Ethan Ligon

Agricultural & Resource Economics

University of California

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Birthdate: August 13, 1966

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US Citizen

Areas of specialization

Dynamic incentives & inequality, Development economics, Agricultural contracts, Risk sharing, Intra-household allocation, Food demand, Applied econometrics

Appointments held

Professor & Vice Chair of Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of California, Berkeley, July 2023–Present

Professor of Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of California, Berkeley, July 2020–Present Economist, University of California Agricultural Experiment Station, July 2020–Present.

Associate Professor of Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of California, Berkeley, July 2000–June 2020

Associate Economist, University of California Agricultural Experiment Station, July 2000–June 2020.

Assistant Professor of Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of California, Berkeley, July 1994–June 2000

Assistant Economist, University of California Agricultural Experiment Station, July 1994–June 2000.

Chief Data Wrangler, National Health and Social Life Survey, directed by Robert Michael and Edward Laumann, NORC, University of Chicago 1992.

Research Asst. to Professor Robert Townsend, Univ. of Chicago, 1989–92. Worked on theory and estimation of risk-sharing.

Researcher on the General Social Survey, NORC, Univ. of Chicago 1986–1989. Studied income distribution and poverty; assisted in preparation of large-scale dataset (the General Social Survey).

Research Intern on a survey of the Job Training Partnership Act, NORC, University of Chicago 1986–88, directed by James J. Heckman.

Education

1988	A.B. Economics, University of Chicago
1991	A.M. Economics, University of Chicago
1994	Ph.D. Economics, University of Chicago

Academic Honors

2022	Honorable Mention, GiveWell "Change Our Minds Competition" (with Trevor Wooley).
2022	Nominee, Sigma Xi (Scientific Research Honor Society).
2014-15	Visiting Scholar, University College, London.
2013	Excellence in Refereeing Award, American Economic Review.
2013	Visiting Researcher, Aix-Marseille School of Economics.
2012	Excellence in Refereeing Award, American Economic Review.
2011-12	Presidential Chair Fellow, University of California, Berkeley.
2003	Visiting Researcher, Stanford Center for International Development, Stanford University.
2002	Visiting Fellow, Peking University School of Economics.
2001	Visiting Researcher, Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique, Université Toulouse.
1995	Research Fellow, University of Warwick.
1989-93	Mellon Foundation Fellowship.
1991	Visiting Scientist, ICRISAT (Hyderabad, India).
1993-94	Margaret Reid Fellow.
1989-91	University of Chicago Graduate Fellowships.

Memberships and Affiliations

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Giannini Foundation for Agricultural Economics (https://giannini.ucop.edu)

Theoretical Research in Development Economics (ThReD; https://thred.devecon.org)

Center for Effective Global Action (https://cega.berkeley.edu)

UC Berkeley Center for Next Generation Food Systems (https://food-manufacturing.berkeley.edu)

AI Institute for Food Systems (aifs.ucdavis.edu)

Berkeley Food Institute (https://food.berkeley.edu)

Econometric Society (https://www.econometricsociety.org)

American Economic Association (https://www.aeaweb.org)

Royal Economic Society (https://www.res.org.uk)

Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (https://www.aaea.org)

Society for the Advancement of Economic Theory (https://saet.uiowa.edu/)
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Teaching Experience

Econometrics: Multiple Equation Estimation (ARE 212), Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics; University of California, Berkeley, Spring 1995–98, 2019–22.

Rural Economic Development Workshop (ARE 259), Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics; University of California, Berkeley, 2019–22.

Econometric Project Workshop (ARE 219A/B), Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics; University of California, Berkeley, 2019–22.

Population, Environment, & Development: Feeding the Planet (EEP 153), Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics; University of California, Berkeley, 2019-22.

Production, Technology, and Risk in Agriculture (ARE 241), Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics; University of California, Berkeley, Fall 2015–17.

Production, Industrial Organization, and Regulation in Agriculture (ARE 201), Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics; University of California, Berkeley, Fall 2013–2014.

Development Economics (Econ 270A, ARE 251), Departments of Economics and of Agricultural and Resource Economics; University of California, Berkeley, Fall 2001, 2002, 2005–2012.

Microeconomic Theory with Applications to Natural Resources (EEP 100), Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics; University of California, Berkeley, Fall 1996–02, 2005–08, 2010–2013, 2015–17

Issues and Topics in Agricultural Economics (ARE 201), Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics; University of California, Berkeley, Fall 2004.

Applied Econometrics (ARE 213), Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics; University of California, Berkeley, Fall 1996–2000, 2002.

Natural Resource Economics (ARE 261), Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics; University of California, Berkeley, Fall 1998–2000.

Advanced Topics in Development (ARE 152), Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics; University of California, Berkeley, Spring 1995 and 1996.

Optimization Over Time. Teaching Asst. Dept. of Economics; Univ. of Chicago Fall 1991, Instructor Nancy Stokey.

Applied Econometrics. Project Administrator, Harris School of Public Policy; Univ. of Chicago, Spring 1991. Proposed, directed, and evaluated a final research project by students in the graduate econometrics sequence.

Graduate Price Theory. Teaching Asst., Department of Economics; University of Chicago Spring 1990 and 91. Instructor Robert Townsend.

Economic Organization. Teaching Asst., Department of Economics; University of Chicago Fall 1992. Instructor Robert Townsend.

Editorial Service

Reviewer, CEGA/ATAI Research Grant Proposals, 2021–22

Reviewer, STEG Research Grant Proposals, 2021-22

Reviewer, Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, 2019–20

Reviewer, Leverhulme Trust, 2012

Board Member pro tempore of Agricultural Technology Adoption Initiative, 2012

Reviewer, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, 2011

Associate Editor, Journal of African Economies 2009–2011

Associate Editor, Journal of Development Economics 2004–2025

Associate Editor, American Journal of Agricultural Economics 1999–2003

Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station Proposal Reviewer, 2008

Selected Papers Reviewer, American Agricultural Economics Association

National Academy of Sciences, Reviewer for Proceedings, 2003

Invited National Research Initiative Panelist for Rural Markets and Trade Program, USDA, 2004.

