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Current Positions

8/2019 – present: Assistant Professor, School of Economics, University College Dublin.
2/2020 – present: Research Fellow, Geary Institute for Public Policy, University College Dublin.

Past Positions

5/2019 – 6/2019: Visiting Research Fellow, Department of Economics, Lund University.
1/2018 – 4/2019: Postdoctoral Fellow, International Institute for Industrial Environmental Economics (IIIEE), Lund University.

Education

2012 – 2017: PhD in Economics, Lund University.
2014 – 2015: Visiting Research Student, New York University.
2010 – 2012: MSc in Economics, Lund University.
2005 – 2009: BCom in Economics & Finance, The University of Sydney.
2005 – 2009: BSc in Mathematics, The University of Sydney.
2006: Exchange Program in Mathematics, Uppsala University.

Research Interests

Behavioral Economics, Experimental Economics, Applied Microeconomics.

Publications

Journal Articles

Samahita, M. (2020). Pay-what-you-want in competition. *The B.E. Journal of Theoretical Economics*, 20(1): 20180063.
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.
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).

Can ♥s change minds? Social media endorsements and policy preferences (with P. Conzo, L. K. Taylor, J. S. Morales and A. Gallice).

The unintended side effects of regulating charities: donors penalise administrative burden almost as much as overheads (with L. K. Lades).

Grants and Scholarships

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

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

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

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

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

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

2016: The Arne Ryde Foundation Scholarship.

2016: The Pontus Roos Memorial Foundation Scholarship.

2016: Institute of Economic Research Scholarship.

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

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

Conference and Seminar Presentations

2020: IBSPN Annual Economics and Psychology Conference, UCD School of Economics Seminar, UCD Behavioural Science and Policy Seminar, UCD Behavioural Science Workshop on “The Economics of Self-Control”, UCD School of Psychology Seminar, ESA Global Meeting, ESA Junior Faculty Webinar.

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

Behavioural Economics: Policy Applications, Spring 2021.

Advanced Microeconomics, Spring 2021, Spring 2020.

Decision Theory, Spring 2021, Spring 2020.

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.

Other

Supervision: 1 MSc thesis, 2 RAs.

PhD Committee: 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.

Academic Services

Refereeing

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

Seminar/workshop organization

2021: Co-chair, ECPR Joint Sessions Workshop on “Emotions and Political Attitudes in the Context of COVID-19”.

2020: Co-organizer, UCD PhD Conference in Behavioural Science and Policy; Co-organizer, UCD School of Economics research seminars.

2019: Co-organizer, UCD School of Economics research seminars; Co-organizer, panel discussion on “Where are all the female economists?”.

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

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

Committees

2021: Member, UCD School of Economics Ethics Committee; Member, UCD School of Economics Behavioural Committee.

2020: Member, UCD School of Economics Ethics Committee; Member, UCD School of Economics Behavioural Committee; Chair, UCD School of Economics PhD Viva; Member, UCD Behavioural Science & Policy Group Postdoc Hiring Interview Panel; Examiner, UCD School of Economics PhD Transfer Seminar; School Representative, UCD College of Social Sciences and Law Equality Diversity and Inclusion Committee.

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

Additional Information

Citizenship: Australian.

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

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

Last updated: February 2021