

ISABELA F. DUARTE

Brazilian, J2 visa holder

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WORK EXPERIENCE

Harvard Kennedy School (expected Nov 2020)

Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, Malcolm Wiener Center for Social Policy, Boston, US

Harvard Kennedy School (Jul 2019–Present)

Research Fellow, Malcolm Wiener Center for Social Policy, Boston, US

- Assisted professors Michela Carlana and Desmond Ang with academic research investigating how gender, race and anti-immigration bias impact the lives of marginalized groups.
- Leveraged big data to answer research questions.
- Implemented algorithms and tools for applications in machine learning, web scraping, and interactive dashboards. Used cloud-based cluster servers to analyze big data.
- Managed the several stages of randomized control evaluations: IRB (ethics) approval, grant applications, participant recruitment, power calculations, survey design and data collection, experiment implementation, and final data evaluation.

Ministry of Finance, Brazil (2017–2019)

Advisor to the Secretary, Secretariat for Productivity and Competition Advocacy, Brasília, DF

- Advised the Secretary on the implementation of structural reforms agenda, which included the creation of (i) a positive credit score system; (ii) a market based reference rate for Brazil's development bank (BNDES) funding; and (iii) a more transparent system for the registry of movable collateral.
- Introduced and evaluated policies designed to promote competition, innovation, and financial inclusion. Examples include proposals designed to reduce import tariffs on capital goods, discipline anti-dumping actions, redesign local content policy for the oil and gas sector and curtail subsidies to the automotive sector.
- Produced papers to communicate technical findings to policymakers, stakeholders, and the general public, such as guidelines on quantitative techniques for the analysis of cartels' behavior/ damage and an evaluation of the evolution of sectoral market power in Brazil's economy.
- Represented the Secretariat in events and meetings with policymakers and stakeholders.

National Congress, Brazil (2010–2011)

Intern

Central Bank of Brazil (2009)

Intern

EDUCATION

PhD in Economics, Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro (PUC-Rio) 2014–2020

MSc in Economics, Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro (PUC-Rio) 2012–2014

BA in Economics, University of Brasília (UnB) 2007–2011

RESEARCH

Peer Reviewed Publication

The Effect of the Availability of Student Credit on Tuition: Testing the Bennett Hypothesis using Evidence from a Large-Scale Student Loan Program in Brazil. (with João M. P. de Mello). *Economía* (forthcoming).

Book Chapter

Brazil's Productivity Challenge: Structural Change versus Economy-Wide Innovation-Based Improvements (with João M. P. de Mello and Mark Dutz), Ch.4 in *Brazil: Boom, Bust, and the Road to Recovery*, published by International Monetary Fund, Washington, DC (2019).

Policy Papers

Estimating Cartel Damages: Advocacy Guidelines by the Secretariat for Productivity and Competition Advocacy, with de Mello et al. (Nominated for Best Soft Law - Concurrences Antitrust Writing Awards 2019) (also available in Portuguese) (2018).

A Década Perdida: 2003 – 2012. (with Vinicius Carrasco and João M. P. de Mello) (in Portuguese) (2016).

Working Papers

The Impact of Subsidies for Higher Education: Evidence from Brazil (JMP)

The Effect of Credit Constraints on Major Choice: Evidence from a Large Scale Student Loan Program in Brazil

The Impact of Water Scarcity on Educational Outcomes: Evidence from a Water Rationing Policy in Brazil

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

First place in Brazil's National Exam for Admission to Graduate Programs in Economics (ANPEC) (2011)

Nominated for Best Soft Law – Concurrences Antitrust Writing Awards (2019)

Capes Fellowship for PhD Students (2014–2017, 2019)

CNPq Fellowship for Master's studies (2012–2014)

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Presentations

SBE/Anpec (2014), PUC-Rio (2014, 2016, 2019), Lacea* (2015), Insper* (2015), Sant'Anna di Pisa* (2015), SED* (2016).

*co-author presentation.

Media Coverage

Brazil's Productivity Challenge: Valor Econômico.

A Década Perdida: The Economist, Folha de São Paulo, Veja, G1, Nexo, Valor Econômico, Mercado Popular, Revista Piauí.

The Effect of the Availability of Student Credit on Tuition: Correio Braziliense, Estado de Minas.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Portuguese (Native), English (Fluent), Spanish (Advanced).

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Proficient in Stata, R, Qualtrics, TeX, and MS Office. Advanced knowledge of Python, ArcGIS, SurveyCTO, MATLAB and SAS.

REFERENCES

João M. P. de Mello
Deputy Governor for Licensing and Resolution, Central Bank of Brazil
Professor (on leave), Insper
joao.mello@bcb.gov.br

Juliano Assunção
Executive Director, Climate Policy Initiative
Professor, PUC-Rio
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Michela Carlana
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