

GASTON ILLANES

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CONTACT INFORMATION

Department of Economics
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ACADEMIC POSITIONS	Assistant Professor of Economics	Northwestern University	July 2017-
	Faculty Research Fellow	National Bureau of Economic Research	May 2019-
	Visiting Scholar	Becker Friedman Institute	June 2020 – June 2021
	College Fellow	Northwestern University	July 2016 – July 2017
EDUCATION	Ph.D., Economics	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	2016
	M.A. Economics	Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile	2009
	B.A. Business and Economics	Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile	2009
FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, HONORS, AND AWARDS	National Science Foundation Grant #2116934 – A Large-Scale Analysis of Mergers and Merger Simulations		
	Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Grant G-2019-12501, for “Frictions in Mortgage Refinancing: Evidence from Chile”		
	Washington Center for Equitable Growth Grant – A Large-Scale Analysis of Mergers and Merger Simulations		
	Public Utility Research Center Prize for Best Paper in Regulatory Economics, 17 th Annual IIOC, April 2019 – for “Deregulation Through Direct Democracy: Lessons from Liquor Markets”		
	National Science Foundation Grant #1824463 – Fiduciary Duty, Financial Regulation, and the Market for Retirement Products		
	Steven H. Sandell Grant from the Boston College Center for Retirement Research and the Social Security Administration, 2017		
	Graduate Fellowship, Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation, 2014 and 2015		
George P. and Obie B. Shultz Dissertation Grant, 2012 and 2015			

Award for Best Graduate of M.A. in Economics, 2009. Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile

Raúl Yver O. Award to the Best Graduate in Business and Economics, Concentration Economics, 2009. Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile

**WORKING
PAPERS**

“Switching Costs in Pension Plan Choice”

“Market Structure and Competition: Evidence from a Natural Experiment in Liquor Licensure” (with Sarah Moshary)

“Retirement Policy and Annuity Market Equilibria: Evidence from Chile” (with Manisha Padi) – Revision requested at Econometrica

“Deregulation Through Direct Democracy: Lessons from Liquor Markets” (with Sarah Moshary)

“Fiduciary Duty and the Market for Financial Products” (with Vivek Bhattacharya and Manisha Padi) – Revision requested at Econometrica

“The Design of Defined Contribution Plans” (with Vivek Bhattacharya)

“A Large Scale Evaluation of Merger Simulations” (with Vivek Bhattacharya)

“Moment Inequalities – A Practitioner’s Guide” (with Ivan Canay and Amilcar Velez-Salamanca)

**PRESENTATIONS
(INCLUDES
SCHEDULED)**

2021: Carnegie Mellon University, Booth Household Finance Conference, Microsoft Research, University of Chicago

2020: AEA/ASSA Meetings*, Duke Econ – UNC – Fuqua, Johns Hopkins, ITAM, NBER Summer Institute (HF, IO)*

2019: 4th Rome Junior Conference on Applied Microeconomics, AEA/ASSA Meetings, Banff Empirical Microeconomics Conference, Barcelona GSE Summer Forum*, Berkeley Haas, NBER Winter Meetings (IO/INS), Pennsylvania State University, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Rice University, SEC Conference on Financial Regulation*, Summer Institute on Competitive Strategy*, SITE (Financial Regulation), UCLA Anderson, Universidad Diego Portales, University of Chicago, University of Washington

PRESENTATIONS (INCLUDES SCHEDULED)	<p>2018: 11th Workshop on Industrial Organization & Economic Theory – Chile, AEA/ASSA Meetings, Banco Central de Chile, CEPR/JIE Conference on Applied Industrial Organization*, Columbia University, Comisión para el Mercado Financiero (Chile), CSIO-IDEI Conference, FGV – Rio de Janeiro, FTC Microeconomics Conference, Fiscalía Nacional Económica (Chile), Harvard University, IIOC, Ministerio del Trabajo (Chile), Northwestern University Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute, Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Superintendencia de Pensiones (Chile), Universidad de Chile – Centro de Economía Aplicada, Universidad de los Andes (Chile), University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy, Universidad Carlos III, Workshop on Structural Industrial Organization – Bogotá</p> <p>2017: Chicago IO Fest, CSIO-IDEI Conference, Department of Justice, IIOC, NBER Summer Institute - Industrial Organization, Northwestern University Computational Research Day, Ohio State University, Princeton University, Stanford University, University of Chicago, University of Maryland, University of Pennsylvania, University of Wisconsin - Madison, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee, WEAI – Santiago, Yale University</p> <p>2016: Boston College, Chicago IO Fest, London School of Economics, Northwestern University, New York University - Economics, New York University - Stern School of Business, University of California - Berkeley, University of Minnesota, University of Texas - Austin</p> <p>2015: Centro de Economía Aplicada - Universidad de Chile, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Universidad de Santiago de Chile</p> <p>* Denotes co-author presentation</p>
REFeree ACTIVITY	<p>American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, American Economic Journal: Microeconomics, American Economic Review, Econometrica, Fondecyt, International Economic Review, International Journal of Industrial Organization, Journal of Econometrics, Journal of Industrial Economics, Journal of Political Economy, Journal of Public Economic Theory, Journal of the European Economic Association, Journal of Pension Economics and Finance, The RAND Journal of Economics, Review of Financial Studies, Quarterly Journal of Economics</p>

ADVISING

2022 – Samuel Goldberg, Tai Lam, Matteo Magnaricotte, David Stillerman, Benjamin Vatter

2021 – Dmitry Sedov (Uber)

2020 – Matthew Leisten (Federal Trade Commission), Victoria Marone (University of Texas - Austin)

2019 – Matias Escudero (Compass Lexecon), Nicholas Vreugdenhil (Arizona State University)

2018 – David Benson (Federal Reserve Bank Board of Governors), Mariano Irace (Cornerstone Research)

2017 – Germán Bet (University of Florida)

SERVICE

2021 – Co-Organizer, NBER Summer Institute Industrial Organization Workshop. Selection Committee, Public Utility Research Center Prize, IIOC. Co-Organizer, PUC Chile Alumni Conference

2020 – Co-Organizer, PUC Chile Alumni Conference

2019 – Co-Organizer, PUC Chile Alumni Conference

2017 – Co-Organizer, Chicago IO Fest