

Johanna Rayl

Placement Directors: Professor Benjamin Golub

Placement Administrator:

 Professor Benjamin Golub
 847-491-8230

 Professor Rob Porter
 847-491-3491

 Lola May Ittner
 847-491-8200

benjamin.golub@northwestern.edu r-porter@northwestern.edu econjobmarket@northwestern.edu

Contact Information Department of Economics Mobile: 206-617-4230

Northwestern University johanna.rayl@northwestern.edu

2211 Campus Drive jrayl.github.io
Evanston, IL 60208 Citizenship: USA

Fields Research: Energy and Environmental Economics, Public Economics, Industrial Economics

Teaching: Energy and Environmental Economics, Public Economics, Industrial Economics

Education Ph.D., Economics, Northwestern University, 2026 (Anticipated)

Committee: Mar Reguant (Chair), Piotr Dworczak, Chris Udry, Silvia Vannutelli

M.A., Economics, University of Chicago, 2019

B.A., Environmental Analysis, cum laude, Pomona College, 2016

Fellowships & Awards

Vising Scholar, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, Microecononic and Regional Teams, 2024

University Fellowship, Northwestern University, 2022-2023

National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, 2018

Teaching Experience Teaching Assistant, Northwestern University, 2025

MMSS Senior Seminar (Gastón Illanes)

Curriculum Development, University of Chicago, 2016-2017

Global Energy and Climate Challenge (Michael Greenstone and John Deutch)

Research Experience Research Specialist, Climate Impact Lab, 2018-2019

Research Assistant, Michael Greenstone, Energy Policy Institute of the University of Chicago, 2016-2018

Summer Research Intern, Yusuke Kuwayama, Resources for the Future, 2015

Invited Talks Group for Research in Applied Economics (GRAPE) Inequality-aware Market Design (IMD) Seminar,

2024

Refereeing JAERE

Job Market Paper "Redistribution with Limited Information: Fuel Subsidies and Cash Transfers in Indonesia" with

Budy Resosudarmo

In-kind transfers may outperform cash as a means of progressive redistribution when a government has limited data with which to identify poor households. We develop a model of redistribution with limited information to examine the grounds for one of the most common types of in-kind transfers worldwide: energy subsidies. In our model, a planner with progressive redistributional goals and limited information chooses between cash transfers and nonlinear fuel subsidies. The optimality of an in-kind mechanism over a targeted cash transfer is determined by the joint distribution of household income, observable characteristics, and household fuel demand. We estimate the primitives of this model for the Indonesian population using rich administrative survey data and variation generated by large fuel policy reforms. We quantify optimal interventions among nonlinear fuel prices, targeted

cash transfers, and combinations of the two. Combinations of cash and in-kind programs, involving self-financing fuel pricing policies, outperform single interventions.

Works in progress

"The Effects and Effectiveness of Emergency Price Controls during Natural Disasters" with Michael Dinerstein, Nadia Lucas, Ishan Nath

"Paid Maternity Leave and Childrens' Outcomes in the Long Run" with Tessa Bonomo

Approved US Census Bureau Project

The US is one of few countries worldwide without a national mandate for paid maternity leave, and as such, we know little about the effects of paid leave in this context. The first cases of statewide maternity leave in the U.S. came about somewhat unintentionally through changes in state Temporary Disability Insurance (TDI) in the 1960s and 1970s. Six to seven decades later, we have the opportunity to explore the long run effects of access to paid maternity leave on children, later in their lives. We do so employing a differences-in-discontinuities design around changes in state TDI policies which made disability insurance available for pregnancy. In "first stage" results, we provide new estimates of the effects of paid maternity leave availability on infant birth weights, improving upon existing methodologies estimating the same effect in the literature, and finding much larger positive effects. In a "second stage" exercise, we will link measures of the education and earnings of children with their birthdate records using Census and Numident data to provide the first estimates of the long run impacts of paid maternity leave on children for the US.

"Income Downscaling with Nightlights" with Tamma Carleton, James Rising

Working papers

"Does the Value of Reliability Capitalize in Water Markets" with Yusuke Kuwayama, Tyler Treakle

Published papers

"Private Markets and Public Assistance for Natural Disaster Supplies" with Michael Dinerstein, Nadia Lucas, Ishan Nath, AEA Papers and Proceedings, 2025

Languages

English (fluent), Spanish (limited working proficiency)

References

Professor Mar Reguant Professor Piotr Dworczak Department of Economics Department of Economics Northwestern University 2211 Campus Drive Evanston, IL 60208 Evanston, IL 60208 847.491.8221 847.491.8203

mar.reguant@northwestern.edu

Professor Christopher Udry Department of Economics Northwestern University 2211 Campus Drive Evanston, IL 60208

christopher.udry@northwestern.edu

Northwestern University 2211 Campus Drive piotr.dworczak@northwestern.edu

Professor Silvia Vannutelli Department of Economics Northwestern University 2211 Campus Drive Evanston, IL 60208 847.491.8234

silvia.vannutelli@northwestern.edu