National Research Initiative Reviewer, USDA, 1999, 2001-03

National Science Foundation Reviewer, 2004, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2016

Reviewer, F.W.O. (Fund for Scientific Research, Flanders), 2004

Reviewer, The Nuffield Foundation, Social Science Scheme, 2004

Reviewer, World Bank, 1999

Referee, Agricultural Economics, 2016, 2017

Referee, Agronomy, 2019

Referee, American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics, 2020

Referee, American Economic Journal: Microeconomics, 2014

Referee, American Economic Journal: Applied, 2021

Referee, American Economic Review, 1999, 2004, 2010-2014, 2016, 2019, 2020

Referee, American Journal of Agricultural Economics, 1998, 2004, 2005, 2008, 2010, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021

Referee, BE Journals of Economic Analysis and Policy, 2003, 2009, 2010

Referee, California Agriculture, 2003

Referee, Econometrica, 1994, 2004, 2006, 2008-2016, 2019, 2020, 2021

Referee, Economic Development and Cultural Change, 2003, 2006, 2011, 2015, 2016, 2018,2025

Referee, Economic Journal, 1998, 2002-06, 2009, 2015, 2018, 2022

Referee, Economics Letters, 2017

Referee, European Review of Agricultural Economics, 2001

Referee, European Economic Review, 2004, 2005, 2014

Referee, Handbook of Agricultural Economics, 1997

Referee, Industrial Relations, 1996

Referee, International Economic Review, 2006

Referee, International Review of Economics and Finance, 1994

Reviewer, International Food and Policy Research Institute, 2003

Referee, Journal of African Economies, 2001, 2004, 2010, 2011, 2017

Referee, Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics, 2004

Referee, Journal of Applied Econometrics, 2008

Referee, Journal of Applied Economics, 2011

Referee, Journal of Comparative Economics, 2008, 2009, 2012

Referee, Journal of Development Economics, 1997-2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2013, 2017-21,2023-25

Referee, Journal of Development Studies, 2002, 2004, 2011, 2019

Referee, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, 2020

Referee, Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control, 2002

Referee, Journal of Economic Growth, 2000–02

Referee, Journal of Economic Inequality, 2016

Referee, Journal of Economic Management and Strategy, 2004

Referee, Journal of Environmental Economics and Management, 1999–2001

Referee, Journal of the European Economic Association, 2003, 2005, 2007, 2009, 2012, 2014, 2016-21, 2023

Referee, Journal of Human Resources, 2000

Referee, Journal of Political Economy, 1993-95, 2000-03, 2005-10, 2012, 2014

Referee, Journal of Public Economics, 2018

Referee, Journal of Risk and Insurance, 2014

Referee, Land Economics, 2004

Referee, Mathematical Social Sciences, 2020

Referee, Natural Resource Modelling, 1999

Referee, Nature Scientific Reports, 2022

Referee, Oxford Economic Papers, 2004-05

Referee, Public Library of Science One (PLoS One), 2019, 2025

Referee, Quantitative Economics, 2010, 2012, 2013, 2018, 2019, 2022

Referee, Quarterly Journal of Economics, 2004, 2010, 2011, 2016, 2017, 2019

Referee, Rand Journal of Economics, 2001, 2008

Referee, Review of Economic Dynamics, 1999

Referee, Regional Science and Urban Economics, 2003

Referee, Review of Agricultural Economics, 2008

Referee, Review of Economics and Statistics, 2003-04

Referee, Review of Economic Studies, 1993, 1998-2020, 2024

Referee, Review of Economics of the Household, 2021

Referee, Theoretical Economics, 2012

Referee, World Bank Economic Review, 2005, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018

Referee, World Development, 2020

Committee Service

2024-26: Member, Academic Senate Committee on Committees (COMS).

2024-2024: Executive Committee, Berkeley Initiative for Free Inquiry.

2024–2024: Convener, Structural Transformation and Economic Growth (STEG/CEPR) Workshops for Large Research Grantees.

2022–2024: Vice Chair, Department of Agricultural & Resource Economics.

2021-22: Co-chair, Department Search Committee

2019-21, 2022-2024: Chair, Department Second Year Advising Committee

2021–22: Member, Department Second Year Advising Committee

2019-2024: Faculty Coordinator, Department Development Workshop.

2018–2024: Organizer, Giannini Foundation Distinguished Speaker Series.

2018–2020: Member, University Committee on Academic Computing and Communications (UCACC).

2017–2020: Founding Chair, Academic Senate Committee on Computing and Information Technology (CIT)

2019–20: Berkeley Organizer, Giannini Foundation Big Ag Data Workshop.

2019: Chair, Department Ag Teaching Committee.

2015–2024: Member, Department Graduate Admissions Committee

2017-18: Consultant, "Poverty & Inequality Statistics and Indicators," United Nations

2018: Academic Senate Leadership Representative, UCB IT Assessment Steering Committee

2016–2018: Member, College of Natural Resources Executive Committee (EXCOM)

2015–2017: Member, Campus Joint Committee on Computing and Information Technology (JCCIT)

2011–2013: Member, Academic Senate Committee on the Library (LIBR)

2011-2014: Member, Department Affirmative Action Committee

2011–2014: Chair, Department Space Committee

2011–2013: Member, Academic Senate Committee on the Library (LIBR)

2010–2014: Chair, Department Visitors Committee

2006, 2010: Member, Scientific Committee for "Industrial Organization and the Food Processing Industry" INRA-IDEI Conference held at Toulouse

2008: Campus Ad-Hoc Review Committee

2008: Chair, Computing Committee, College of Natural Resources

2004–2010: Member, Academic Senate Committee on Computing and Network Services (COMP)

2003–2004, 2007–2009, 2015–16: Member, College of Natural Resources Research Committee (RESCOM)

1999–2010: Chair, Computer Committee, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics

1998-Present: Member, Empirical Prelim Committee

2003, 2006, 2009-11: Consultant, World Bank

2007: Consultant, Inter-American Development Bank

2004–2007: Member, CNR Bioinformatics & Computing Faculty Oversight Committee

2005–2007: Member, Academic Senate Educational Technology Committee (ETC)

