

Opportunity Funds Request to Bring in Co-author / Speaker

James Murray

Dahl School of Business

Viterbo University

I am writing to request \$905 (see budget below) from the Opportunity Funds Grant to bring in Dr. Pedro de Araujo, Assistant Professor of Economics at Colorado College, for the period Sunday, February 1 through Saturday, February 7th.

I am currently co-authoring two papers with Dr. de Araujo (the titles and abstracts for each of these papers is attached) and we are at a point in our research where we need to meet in person for a brief period of time to make progress on the work.

The first paper, “Estimating the Effects of Dormitory Living on Student Performance,” examines whether living in dormitories has a positive influence on student performance. Some casual research has already suggested a linkage, but careful statistical research has not been done to determine a direct causation. A significant amount of work on this paper has already been completed. A survey was developed, put online, and tested with a small sample. Early in the Fall 2008 semester, the survey was finalized and sent to 8000 students at a large public University where living in dormitories is optional. Data has been collected for 500 students that responded to the survey. We are at the point to begin analyzing the data and writing the results. We anticipate submitting this paper for publication by the end of the Spring 2009 semester.

The second paper, “A Life Insurance Deterrent to the Spread of HIV and AIDS in Africa”, examines an innovated policy prescription to help reduce the spread of HIV and AIDS in impoverished African countries, using theoretical economic modeling and carefully calibrated parameters to match observations. Dr. de Araujo has already done a significant amount of literature review on the topic, and the two of us have begun formulating the model. Building the appropriate model, and solving it, and asking the appropriate policy questions in terms of the model requires further one-on-one collaboration between Dr. de Araujo and myself. We anticipate submitting this paper for publication during the Fall 2008 semester.

While Dr. de Araujo is here, he has agreed to present to our faculty and students some

of his latest empirical research on the relationship between socioeconomic variables and the knowledge and spread of HIV/AIDS in India. His primary findings are that despite the culture in India being primarily faithful and monogamous, there is still concern especially among the poor, less educated classes. His empirical results bring up a number of policy recommendations for India that may not work as well in other parts of the world.

Dr. de Araujo has also agreed to visit a class and have lunch with students, although most of his and my time will be needed this week to collaborate on our research projects.

Attached to this document are abstracts of Dr. de Araujo's and my collaborative work, and Dr. de Araujo's curriculum vita, and my curriculum vita.

Budget

Item	Amount
Lunch with DSOB students (15 people at \$7 per plate)	\$105
Dinner with Viterbo Faculty (10 people at \$20 per plate)	\$200
Taxi Service in La Crosse	\$100
Lodging at Professor James Murray's Residence	\$0
Airfare from Colorado Springs, CO to La Crosse, WI	\$500
Total	\$905

Applicant Signature

Date

Dean Signature

Date

Academic Vice President Signature

Date

Estimating the Effects of Dormitory Living on Student Performance¹

Pedro de Araujo²
Department of Economics and Business
Colorado College

James Murray³
Dahl School of Business
Viterbo University

Abstract

A survey will be administered to college students at a large state school to determine what impact dormitory living has on student performance. Many large universities require freshman to live in dormitories on the basis that living on campus leads to better classroom performance and lower drop out incidence. Large universities also provide a number of academic services in dormitories such as tutoring and academic student organizations. While there has been a large literature examining the effects of peer interaction on student achievement, which may play a large role in dormitory living, there has been little empirical work on the predicted impact of living in a dorm instead of private housing off campus. A survey will be administered at a university that does not require students to live in dorms that asks students to report current grade point average, class attendance rates, use of on campus academic resources, reasons for their housing decision, and other academic and demographic characteristics. With such a data set we can determine whether living in a dormitory leads to improved student performance and be able to identify the particular channels for these improvements.

Keywords: Student performance, dormitory, cross-section analysis, regression, instrumental variables.

JEL classification: C13, C21, I21.

¹PRELIMINARY DRAFT. The authors are responsible for all errors.

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E-mail address: Pedro.deAraujo@ColoradoCollege.edu. *Phone number:* (719) 389-6470.

³*Mailing address:* 900 Viterbo Drive, La Crosse, WI 54601. *E-mail address:* jmmurray@viterbo.edu.
Phone number: (608)796-3365.

