

Sydney Christian Caldwell

Contact Information

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Current Positions

University of California, Berkeley
Assistant Professor, Haas School of Business, Economic Analysis and Policy (EAP) group 2020–
Assistant Professor, Department of Economics 2020–

Current Affiliations

Research Affiliate, MIT Shaping the Future of Work Initiative 2024–
Faculty Research Fellow, National Bureau of Economic Research (Labor Studies) 2023–

Previous Positions

Post-doctoral Researcher, Microsoft Research New England 2019–2020
Senior Research Analyst, Federal Reserve Bank of New York 2012–2013

Education

Ph.D. (Economics), Massachusetts Institute of Technology 2013–2019
Advisors: Daron Acemoglu, Joshua Angrist, David Autor

B.A. (Applied Mathematics, Economics), University of California, Berkeley 2008–2012
Greatest Distinction, Highest Honors in Economics

Fellowships & Honors

Barbara and Gerson Bakar Faculty Fellow, Haas School of Business 2020–2025
Schwabacher Fellow (highest honor given to junior faculty at the Haas School of Business) 2024–2025
Visiting Scholar, Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco 2022–2023
Hellman Faculty Fellowship, UC Berkeley 2022–2024
Referee Prize, *Economic Journal* 2022
Excellence in Refereeing Award, *AER: Insights* 2019 & 2020 & 2023
W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research Dissertation Award, First Prize 2019
Robert M. Solow Prize for Excellence in Research and Teaching 2019
Review of Economic Studies European Tour 2019
NSF Graduate Research Fellowship 2013–2018
MIT Department of Economics Fellowship 2013–2015
Economics Departmental Citation, UC Berkeley 2012
Earl Rolph Prize, UC Berkeley 2012
Phi Beta Kappa 2012
UC Berkeley Regents' and Chancellors' Scholar 2008–2012
UC Berkeley Alumni Association Leadership Award 2008–2012

Grants

Peder Sather Grant (with Andreas Kostøl) 2024–2026
Fritz Thyssen Foundation Grant (with Ingrid Haegele and Joerg Heining) 2024–2027
Norwegian FRIPRO Grant #345236 (with Ingrid Haegele and Andreas Kostøl) 2024–2027
National Science Foundation Research Grant (SES 2242439) 2023–2026
UC Berkeley EGAL Research Grant 2022–2023
Institute for Research on Labor and Employment (IRLE) Grant 2022–2023

W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research, Early Career Research Award	2022–2023
Joachim Herz Foundation Grant (with Ingrid Haegele and Joerg Heining)	2022–2025
UC Berkeley Economics Grant for Gender Research (with Ingrid Haegele)	2021–2022
UC Berkeley EGAL Research Grant	2020–2021
Institute for Research on Labor and Employment (IRLE) Grant	2020–2021
Russell Sage Foundation Presidential Grant (with Marco Tabellini)	2020–2021
NSF Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant	2017–2019
Washington Center for Equitable Growth (WCEG) Doctoral Grant	2016–2017
Washington Center for Equitable Growth (WCEG) Doctoral Grant (with Scott Nelson & Daniel Waldinger)	2015–2016
George & Obie Schulz Fund Grants	2015, 2016

Teaching

Graduate Labor Economics (Econ 250B), UC Berkeley	Fall 2020, 2022, 2023
Data & Decisions (full-time MBA program, 2 sections/year), UC Berkeley	Fall 2020-2024

Working Papers

“[Bargaining and Inequality in the Labor Market](#)” with Ingrid Haegele and Joerg Heining (*Revised and Resubmitted, **Quarterly Journal of Economics***)

“[Firm Pay and Worker Search](#)” with Ingrid Haegele and Joerg Heining (*Submitted*)

“[Outside Options and Labor Supply: Experimental Evidence from the Gig Economy](#)” with Emily Oehlsen

“[Outside Options, Bargaining, and Wages: Evidence from Coworker Networks](#)” with Nikolaj Harmon

“[Monopsony Makes it Big](#)” with Arindrajit Dube and Suresh Naidu (*Revise and Resubmit, **Journal of Economic Literature***)

