SOFIA FERNANDEZ GUERRICO

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Economics, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (expected August 2020)

Dissertation: "Microeconomic Implications of Trade Shocks in Developing Countries"

Committee: Richard Akresh (chair), Rebecca Thornton, Alexander Bartik, Mark Borgschulte MS Economics, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2016

Licenciada en Economía, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina, 2010. Cum Laude

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Development, Labor, Health, International

WORKING PAPERS

"The Effects of Trade-induced Worker Displacement on Heath and Mortality in Mexico" (**Job Market Paper**)

"Trade Shocks, Population Growth, and Migration: Implications for Mortality Rate Calculations"

"Exports, Quality, and Product Differentiation: Evidence from Argentine Manufacturing Firms"

WORK IN PROGRESS

"The Effect of Job Displacement on Parenting", with Elizabeth Powers and Eunhye Kwak

"Infant Formula Availability, Breastfeeding Duration and Women's Labor Force Participation", with Rebecca Thornton and Mark Borgschulte

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant for Professor Richard Akresh

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Department of Economics, 2016-2018

Short Term Consultant

World Bank Group, Poverty GP, Dec 2016- Jan 2017

Research Assistant - Consultant

Centro de Investigaciones para la Transformación (CENIT, a research think tank focused on Economic Development, Innovation and Technology), Argentina, 2011- 2013

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant. Statistics I (undergraduate)

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Department of Economics Fall 2015, Spring 2016, Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Fall 2019, Spring 2020

Instructor. Economics I (undergraduate)

University of Buenos Aires, Department of Economics Spring 2012, Fall 2012, Spring 2013, Fall 2013, Spring 2014

Teaching Assistant. Economic Development (undergraduate)

University of Buenos Aires, Department of Economics

Spring 2011, Fall 2011, Spring 2012, Fall 2012, Spring 2013, Fall 2013, Spring 2014

NON-PEER REVIEWED WORK

"Promoting Innovation in the Service Sector. Towards Productivity and Competitiveness", with Andrés López and Daniela Ramos, 2013. For Centro de Investigaciones Económicas, Uruguay

"Evaluation of Intermediary Institutions Role in the Implementation of Economic Development policies in Buenos Aires City", with Laura Goldberg and Daniela Ramos, 2011. For Ministry of Economic Development of Buenos Aires, Argentina (In Spanish)

"Telework, Climate Change and Public Policy", 2011-2012. Consultant. Team leader: Daniela Ramos. For International Development Research Centre (IDRC, Canada)

"Business Models for Translatinas: Latin American Investments in Asia", 2011. Consultant. Team Leader: Andrés López. For Economic Commission for Latin American and the Caribbean

"Incentive Schemes in Exports and Investment Promotions in the Service Sector: Suggestions for Paraguay and Uruguay", 2011. Research Assistant. Team Leader: Andrés López. For Interamerican Development Bank (IDB) (In Spanish)

"Investment Promotion Strategies: International Evidence and Suggestions for Uruguay", 2012. Research Assistant. Team Leader: Andrés López. For IDB (In Spanish)

"Development Diagnosis for Argentina", 2011. Research Assistant. Team Leader: Andres López. For IDB (In Spanish)

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Conference Travel Award, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2019, 2020 Merit-based Summer Fellowship, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2015, 2019 Graduate Fellowship, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2014-2015 Scholarship for Graduate Studies, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2014-2020 Merit-based Graduate Studies Fellowship, Universidad de San Andres, 2011-2012

PRESENTATIONS

2020 (including scheduled): Pacific Conference for Development Economics (PacDev), Population Association of America (PAA), IUSSP Population Poverty and Inequality, European Health Economic Association (EUHEA), Midwest Health Economics Conference (MHEC), Annual Congress of the Swiss Society of Economics and Statistics. 2019: Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association and Latin American Meeting of the Econometric Society (LACEA-LAMES)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Languages: Spanish (native), English (fluent), French (intermediate)

ABSTRACTS

"The Effects of Trade-Induced Worker Displacement on Health and Mortality in Mexico" (Job Market Paper)

Abstract: Recent research in the U.S. links trade-induced job displacement to deaths of despair. Should we expect the same mortality response in developing countries? This paper analyzes the effect of a trade-induced negative shock to manufacturing employment on leading causes of mortality in Mexico between 1998 and 2013. I exploit cross-municipality variation in trade exposure based on differences in industry specialization before China's accession to the WTO in 2001 to instrument for changes in local manufacturing employment. I find trade-induced job loss increased mortality from diabetes, raised obesity rates, reduced physical activity, and lowered access to health insurance. These deaths were offset by declines in mortality from alcohol-related liver disease and ischemic heart disease. These findings highlight that negative employment shocks have heterogeneous impacts on mortality in developing countries, where falling incomes lead to less access to health care and nutritious food, but also reduce alcohol and tobacco use.

"Trade Shocks, Population Growth, and Migration: Implications for Mortality Rate Calculations"

Abstract: This paper examines the effect of trade-induced changes in Mexican labor demand on population growth and migration responses at the local level. I exploit cross-municipality variation in exposure to a change in trade policy between the U.S. and China that differentially exposed Mexican municipalities based on their industry structure. In the five years following the change in trade policy, most exposed municipalities exhibit increased population growth, driven by declines in out-migration. Conversely, six to ten years after the change in trade policy, exposure to increased trade competition is associated with decreased population growth, driven by declines in in-migration and returned migration rates, and increased out-migration. I show that accounting for changes in population growth and migration is relevant to analyze the effect of employment shocks on outcomes that are calculated using population estimates, such as mortality rates. I show that results in the recent literature are sensitive to these population adjustments.

"Exports, Quality, and Product Differentiation: Evidence from Argentine Manufacturing Firms"

Abstract: This paper explores the relationship between quality adoption, product differentiation, and export performance. Through tax identification numbers, I match firm-level survey data to administrative customs records containing information about each firm's total value of exports by product type and country of destination. I classify products into differentiated and non-differentiated, and I use ISO 9001 certification as a proxy for firms' ability to produce high quality products. First, I show that firm-product-destination-year unit values are higher for high-quality firms on average. Second, using the 2002 Argentine exchange rate devaluation as a source of variation in export demand, I find that initially high-quality firms increased total export value, export value of differentiated goods to high-income destinations, and investments in R&D more than low-quality firms after the devaluation. These results imply that policies promoting quality adoption may increase firms' exports to high-income markets and help develop a comparative advantage in differentiated products.

REFERENCES

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