A Life Insurance Deterrent to the Spread of HIV and AIDS in Africa⁴

Pedro de Araujo⁵
Department of Economics and Business
Colorado College

James Murray⁶
Dahl School of Business
Viterbo University

Abstract

The spread of HIV and AIDS and risky sexual behavior continues to be a problem in many African countries despite government measures to educate people on the prevalence and severity of the disease and measures to promote safe sex practices such as making condoms readily available at reduced or no cost. Interview evidence has suggested that people continue to engage in risky sexual behavior because many other conditions exist in these countries that significantly reduce life expectancy. These include other unpreventable health risks, inaccessibility to health care, and dangerous working conditions such as those in very poor mining regions. We suggest that using government funds to offer life insurance may be more an effective means of deterring risky sexual behavior than funding safe sex programs. To evaluate this policy prescription we develop and calibrate an overlapping generations model with bequest motive and endogenous probability of demise. In the model, agents can receive life insurance benefits if their death is not the result of AIDS.

Keywords: HIV, AIDS, life insurance, overlapping generations.

JEL classification: H51, I18, I38.

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E-mail address: Pedro.deAraujo@ColoradoCollege.edu. *Phone number:* (719) 389-6470.

⁶*Mailing address:* 900 Viterbo Drive, La Crosse, WI 54601. *E-mail address:* jmmurray@viterbo.edu.
Phone number: (608)796-3365.

Pedro de Araujo

Curriculum Vitae

Last Updated: 11/2008

CONTACT INFORMATION	Department of Economics and Business The Colorado College 14 E. Cache La Poudre St. Colorado Springs, CO 80903 USA <i>Office:</i> Palmer Hall 101B <i>Phone:</i> (719) 389-6470 <i>Fax:</i> (719) 389-6927 <i>E-mail:</i> Pedro.deAraujo@coloradocollege.edu <i>Webpage:</i> http://faculty1.coloradocollege.edu/~pdearaujo/
CITIZENSHIP	Brazil
WORK EXPERIENCE	Assistant Professor, The Colorado College (Fall 2008 - until present) Teaching Fellow, Indiana University-Purdue University Columbus (2007-2008) Associate Instructor, Indiana University (2003-2007)
EDUCATION	Ph.D. Economics, Indiana University (2008) M.A. Economics, Indiana University (2004) M.S. Applied Statistics, Bowling Green State University (2002) M.A. Economics, Bowling Green State University (2001) B.A. Economics, Universidade do Estado de Rio de Janeiro (1999)
RESEARCH INTERESTS	Macroeconomics, Applied Econometrics, and Teaching Economics
TEACHING INTERESTS	Principles of Macroeconomics, Intermediate Macroeconomics, Quantitative Methods in Macroeconomics, International Finance and Trade, Development Economics, International Health Economics, Economic Growth, Intro to Statistics, Econometrics, and Monetary Economics
NON-REFEREED PUBLICATIONS	"The ABCs of the Financial Crisis," <i>Cipher</i> , October 2008. "Containing HIV in India," <i>VOX - Research Based Analysis and Commentary from Leading Economists</i> , http://www.voxeu.org/index.php?q=node/1651 , September 2008. "Outlook 2008: Columbus," <i>Indiana Business Review</i> , Volume 82(4), Winter 2007.
WORKING PAPERS	"Socio-Economic Status, HIV/AIDS Knowledge and Stigma, and Sexual Behavior in India," CAEPR Working Paper 2008-019 (under review) "The Socio-Economic Distribution of AIDS Incidence and Output," CAEPR Working Paper 2008-014 (under review) "Calculating Welfare Costs of Inflation in a Search Model with Preference Heterogeneity: A Calibration Exercise," CAEPR Working Paper 2008-012