2004–2006: Member, Scholarship Subcommittee of Academic Senate Committee on Undergraduate Scholarships and Honors (CUSH)

2004-2006: Mentor to Undergraduate Regents' and Chancellor's Fellows

2004: Co-organizer, Workshop on Dynamics and Transitions in Developing Countries, Stanford Institute for Theoretical Economics

2002: Consultant, International Food Policy Research Institute

2002: Consultant, Garst Seed Company

2002: Organizer, Workshop on Intra-Household Behavior in Developing Countries, Berkeley

2001: Member, Giannini Hall Space Committee

2001: Member, College of Natural Resources Facilities Taskforce

1998–1999: Chair, Seminar and Visitors Committee

1996–1998: Member, Computer Committee

1998–1999: Organizer, "Cal-Day" Exhibit for the ARE Department, "The Apple of Your Eye"

1997–1998: Chair, Empirical Prelim. Committee

1995–1997: Member, Graduate Advisory Committee

1994–1997: Member, ARE Research Committee

Grants

Optimality and Distributional Effects of Heterogeneous Savings Groups, Weiss Fund for Research in Development Economics, 2019–20.

The Impact of Digital Credit on Small Scale Merchants in India, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, 2017–2019

The Value of Crop Insurance to US and California Farmers, Giannini Foundation for Agricultural Economics, 2016–17.

Assessing New Tools for Replication & Meta-analysis, BITSS SSMART Grant, William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, 2015–19.

Targeting the Ultra-Poor in South Sudan, BRAC-CEGA, 2015–17

Effects of Debt Relief on the Portfolios, Consumption, and Welfare of the rural poor of Andhra Pradesh, The World Bank, 2011–2013

Risk Management for Agricultural Producers, Institute of Natural Resources, 2011–2015

Sharing in Networks: Individuals or Households, Berkeley Population Center Institute of Business and Economic Research, 2009–2010

Risk, Location, and Dynamic Incentives in Agricultural Contracts, Institute of Natural Resources, 2006–2010

Informal Insurance and the Extent of the Market, National Science Foundation, 2004–08

Measuring Competitiveness in Vegetable Markets, USDA National Research Initiative, 2004–07

Performance Incentives in Processing Tomato Contracts, Economic Research Service of the USDA, 2003– 05

Using Production Data to Design Efficient Contracts, Giannini Foundation, 2002–2004

Risk and Dynamic Incentives in Agricultural Contracts, Institute of Natural Resources, 2002–2006

Incentives and Quality in Processing Tomatoes, Giannini Foundation, 2000–2001

Estimation and Mechanism Design Theory and Issues in Agricultural Resource Systems Policy, Institute of Natural Resources, 1996–2001

Quality Measurement and Risk Sharing for Fruits and Vegetables, National Research Initiative, USDA Grants Program, 1998–2002

- Microeconomic Theory and Empirical Studies of Intra-Household Behavior in Developing Countries, France-Berkeley Fund, 2001–2002
- Quality Measurement and Risk Sharing in Contracts for California Fruits and Vegetables, Giannini Foundation, 1998–1999

Published Papers

- Stephen Hamilton, Ethan Ligon, & Aric Shafran, 2024; "Spatial procurement of farm products and the supply of processed foods: Application to the tomato processing industry." *Review of Industrial Organization*, Published online. URL https://escholarship.org/uc/item/5m84n9bb?
- Luc Christiaensen, Ethan Ligon, & Thomas Pave Sohnesen, 2022; "Consumption subaggregates should not be used to measure poverty." *The World Bank Economic Review*, 36(2):413-432. URL https://escholarship.org/uc/item/9b9929jh.
- Zhimin Li & Ethan Ligon, 2020; "Inferring informal risk-sharing regimes: Evidence from rural Tanzania." *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, 177:941-955. URL https://escholarship.org/uc/item/50f6t3fh.
- Ethan Ligon & Laura Schechter, 2020; "Structural experimentation to distinguish between models of risk sharing with frictions in rural Paraguay." *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, 69(1):1–50.
- Ethan Ligon, Badal Malick, Ketki Sheth, & Carly Trachtman, 2019; "What explains low adoption of digital payment technologies? Evidence from small-scale merchants in Jaipur, India." *PLoS One*, 14(7):e0219450.
- Ethan Ligon & Elisabeth Sadoulet, 2018; "Estimating the relative benefits of agricultural growth on the distribution of expenditures." World Development, 109:417-428. URL https://escholarship.org/uc/item/3zh92962.
- Stephen Hamilton, Ethan Ligon, Aric Shafrin, & Sofia Villas-Boas, 2016; "Production and emissions leakage from California's cap and trade program in food processing industries: Case study of tomato, sugar, wet corn and cheese markets." Technical report, California Air Resources Board. URL https://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/capandtrade/meetings/20160518/calpoly-food-process-leakage.pdf.
- Ethan Ligon, 2016; "All λ -separable demands and rationalizing utility functions." *Economics Letters*, 147:16–18. URL http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.econlet.2016.08.010.
- -, 2016; "Some λ -separable frisch demands with utility functions." *Economics Bulletin*, 36(1):A8. URL http://escholarship.org/uc/item/1s06c2zp.
- —, 2012; "Supply and effects of specialty crop insurance." In Joshua Graff Zivin & Jeffrey Perloff, eds., The Intended and Unintended Effects of U.S. Agricultural and Biotechnology Policies, NBER. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. URL https://www.nber.org/papers/w16709.
- Ethan Ligon & Laura Schechter, 2012; "Motives for sharing in social networks." *Journal of Development Economics*, 99:13-26. URL http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jdeveco.2011.12.002.

