

VIKAS PD GAWAI

1445, Druid Valley Dr NE, Atlanta, 30329, GA, USA

Phone: 608-628-8674 ◇ Email: vikas.vjti87@gmail.com ◇ Website ◇ Google Scholar

EMPLOYMENT

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

EDUCATION

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

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

PUBLICATIONS

- 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

- 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

- 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

- 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)*

MEDIA HIGHLIGHT

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

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

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

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

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

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

LEADERSHIP, MENTORSHIP

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 (FirstGen), <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–

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

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

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

TEACHING ASSISTANT

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

TECHNICAL SKILLS

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

REFERENCES

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

Updated February 16, 2025