Tanu Kumar

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Appointments Claremont Graduate University

Assistant Professor, Division of Politics and Economics

2022-

2020-2022

William & Mary

Postdoctoral Researcher, Global Research Institute

Affiliations Center for Effective Global Action 2022-

Government Department, William & Mary 2020-2022

Education Ph.D., Political Science, University of California, Berkeley 2020

M.A., Political Science, University of California, Berkeley

B.A., Government and Economics, Bowdoin College

2012

Peer- reviewed Articles

Kumar, T. and Stenberg, M. "Why political scientists should study smaller cities.". Forthcoming, *Urban Affairs Review*.

Kumar, **T.**, "Home-price subsidies increase local-level political participation in urban India." *Journal of Politics*, 2022.

-Coverage: The Washington Post, and Phenomenal World by the Jain Family Institute

Haas, N., Haenschen K., **Kumar, T.**, Panagopoulos, C., Peyton, K., Ravanilla, N., and Sierra-Arévalo, M. "Organizational identity and positionality in randomized control trials: considerations and advice for collaborative research teams." *PS: Political Science and Politics*, 2022.

Kumar, T., Post A., Ray, I., Otsuka, M., and Pardo-Bosch, F. "From public service access to service quality: The distributive politics of piped water in Bangalore." *World Development*, 2022.

Kumar, T., "The housing quality, income, and human capital effects of subsidized homes in urban India." *Journal of Development Economics*, 2021.

-Coverage: Ideas for India (English and Hindi), ThePrint, The Hindustan Times, India Housing Report, The Times of India, and VoxDev

Kumar, T., Post, A., and Ray, I. "Flows, leaks, and blockages in informational interventions: A field experimental study of Bangalore's water sector." *World Development*, 2018. –Coverage: USAID Impact blog

Housing as welfare: how subsidized homeownership generates social mobility through

wealth, voice, and dignity in India. Manuscript in preparation.

Working Papers "How the content of complaints shapes government responsiveness: theory and evidence

from Mumbai." Submitted.

Book

Book Chapter

Hyun, C., **Kumar, T.**, Post, A. and Ray, I. "Engineering predictable water? How to understand the humans that make tech innovations work." In *An Introduction to Development Engineering*, eds. Madon, T., and Gadgil, A. Forthcoming, Springer.

Other Academic Writing

Kumar, T. Review of Governing Locally: Institutions, Policies, and Implementation in Indian Cities by B. Jacob and S. Jacob (2021, Cambridge University Press). Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, 2022.

Kumar, T. "Subsidizing homeownership builds wealth, changes attitudes, and generates urban civic participation." in *Newsletter of the Organized Section in Comparative Politics of the American Political Science Association* eds. Finkel, E., A. Lawrence and A. Mertha, 2020.

Kumar, T. Review of *Contesting the Indian City: Global Visions and the Politics of the Local*, ed. G. Shatkin (2014, Wiley-Blackwell). *Governance*, 2016.

Research in Progress

"Housing and informality at the edges of India's cities" with A. Auerbach. *Paper in preparation.*

"An experimental analysis of the impact of smartphones and household property rights on the uptake of digital financial services" with P. Roessler, P. Carroll, B. Dulani, and D. Nielson. *Midline data collected*.

"Ad-supported smartphones to bridge the digital gender gap" with P. Roessler and E. Agasha. Seed funding acquired, initial piloting complete.

"Voice and response: What motivates bureaucratic responsiveness to citizen voice?" with G. Kruks-Wisner. *Funding acquired. Qualitative data collection and scoping in progress.*

Policy Writing

"The household-level effects of subsidized housing: Evidence from urban India." *VoxDev*, 2022.

"Housing is a welfare weapon. It can help people escape poverty." *The Hindustan Times*, 2021. Syndicated in *India Housing Report*.

"How does subsidizing housing shape political behavior?" *Ideas of India* (podcast), 2020. "Mumbai residents win govt housing lottery and spend more on kids' education, jobs: Study." *ThePrint*, 2019.

"Household-level effects of affordable housing: Evidence from Mumbai." *Ideas for India*, 2019. Also translated to Hindi.

"Here's what Gavin Newsom, Elizabeth Warren, and Microsoft should know if they want to end the affordable housing crisis." *The Washington Post Monkey Cage*, 2019.

Honors

Susan Clarke Young Scholar – APSA Urban and Local Politics Section, 2021 Best Dissertation (Honorable Mention) – APSA Urban and Local Politics Section, 2021 DeAlva Stanwood Alexander First Prize – Bowdoin College, 2012

Grants

Edward Artinian Fund for Publishing, APSA – 2,400 USD, 2022 Open Philanthropy, Good Ventures Fund (with P. Roessler) – 100,000 USD, 2022 WEE-DiFine, BRAC (with P. Carroll, B. Dulani, P. Roessler, D. Nielson) – 46,337 USD, 2021 GLD, University of Gothenburg (with A. Auerbach) – 29,619 SEK, 2021
Alma Ostrom and Leah Hopkins Awan Civic Education Fund, APSA – 2,300 USD, 2019
American Political Science Association Conference Travel Grant – 500 USD, 2018
Bhattacharya Graduate Travel Grant, University of California, Berkeley – 500 USD, 2018
Weiss Family Fund for Development Economics, Harvard University – 21,577 USD, 2017
Institute of International Studies, University of California, Berkeley – 15,000 USD, 2017
Weiss Family Fund for Development Economics, Harvard University – 6,900 USD, 2016
Governance Initiative, Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab, MIT – 8,700 USD, 2016

Teaching

Claremont Graduate University

Nature of Inquiry (Introduction to Data and Research Design in Social Science), Fall 2022

William & Mary

Political Behavior in Developing Democracies, Fall 2021

Presentations

2023: CASI India Political Economy Workshop (University of Pennsylvania)

2022: Complex Governance Seminar (American University), Global Politics Series (University of Virginia), Housing Politics and Policy Conference (Princeton University), Urban Workshop Series (Centre for Policy Research India), Thinking Globally (Foreign Service Institute), Brown-Harvard-MIT Joint Seminar in South Asian Politics (Harvard University), South Asia Seminar (University of Notre Dame)

2021: The Politics Forum (The College of New Jersey), Inequality and Policy Research Center (Claremont Graduate University), Visions in Methodology, Program on Governance and Local Development (University of Gothenburg), Southern Workshop in Empirical Political Science

2020: Economics of Cities and Development (Johns Hopkins University), Comparative Politics and Political Economy Seminar (UC Santa Barbara), Pacific Conference for Development Economics (UC Berkeley)

2019: Comparative Urban Politics Workshop (UC Berkeley), Experimental Political Science Graduate Student Conference (Harvard), Development and Political Economics Graduate Student Conference (Stanford), Visions in Methodology, Graduate Student Conference in Comparative Politics (UCLA), Conference on South Asian Politics (World Bank)

2018: California Workshop in Empirical Political Science

Activities in the Discipline

Journal referee: American Journal of Political Science, American Political Science Review, Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, PLOS ONE, PS: Political Science, Urban Affairs Review, World Politics, Social Policy & Administration

Co-organizer for Virtual Workshop on Urban Politics in the Global South, 2022 Excellence in Mentoring Award Committee, APSA Public Policy Section, 2022