- Chris Adam, John Hoddinott, & Ethan Ligon, 2011; "Dynamic intrahousehold bargaining, matrimonial property law and suicide in Canada." In Agnes Quisumbing, ed., Household Decisions, Gender, and Development. IFPRI.
- Ethan Ligon, 2011; "Cooperation, reciprocity, and altruism in developing countries: Discussion." American Journal of Agricultural Economics (Proceedings), 94(2):419–421. URL http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/ajae/aar104.
- -, 2009; "Risk management in the cooperative contract." American Journal of Agricultural Economics, 91(5):1211-1217. URL http://ajae.oxfordjournals.org/content/91/5/1211. full.pdf+html.
- -, 2008; "Food prices and the welfare of poor consumers." Agricultural and Resource Economics Update, 12(2):15-17. URL http://giannini.ucop.edu/media/are-update/files/articles/v12n2 6.pdf.
- -, 2008; "Risk sharing." In New Palgrave Dictionary of Economics. Palgrave Macmillan, 2nd edition. URL http://pde-test1.pde.pm.semcs.net/article?id=pde2008_R000231.
- —, 2008; "Vulnerabilidad en Ecuador: Mediciones de riesgo basadas en desigualdad." In Pablo Samaniego, ed., INFORME de Desarrollo Social 2007: Pobreza, Desigualdad e Inversión Social, pp. 138–158. Quito, Ecuador: Secretaría Técnica del Ministerio de Coordinación de Desarrollo Social.
- Brent Hueth, Ethan Ligon, & Carolyn Dimitri, 2007; "Agricultural contracts: Data and research needs." *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 89(5):1276–1281. URL http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1467-8276.2007.01096.x.
- Ethan Ligon, 2006; "Poverty and the welfare costs of risk associated with globalization." World Development, 34(8):1446-1457. URL http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/B6VC6-4KGX8G0-1/2/a142bdea08d2c555c5dd59cb5dd17ae8.
- —, 2006; "Risk and the evolution of inequality in China in an era of globalization." In Ann Harrison, ed., Poverty and Globalization. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. URL http://www.nber.org/chapters/c0117.pdf.
- -, 2005; "Formal markets and informal insurance." *International Review of Law and Economics*, 25(1):75-88. URL http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.irle.2004.06.005.
- —, 2004; "Targeting and informal insurance." In Stefan Dercon, ed., *Insurance Against Poverty*. Oxford University Press. URL http://escholarship.org/uc/item/4km8q3gv.
- -, 2004; "Using production data to design efficient contracts." *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 86(3):848-853. URL http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.0002-9092.2004.00636.x.
- Ethan Ligon & Laura Schechter, 2003; "Measuring vulnerability." *Economic Journal*, 113(486):C95–C102. URL http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/1468-0297.00117.
- Timothy G. Conley & Ethan Ligon, 2002; "Economic distance and cross-country spillovers." *Journal of Economic Growth*, 7(2):157–187. URL http://journals.kluweronline.com/issn/1381-4338/contents.
- Brent Hueth & Ethan Ligon, 2002; "Estimation of an efficient tomato contract." European Review of Agricultural Economics, 29(2):237-253. URL http://erae.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/content/abstract/29/2/237.

- Ethan Ligon, 2002; "Contractual arrangements for fresh produce in California." ARE Update, 5(2). URL http://escholarship.org/uc/item/27b468z8.
- —, 2002; "Optimal risk in agricultural contracts." Agricultural Systems, 75:265–276. URL http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0308-521X(02)00069-0.
- —, 2002; "Quality and grading risk." In Richard Just & Rulon Pope, eds., A Comprehensive Assessment of the Role of Risk in Agriculture. Dordrecht: Kluwer Academic Publishers.
- Ethan Ligon, Jonathan P. Thomas, & Tim Worrall, 2002; "Informal insurance arrangements with limited commitment: Theory and evidence from village economies." *Review of Economic Studies*, 69(1):209-244. URL http://restud.oxfordjournals.org/content/69/1/209.full.pdf+html.
- Brent Hueth & Ethan Ligon, 2001; "Agricultural markets as relative performance evaluation." American Journal of Agricultural Economics, 83(2):318-328. URL http://www.jstor.org/stable/1244675.
- Steven Wolf, Brent Hueth, & Ethan Ligon, 2001; "Policing mechanisms in agricultural contracts." Rural Sociology, 66(3):359–382. URL https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1549-0831.2001.tb00072.x.
- Ethan Ligon, Jonathan P. Thomas, & Tim Worrall, 2000; "Mutual insurance, individual savings, and limited commitment." *Review of Economic Dynamics*, 3(2):216–246. URL https://dx.doi.org/10.1006/redy.1999.0081.
- Brent Hueth & Ethan Ligon, 1999; "Agricultural supply response under contract." *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 81(3):610–615. URL https://www.jstor.org/stable/1244022.
- -, 1999; "Producer price risk and quality measurement." *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 81(3):512-524. URL https://www.jstor.org/stable/1244011.
- Brent Hueth, Ethan Ligon, Steven Wolf, & Steven Wu, 1999; "Incentive instruments in fruit and vegetable contracts: Input control, monitoring, measuring, and price risk." *Review of Agricultural Economics*, 21(2). URL http://www.jstor.org/stable/1349886.
- Andreas Lehnert, Ethan Ligon, & Robert Townsend, 1999; "Liquidity constraints and incentive contracts." *Macroeconomic Dynamics*, 2(1):1-47. URL http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S1365100599010019.
- Ethan Ligon & Urvashi Narain, 1999; "Government management of village commons." *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*, 37:272–289. URL http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/B6WJ6-45FKNRV-4/2/1cb7fd61c04596bf9a303a9af96e21ef.
- Ethan Ligon, 1998; "Risk-sharing and information in village economies." Review of Economic Studies, 65:847–864. URL http://www.jstor.org/stable/2566915.
- Ethan Ligon & Urvashi Narain, 1997; "Computing the equilibria of dynamic common property games." *Natural Resource Modeling*, 10(4):345–369.
- Peter Berck & Ethan Ligon, 1996; "The swamp and the shopping center: An interest rate parable." *Ecological Modelling*, 92:275.

- Ethan Ligon, 1990; "The construction of measures of real income from nominal, categorical data." GSS Methodological Report 164, National Opinion Research Center, University of Chicago.
- —, 1989; "The measurement of poverty in the General Social Survey." GSS Methodological Report 148, National Opinion Research Center, University of Chicago.