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS	<p>“Does HIV/AIDS Related Knowledge Affect Men’s Decision to Have Sexual Encounters with Commercial Sex Workers? Evidence from the Developing World”</p> <p>“A Life Insurance Deterrent to the Spread of HIV and AIDS in Africa,” with James Murray</p> <p>“Estimating the Effects of Dormitory Living on Student Performance,” with James Murray</p>
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	<p>12th Annual Associate Faculty and Lectures’ Conference: “Millennial Student Success: New Strategies for New Students”, IUPUI, Indianapolis, IN (2007) - Participant</p> <p>Indiana University Faculty Colloquium on Excellence in Teaching (FACET) Summer Institute, Bloomington, IN (2007) - Participant</p>
CONFERENCES, SEMINARS, PRESENTATIONS	<p>Indiana University Brown Bag Seminar, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN (2007) - Presenter</p> <p>Indiana University Kelley School of Business: Business Outlook Panel, Columbus, IN (2007) - Panelist</p> <p>Second Annual Economics Graduate Student Conference, Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, MO (2007) - Presenter</p> <p>Oxfam’s World Hunger Banquet, Columbus, IN (2007) - Presenter</p> <p>Jordan River Conference, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN (2006) - Presenter</p>
PRESENTATIONS AT COLORADO COLLEGE	<p>International Political Economy Roundtable: The Financial Crisis - Panelist (2008)</p> <p>Department of Economics and Business: Food for Economic Thought, “The Financial Crisis, What is Going On?” - Presenter (2008)</p> <p>The Colorado College Fall Conference, “Why do we Love Brazil?” - Presenter (2008)</p>
SERVICE AT COLORADO COLLEGE	<p>Skilling Award Committee, Department of Economics and Business, The Colorado College (2008-until present)</p>
AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS	<p>The Colorado College Social Science Executive Committee Research Grant (2008)</p> <p>Future Faculty Teaching Fellowship - \$10,000 (2007-2008)</p> <p>W. Philip Saunders Teaching Award (2006)</p> <p>Graduate Fellowship from the College of Arts and Sciences - \$5,000 (2002-2003)</p>
MEMBERSHIPS, AFFILIATIONS	<p>Midwest Economic Association (2008-until present)</p> <p>Center for Applied Economics and Policy Research (2007-until present)</p> <p>American Economic Association (2007-until present)</p> <p>Omicron Delta Epsilon (2001-until present)</p>
REFERENCES	<p>available upon request</p>

James Murray
Curriculum Vitae
(Updated November 18, 2008)

Contact Information

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Education

Ph.D.	Economics, Indiana University	September 2008
M.A.	Economics, Indiana University	May 2004
M.A.	Economics, University of Notre Dame	May 2002
B.S.	Economics, University of Wisconsin - La Crosse	May 2000

Employment

Assistant Professor	Viterbo University	8/2008 - present
Teaching Fellow	IUPU - Columbus	8/2007 - 5/2008
Adjunct Professor	Viterbo University	5/2006 - 8/2007
Associate Instructor	Indiana University	9/2003 - 5/2007
Adjunct Professor	Ivy Tech State College	3/2004 - 8/2004

Research Interests

Learning and Expectations
Applied Macroeconometrics
Monetary Economics
Scholarship of Teaching and Learning

Working Papers

"Initial Expectations in New Keynesian Models with Learning"
"Empirical Significance of Learning in a New Keynesian Model with Firm-Specific Capital"
"Regime Switching, Learning, and the Great Moderation"
"Estimating the Effects of Dormitory Living on Student Performance" with Pedro de Araujo.
"A Life Insurance Deterrent to the Spread of HIV and AIDS in Africa" with Pedro de Araujo.

Refereed Publications

"Shirking in Major League Baseball in the Era of the Reserve Clause." with Glenn Knowles, Michael Hauptert, and Keith Sherony. *Nine: A Journal of Baseball History and Social Policy Perspectives*. Volume 9. Spring 2001.

Non-Refereed Publications

“Expectations for Monetary Policy.” *Business Connection*. April 2008.

“Economic Outlook for Bio-Fuels.” *Business Connection*. February 2008.

Teaching Interests

Undergraduate:

Principles and Intermediate Macroeconomics

Principles and Intermediate Microeconomics

Elementary Statistics

Statistical Methods / Econometrics

Monetary Economics

International Economics / Finance

Mathematical Economics

Operations Research

Graduate:

Statistical Methods / Research Methods

Applied Econometrics

Macroeconomics

Monetary Economics

Open Economy Macroeconomics

Computational Economics

Operations Research

Teaching Experience

Viterbo University:

Econ 101: Introductory Macroeconomics

1 Semester

Mgmt 230: Introductory Statistics for Business

1 Semester

Mgmt 560: Management and Decision Science

1 Semester

Mgmt 662: Integrative Research Project 2

1 Summer Session

Math 130: Introductory Statistics

2 Summer Sessions

Indiana University (IUB / IUPUC):

