

**Contact Information**

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The University of Chicago

Harris School of Public Policy

1307 E 60<sup>th</sup> Street, Chicago, IL 60637**Education**

The University of Chicago

Ph.D. Candidate in Public Policy

Job Market Paper: “*Optimal Monitoring and Bureaucrat Adjustments*”

Thesis Title: “Essays on Incentives in Public Institutions”

Expected Completion Date: June 2021

M.P.P. with honors, The University of Chicago, 2015

B.Sc. Economics and Physics, The University of Michigan, 2009

*References*

Professor Canice Prendergast (co-chair)

Booth School of Business

canice.prendergast@chicagobooth.edu

Professor Konstantin Sonin (co-chair)

Harris School of Public Policy

ksonin@uchicago.edu

Professor Christopher Blattman

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Professor Luis Martinez

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**Research Experience and Other Employment**

2017-20 Professor Canice Prendergast, Research Assistant

2014-15 Professor Jeffrey Grogger, Research Assistant

2014 Professor Marianne Bertrand, Research Assistant

2014 Professor Christian Hansen, Research Assistant

2010-13 Abt Associates Inc., Analyst (Associate Analyst, 2010-11)

**Teaching Experience***Instructor*

2017 Math Camp Algebra (Master's), Instructor

*Teaching Assistant*

2019 Microeconomics I (PhD), Professor Francisco Espinosa

2019 Analytical Politics for International Development (Master's), Professor  
Ethan Bueno de Mesquita

2019 Math Camp Calculus and Algebra

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|---------|---|
| 2016-18 | Decisions and Organizations (Master's), Professors Wioletta Dziuda, Pablo Montagnes, Kara Ross Camarena |
| 2017    | Microeconomics II (Master's), Professor Konstantin Sonin  |
| 2016    | Political Economy I (PhD), Professor Scott Ashworth   |
| 2016    | Program Evaluation (Master's), Professor Ofer Malamud   |

### Scholarships, Fellowships, and Research Grants

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|-----------|---|
| 2019      | Becker Friedman Institute Development Economics Initiative Research Grant, Principal Investigator (\$7,050) |
| 2018      | Economic and Development Institutions research grant, UKAID, co-Principal Investigator (£18,086)            |
| 2018      | Tata Centre for Development research grant, co-Principal Investigator (\$50,274)                            |
| 2017      | Committee on South Asian Studies Pre-Dissertation Fellowship (\$4,800)                                      |
| 2015-2021 | Harris School of Public Policy Ph.D. Fellowship   |
| 2013-2015 | Harris School of Public Policy Dean's Scholarship   |

### Job Market Paper

#### *"Optimal Monitoring and Bureaucrat Adjustments"*

Monitoring policies designed to maximize deterrence must account for attempts by agents to evade detection. This paper examines the strategic responses of bureaucrats, who implement India's employment guarantee program, as their expectations of being audited change. Exploiting random assignment to audit timing over multiple waves (without replacement), I find the rate of deterrence for misappropriated expenditures is increasing in bureaucrats' expectations of being audited. In addition, bureaucrats evade detection by adjusting the timing and type of expenditure to misappropriate. Applying a model of Bayesian persuasion, I analyze how information communicated on the likelihood of being audited should be designed. I estimate a sufficient statistic from the model to solve for the optimal signal and analyze welfare under counterfactuals.

Concentrated incentives, i.e. notifying of audit timing in advance, would have persuaded bureaucrats to misappropriate USD 35m less in expenditures (16% of average annual expenditures) when compared to dispersed incentives, i.e. messages are uninformative and audit timing is unpredictable.

### Work in Progress

*"Improving Property Tax Collection: Reducing Property Owner and Monitor Incentives to Misreport"* (with Yusuf Neggers, pilot phase)

*"The Value-Add of Bureaucrats Along the Hierarchy to Collective Organizational Performance"*

*“Informal Relationships between Citizens and Bureaucrats, and Access to Public Resources”*

**Pre-Doctoral Publications**

*“Assessing the Costs and Effects of Antiretroviral Therapy Task Shifting From Physicians to Other Health Professionals in Ethiopia”* (with Johns, B., Asfaw, E., Bekele, A., Minior, T., Kebede, A., & Palen, J.) *Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes*, 65(4), 2014.

*“Lessons Learned from Stakeholder-Driven Sustainability Analysis of Six National HIV Programmes”* (with Katz, I., Glandon, D., Kargbo, B., Ombam, R., Singh, S., Osika, J. S.) *Health Policy and Planning*, 29 (3), 379–387, 2014.

*“Patient Satisfaction with Task Shifting of Antiretroviral Services in Ethiopia: Implications for Universal Health Coverage”* (with Asfaw, E., Dominis, S., Palen, J. G. H., Bekele, A., Kebede, A., & Johns, B.) *Health Policy and Planning*, 29 (suppl 2), ii50–ii58, 2014.