Carly Trachtman & Ethan Ligon; Assessing Targeting Peformance: The Case of Ghana's LEAP Program.

Selected Working Papers

- Ethan Ligon, 2025; "Risk sharing tests and covariate shocks: Drought, floods, and pests in Uganda." URL https://escholarship.org/uc/item/2zr503fq. Revised & resubmitted the American Economic Review.
- Megan Lang & Ethan Ligon, 2019; "SMS surveys of selected expenditures." URL https://escholarship.org/content/qt7p7336h5/qt7p7336h5.pdf.
- Ethan Ligon, 2019; "Estimating household welfare from disaggregate expenditures." URL https://escholarship.org/uc/item/3ts0g5tn. Unpublished manuscript.
- —, 2018; "On the use of high frequency surveys to measure SDG indicators." Technical report, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia.
- Elliott Collins & Ethan Ligon, 2017; "Asset transfers and household neediness." URL http://escholarship.org/uc/item/24t720fk. CUDARE Working Paper.
- Pierre Dubois & Ethan Ligon, 2012; "Incentives & nutrition for rotten kids: The quantity & quality of food allocated within Philippine households." Unpublished Manuscript.
- Chris Adam, John Hoddinott, & Ethan Ligon, 2011; "Dynamic intrahousehold bargaining, matrimonial property law and suicide in Canada." CUDARE Working Paper No. 1113.
- Pierre Dubois & Ethan Ligon, 2010; "Nutrition and risk sharing within the household." CUDARE Working Paper No. 1096.
- Ethan Ligon, 2010; "Measuring risk by looking at changes in inequality: Vulnerability in Ecuador." URL http://www.escholarship.org/uc/item/8vj75725. CUDARE Working Paper No. 1095.
- Ethan Ligon & Laura Schechter, 2004; "Evaluating different approaches to estimating vulnerability." Social Protection Discussion Paper 0410, World Bank, Washington, DC. URL http://siteresources.worldbank.org/SOCIALPROTECTION/Resources/SP-Discussion-papers/Social-Risk-Management-DP/0410.pdf.
- —, 2003; "Measuring vulnerability: The director's cut." URL http://are.berkeley.edu/~ligon/Papers/vulnerability.long.pdf. UN/WIDER Working Paper.
- Ethan Ligon, 2002; "Dynamic bargaining in households (with an application to Bangladesh)." URL Papers/intra-household.pdf. Giannini Foundation Working Paper.
- —, 1997; "Panel data and Euler equations."

Ethan Ligon & Trevor Woolley; "Givewell's moral weights underweight the value of transfers to the poor." URL https://docs.google.com/document/d/11GsUQuyRvxt2B5pFcekMS5uSl2Otqq9v/. Honorable Mention in *GiveWell*'s "Change our minds" competition.

Carly Trachtman & Ethan Ligon; "Assessing targeting performance: The case of Ghana's LEAP program." URL https://escholarship.org/uc/item/2zk0m608.

Published Software & Data

Ethan Ligon, 2022. "CFEDemands: Tools for estimating and computing Constant Frisch Elasticity (CFE) demands." URL https://pypi.python.org/pypi/CFEDemands/.

-, 2022. "fooddatacentral." URL https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7020171.

Alice Ng'ang'a, Carly Trachtman, & Ethan Ligon, 2022. "Pilot Data for Study of Gender & the Adoption of Agricultural Technologies in Cassava Cultivation." URL https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/GQT1YS.

Ethan LIGON, 2021. "Replication Data for: Impact evaluation of asset and cash transfers in South Sudan." URL https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/FCENHZ.

Ethan Ligon, 2019. "LSMS: Tools for working with living standards measurement surveys." URL https://pypi.org/project/lsms/.

Ethan Ligon & Laura Schechter, 2004; "vulnerability.dov.1.0." URL Papers/vulnerability_code.zip. Stata code to estimate measures of vulnerability.

Ethan Ligon, 1999; "Discreteeconomy: An economy solver." URL http://are.berkeley.edu/~ligon/DiscreteEconomy. http://are.berkeley.edu/~ligon/DiscreteEconomy.

Presentations

["MUEs in Malawi," Invited talk at STEG/GiveDirectly Workshop, Lilongwe, Malawi, July 2025.]

- "Risk Sharing Tests and Covariate Shocks," Invited Development & Planning Seminar at University of California, Berkeley, April 2025.
- "Credit & Welfare Across the Lean Season," Pacific Development Conference at the University of Southern California, March 2025.
- "Risk Sharing Tests and Covariate Shocks," Plenary Address at Conference, "New Directions in the Fight Against Poverty: Honoring Martin Ravallion's Legacy", Washington DC, October 2023.
- "Risk Sharing Tests and Covariate Shocks," Theoretical Research in Economic Development Annual Conference at Aix-Marseille University, June 2023.
- "Risk Sharing Tests and Covariate Shocks," Invited Seminar at World Bank, May 2023.
- "Risk Sharing Tests and Covariate Shocks," Invited Seminar at International Food Policy Research Institute, May 2023.
- "Risk Sharing Tests and Covariate Shocks," Invited Seminar at University of Massachusetts (Amherst)
 Department of Resource Economics, May 2023.

