

Contact Information

Phone: +1(718) 902-9083

Email: wendywong@uchicago.eduWebsite: wendynassrwong.github.io

The University of Chicago

Development Innovation Lab

5730 S Woodlawn Ave, Chicago, IL 60637

Employment

2021-Present	Postdoctoral Scholar, Development Innovation Lab Becker Friedman Institute for Economics at The University of Chicago
2022-Present	Postdoctoral Fellow (visiting), Evidence for Policy Design Harvard Kennedy School
2010-13	Analyst (Associate Analyst, 2010-11), Abt Associates Inc.

Education

Ph.D. Public Policy, The University of Chicago, 2021

M.P.P. with honors, The University of Chicago, 2015

B.Sc. Economics and Physics, The University of Michigan, 2009

References

Professor Michael Kremer

Department of Economics

kremermr@uchicago.edu

Professor Canice Prendergast

Booth School of Business

canice.prendergast@chicagobooth.edu

Professor Konstantin Sonin

Harris School of Public Policy

ksonin@uchicago.edu

Professor Steven Durlauf (Placement Director)

Harris School of Public Policy

sdurlauf@uchicago.edu**Job Market Paper***“Optimal Monitoring and Bureaucrat Adjustments”*

Abstract This paper examines the behavior of bureaucrats, implementing India's public employment program, as their expectations of being audited change. Exploiting random assignment to audit timing, I find: the rate of deterrence (in financial misappropriation) is increasing in bureaucrats' expectations; bureaucrats evade detection by adjusting the timing and type of misappropriated expenditure. I interpret these findings with a model to analyze how information communicated about audit risk should be designed. With this, I solve for the optimal signal and analyze counterfactuals. Fully-informative signals would have persuaded bureaucrats to misappropriate USD35m less compared to uninformative signals.

Working Papers

“Access and Invitations: Increasing COVID-19 Vaccination in Kenya” (with Kevin Carney, Michael Kremer, Elisa Maffioli, and Leah Rosenzweig)

“The Value of Concision” (with Guthrie Gray-Lobe, Michael Kremer, Joost de Laat)

“Hard to Read: The Impact of Advanced Reading Assignments on Literacy” (with Guthrie Gray-Lobe, Mridul Joshi, and Michael Kremer)

“SMS Interventions Do Not Increase COVID-19 Vaccination Completion in Kenya” (with Florence Aketch, Kevin Carney, Michael Kremer, Elisa Maffioli, James Otieno, and Leah Rosenzweig)

Selected Works in Progress

“Women Driving Women” (field experiment completed, data collection and analysis in progress; with Pablo Peña)

“Improving Local Tax Compliance in India” (field experiment and data collection completed; analysis and writing in progress; with Yusuf Neggers and Shreya Singh)

“Scaling up Personalized Adaptive Learning in India” (field experiment in progress; with Emily Cupito, Guthrie Gray-Lobe, and Michael Kremer)

“The Impact of Conversational AI on Learning with Education Technology in India” (preparing for field experiment; with Emily Cupito, Guthrie Gray-Lobe, and Michael Kremer)

“Informal Relationships between Citizens and Bureaucrats, and Access to Public Resources” (data collection completed; analysis on hold)

Scholarships, Fellowships, and Research Grants

2023	J-PAL South Asia, Learning for All Initiative, co-Principal Investigator (\$195,215)
2021-22	Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation grant, co-Principal Investigator on a sub-award (\$560,000)
2019	Becker Friedman Institute Development Economics Initiative Research Grant, Principal Investigator (\$7,050)
2018	Economic and Development Institutions research grant, UKAID, co-Principal Investigator (£18,086)
2018	Tata Centre for Development research grant, co-Principal Investigator (\$50,274)
2017	Committee on South Asian Studies Pre-Dissertation Fellowship (\$4,800)
2015-2021	Harris School of Public Policy Ph.D. Fellowship
2013-2015	Harris School of Public Policy Dean’s Scholarship

Conferences and Presentations

2023	PacDev, IIPF, Harvard Kennedy School CID, University of Chicago Harris
------	--

2022	NYU Development Economics, Harvard Kennedy School CID
2021	Institute for Fiscal Studies, Queen's University Smith School of Business, Federal Trade Commission, The Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, UEA Europe, MWIEDC, BREAD, Econometric Society Africa Meeting, UCSD PIE
2020	NEUDC
2019	APPAM

Teaching Experience

Instructor

2017	Math Camp Algebra (Master's)
------	------------------------------

Teaching Assistant

2019	Microeconomics I (PhD), Professor Francisco Espinosa
2019	Analytical Politics for International Development (Master's), Professor Ethan Bueno de Mesquita
2019	Math Camp Calculus and Algebra
2016-18	Decisions and Organizations (Master's), Professors Wioletta Dziuda, Pablo Montagnes, Kara Ross Camarena
2017	Microeconomics II (Master's), Professor Konstantin Sonin
2016	Political Economy I (PhD), Professor Scott Ashworth
2016	Program Evaluation (Master's), Professor Ofer Malamud

Publications

Pre-doctoral

“Assessing the Costs and Effects of Antiretroviral Therapy Task Shifting From Physicians to Other Health Professionals in Ethiopia” (with Johns, B., Asfaw, E., Bekele, A., Minior, T., Kebede, A., & Palen, J.) *Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes*, 65(4), 2014.

“Lessons Learned from Stakeholder-Driven Sustainability Analysis of Six National HIV Programmes” (with Katz, I., Glandon, D., Kargbo, B., Ombam, R., Singh, S., Osika, J. S.) *Health Policy and Planning*, 29 (3), 379–387, 2014.

“Patient Satisfaction with Task Shifting of Antiretroviral Services in Ethiopia: Implications for Universal Health Coverage” (with Asfaw, E., Dominis, S., Palen, J. G. H., Bekele, A., Kebede, A., & Johns, B.) *Health Policy and Planning*, 29 (suppl 2), ii50–ii58, 2014.

Additional Information

Citizenship USA

Skills LaTeX, R, Stata, Python