

Jonas Hjort

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Citizen of Denmark, Norway, U.S.
Married, 3 children (2016/-18/-19)

EMPLOYMENT

2021/11 – present	University College London, Professor of Economics
2018 – present	Columbia Business School, Associate Professor of Economics (w/out tenure) and Gary Winnick and Martin Granoff Associate Professor of Business [on leave from 2021/11]
2012 – 2018	Columbia Business School, Assistant Professor of Economics

OTHER APPOINTMENTS

2020 – present	J-PAL Affiliate
2017 – present	Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR), Affiliate (Development)
2016 – present	National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), Fac. Research Fellow (DEV, PR)
2016 – present	International Growth Centre (IGC), Research Affiliate
2015 fall	Harvard University, Dept. of Economics, Visiting Assistant Professor
2013 – present	Bureau for Research and Economic Analysis of Development (BREAD) Affiliate
2013 – present	Center for Economic Studies/Ifo Institute for Economic Research (CESifo), Distinguished Affiliate
2013 – present	Columbia University, Dept. of Economics, Affiliated faculty member
2013 – present	Chazen Institute Senior Scholar
Fall 2008	University of Chicago, Becker Center, Price Theory Scholar

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

2020 – present	Associate Editor, Journal of Development Economics
2014 – present	Lead Academic, International Growth Centre Liberia & Sierra Leone Country Program (Liberia Country Program pre-2018)

EDUCATION

2006 – 2012	PhD Economics, UC Berkeley (Committee: Edward Miguel, David Card, Stefano DellaVigna, Fred Finan)
2005 – 2006	MA International & Development Economics, Yale University
2002 – 2005	BSc Economics, London School of Economics

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Development Economics, Labor Economics, Organizational Economics

RESEARCH ON WORKERS, FIRMS, AND ORGANIZATIONS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Published and forthcoming papers

“Strategic or Confused Firms? Evidence from “Missing” Transactions in Uganda”,
with Miguel Almunia, Justine Knebelmann, and Lin Tian
Accepted, REVIEW OF ECONOMICS AND STATISTICS
NBER working paper no. 29059, CEPR DP no. 16379

- “How Research Affects Policy: Experimental Evidence from 2,150 Brazilian Municipalities”,
with Diana Moreira, Gautam Rao, and Juan Francisco Santini
AMERICAN ECONOMIC REVIEW, vol. 111, no. 5, pp. 1442-1480, May 2021
NBER working paper no. 25941
Coverage: NPR Planet Money, DerStandard, Het Financieele, Exame, Pesquisa, Folha, El Comercio,
LiveMint, Nexo Jornal
- “Vertical Integration, Supplier Behavior, and Quality Upgrading among Exporters”,
with Christopher Hansman, Gianmarco León, and Matthieu Teachout
JOURNAL OF POLITICAL ECONOMY, vol. 128, no. 9, pp. 3570-3625, September 2020
*Winner of the Oliver Williamson Award for Best Paper presented at the Society of Institutional and
Organizational Economics 2018 annual conference in Montréal*
NBER working paper no. 23949, CEPR DP no. 12518, BREAD working paper no. 525
Coverage: VoxDev
- “Interlinked Firms and the Consequences of Piecemeal Regulation”,
with Christopher Hansman and Gianmarco León
JOURNAL OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION, vol. 17, no. 3, pp. 876-916, June 2019
BREAD working paper no. 442 , CEPR DP no. 12584
- “The Arrival of Fast Internet and Employment in Africa”,
with Jonas Poulsen
AMERICAN ECONOMIC REVIEW, vol. 109, no. 3, pp. 1032-1079, March 2019
NBER working paper no. 23582, BREAD working paper no. 519
Coverage: The Economist, The Economist, VoxDev, CATO, Quartz Africa, National Affairs, Le Monde,
World Bank blog, Le Nouvel Économiste, Brookings
- “Ethnic Divisions and Production in Firms”
QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF ECONOMICS, vol. 129, no. 4, pp. 1899-1946, November 2014
Winner of the 2013 CESifo Prize for best paper in Applied Microeconomics
CDEP-CGEG working paper 006, CESifo working paper 4449
- Working papers and work in progress (somewhat advanced stage)
- “Ethnic Investing and the Value of Firms”,
with Changcheng Song and Christopher Yenkey
Revised and resubmitted, JOURNAL OF POLITICAL ECONOMY
CEPR DP no. 16316
- “Across-Country Wage Compression in Large Multinationals”,
with Xuan Li and Heather Sarsons
Revise and resubmit, AMERICAN ECONOMIC REVIEW
NBER working paper no. 26788, CEPR DP no. 14465
Coverage: Chicago Fed
- “Individuals and Organizations as Sources of State Effectiveness”,
with Michael Carlos Best and David Szakonyi
Revise and resubmit, AMERICAN ECONOMIC REVIEW
NBER working paper no. 23350, CEPR DP no. 11968, BREAD working paper no. 510
Write-ups: VoxDev, VoxDev podcast