- "Risk Sharing Tests and Covariate Shocks," Invited Seminar at University of California Department of Agricultural & Resource Economics, April 2023.
- "Risk Sharing Tests and Covariate Shocks," Special talk at Workshop on Reimagning Risk & Vulnerability in Indian Agriculture, IIT Bombay, March 2023.
- "Measuring Bargaining Power within the Household," Invited seminar at University of Cambridge Centre of Environment, Energy and Natural Resource Governance, January 2022.
- "Consumption-based Targeting: Doing MUEr With Less," Invited presentation to the What Works Global Summit, October 2021.
- "Relative Household Welfare from Relative Expenditures," Plenary address to STEG/CEPR Annual Conference, January 2021.
- "Farm-Households," Invited presentation to the Artificial Intelligence for Food Systems Institute, Berkeley, October 2020.
- "Estimating Household Welfare from Disaggregate Expenditures," Invited presentation to World Congress of the Econometric Society, Milan, August 2020.
- "Not PPP: Prices and Poverty in Palestine," Invited presentation to Trade Workshop, University of California, Berkeley, Department of Economics, September 2019.
- "Welfare & Poverty Measurement Using a Subset of Expenditures," Invited presentation, United Nations Workshop on Poverty Measurement in Arab Countries, Tunis, July 2019.
- "Discussion of 'Sharing the Pie: Undernutrition, Intra-household Allocation, and Poverty" by Brown, Calvi, & Penglase," Winter meetings of the Econometric Society, January 2019.
- "Estimating Household Welfare from Disaggregate Expenditures," Invited seminar at University of California, Davis, Department of Agricultural & Resource Economics, September 2018.
- "Thoughts on 'New Engel'," Discussant, National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) Summer Institute, Cambridge, July 2018.
- "Targeting the Ultra-poor in South Sudan," Invited talk, Seventh Annual East African Social Science Translation (EASST) Evidence Summit, Kampala Uganda, July 2018.
- "Thoughtful Randomization," Invited talk, BRAC-CEGA Workshop, Kampala Uganda, July 2018.
- "Measuring Within-Household Welfare from Individual Food Consumption," Invited talk in Special Session at the Annual Meetings of the Royal Economic Society, Sussex UK, May 2018.
- "Estimating Household Welfare from Disaggregate Expenditures," Selected presentation at the BREAD Conference, Stanford University, May 2017.
- "Asset transfers and farm-household welfare," Invited talk at Agricultural, Food, and Resource Policy Workshop, University of California, Berkeley, November 2016.
- "Measuring Well-being," Keynote talk at Biannual Kiva Partnerships Week, San Francisco, August 2016.
- "Estimating Household Neediness from Disaggregate Expenditures," Invited seminar at Northwestern University Department of Economics, April 2016.
- "Estimating Household Neediness from Disaggregate Expenditures," Invited seminar at North Carolina State University Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, April 2016.
- "Optimal Roscas," Theoretical Research in Economic Development Annual Conference at Duke University, April 2016
- "Estimating Marginal Utility from Disaggregated Expenditures," NEUDC Conference presentation at Brown University, November 2015.
- "Asset Transfers and Household Neediness (South Sudan)," Invited seminar at Georgetown University, November 2015.
- "Estimating Marginal Utility from Disaggregated Expenditures," Invited seminar at the World Bank, November 2015.
- "Asset Transfers and Household Neediness (South Sudan)," Plenary speaker at CEGA Research Retreat, University of California, Berkeley, October 2015.

- "Estimating Changes in Marginal Utility from Disaggregated Expenditures," Invited seminar at the University of California, Berkeley, ARE Department Seminar, September 2015.
- "Discussion of 'Networks and Misallocation: Insurance, Migration, and the Rural-Urban Wage Gap' by Munshi & Rosenzweig," National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) Summer Institute, Cambridge, July 2015.
- "Asset Transfers, Productivity, and Changes in the Welfare of 'Ultra-Poor' Households in South Sudan," EDePo Conference presentation at Goodenough College, London, July 2015.
- "Estimating Changes in Marginal Utility from Disaggregated Expenditures," ThReD Conference presentation at the Université libre de Bruxelles, June 2015.
- "Tracking Household Neediness Over Time, with an Application to Uganda," Presentation at the Barcelona GSE Summer Workshop, June 2015.
- "Measuring Marginal Utility from Disaggregate Expenditures," Invited seminar presentation at the University of Sussex, March 2015.
- "Estimating Changes in Marginal Utility from Disaggregated Expenditures," Invited talk at the Empirical Microeconomics Seminar at the University of Cambridge, March 2015.
- "Tracking Household Neediness Over Time, with an Application to Uganda," CSAE Conference presentation at the University of Oxford, March 2015.'
- "Measuring Marginal Utilities from Disaggregate Expenditures," Invited seminar presentation at CREST in Paris, January 2015.
- "Estimating Changes in Marginal Utility from Disaggregate Expenditures," Invited workshop presentation at the School of Economics in Edinburgh, November 2014.
- "Estimating Changes in Marginal Utility from Disaggregated Expenditures," Invited seminar presentation at the Economics and Empirical Economics Seminar at the Toulouse School of Economics, November 2014.
- "Measuring Marginal Utility Using Disaggregate Expenditure Data," Invited talk at the Department Seminar, University College, London, October 2014.
- "Estimating Marginal Utilities Using Disaggregated Expenditure Data," Invited presentation at the 6th Summer School in Development Economics, Ascea, Italy, June 2014.
- "Avoiding Aggregation in Measuring Marginal Utilities," Invited talk at the joint Washington University and Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis Labor Workshop, March 2014.
- "Avoiding Aggregation in Measuring Marginal Utilities," Invited talk at the University of California, Berkeley Development Workshop, March 2014.
- "Measuring Neediness in Uganda Using the Variable Elasticity Demand System," Invited seminar at the University of California, Davis, February 2014.
- "Measuring Neediness in Uganda Using the Variable Elasticity Demand System," Invited talk at Demography 'Brown Bag' Seminar, University of California, Berkeley, October 2013.
- "Measuring Neediness Using the VES Demand System," Invited talk at a World Bank workshop on "Monitoring Poverty," Washington DC, October 2013.
- "Estimating the Effects of Aggregate Agricultural Growth on the Distribution of Expenditures," Invited talk at a World Bank "Workshop on Agricultural and Non-Agricultural Productivity Growth," Washington DC, September 2013.
- "Structural Experimentation to Distinguish between Models of Risk Sharing with Frictions," Invited presentation at the Summer Meetings of the Society for Economic Dynamics, Seoul, June 2013.
- "Demand for Insurance," Invited presentation to FERDI Workshop on Flexible Financial Products in Microfinance to Address Risk, Clermont-Ferrand, June 2013.
- "Structural Experimentation to Distinguish between Models of Risk Sharing with Frictions," Invited seminar at the Université Aix-Marseille, June 2013.

