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PLACEMENT DIRECTORS

Prof. Guido Kuersteiner	kuersteiner@econ.umd.edu	(301) 405-3493
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Economics, University of Maryland at College Park, expected May 2019
M.A. Economics, University of Maryland at College Park, 2016
B.A. Economics and Mathematics, St. Olaf College, *magna cum laude*, 2013

FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION

Primary: Labor Economics, Public Economics
Secondary: Industrial Organization, Applied Microeconometrics

DISSERTATION

Essays on Employer Responses to Pro-Employment Policies

Committee: Prof. Katharine Abraham (Co-chair), Prof. Judith Hellerstein (Co-chair), Prof. Ethan Kaplan

JOB MARKET PAPER

“How Do Payroll Subsidies Affect Employment and Wages? New Evidence from Firm-Varying Subsidies to Nursing Homes”

Payroll subsidies hold promise as a tool for increasing employment and wages at targeted firms. I provide new evidence about their effects by studying payroll subsidies offered to nursing homes through 12 state Medicaid programs between 1996 and 2015. Within any given state, these subsidies offered different nursing homes different effective subsidy rates, depending largely on their share of residents on Medicaid. I use this within-state, across-nursing home variation in subsidy rates to identify the effect of the subsidies on employment and wages. My approach contrasts with prior literature by relying on establishment-level identifying variation rather than on across-state variation in subsidy adoption. My results imply that a nursing home receiving the average subsidy of \$2.32 per nursing home resident-day increased its direct care worker employment per resident-day by 6.4 percent (11.4 minutes) and increased the average hourly wage paid to its direct care workers by 1.5 percent (\$0.31). These figures correspond with an elasticity of employment to subsidies on top of average Medicaid payments of 4.5 and an average wage elasticity of 1.1. These results are robust to extending my empirical approach to compare nursing homes in payroll subsidy states to nursing homes in either synthetic control states or geographically neighboring control states that would have received similar subsidies were they located in treatment states. Taken as a whole, my findings indicate that nursing home payroll subsidies are substantially more effective than previously thought, suggesting that revisiting the efficacy of other payroll subsidies using firm-level subsidy variation would be valuable.

OTHER RESEARCH PAPERS

“Excess Capacity and Heterogeneity in the Fiscal Multiplier: Evidence from the Obama Stimulus Package,” working paper, with Arindrajit Dube, Ethan Kaplan, and Ben Zipperer.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor, Current Issues in American Economic Policy (undergraduate), Spring 2017, Summer 2017, Fall 2017, Spring 2018, Fall 2018

Instructor, STATA Mini-Course (graduate short course), Fall 2017, Fall 2018

Teaching Assistant, Empirical Microeconomics (graduate), University of Maryland, Fall 2016

Instructor, Principles of Microeconomics Online (undergraduate), University of Maryland, Summer 2015, Winter 2016, Summer 2016, Winter 2017

TEACHING REFERENCE

Dr. Cindy Clement University of Maryland clement@econ.umd.edu (301) 405-3257

RESEARCH AND RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, Prof. Lesley Turner, University of Maryland, Fall 2015-Fall 2016

Graduate Assistant, Prof. Katharine Abraham, University of Maryland Center for Economics and Policy, Fall 2015-Fall 2016

CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

2018: Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Fall Research Conference, Public Health Research @ Maryland 2018 (poster session), Labor and Employment Relations Association session at ASSA Annual Meeting

2017: Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management DC Regional Student Conference

2016: Society of Government Economists Annual Conference

REFERENCES

Prof. Katharine Abraham University of Maryland kabraham@umd.edu (301) 405-3489
Prof. Judith Hellerstein University of Maryland hellerst@econ.umd.edu (301) 405-3545
Prof. Ethan Kaplan University of Maryland kaplan@econ.umd.edu (301) 405-3501