dame, IN USA	2016
University College London annually Studentships	2010 and 2012
Doctoral scholarship for mobility, Università degli Studi di Siena, Italy	2008 and 2010
Graduate Research Scholarship, University College London, Department of Economics, UK	2009
Doctoral scholarship, Università degli Studi di Siena, Siena, Italy	2007-2011
Colfuturo scholarship loan for graduate studies, Colombia	2007
Fee waiver for the Master in Economics, University of Los Andes, Bogota, Colombia	2003

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Sole-instructor (also designed this course). [Corpovisionarios](#), Bogota, Colombia Spring 2015, Summer 2016
Experimental and Behavioral economics on evaluation and design of social interventions.

Graduate Student Instructor. Department of Economics, UCL, London, UK
Microeconomics Winter 2011
Experimental Economics Spring 2011, Spring 2012

Teaching Assistant. Department of Economics, University of Los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia.
Graduate Experimental Economics Fall 2004
Introduction to the Colombian Economy Spring 2007
Introduction to Microeconomics Spring 2005, Fall 2005, Spring 2006, Fall 2006
Intermediate Microeconomics Spring 2005, Fall 2005, Spring 2006, Fall 2006

INVITED PRESENTATIONS AND CONFERENCES

- 2016 Advances in Field Experiments (Chicago), BABEEW (Bay Area Behavioral and Experimental Economics Workshop), University of Notre Dame.
- 2015 BABEEW (Bay Area Behavioral and Experimental Economics Workshop), University of San Francisco, UC Berkeley Haas, UC Berkeley, University College London, Institute of Fiscal Studies.
- 2014 BABEEW (Bay Area Behavioral and Experimental Economics Workshop), Georg-August-Universität Göttingen.
- 2013 University of Los Andes.
- 2012 European Network for Training in Economic Research Jamboree, University of Barcelona, University of Oxford (International Development)
- 2010 The Evolution of Cooperation and Trading (TECT) Central European University, Budapest. University of Konstanz.
- 2009 ECORE, Université Libre de Bruxelles, Université Catholique de Louvain, Centre of Research in the Economics of Development CRED, University of Namur. CESifo's 10th Venice Summer Institute. University of Siena. London School of Economics.
- 2008 German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation GTZ, Vilm; University of Zurich.
- 2007 National University of Colombia, Externado University of Colombia, University of los Andes, Pontificia Javeriana University, Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association (LACEA).

SELECTED RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Project Manager, Experimental Leader, Field Work Coordinator. Institute of Fiscal Studies, London, UK

Research with O. Attanasio. Implementing an artefactual Field Experiment of the effect of a Conditional Cash Transfer on social preferences. Jun 2007 – Dec 2008

Project Manager. Department of Economics, University of Los Andes, Bogota, Colombia
Field Work Coordinator and experimental Leader. Research with JC Cárdenas on designing and implementing economic experiments on social and risk preferences in Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Peru, Venezuela and Uruguay (Jan – Jul 2007) and on social preferences to measure discrimination in the provision of social services to the poor in Bogotá, Colombia (Feb – Dec 2006)

Research Assistant. Department of Economics, University of Los Andes, Bogota, Colombia
Research with JC Cárdenas on designing and implementing economic experiments with a dynamic component to observe the rules in common dilemmas and sustaining inclusive Collective Action that Links across Economic and Ecological Scales in upper watersheds. Aug 2004 – Jun 2007

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS

- 2015 Collaboration on the website www.wealthometer.org . Tool to raise awareness in the wider public, illustrating the main tradeoffs when thinking about taxing wealth. Spanish translation.
- 2010 Microeconomics: Behavior, Institutions and Evolution, by S. Bowles. Princeton University Press, 2004. Chapter 14. [Spanish Translation](#). November.
- 2008 Policies Designed for Self-Interested Citizens May Undermine 'The Moral Sentiments': Evidence from Economic Experiments. Science 320: 5883 (June 20). [Supporting Online Material](#).

DISCIPLINARY SERVICE

Referee Economic Journal, Journal of Public Economics, European Economic Review, Journal of Development Economics, Scandinavian Journal of Economics, Journal of Economic Methodology, Ecological Economics, Revista Desarrollo y Sociedad, Lecturas de Economía, International Review of Economics, Oxford Economic Papers, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Journal of Economic Psychology.

LANGUAGES AND SKILLS

Languages	English (fluent), Spanish (native), Italian (basic), French (basic)
Skills	Stata, R, C++

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Economic Association, Economic Science Association, Berkeley Initiative for Transparency of Social Sciences - BITTS, Catholic Research Economists Discussion Organization – CREDO.

REFERENCES

Orazio Attanasio
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Samuel Bowles
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