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Current Positions

Aug 2019 – present: Assistant Professor, School of Economics, University College Dublin.

Feb 2020 – present: Research Fellow, Geary Institute for Public Policy, University College Dublin.

Past Positions

May 2019 – Jun 2019: Visiting Research Fellow, Department of Economics, Lund University.

Jan 2018 – Apr 2019: Postdoctoral Fellow, International Institute for Industrial Environmental Economics (IIIEE), Lund University.

Education

PhD in Economics, Lund University, 2012-2017.

Thesis title: [Self-Image and Economic Behavior](#)

Supervisors: Håkan J. Holm (main), Frederik Lundtofte

Faculty opponent: Kjell Arne Brekke, University of Oslo

Visiting Research Student, New York University (hosted by Andrew Caplin), 2014-2015.

MSc in Economics, Lund University, 2010-2012.

BSc (Mathematics)/BCom (Economics, Finance), The University of Sydney, 2005-2009.

Exchange Program in Mathematics, Uppsala University, 2006.

Research

Research Interests: Behavioral Economics, Experimental Economics, Applied Microeconomics.

Journal Articles

Mundaca, L. and Samahita, M. (2020). What drives home solar PV uptake? Subsidies, peer effects and visibility in Sweden. *Energy Research & Social Science*, 60:101319.

Samahita, M. (2019). Pay-what-you-want in competition. *The B.E. Journal of Theoretical Economics*, 20(1).

Holm, H. J. and Samahita, M. (2018). Curating social image: experimental evidence on the value of actions and selfies. *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*, 148:83–104.

Samahita, M. (2017). Venting and gossiping in conflicts: verbal expression in ultimatum games. *Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics*, 67:111–121.

Kahsay, G. A. and Samahita, M. (2015). Pay-What-You-Want pricing schemes: a self-image perspective. *Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Finance*, 7:17–28.

Samahita, M. (2013). Effect of effort on self-image: monotonically increasing self-image functions. *Economics Bulletin*, 33(1):152–157.

Book Chapter

Mundaca, L., Samahita, M., Sonnenschein, J. and Seidl, R. (2020). Behavioural economics for energy and climate change policies and the transition to a sustainable energy use: a Scandinavian perspective. In M. Lopes, C. Henggeler Antunes & K. B. Janda (Eds.), *Energy and Behaviour: Towards a Low Carbon Future*, (pp. 45–87). London: Academic Press.

Working Papers

Pessimism and overcommitment (with C. Ek).

Mining for mood effect in the field (with H. J. Holm).

Grants and Scholarships

** indicates PI*

Collegio Carlo Alberto Mini Seed Grants Program, 2020, “Political interaction and influence through social media” (7,500 EUR, with J. S. Morales*, P. Conzo, A. Gallice and L. K. Taylor).

Einaudi Institute for Economics and Finance Research Grant, 2020, “Political interaction and influence through social media” (10,000 EUR, with J. S. Morales, P. Conzo*, A. Gallice and L. K. Taylor).

Irish Research Council New Foundations Research Grant, 2020, “Charitable-giving and regulatory load: Does perception of inefficiency reduce donations?” (8,295 EUR).

UCD College of Social Sciences and Law Research Grant, 2020, “Metrics, interaction and influence: The immigration debate on social media” (1,500 EUR, with J. S. Morales, P. Conzo, A. Gallice and L. K. Taylor).

Jan Wallander and Tom Hedelius Foundation Research Grant, 2019, “Causes of heterogeneous beliefs and behavior” (1,000,000 SEK, with H. J. Holm*, M. Islam, R. van Veldhuizen and E. Wengström).

Torsten Söderberg Foundation Research Grant, 2018, “The benefits of temptation? Self-control, self-confidence and economic choice” (282,500 SEK, with C. Ek*).

The Arne Ryde Foundation Scholarship, 2016.

The Pontus Roos Memorial Foundation Scholarship, 2016.

Institute of Economic Research Scholarship, 2016.

Jan Wallander and Tom Hedelius Foundation Research Grant, 2014, “Self-image and economic behavior” (2,000,000 SEK, with C. Ek, H. J. Holm*, N. Montinari and E. Wengström).

Jan Wallander and Tom Hedelius Foundation Hedelius Scholarship for Postgraduate Studies Abroad, 2013.

Conference and Seminar Presentations

2020: ESA Global Meeting (online), ESA Junior Faculty Webinar (online).