Published and Accepted Papers

“[Outside Options in the Labor Market](#)” (with Oren Danieli) 2024, **Review of Economic Studies**

“[Tax Refund Uncertainty: Evidence and Welfare Implications](#)” (with Scott Nelson & Daniel Waldinger) 2023, **American Economic Journal: Applied Economics**

“[Uber versus Taxi: A Driver’s Eye View](#)” (with Joshua Angrist & Jonathan Hall) 2021, **American Economic Journal: Applied Economics**

Book Chapters

“[Wage and employment implications of U.S. labor market monopsony and possible policy solutions](#)” with Suresh Naidu, *Equitable Growth Vision 2020*

Seminars and Conference Presentations

2025-2026 *Scheduled:* Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, Tilburg University, Norwegian School of Economics FAIR Seminar

- 2024-2025 MIT Sloan IWER, Harvard Kennedy School (Stone Inequality Seminar, Economics & Social Policy Seminar), Federal Reserve Bank of New York Symposium on the US Labor Market (Panelist, Competition in the Labor Market), University of Virginia, Cornell, AEA/ASSA Annual Meeting (presenter, 2x discussant), *Scheduled:* Central European University, University of Lausanne, University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy, Hiring and Job Search Workshop (in Innsbruck), Berlin Applied Microeconomics Seminar, IZA PhD Workshop in Labor and Behavioral Economics (Keynote), UC Berkeley Conference on Minimum Wages and Monopsony
- 2023-2024 University of Calgary, Columbia University, Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco Micro-Macro Labor Conference (discussant), Empirical Management Conference (at Stanford), London School of Economics CEP, University College London, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, Stockholm University, Berkeley Macro Labor Conference, Society of Labor Economists Annual Meeting, Rochester labor economics conference, West Coast Junior Labor Conference, Stanford University, Behavioral Economics Design Initiative Conference, Yale Cowles Conference on Labor & Public Economics, CEPR Annual Symposium in Labor Economics, Micro-Macro Labor workshop at the University of Konstanz, NBER Summer Institute: Labor Studies
- 2022-2023 BFI Women in Empirical Microeconomics Conference, CIREQ Montreal Applied Economics Conference, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, Workshop on Labor Economics (at Hamburg), Friedrich-Alexander University of Erlangen-Nuremberg/IAB Macro-Labor Seminar, University of California, Santa-Barbara, Economics for Inclusive Prosperity Conference (panelist), Southern California Conference in Applied Microeconomics (SOCCAM), University of California, Santa Cruz, IAB Workshop on Wage Determination and Job Skills, West Coast Junior Labor Conference, Norwegian Workshop on Labor Economics, BI Norwegian Business School, Society for Economic Dynamics Annual Meeting, NBER Summer Institute: Labor Studies/Personnel (Joint Session)
- 2021-2022 Texas A&M Labor and Public Conference, Arizona State University, NBER Japan Project Meeting (Discussant), AEA/ASSA Annual Meeting, Trans-Pacific Labor Conference (UC Berkeley IRLE), UCSB/LAEF Labor Markets and Macroeconomic Outcomes Conference, University of Johannesburg, Duke University, KOF Swiss Economic Institute/ETH Zurich/University of Zurich Joint Seminar, NBER Trans-Atlantic Public Economics Seminar: Economic Behavior and Inequality, EIEF 5th Rome Junior Conference on Applied Microeconomics, Bank of Italy, NBER Summer Institute: Labor Studies
- 2020-2021 Stanford Institute for Theoretical Economics: Micro and Macro of Labor Markets, Mechanism Design for Social Good (MD4SG) Conference, University of Nevada-Reno, Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, University of Oxford, Bilkent University, University of Chicago, University of Uppsala, Washington Center for Equitable Growth Grantee Conference (discussant), University of British Columbia, Harvard (Economics), University of Toronto-Rotman (Strategy), Northeast Labor Symposium for Early Career Economists (NLS-E Princeton), NBER Conference on Wage Dynamics in the 21st Century (panelist), University of Melbourne, NBER Summer Institute: Labor Studies (Discussant)

