

Jonas Hjort

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hjort@columbia.edu
www.jonashjort.com
Citizen of Denmark, Norway,
United States
Married, three children (2016,
2018, 2019)

Employment

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|----------------|---|
| 2018 – present | Columbia University, Graduate School of Business Associate Professor of Economics (without tenure), and Gary Winnick and Martin Granoff Associate Professor of Business |
| 2012 – 2018 | Assistant Professor of Economics |

Other appointments

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| 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 |
| Fall 2015 | 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

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| 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

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| 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

“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](#)

“Strategic or Confused Firms? Evidence from "Missing" Transactions in Uganda”, with Miguel Almunia, Justine Knebelmann, and Lin Tian

Revise and resubmit, REVIEW OF ECONOMICS AND STATISTICS

“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, work in progress

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

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
- 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

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| 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

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| 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 |

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| 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 |

Refereeing

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 and admitted in PhD Economics 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
 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

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| 2021 | Short-term consultant for EBRD |
| 2019 – present | Member, Advisory Committee for the World Bank's Research Program on Digital Transformation for Africa |
| 2019 | Short-term consultant for CDC Group |