Dustin R White

Updated: October 13, 2015 Citizenship: United States

2014

School of Economic Sciences

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215, Hulbert Hall Languages: English, Portuguese, Spanish Pullman, WA 99164 425.443.1880 http://www.dustinrwhite.com dustin.r.white@wsu.edu **EDUCATION** Ph.D. in Economics, Washington State University (expected) May 2016 Dissertation: "The Hidden Costs of Decisions in Applied Microeconomics" Advisor: Benjamin Cowan **B.A.** in Economics, Brigham Young University 2011 RESEARCH Primary: Health, Labor Economics **INTERESTS** Secondary: Econometrics, Industrial Organization, Machine Learning **PUBLICATIONS** "The Effects of Merit-Based Financial Aid on Drinking in College," Journal of Health Economics, Forthcoming (with Ben Cowan). "Musculoskeletal manifestations of Sanfilippo syndrome (mucopolysaccharidosis type III)," Journal of Pediatric Orthopaedics, 31(5), 594-598, 2011. **SUBMITTED** "Teaching Marginal Revenue Product Using Moneyball" (with Jadrian Wooten). **WORKS IN** "College Alcohol Consumption and NCAA Tournament Participation: the Health Cost of March Madness" (with Ben Cowan and Jadrian Wooten) **PROGRESS** "Agency Theory and the Decision to Work from Home" "Network Externalities and Friendly Neighbors: When Firms Choose to Invite Competition" (with Ben Smith) **TEACHING** EconS 321 - The Economics of Sports in America (Online) Fall 2015 **EXPERIENCE** EconS 321 - The Economics of Sports in America Summer 2015 EconS 321 - The Economics of Sports in America Spring 2015 EconS 321 - The Economics of Sports in America (Online) Fall 2014 EconS 321 - The Economics of Sports in America Summer 2014 EconS 101 - Principles of Microeconomics Spring 2014 Dare to Dream Academy - Moneyball and Decisions with Numbers Summer 2015 Dare to Dream Academy - Moneyball and Decisions with Numbers Summer 2014 **SCHOLARSHIPS** William M. Blayney Scholarship, Washington State University 2015 AND AWARDS Graduate and Professional Student Association Travel Grant,

Washington State University

PRESENTATIONS

Southern Economics Association Meetings 2015

"Modeling the Decision to Work from Home" Session Title: (Labor Supply). New Orleans, LA.

WSU School of Economic Sciences Seminar Series 2015

"College Alcohol Consumption and NCAA Tournament Participation: the Health Costs of March Madness". Pullman, WA.

Beeronomics Conference 2015

"The Effects of Merit-Based Financial Aid on Drinking in College". Seattle, WA.

Beeronomics Conference 2015

"College Alcohol Consumption and Intercollegiate Athletics". Seattle, WA.

SES Graduate Student Association Poster Competition 2015

"College Alcohol Consumption and Intercollegiate Athletics" (Poster). Pullman, WA.

Southern Economics Association Meetings 2014

"College Alcohol Consumption and Intercollegiate Athletics" Session Title: (Collegiate Sports I). Atlanta, GA.

Southern Economics Association Meetings 2014

"Teaching MRP using Moneyball and Hall of Famers" Session Title: (Teaching and Sports Economics I). Atlanta, GA.

OTHER

Research Assistant, WSU (Pullman, WA)

EXPERIENCE Benjamin Cowan

Fall, Spring, 2012-13 Fall, 2013

R. Karina Gallardo

Research Assistant, Seattle Children's Hospital (Seattle, WA)

Klane K White

Summer, 2010

2015-16

2014-15

2013-14

LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

President, School of Economic Sciences Graduate Student Association

Treasurer, School of Economic Sciences Graduate Student Association

Treasurer, School of Economic Sciences Graduate Student Association

SKILLS

Computer: Python (pandas, sqlite, sklearn, statsmodels, scipy,

numpy), R, SQL, Linux, Stata, LTEX

Languages: English (native), Portuguese (fluent), Spanish (profi-

cient)

REFERENCES

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The Hidden Costs of Decisions in Applied Microeconomics Dissertation Summary

Chapter 1: College Alcohol Consumption and NCAA Tournament Participation: the Health Cost of March Madness

Using the Harvard School of Public Health College Alcohol Study (CAS), we examine the effect of the NCAA Tournament on the level of binge drinking across a nationally representative survey of American campuses. Colleges and universities across the United States continue to increase expenditure on intercollegiate athletics. A focus on athletics may augment visibility of the university to prospective students and thereby benefit the school. It may also have a negative effect on the current student body by influencing risky behavior related to intercollegiate athletics, especially the consumption of alcohol commonly associated with game day festivities. We find that participation in the NCAA Tournament is associated with a 28% increase in binge drinking by male students at participating schools. These results suggest that in addition to enjoying the benefits of greater athletic success, universities should confront the culture of binge drinking on game days by seeking to reduce binge drinking during the tournament, particularly among male students.

Chapter 2: Agency Theory and the Decision to Work from Home

Applying the principal-agent model to the wage penalties experienced by individuals working from home, I predict that wages will converge between home-workers and office-workers as monitoring costs fall over time. I also predict that wage variance will decline for home-workers as monitoring costs fall. The nature of working from home has changed quickly as improved communications technology has made it easier for workers to correspond quickly and efficiently from home. Using data from the American Community Survey and Census data, I find that the wage penalty for home-workers fell from around 30% in 1980 to a wage premium of 1.5% in 2013 using a selection model to account for potential selection bias. Additionally, I find that wage variance for home-workers fell from 75% higher in 1980 to 8.5% higher relative to office-workers in 2013. This strongly suggests that the principal-agent model is appropriate in explaining changes in the nature of working from home.

In this paper, we propose that under certain circumstances firms may instead choose to *reduce* barriers to entry as a profit-maximizing mechanism so long as the firm is able to induce growth in demand that exceeds the growth in supply provided by new entrants to the market. Economic theory on the subject of barriers to entry focuses almost exclusively on firms working to preserve market power and economic profits. We model the conditions under which this effect may exist and predict that in some industries, an increase in the number of participating firms will induce enough growth in the industry to allow existing firms to increase profit by inducing other firms to enter the market. We show that firms can in fact reduce barriers to entry for competitors and experience increased profits. This model differs from the agglomeration literature by proposing that firms deliberately lower fixed costs for their competitors as a rational act, instead of simply existing in locations where fixed costs are reduced by concentration of firms.