- "Structural Experimentation to Distinguish between Models of Risk Sharing with Frictions," Invited presentation to the IFS/PEPA workshop on Informing Policy for Development at the University College, London, June 2013.
- "Demand for Food Quality," Presentation to the Midwestern International Economic Development Conference, Madison, April 2013.
- "Structural Experimentation to Distinguish between Models of Risk Sharing with Frictions," PRIMCED Workshop Toward a Theory of Comparative Economic Development at the Institute for Economic Research, Hitotsubashi University, March 2013.
- "Incentives & Nutrition for Rotten Kids: The Quantity & Quality of Food Allocated within Philippine Households," presentation at the Winter Asian Meetings of the Econometric Society, Delhi, December 2012.
- "Incentives & Nutrition for Rotten Kids: The Quantity & Quality of Food Allocated within Philippine Households," Presentation at the Indian Statistical Institute Growth and Development Conference, Delhi, December 2012.
- "Incentives & Nutrition for Rotten Kids: The Quantity & Quality of Food Allocated within Philippine Households," Invited presentation at the Summer Meetings of the Society for Economic Dynamics, Cyprus, June 2012.
- "Aggregation and Risk-sharing with Limited Commitment," Invited presentation to 11th Society for the Advancement of Economic Theory Conference, Faro Portugal, June 2011.
- "Risk Management in the Cooperative Contract," Invited presentation to FERDI Workshop on Group Index-Based Weather Insurance, Clermont-Ferrand, June 2011.
- "Cooperation, Reciprocity, and Altruism in Developing Countries: Discussion," Discussant for Invited Paper Session for the Winter Meetings of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, Denver, January 2011.
- "Measuring Sharing within Communities," Invited presentation to World Bank DIME-ADAAPT Workshop on Impact Evaluation, Goa, December 2009.
- "The Value of Social Networks," Invited presentation to the BREAD Conference, Duke University, April 2009.
- "Incentives and Nutrition for Rotten Kids: Intrahousehold Food Allocation in the Philippines," Invited presentation to the Department Seminar, Simon Fraser University, February 2009.
- "Incentives and Nutrition for Rotten Kids: Intrahousehold Food Allocation in the Philippines," Invited presentation to the Workshop on Risk-Sharing, GREMAQ, Toulouse School of Economics, June 2008.
- "The Value of Social Networks," Invited presentation to the Stanford Institute for Theoretical Economics Summer Workshop, June 2008.
- "The Value of Social Networks," Invited presentation to the Development Seminar, Yale University, April 2008.
- "Vulnerability in Ecuador," Invited presentation, University of Minnesota Department of Applied Economics, March 2008.
- "Incentives and Nutrition for Rotten Kids: Intrahousehold Food Allocation in the Philippines," Invited presentation to the Development Seminar, University of British Columbia, March 2005.
- "Managing Agricultural Risk with Contracts," Invited presentation to the Workshop on the Economics of Contracts in Agriculture, INRA-IDEI, Toulouse, December 2004.
- "On the Efficacy of Contractual Provisions for Processing Tomatoes," Invited presentation to the Institut d'Economie Industrielle, Université Toulouse 1, June 2001.
- "Poverty and the Welfare Costs of Risk Associated with Globalization," Invited Lecture at the UN University/Wider Conference on Poverty and Globalization, Helsinki, November 2004.

- "Incentives and Nutrition for Rotten Kids: Intrahousehold Food Allocation in the Philippines," Invited presentation to the Development Seminar, Harvard University, October 2004.
- "Informal Insurance and Formal Markets." Invited presentation at the Northeastern Universities' Development Conference, University of Montreal, Octover 2004.
- "Dynamics and Vulnerability," Invited presentation at the Stanford Institute for Theoretical Economics, June 2004.
- "On the Efficacy of Contractual Provisions for Processing Tomatoes." Invited presentation at Ohio State University, May 2004.
- "On the Efficacy of Contractual Provisions for Processing Tomatoes." Invited presentation at Iowa State University, February 2004.
- "Incentives and Nutrition for Rotten Kids: Intrahousehold Food Allocation in the Philippines" Invited presentation to the Development Seminar, University of Southern California, February 2004.
- "Incentives and Nutrition for Rotten Kids: Intrahousehold Food Allocation in the Philippines" Invited presentation to the Development Seminar, University College of London/London School of Economics, January 2004.
- "Dynamic Vulnerability." Invited seminar at the Center for the Study of African Economics, Oxford University, January 2004.
- "Informal Insurance and Formal Markets." Invited presentation at the Center for Law and Economics, University of Hamburg, January 2004.
- "Dynamic Bargaining in Households (with an Application to Bangladesh)." Presentation to the Applied Micro Seminar at Boston University, October 2003.
- "Dynamic Vulnerability." Presentation to the Northeastern Universities' Development Consortium at Yale University, October 2003.
- "Incentives and Nutrition for Rotten Kids: Intrahousehold Food Allocation in the Philippines" Invited presentation to the Development Seminar, Yale University, September 2003.
- "Efficiency Wages for Rotten Kids." Invited presentation at the Stanford Institute for Theoretical Economics, Summer 2003.
- "Efficiency Wages for Rotten Kids." Presentation to the Econometric Society, Summer 2002.
- "Incentive Contracts for Processing Tomatoes." Invited presentation at 3rd Annual Conference on Agricultural Contracts, Annapolis, June 2002.
- "Informal Insurance and Limited Commitment." Invited presentation to the Development Seminar, Stanford University, May 2002.
- "Incentive Contracts for Processing Tomatoes." Invited presentation to the Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique, Toulouse, June 2001.
- "Grading Risk and Agricultural Contracts" Invited presentation to the Institut d'Economie Industrielle, Université Toulouse 1, June 2001.
- "Optimal Risk in Agricultural Contracts." Keynote address to the Nordic Association of Agricultural Scientists, Copenhagen, June 2001.
- "Targeting and Informal Insurance." Invited Lecture at the UN University/Wider Conference on Poverty and Insurance, Helsinki, June 2001.
- "Informal Insurance Arrangements with Limited Commitment." Invited presentation to the UC Irvine Development Conference on Risk and Insurance, February 2001.
- "Efficiency Wages for Rotten Kids." Presentation to the Northeastern Universities' Development Consortium at Cornell University, October 2000.
- "Dynamic Bargaining in Households (with an Application to Bangladesh)." Presentation to the Royal Economic Society at St. Andrews University, July 2000.
- "Dynamic Bargaining in Households (with an Application to Bangladesh)." Presentation to the Northeastern Universities' Development Consortium at Harvard University, October 1999.

