

# VIKAS PD GAWAI

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## EMPLOYMENT

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**Prevention Effectiveness (PE) Fellow**, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) 2024-

## EDUCATION

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**University of Wisconsin-Madison**, Ph.D., Ag and Applied Economics (AAE) 2018-2024

**University of Wisconsin-Madison**, Masters of Economics 2016-18

**University of Mumbai, India**, Bachelor of Technology, Civil Engineering 2004-08

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Health, Aging, Social Security, Public Policy, Human Capital, Caste (Race), Gender, Agriculture, Broadband

## PUBLICATIONS

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- Early-Life Economic Conditions and Old-Age Mortality: Evidence from Historical County-Level Bank Deposit Data, *with Valentina Duque, Jason Fletcher, Hamid Noghanibehambari, Lauren Schmitz- (Journal of Population Economics, January 2024)*
- Discrimination in Science: Salaries of Foreign and US Born Land-Grant University Scientists *with Jeremy Foltz (Conditionally Accepted at American Journal of Agricultural Economics (AJAE), July 2024)*
- Is there a link between access to broadband and health outcomes?. *with Steven Deller American Journal of Economics and Sociology (2024)*

## WORKING PAPERS

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- Does High-Speed Internet (Broadband) Technology Affect the Mental Health of Older Adults? (*Presentations - MEA '23, American University '23, SEA '23, APPAM '23*); *Media Highlight: GROW MAGAZINE cover story*
- Effect of Early Life Exposure to the Green Revolution on Aging Outcomes in India *with Lauren Schmitz, Valentina Duque, Jinkook Lee, Hunter Green (presented at APPAM '22)*
- Does Broadband Technology Affect Social Security Applications? (*Award from Retirement and Disability Research Center (RDRC) Center for Financial Security (CFS), Social Security Administration (SSA)*) -Podcast interview
- Spillover Effects of a Bicycle Policy on Girls' Enrollment in Middle Schools (*Recognition under Best Paper Scholarship (Honorable mention), Dept. of Economics, UW-Madison, 2018*)

## CDC RESEARCH WORK IN PROGRESS

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- Effect of Preventive Health and Health Services (PHHS) Block Grant on the Performance of the State Public Health Departments, *with Sergey Sotnikov and Nancy Habarta (abstract submitted at AcademyHealth '25)*
- Systematic Review of the Literature on the Effects of Public Infrastructure Investments and Health Outcomes, *with Sergey Sotnikov and Nancy Habarta*

## SELECTED WORK IN PROGRESS

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- Spatially Varying Gender and Caste Inequalities in Cognition and the Contribution of Individual and State-level Characteristics Across India *with Lauren Schmitz, Kanika Arora, and Shubhashrita Basu (selected at a Workshop on Determinants of Adult Mortality, Morbidity, and Healthy Aging in LMICs at UC, Berkeley)*

- Effects of Teacher Hiring Policy on Students' Learning in Rural India: A Multiple Regression Discontinuity Design Approach *(selected at American Education Finance and Policy conference (AEFP))*
- Effect of Green Revolution on the Intergenerational Human Capital *with Valentina Duque, Lauren Schmitz (presented at PAA '22)*

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## MEDIA HIGHLIGHT

- Internent and Mental Health GROW MAGAZINE cover story
- Broadband and Social Security Applications -Podcast interview

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## COMPETITIVE HONORS

- Diversity Fellow**, School of Public Affairs, American University 2023-2024
- Research Fellow**, Retirement and Disability Research Center (**RDRC**) Center for Financial Security (**CFS**), Social Security Administration (**SSA**) 2022-2024
- DEI- Diversity Scholarship** American Society of Health Economics (ASHEcon) 2021
- Best Research Paper Scholarship (Honorable mention)** Dept. of Economics, UW Madison 2018

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## COMPETITIVE GRANTS AND AWARDS

- Center for Demography of Health and Aging **Research Travel** Award- \$2,000 2023
- RDRC - Junior Scholar **Research Competition** Award- \$5,000 2022-23
- Prof. Jeremy Foltz **Research Travel** Award- \$1,100 2023
- Deborah and David Penn Fund - **Research Presentation** Award- \$500, \$1000 2022, 23
- UW-Madison- Graduate School - **Research Presentation** Award- \$2,500, \$1,500 2022, 23
- UW-Madison- CDE **Research Presentation** Award- \$950 2022
- UW-Madison- Traisman Agribusiness **Graduate Fellowship**- \$750 2021
- UW-Madison Student Research Grants Competition **Research Travel**- \$1,500 2020
- UW Madison Graduate Student **Summer Fieldwork** Award- \$3,000 2019
- Indian State Government Scholarship for Masters in Economics- \$100,000 2016-18

