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CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

2014 – present Associate Professor of Economics with tenure, ESMT Berlin
2022 – present Associate Professor of Economics, Department of Economics,
University of Toronto (status)

EDUCATION

2001 Ph.D., Economics, Cornell University
1995 MA, International and Development Economics, Yale University
1994 BA (Joint Honors), Economics and Finance, McGill University

PAST EMPLOYMENT

2019 – 2022 Associate Professor of Economics, Munk School of Global
Affairs & Public Policy, University of Toronto
2010 – 2014 Associate Professor of Economics, ESMT Berlin
2007 – 2010 Assistant Professor of Economics, ESMT Berlin
2001 – 2007 Post-Doc, Center for Economic Studies, University of Munich

EDITORIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

2025 – present Associate Editor, Journal of Development Economics

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

2023 – present Co-Director, [Forward Society Lab](#) (FOS)
2023 – present Affiliated Researcher, J-PAL
2011 – present Committee for Development Economics, German Economics
Association, Elected Member
2025 – present RF Berlin, Fellow
2008 – present CESifo Research Network, Fellow

2007 – present American Economic Association, Member
2007 – present Canadian Economics Association, Member

FIELDS OF INTEREST

Economic Development, Labor Economics

PUBLICATIONS

Charitable Donations to Natural Disasters: Evidence from an Online Platform (with Marrit Teirlinck and Michael Kaiser), 2024, *Oxford Economic Papers*, 75(4), p. 902–922.

Book Review of “Thinking like an Economist: How Efficiency Replaced Equality in U.S. Public Policy”, by Elizabeth Popp Berman, Princeton University Press (2022), *Journal of Economic Literature*, 60(4) (December, 2022).

Organizing Entrepreneurial Teams: A Field Experiment on Autonomy over Choosing Teams and Ideas, forthcoming (with Tia Boss, Linus Dahlander and Christoph Ihl), *Organization Science*. (Published online: November, 2021).

Popular Science Version: [When Autonomy Helps Team Performance --- And When it Doesn't](#) (with Tia Boss, Linus Dahlander, and Christopher Ihl) *Harvard Business Review*, December 1, 2021.

Defaults and Donations: Evidence from a Field Experiment, 2019, (with Steffen Altmann, Armin Falk, Paul Heidhues and Marrit Teirlinck), *Review of Economics and Statistics*, Volume 101(5), p.808-826.

School Feeding and Learning Achievement: Evidence from India’s Midday Meal Program, 2019, (with Tanika Chakraborty), *Journal of Development Economics* Vol.139, 249-265.

Popular Science Version: [Midday Meals in India improve children’s learning outcomes](#) (with Tanika Chakraborty), *voxdev.org*, September 9, 2022.

Anatomy of a Contract Change, 2016, (with Debraj Ray and Francis de Vericourt), *American Economic Review*, 106(2), 316-358.

Popular Science Version: [“The economic and the social: anatomy of a contract change in India”](#) (with Debraj Ray), *voxdev.org*, 2017.

Linear Social Interactions Models, 2015, (with Lawrence Blume, William Brock, and Steven Durlauf), *Journal of Political Economy*, 123(2), pp. 444-496.

Book Review of “An Economist in the Real World: The Art of Policy Making in India” by Kaushik Basu, MIT Press (2015), *Journal of Economic Literature*, 54(2) (June, 2016).

The Effect of School Lunches on Primary School Enrollment: Evidence from India’s Midday Meal Scheme, 2015, (with Dora Simroth), *Scandinavian Journal of Economics*, 177(4), pp. 1176-1208.

Engendered Access or Engendered Care? Evidence from a Major Indian Hospital, 2014, (with Debraj Ray and Shing-Yi Wang), *Economic and Political Weekly*, June 21.

Do Higher Costs Spur Process Innovations and Managerial Incentives? Evidence from a Natural Experiment, 2013, (with Benoit Dostie), *Journal of Economics & Management Strategy*, 22(3): 529-550.

Organizational Redesign, Information Technologies and Workplace Productivity, 2012, (with Benoit Dostie), *The B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis & Policy*, 12(1,Topics): Article 4.