- 2019-2020 Stanford Institute for Theoretical Economics: Micro and Macro of Labor Markets, Advances with Field Experiments Conference (at U Chicago), Brown University, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, University of Rochester, University of Gothenburg, Stockholm University, Workshop on the Future of Labor (at ESMT Berlin), National Tax Association Annual Meeting, New York University, Federal Reserve Bank of New York, Central European University, University of Wisconsin-Madison, AEA/ASSA Annual Meeting, UC Berkeley, Haas School of Business, University College London, Columbia Junior Micro-Macro Labor Conference, Bargaining: Experiments, Empirics, and Theory Workshop (BEET), Search and Matching Congress, *Cancelled due to COVID-19*: Trans-Pacific Labor Conference (UC Berkeley IRLE), Erasmus University Rotterdam, CEMFI, University Carlos III, Northeast Labor Symposium for Early Career Economists (at Princeton), IIES Stockholm
- 2018-2019 MIT, UC Berkeley (Economics), Harvard Business School (EM), Stanford Graduate School of Business, Hoover Institution at Stanford University, University of Michigan, Columbia University (Economics & Business School), Microsoft Research New England, Harvard (Economics), University of Chicago Booth School of Business, UC Berkeley (Economics & Haas School of Business), Wharton (BEPP), Princeton University, Kellogg School of Management (Strategy), MIT Sloan (IT), University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Review of Economic Studies Tour (London School of Economics, KU Leuven, Sciences Po), Society of Labor Economists Annual Meeting, CESifo Gender in the Developed and Developing World Conference

Discussions and Panels

2024 Federal Reserve Bank of New York Symposium on the US Labor Market in the 21st Century, Panelist for “Competition in the Labor Market” Session (with Simon Mongey and Pascual Restrepo)

2024 Hoover Institute Conference on the Economics of Immigration Discussant: “Monopsony, Efficiency, and the Regularization of Undocumented Immigrants” by Borjas and Edo

2023 San Francisco Federal Reserve Micro-Macro Conference Discussant: “Earnings Inequality in Production Networks” by Hunees, Kroft & Lim

2021 NBER Japan Project Meeting Discussant: “AI, Skill and Productivity: The Case of Taxi Drivers” by Kanazawa, Kawaguchi, Shigeoka & Watanabe

2021 NBER Summer Institute (Labor Studies) Discussant: “Monopsony and the Wage Effects of Migration” by Amior and Manning

2021 NBER Conference on Wage Dynamics in the 21st Century Panelist: session on “Market Power in the Labor Market” (with David Card and Alan Manning)

2020 NLS-E Discussant: “Monopsony, Skills, and Labor Market Concentration” by Dodini, Lovenheim, Salvanes, & Willen

Professional Service

Referee: American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, American Economic Review, American Economic Review: Insights, Applied Economics, Econometrica, Economic Journal, European Economic Review, Journal of Economic Inquiry, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of the European Economic Association, Journal of Labor Economics, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Political Economy, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Economics and Statistics

Grant Reviewer: National Science Foundation

Program Committees and Workshop Organization:

2025	Co-Organizer, NBER Gender in the Economy: Women in the Digital World Conference (with Jessica Goldberg and Tavneet Suri)
2024	Program Committee, NBER Summer Institute: Labor Studies Co-Organizer, Stanford SITE: The Micro & Macro of Labor Markets (with Gregor Jarosch, Benjamin Schoefer, and Isaac Sorkin)
2023	Co-Organizer, West* Coast Junior** Labor*** Conference (with Isaac Sorkin)
2022	Program Committee, Society of Labor Economists Annual Meeting
2021	Program Committee, EEAMO
2020	Program Committee, Market Design for Social Good Workshop

Ph.D. Student Advising

Students for whom I have written letters and their initial placements by graduation year:

Ini Umosen	2025	TBD
Kai Zen	2024	Uber
Cristóbal Otero	2023	Columbia Business School (Economics)
Pedro Pires	2023	NOVA University of Lisbon, School of Business

Other

Citizenship: USA
Date of Birth: July 1990
US Census Bureau, Special Sworn Status: 2023–Present
Last Updated: January 2025