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## ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS

- Graduate Student, Center for Demography of Health and Aging (**CDHA**), and Center for Demography and Ecology(**CDE**) 2019-2024
- Graduate Student, Institute of Research on Poverty (**IRP**) 2021-2022
- Graduate Student, Center for South Asia, (**CSA**) 2020-2024

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## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Midwest Economics Association (MEA) 2023
- Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA) 2022
- Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management (APPAM) 2022, 23, 24
- Population Association of America (PAA) 2022
- Southern Economics Association (SEA) 2023

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## CONFERENCE SELECTED (COULD NOT ATTEND)

- ASHEcon 2024
- Social Security Administration (SSA) Annual Meeting 2024
- Data-Intensive Research Conference, University of Minnesota 2024
- American Education Finance and Policy Conference (AEFP ) 2020

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## LEADERSHIP, MENTORSHIP

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CDC Preventive Effectiveness Fellowship Hiring Committee	2025
<i>Mentor for two undergrad students on a class project under Prof. Foltz</i>	2022
<i>Mentor for three FirstGen undergrad student</i>	2022
UW-Madison First Generation ( <b>FirstGen</b> ), <i>Member</i>	2021–
UW-Madison CHDA NextGen Population, <i>Mentor for 18 students on research development</i>	2022
UW-Madison, AAE, Faculty Hiring Committee, <i>Student Representative</i>	2022
UW-Madison, AAE, Ph.D. Admission Committee, <i>Student Representative</i>	2021
Taylor-Hibbard Club, <i>Athletic Chair</i>	2020–2022
UW-Madison AAE, Development Lab Group, <i>Member</i>	2019–

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## ACADEMIC SERVICE

Agriculture and Applied Economics Association (AAEA), <i>Abstract Reviewer</i>	2022, 2023, 2024
Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management (APPAM), <i>Abstract Reviewer</i>	2023
Journal- Economics of Education Review, <i>Reviewer</i>	2022-23
American Society for Health Economists (AshEcon), <i>Abstract Reviewer</i>	2022
AAEA-Health Economics Section (Chair- Prof. Di Fang) <i>Official Twitter Manager (with Lei Pan)</i>	2022-23

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## RESEARCH ASSISTANT

<b>Research Assistant</b> to Prof. Lauren Schmitz (UW Madison, School of Public Affairs) and Prof. Valentina Duque (American University)	2020–
<b>Research Assistant</b> to Prof. Jeremy Foltz and Prof. Bradford Barham (UW Madison, AAE)	2018-2020
<b>Research Assistant</b> to Prof. Andra Ghent (UW Madison, Wisconsin School of Business)	May-Sept (2018)

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## TEACHING ASSISTANT

Guest Lecturer: <b>World Hunger and Malnutrition</b> , (Instructor- Prof. Jeremy Foltz) UW-Madison	Spring 2024
Guest Lecturer: <b>Agricultural &amp; Economic Development of Africa (Health)</b> , (Instructor- Osaretin Olurotimi) UW-Madison	Spring 2022
Guest Lecturer: <b>International Studies (Gender Gap and Economics Development in Developing Countries)</b> , (Instructor- Prof. Jeremy Foltz) UW-Madison	Spring 2022, 2023
Guest Lecturer: <b>The Economics of Race and Gender</b> (Gender Gap in Developing Countries), (Instructor- Prof. Meghan I. Esson) Bentley University	Spring 2022

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## TECHNICAL SKILLS

STATA, R(basic), Python(basic), Latex

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## REFERENCES

<b>Jeremy Foltz (advisor)</b> Professor, Agricultural and Applied Economics University of Wisconsin-Madison jdfoltz@wisc.edu	University of Wisconsin-Madison jmullahy@wisc.edu
<b>Lauren Schmitz</b> Assistant Professor, La Follette School of Public Affairs University of Wisconsin-Madison llschmitz@wisc.edu	<b>Valentina Duque</b> Assistant Professor, Department of Public Administration and Policy American University vduque@american.edu
<b>John Mullahy</b> Professor, Population Health Sciences	<b>Priya Mukherjee</b> Assistant Professor, Agricultural and Applied Economics University of Wisconsin-Madison priya.mukherjee@wisc.edu

*Updated February 17, 2025*