2019: UCD School of Economics Seminar (Dublin), UCD Behavioural Science and Policy Seminar (Dublin), IAREP/SABE Conference (Dublin), SABE ECR Workshop (Dublin), CNEE Workshop (Copenhagen), Masaryk University Economics Seminar (Brno).

2018: Seminar on Behavioural Economics for Energy Use and Climate Change (Lund), National Conference in Economics Workshop for Junior Female Researchers (Växjö), CNEE Workshop (Copenhagen), Arne Ryde Host Seminar (Lund).

2016: Arne Ryde Workshop on “Identity, Image and Economic Behavior” (Lund), ESA World Meeting (Jerusalem), WEAI Annual Conference (Portland), CNEE Workshop (Lund), IMEBESS Meeting (Rome), Microeconomics Seminar (Lund).

2015: Microeconomics Seminars (Lund), ESA World Meeting (Sydney), NYU Economics PhD Alumni Conference (New York), CESS Experimental Political Science Conference (New York).

2014: CESS Seminar (New York), ESA North American Meeting (Fort Lauderdale), Microeconomics Seminar (Lund).

2013: EBIM Doctoral Workshop on Economic Theory (Bielefeld), Behavior and Incentives in Economics Meeting (Copenhagen), Nordic Conference on Behavioral and Experimental Economics (Stockholm), Department of Food and Resource Economics Seminar (Copenhagen), CNEE Workshop (Copenhagen).

Teaching

Course Coordinator/Lecturer

Advanced Microeconomics, Spring 2021, Spring 2020.

Decision Theory, Spring 2021, Spring 2020.

Behavioural Economics: Policy Implications, Spring 2021.

Experiments in Economics, Fall 2020.

Fundamentals of Economics and Economic Valuation of Environmental Change, Fall 2018.

Economic Valuation of Environmental Change, Fall 2018.

Teaching/Lab Assistant

Advanced Microeconomic Analysis, Fall 2016, Fall 2015.

Economic and Financial Decision Making, Fall 2016, Fall 2015, Fall 2013.

Mathematical Methods – Dynamic Optimization, Fall 2013.

Intermediate Microeconomics, Fall 2010.

Introductory Macroeconomics, Spring 2009.

Introductory Microeconomics, Fall 2009.

Business and Economic Statistics B, Spring 2009.

Business and Economic Statistics A, Spring 2009, Fall 2009.

Others

Supervision: 1 MSc thesis, 2 RAs.

Doctoral studies panel: 1 PhD student.

Qualification: Learning and Teaching in Higher Education, Spring 2016.

Award: Students as Partners Development Award, UCD College of Social Sciences and Law, 2019.

Professional Services

Reviewer: The Economic Journal, Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics, Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization, New Ideas in Psychology.

Seminar/workshop organization

Co-organizer, UCD School of Economics research seminars, 2019-2020.

Co-organizer, panel discussion on “Where are all the female economists?” (Dublin), 2019.

Organizing Committee, public seminar on “Behavioural Economics for Energy Use and Climate Change” (Lund), 2018.

Secretary to the Organizing Committee, Arne Ryde Workshop on “Identity, Image and Economic Behavior” (Lund), 2016.

Committees

Member, UCD School of Economics Ethics Committee, 2020-2021.

Member, UCD School of Economics Behavioural Committee, 2020-2021.

Chair, UCD School of Economics PhD Viva, 2020.

Member, UCD Behavioural Science & Policy Group Postdoc Hiring Interview Panel, 2020.

Examiner, UCD School of Economics PhD Transfer Seminar, 2020.

School Representative, UCD College of Social Sciences and Law Equality Diversity and Inclusion Committee, 2019-2020.

Additional Information

Citizenship: Australian.

Languages: English (fluent), Indonesian (native), Swedish (proficient).

Computer Skills: L^AT_EX, MATLAB, Microsoft Office, Python, Qualtrics, Stata, z-Tree.

References

Prof. Håkan J. Holm
Department of Economics
Lund University
Email: hj.holm@nek.lu.se

Prof. Liam Delaney
School of Economics
University College Dublin
Email: liam.delaney@ucd.ie

Prof. Frederik Lundtofte
Department of Business and Management
Aalborg University
Email: fsl@business.aau.dk

Prof. Andrew Caplin
Department of Economics
New York University
Email: andrew.caplin@nyu.edu

Last updated: September 2020