“Informational Barriers to Market Access: Experimental Evidence from Liberian Firms”,
with Vinayak Iyer and Golvine de Rochambeau
NBER working paper no. 27662, CEPR DP no. 17008

“The Missing Middle Managers: Labor Costs, Firm Structure, and Development”,
with Hannes Malmberg and Todd Schoellman, working paper

“The Economic Impact of Internet Connectivity in Developing Countries” (an overview of the evidence),
with Lin Tian, working paper

OTHER RESEARCH (ON OTHER TOPICS OR IN NON-ECONOMICS JOURNALS)

Published and forthcoming papers

“Pure-Chance Jobs vs. a Labor Market: the Impact on Careers of a Random Serial Dictatorship for First Job Seekers,

with Ashna Arora and Leonard Goff

AMERICAN ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION PAPERS & PROCEEDINGS, vol. 111, pp. 470-475, May 2021

“Universal Investment in Infants and Long-run Health: Evidence from Denmark’s 1937 Home Visiting Program”,

with Mikkel Sølvsten and Miriam Wüst

AMERICAN ECONOMIC JOURNAL: APPLIED ECONOMICS, vol. 9, issue 4, pp. 78-104, October 2017

“Ebola, jobs and economic activity in Liberia”,

with Jeremy Bowles, Timothy Melvin, and Eric Werker

BMJ: JOURNAL OF EPIDEMIOLOGY & COMMUNITY HEALTH, vol. 70, pp. 271-277, 2016

“Pre-Colonial Culture, Post-Colonial Economic Success? The Tswana and the African Economic Miracle”

THE ECONOMIC HISTORY REVIEW, vol. 63, no. 3, pp. 688-709, August 2010

TEACHING

Columbia University, Graduate School of Business

- Managerial Economics (Microeconomics for MBAs): fall 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021
- Global Immersion: New Growth and Business Opportunities in East Africa (MBA): spring 2018, fall 2018, spring 2020
- The Private Sector and International Development (MBA, Executive MBA): spring 2013, spring 2014, fall 2014, spring 2015

SELECTED GRANTS

2021	\$491,268 from NSF (with Michael C. Best and Gaston Pierri)
2018	\$55,000 from SSHRC Canada (with Francesco Amodio)
2017	\$45,000 from the IGC (with Miguel Almunia, Alan Griffith, and Lin Tian)
2017	\$45,000 from PEDL (with Francesco Amodio)
2016	\$125,000 from Lemann Fund (with Gautam Rao)
2016	\$75,000 from Weiss Family Fund (with Gautam Rao)
2015	\$160,000 from the IGC
2014	\$69,000 the IGC (with Miguel Almunia and Francois Gerard)
2013	\$53,000 from PEDL (with Tarek Ghani and Sylvan Herskowitz)
2013	\$33,000 from the IGC

2013 \$20,000 from CBS Dean's Seed Funding
 2013 \$20,000 from CIBER (with Gianmarco León)

SELECTED FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

2018 Oliver Williamson Award for Best Paper presented at the Society of Institutional and Organizational Economics 2018 annual conference in Montréal
 2015 American Economic Review, Excellence in Refereeing Award
 2014 Sandmo Junior Visiting Fellowship, Norwegian School of Economics ("for especially promising young researchers under the age of 40")
 2013 CESifo Prize for best paper in Applied Microeconomics
 2012 Journal of Development Economics Prize for outstanding dissertation in the area of development economics, UC Berkeley 2012
 2009-2011 The Hewlett/IIE Dissertation Fellowship
 2009-2010 Spencer Foundation Dissertation Fellowship
 2008-2009 The Norway-America Association's King Olav V Birthday Fund Award
 2007-2008 The American-Scandinavian Foundation Graduate Fellowship

