

Minoru Higa

Contact: +1(202)766-3930 • minoru_higa@sfu.ca • www.minoruhiga.com

Research Interests	Environmental, Labor, and Urban Economics		
Doctoral Studies	Simon Fraser University (SFU) Ph.D. in Economics		Canada (Expected completion 2023)
Prior Education	University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB)	M.A. in Economics	2015
	Tilburg University (cum laude)	MSc. in Economics	2011
	Pontificia Universidad Catolica del Peru (PUCP)	BSc. in Economics	2008
References	Prof. Fernando Aragon faragons@sfu.ca +1(778)782-9107	Prof. Hendrik Wolff h.wolff@lse.ac.uk +1(778)782-9107	Prof. Kevin Schnepel kevin_schnepel@sfu.ca +1(778)782-9107
Publications	<p>“The persistent effects of COVID-19 on labor outcomes: evidence from Peru” with Carlos Ospino and Fernando Aragon. <i>Applied Economics Letters</i>, 2022.</p> <p>This paper takes a new look at the impact of COVID-19 on labour outcomes more than a year after the beginning of the pandemic. We use a labour survey from Lima, Peru, with monthly data from January 2019 up to June 2021. We corroborate the early dramatic impact of the pandemic documented in other countries. These initial effects attenuate over time, but persist and remain sizable: even by mid-2021, there is a reduction of almost 20% in hours worked and labour income. Our findings highlight the limitation of policy changes and societal adaptations to ameliorate the economic impact of COVID-19.</p>		
Research in Progress	<p>“Traffic Congestion and Labor Supply: evidence from smartphone big data in Mexico.” JOB MARKET PAPER.</p> <p>“Who works outdoors? implications for Climate Change and Pandemics using machine learning and text-as-data” with Jose Incio and Carlos Ospino.</p> <p>“Unexpected population growth and environmental quality: evidence from Facebook data in Colombia” with Pablo Ordonez and Julieth Santamaria.</p> <p>“COVID-19 and the Amazon rainforest” with Jerico Fiestas and Javier Montoya.</p> <p>“Temperature, Work Time, and Intertemporal Labor Substitution: evidence from Peru.”</p>		
Teaching Experience	Instructor , <i>Simon Fraser University</i> • ECON260: Environmental Economics		2022

	Teaching Assistant, Simon Fraser University <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECON836: Applied Econometrics • ECON334: Data Visualization and Economic Analysis • ECON333: Statistical Analysis of Economic Data • ECON383: Environmental Economics and Policy • ECON260: Environmental Economics • ECON220W: Communications in Economics • ECON201: Microeconomic Theory I: Competitive Behavior • ECON103: Principles of Microeconomics 	2017 – Present
Prior Research Experience	SFU , Research Assistant (Prof. F. Aragon, Prof. P. Mouganie) Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) , Research Consultant IDB and GRADE , Research Consultant International Labor Organization (ILO) , Research Consultant Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA) , Intern Ministry of Labor , Research Advisor to the Deputy Minister Carleton University , Research Assistant (Prof. A. Dammert) PUCP , Research Assistant (Prof. J. Rodriguez)	2018 – 2021 2016 – 2017 2013 – 2014 2012 – 2013, 2014 2012 2011 – 2012 2009 – 2010 2008 – 2010
Presentations at Conferences	CREEA Annual Conference, TWEEDS. UNU-WIDER Development Conference, NAREA Annual Meeting, Canadian Economics Association (CEA) Annual Meeting, CIREQ conference for Climate Change. Environment for Development (EfD) Annual Meeting, SEEDS Annual Workshop. UC Berkeley/Sloan Summer School in Environmental and Energy Economics (Egg-timer presenter).	2022 2021 2020 2019
Honors, Grants and Scholarships	Shiva and Elizabeth Nanda Fellowship, <i>SFU</i> GSS Professional Development Grant, <i>SFU</i> SFU Data Fellowships: AI Essentials Grant, <i>SFU</i> Lang Wong Memorial Endowment Scholarship, <i>SFU</i> Student Community Engagement Competition Grant, <i>SFU</i> Travel and Research Award, <i>SFU</i> Graduate Fellowship, <i>SFU</i> Special Graduate Entrance Scholarship, <i>SFU</i> Departmental Andron Fellowship, <i>UCSB</i> Departmental Block Grant Fellowship, <i>UCSB</i> Tilburg University Scholarship Annual Research Grant Contest, <i>1st place, CIES and IDRC</i> Young Environmental Envoy, <i>thesis finalist, UNEP-Bayer</i>	2022 2022 2021 2020 2020, 2022 2020, 2022 2017 – 2022 2017 2014 – 2015 2014 – 2015 2010 – 2011 2009 2008
Computing Skills	R, Python, SQL, GIS, Amazon AWS, Stata, and LaTeX	
Languages	English (fluent), Spanish (native)	

Volunteering	Mentor: Econthaki 's mentoring program to promote diversity in economic research in LAC.	2022
	Co-organizer and grant writer: Math Walks , Empowering the village , Connecting to Indigenous Culture .	2020, 2022
	Diverse roles: mentoring microentrepreneurs of scarce resources (<i>Accion Emprendedora</i>), contacting local media to diffuse scholarship information for low-income students (<i>Ankay</i>), sorting clothing donations for victims of the 7.8 earthquake (<i>Government of Peru</i>), building dwellings for rural and poor families in southern Chile (<i>Un Techo Para Mi Pais</i>).	Before Ph.D.