Econ 202: Principles of Macroeconomics (IUPUC)

1 Semester

Econ 270: Introductory Statistics (IUPUC)

2 Semesters

Econ E201: Principles of Microeconomics (IUB)

6 Semesters

Econ E202: Principles of Macroeconomics (IUB)

2 Semesters

Econ E322: Intermediate Macroeconomics (IUB)

2 Summer Sessions

Ivy Tech State College, Bloomington, IN:

Econ E201: Principles of Macroeconomics

1 Summer Session

Econ E202: Principles of Microeconomics

1 Summer Session

Conference and Seminar Presentations

Topics Unlimited, St. John Episcopalian Seminar Series, October 2008.

“Financial Crises 101”

Learning Week Conference, St. Louis Federal Reserve Bank, July 2007.

“Empirical Significance of Learning in a New Keynesian Model with Firm-Specific Capital”

Indiana University Economics Department Brown Bag Workshop, May 2007.

“Empirical Significance of Learning in a New Keynesian Model with Firm-Specific Capital”

Jordan River Conference, Indiana University, April 2007.

“Empirical Significance of Learning in a New Keynesian Model with Firm-Specific Capital”

Jordan River Conference, Indiana University, April 2007.

Discussion of Allaby, “Feasibility of Corn Ethanol from a Land Use Perspective.”

Missouri Economics Conference, University of Missouri, March 2007.

“Empirical Significance of Learning in a New Keynesian Model with Firm-Specific Capital”

Indiana Academy of Social Sciences Annual Meeting, October 2006.

“Empirical Significance of Learning and the Consequences of Mis-specifying Expectations”

Jordan River Conference, Indiana University, April 2006.

“Empirical Significance of Learning and the Consequences of Mis-specifying Expectations”

Jordan River Conference, Indiana University, April 2005.

“Liquidity in a Two Country Open Economy Model: Evidence from United States and Germany”

Professional Development

Facilitative Teaching Workshop presented by Dr. Christine Kelly at Viterbo University, August 2008.

Becoming a Skillful Teacher Workshop presented by Dr. Stephen Brookfield at Viterbo University, August 2008.

AIMS (Adapting Innovative Materials for Statistics) Workshop, Minneapolis, MN. July 2008.

Service Learning Workshop hosted by Indiana University Purdue University - Indianapolis Center for Service and Learning. January 2008.

Indiana University FACET (Faculty Colloquium on Excellence in Teaching) Summer Institute. July 2007.

Professional/Academic Service

Referee Service: Journal of Macroeconomics.

Viterbo University Service:

Environmental Task Force Committee, Fall 2008 - Spring 2009

Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) faculty advisor, Fall 2008 - present.

Part of collaborative effort organizing visit of Economics Nobel Laureate Edward Prescott to Viterbo University, Fall 2008.

Indiana University Purdue University - Columbus Service:

Economics Candidate Search and Screen Committee, Fall 2007 - Spring 2008.

Awards

Jordan River Conference Best Graduate Student Paper Award, April 2007.

Future Faculty Teaching Fellowship, 2007.

Community Service

Mentor for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Columbus, IN. January 2008 - May 2008.

Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation (BCSC) Book Buddy. September 2007 - April 2008.

Science/Inventor Fair judge. Central Middle School, Columbus, IN. February 2008.

Computer Skills

Teaching Tools:	Blackboard, Oncourse CL, MyEconLab, CourseCompass, Discover Econ, E-instruction CPS (Classroom Performance System), Interwrite PRS (Personal Response System).
Econometrics / Statistics:	MatLab, Gauss, Octave, Maple, Stata, EViews, Limdep, RATS, SAS, SPSS, Statistica, GNU Scientific Libraries for C, LAPACK (Linear Algebra Package for Fortran).
Programming Languages:	C, C++, MS Visual C++, MS Visual Basic, Java, Fortran, Eiffel, Perl.
Web Programming:	Java, Perl, HTML, Javascript.
Operating Systems:	Linux, Unix, Windows.
Other:	L ^A T _E X, Beamer for L ^A T _E X, Emacs, SQL, Unix shell programming (BASH, CSH), MS Office.

References

Teaching References

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Research References

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