What (if Any) Are the Returns to Computer Use? (with Benoit Dostie and Mathieu Trépanier), 2010, *Applied Economics*, 42(30): 3903-3912.

Determinants of School Enrollment in Indian Villages, 2006, (with Benoit Dostie), *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, 54(2): 405-421.

The Signaling Role of Municipal Currency in Local Development, 2004 (with Mandar Oak) *Economica* 72(288): 597–613.

Small-scale Industry, Environmental Regulation and Poverty: The Case of Brazil, 2004, (with Peter Lanjouw), *World Bank Economic Review* 18(3): 443–464.

The Evolution of Poverty and Inequality in Indian Villages. 1999, (with Peter Lanjouw), *World Bank Research Observer* 14(1): 1–30.

WORKING PAPERS

The Impact of In-law Mortality on Women's Labor Supply in India (with P. Sneha)

More than Just Neighbors: Immigrant Networks and Jobs in High-Paying Firms (with Benoit Dostie and Natalia Vigezzi)

WORK IN PROGRESS

Cool as a cucumber? Heat, labor, and productivity in smallholder farms (with Sunna Huegemann)

Nudging Training Participants to the Finish Line (with Sunna Huegemann and P. Sneha)

Evaluation of a Digital Skills Program for TVET Teachers in Rwanda (with P. Sneha)

Long-run Effects of School Feeding on Labor Market Outcomes in India (with Tanika Chakraborty and P. Sneha)

OTHER ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Institutional Microeconomics of Development, 2010, (Co-edited with Timothy Besley) CESifo seminar series, Cambridge: MIT Press.

Influence of polymorphism within the heme oxygenase-I promoter on overall survival and transplantation-related mortality after allogeneic stem cell transplantation, 2008, (with Gerbitz, Armin, Patrick Hillemanns, Christoph Schmid, Andrea Wilke, Hans-Jochem Kolb, Gunther Eissner, and Ernst Holler), *Biology of Blood and Marrow Transplantation*, 14(10), 1180-1189.

International public goods and the case for foreign aid, 1999, (with Ravi Kanbur) In *Global Public Goods*, ed. I. Kaul, I. Grunberg, and M. A. Stern, 418–435. New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

TEACHING

MBA: Data Analytics for Managers, Doing Business Sustainably (ESMT)

MIM: Econometrics (ESMT)

Awards: President's honor roll for teaching excellence: 2011-2025

EXTERNAL GRANTS AND AWARDS

German Science Foundation (DFG) (2026-2027)

German Science Foundation (DFG) Grant CRC-TRR 190: "Rationality and Competition" (2025-2028)

German Institute for Development Evaluation (DEval), Germany (2023-2026)

Leibniz Science Campus, Berlin Centre for Consumer Policies (BCCP), Leibniz Association, Germany (2019–2023)

SSHRC Insight Development Grant, Canada, PI (2020-2023)

German Science Foundation (DFG) Grant Priority Program 1764, "Refugees: Labor Market Integration and Impact on Natives" (2017-2020)

German Science Foundation (DFG) Grant CRC-TRR 190: "Rationality and Competition" (2017-2019)

Curtius Foundation Grant, Germany (2016-2020)

NESTA IGL Grant, U.K. (2016-2017)

German Research Foundation (DFG) Grant, Germany

International Growth Centre (IGC) Grant, U.K.

Social Science and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Grant, Canada

Research and Training Group (RTG) Grant, Germany

Karl-Heinz Kipp Chair in Research (2016-2017)

KfW Prize for Policy-Relevant Research (2016)

REFEREEING

Journal of Development Economics, American Economic Review, AEJ: Micro, Journal of the European Economic Association, Review of Economics and Statistics, Journal of Development Studies, Games and Economic Behavior, Journal of Finance, Journal of Human Resources, Economic Development and Cultural Change, Journal of International Development, Economic Journal, World Development, European Economic Review, ITAX, Research Policy, Food Policy, Empirical Economics, Management Science, Oxford Economic Papers, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Economic Journal, European Research Council, Volkswagen Foundation, DFG, World Bank.