REFEREING

American Economic Review, Econometrica, Journal of Political Economy, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Economic Studies, Review of Economics and Statistics, Journal of the European Economic Association, American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, Journal of Economic Literature, Journal of Labor Economics, RAND Journal of Economics, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Economic Journal, Journal of African Economies, Economic Development and Cultural Change, Journal of Economic Growth, Nature: Communications, International Economic Review, Journal of Population Economics

PHD STUDENTS ADVISED (FIRST JOB/YEAR OF PHD)

Leonard Goff (A.P., Dept. of Economics, University of Georgia/2021)
 Yue Yu (A.P., Rotman School of Management (Econ.)+Dept of Management, U. of Toronto/2020)
 Suanna Oh (Post-doc, briq Bonn & A.P., Dept. of Econ., Paris School of Economics/2020)
 David Alfaro-Serrano (Cornerstone Research/2020)
 Matthieu Teachout (Research Director, International Growth Centre/2019)
 Xuan Li (A.P., Dept. of Economics, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology/2019)
 Golvine de Rochambeau (A.P., Dept. of Economics, Sciences Po/2018)
 Lin Tian, (A.P., Insead/2018)
 Ashna Arora (Research Director, Crime Lab, University of Chicago)
 Maria Micaela Sviatschi (A.P., Dept. of Economics, Princeton University /2017)
 Christopher Hansman (A.P., Imperial College Business School /2017)
 Nicolás de Roux (A.P., Dept. of Economics, Universidad de los Andes /2017)
 David Szakonyi (Post-doc, Harvard Univ. Academy. & A.P., Dept. of Pol. Science, GWU /2016)
 Jonas Poulsen (Lecturer, Dept. of Economics, Harvard University/2015)

RESEARCH ASSISTANTS AND COAUTHORS RECOMMENDED+ADMITTED IN PHD ECON. PROGRAMS:

Junyi Que (Princeton/2021)
 Sebastian Sardon (Northwestern/2020)
 David Henning (UCLA/2019)
 Claude Raisaro (U. Zurich/2017)
 Andrea Smurra (UCL/2016)

Josephine Gantois (Columbia/2015)

Henrik Sigstad (Harvard/2014)

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

2021: UCL, Nottingham U., Dartmouth, Oxford, U. of Munich, PUC-Chile, CEPR, World Bank, CEPR Paris Symposium, U. of Oslo, Danish Graduate Programme in Economics (keynote)

2020: Cornell, Stanford GSB, UCLA, U. of Virginia, Yale, AEA Annual Meeting, UBC, U. of Zurich, Boston U.

2019: Warwick, CERGE-EI Prague, IMF, LSE, World Bank, NBER Summer Institute, Econometric Society North American Meetings, MIT Sloan, LSE/CEPR, U. of Zurich

2018: Harvard/MIT, UCLA Anderson, NYU Stern, Wharton, U. of Zurich, Paris School of Economics, Marseille School of Economics, Namur, UCSD, USC, Cambridge, SIOE Annual Conference in Montréal

2017: MIT, Yale, UBC, Georgetown, Brown, U. of Zurich, NYU

2016: IGC Growth Week, Barcelona Summer Forum, NBER Summer Institute, Bocconi, Stockholm U., Stanford SCID-IGC Conference on Trade, Firms, and Development, NBER Organizational Economics meeting, NBER Development Economics meeting, U. of Zurich

2015: Copenhagen U., U. of Toronto, McGill, Harvard, Oxford, Central European University, Boston U., IFPRI, U. of Oslo, Stockholm IIES, Norwegian School of Economics

2014: World Bank DRG, BREAD, Princeton, Stanford

2013: Harvard/MIT, LSE, UPF, Uppsala U.

2012: Columbia GSB/Econ, Stanford GSB, U. of Michigan, Penn State, Cornell, Wharton, Stockholm IIES, Kellogg, Warwick, Chicago Booth

2011: PopPov Conference (Marseilles)

2010: U. of Chicago, Norwegian School of Economics, U. of Oslo

2009: World Bank/IZA conference on Evaluation of Labor Market Programs in Developing Countries (Bonn), Working Group on African Political Economy (WGAPE) conference (Berkeley)

OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES

2021 Short-term consultant for EBRD, IMF

2019 – present Member, Advisory Committee for the World Bank's Research Program on Digital Transformation for Africa

2019 Short-term consultant for CDC Group