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PLACEMENT DIRECTORS

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Economics, University of Maryland at College Park, expected May 2020
M.A. Economics, University of Maryland at College Park, 2016
B.A. Economics (Honors), Universidad EAFIT, Colombia, 2013

FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION

Primary: Economic History.
Secondary: Development Economics, Political Economy.

DISSERTATION

Essays on Historical Development in the Americas

Committee: Prof. John J. Wallis (Chair), Prof. Allan Drazen, Prof. Ethan Kaplan

JOB MARKET PAPER

“Caffeinated Development: Exports, Human Capital, and Structural Transformation in Colombia”

This paper studies the effect of the first wave of globalization on developing countries’ structural transformation, using data from Colombia’s expansion of coffee cultivation. Counties engaged in coffee cultivation in the 1920s developed a smaller manufacturing sector by 1973 than comparable counties, despite starting at a similar level in 1912. My empirical strategy exploits variation in potential coffee yields, and variations in the probability to grow coffee at different altitudes. This paper argues that coffee cultivation increased the opportunity cost of education, which reduced the supply of skilled workers, and slowed down structural transformation. Using exogenous exposure to coffee price shocks as an instrument, I show that reductions in cohorts’ educational attainment led to lower manufacturing activity in the long-run. The effect is driven by both a decrease in demand for education, and reductions in public goods. Finally, coffee cultivation during the early 20th Century had negative long-run effects on both individual incomes and poverty rates.

OTHER RESEARCH PAPERS

“Expropriation of Church’s Wealth and Political Violence in 19th Century Colombia,” *Explorations in Economic History*, 73, 2019

“Shaped by Violence: The Impact of Early Violence Exposure on Financial Risk Preferences,” 2019, revise and resubmit at *Emerging Markets Review*, with James Byder and Diego Agudelo

“Ride-sharing apps and Reallocation of Motorpark: Evidence from Colombia,” 2019, with Isabel Granada and Daniel Perez

“Political and Economic Instability,” work in progress, with Matt Summers and John J. Wallis

“Commodities’ Production Function and Human Capital: Evidence from Puerto Rico,” work in progress, with Matthew Curtis

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor, International Economics (undergraduate), University of Maryland, Fall 2019

Instructor, Economic Development: Latin America (undergraduate), University of Maryland, Winter 2018, 2018, Spring 2019, and Summer 2019

Instructor, American Economic History (undergraduate), Summer 2017

Teaching Assist., American Economic History (undergrad.), University of Maryland, Fall 2015, 2016

RESEARCH AND RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, Prof. Monica Ospina, Universidad EAFIT, Colombia, 2013-2014

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Excellence in Teaching Award, University of Maryland, Spring 2019

Institute of Humane Studies PhD Fellowship, 2017-19

Allan G. Gruchy Fellowship in Economics, University of Maryland, 2016-17

Graduate Fellowship, Department of Economics, University of Maryland, 2014-15

CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

2019: Cliometric Society Conference, NBER Summer Institute (DAE, Poster), Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Economic History Association Meeting (Poster), NEUDC, LACEA Meetings, Southern Economic Association Meeting (scheduled)

2018: LSE-Stanford-Uniandes Long Run Development in LatAm Conference, IOEA (Corsica), Universidad EAFIT, LACEA Meetings, RIDGE Economic History (Montevideo)

2017: EH-Clio Lab at PUC-Chile, LACEA Meetings

COMPUTATIONAL SKILLS

Stata, R, Matlab, GIS

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

AEA, EHA, European Economic Association, Southern Economic Association, LACEA

REFEREEING

Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, *Economia*

LANGUAGES

Spanish (native), English (fluent)

REFERENCES

Prof. John J. Wallis	University of Maryland	wallis@umd.edu	(301) 405-3552
Prof. Allan Drazen	University of Maryland	drazen@umd.edu	(301) 405-3477
Prof. Ethan Kaplan	University of Maryland	edkaplan@umd.edu	(301) 405-3501
Prof. Sergio Urzúa	University of Maryland	surzua@umd.edu	(301) 405-3532