- "Lending in Hierarchies." Invited presentation at Stanford Institute for Theoretical Economics Summer Workshop on Dynamics, Incentives and Expectations, August 1999.
- "Dynamic Bargaining in Households (with an Application to Bangladesh)." Invited seminar, London School of Economics, United Kingdom, June 1999.
- "Lending in Hierarchies." Invited seminar, the Economics Department at the University of Keele, United Kingdom, June 1999.
- "Dynamic Bargaining in Households (with an Application to Bangladesh)." Invited seminar presented at Universite des Sciences Sociales, Toulouse, France, May 1999.
- "Dynamic Bargaining in Households." Invited lecture, jointly sponsored by the INRA, the DELTA, and the DIAL, Ecole Normale Superiure, Paris, France, May 1999.
- "Optimal Risk in Agricultural Contracts." Invited presentation at USDA Regional Research Group, SRIEG-70, Gulf Shores, Alabama, March 1999.
- "Mutual Insurance and Limited Commitment." Invited seminar at CREST, Paris, France, May 1999.
- "Mutual Insurance and Limited Commitment." Seminar presented at the University of Chicago, April 1999.
- "Mutual Insurance and Limited Commitment." Seminar presented at the World Bank, Washington DC, December 1998.
- "Risk and Limited Enforcement in Village Economies." Seminar presented at the World Bank, Washington DC, December 1998.
- "Dynamic Models of Intra-Household Allocation." Lecture presented at International Food and Policy Research Institute, Washington DC, December 1998.
- "Risk-Pooling and Individual Savings." Invited seminar at New York University, December 1998.
- "Mutual Insurance and Limited Commitment." Invited seminar at Department of Economics, University of Washington, Seattle, November 1998.
- Northeastern University Development Consortium Annual Meetings. Discussant, Yale University, October 1998.
- "Recursive Representation of Hierarchies." Invited seminar at Northwestern University, Center for the Study of Mathematical Economics, October 1998.
- "Policing Instruments in Agriculture Contracts." Invited presentation at Rural Sociology Meetings, Portland, Oregon, July 1998.
- "Quality Measurement and Price Risk in Agricultural Contracts." Presentation at AAEA meetings, Salt Lake City, Utah, August 1998.
- "Mutual Insurance with Limited Commitment." Invited presentation at the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, conference on Endogenously Incomplete Markets, Minneapolis, Minnesota, June 1998
- "Mutual Insurance, Individual Savings and Limited Commitment." Invited presentation at Stanford Institute for Theoretical Economics Workshop on Recursive Economic Markets, Stanford, California, August 1998.
- "Liquidity Constraints and Incentive Contracts." Seminar presented at the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of California, Berkeley, October 1997.
- "Tests of Informal Insurance in Village Economies." Seminar presented at the Department of Economics, University of California, Berkeley, September 1997.
- "Estimating Dynamic Models of Limited Commitment." Invited seminar at Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, February 1997.
- "Cynical Altruism and Risk-sharing." Presentation at New Orleans, Econometric Society Annual Meetings, Louisiana, January 1997.
- "Informal Insurance Arrangements in Village Economies." Presentation at Western Economic Association annual meetings, Seattle, Washington, July 1996.

- Stanford Inst. of Theoretical Econ., Participant in Workshop on Incomplete Markets, Stanford, California, July 1996.
- "Informal Insurance with Limited Commitment." Seminar presented at the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of California, Berkeley, February 1996.
- "Risk-Sharing and Information: Theory and Measurement in Village Economies." Invited Seminar at Arizona State University, November 1995.
- "Computing Equilibria in Private Information Economies." Presentation at the University of Warwick Summer Workshop on Simulation in Development Economics, Coventry, England, July 1995.
- "Altruism and Markets." Presentation at the Annual Meetings of the Society for Economic Dynamics and Control, Barcelona, Spain, July 1995.
- "Risk-Sharing and Information: Theory and Measurement in Village Economies." Invited Speaker at the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of California, Davis, May 1995.
- "Altruism and Markets." Seminar presented at the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of California, Berkeley, April 1995.
- "Risk-Sharing and Information: Theory and Measurement in Village Economies." Federal Reserve Bank, San Francisco, California, September 1994.
- "Risk-Sharing and Information: Theory and Measurement in Village Economies." Presentation at Annual Meetings of the Society for Economic Dynamics and Control, Los Angeles, California, July 1994.
- "Notes on Simulata." Seminar at the University of Chicago, April 1994.
- "Risk-Sharing Under Varying Information Regimes." Invited seminar at the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of California, Berkeley, April 1994.
- "Risk-Sharing Under Varying Information Regimes." Invited seminar at University of Washington, Ontario, March 1994.
- "Risk-Sharing Under Varying Information Regimes." Invited seminar at the Univ. of Rochester, New York, March 1994.
- "Risk-Sharing Under Varying Information Regimes." Invited seminar at Federal Reserve Bank, New York, March 1994.
- "Risk-Sharing Under Varying Information Regimes." Invited seminar at The Ohio State University, March 1994.
- "Risk-Sharing Under Varying Information Regimes." Invited seminar at the University of Arizona, March 1994.
- "Risk-Sharing Under Varying Information Regimes." Invited seminar at Columbia University, New York, March 1994.
- "Risk-Sharing Under Varying Information Regimes." Invited seminar at the Federal Reserve Bank, Richmond, February 1994.
- "Long-term Contracts and Rural Development." Seminar at the University of Chicago, Illinois, May 1993.