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PLACEMENT DIRECTORS

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

Ph.D. Economics, University of Maryland at College Park, expected May 2021
M.A. Economics, Universidad de los Andes, Colombia, 2012
B.A. Economics, Universidad de los Andes, Colombia, 2010

FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION

Primary: Labor Economics, Applied Econometrics
Secondary: Economics of Education

DISSERTATION

Essays on Treatment Effects from Multiple Unordered Choices
Committee: Prof. Sergio Urzúa (Chair), Prof. Guido Kuersteiner, Prof. Nolan Pope

JOB MARKET PAPER

“Empirical Challenges of Multivalued Treatments Effects”

I study treatment effects under multiple options that lack a clear ranking. When the identifying variation stems from multiple instruments, agents can switch into different options and from many initial states. I discuss how to use conditional choice rules to estimate the shares of agents switching at well-defined margins of choice and their treatment effects. I develop an empirical strategy consistent with this framework and apply it to assess the impact of childcare choice in Colombia on children’s development. Parents can choose between home care and public care at small or large centers. I exploit two sources of exogenous variation: an experiment that provides information and encourages parents to switch to large centers, jointly with the geographical distance between the child’s home to the nearest center. Parental responses to the experimental variation can differ depending on the distance to the center. This feature uncovers heterogeneous responses along two margins of choice: small *versus* large centers, and small centers *versus* home care. Previous methods would attribute all the experimental variation to the small *versus* large centers margin. I find that, on average, 15-18% of parents are induced to switch from small towards large centers as the lottery outcome and proximity vary. My results suggest that, on average, switching towards large centers might benefit some children who live far from large centers but have more educated mothers.

OTHER RESEARCH PAPERS

“On Track to Idleness: High-school Type Choices and Labor Market Status after Graduation”, work in progress

“Labor Market Effects of Short-Cycle Higher Education Programs: Challenges and Evidence” with Maria Marta Ferreyra and Sergio Urzúa, work in progress

“Online Job Vacancies and Short-Cycle Programs in Latin America” with Macarena Kutscher, work in progress

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor, Econometrics I (undergraduate), University of Maryland, Winter 2017, Summer 2018, Winter 2019

Instructor, Introductory Microeconomics (undergraduate), University of Maryland, Summer 2017

Teaching Assistant, Econometrics I (undergraduate), University of Maryland, Fall 2015 and Spring 2017

Teaching Assistant, Advanced Econometrics (undergraduate), Universidad de los Andes, 2010 – 2011

RESEARCH AND RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

Consultant, The World Bank Group, Office of the Chief Economist for Latin America and the Caribbean, Summer 2019 and Summer 2020

Research Assistant, Prof. Nolan Pope, University of Maryland, Fall 2017 – Spring 2019

Research Assistant, Prof. Felipe Saffie, University of Maryland, Fall 2016

Research Assistant, Prof. Lesley Turner, University of Maryland, Spring 2016

Research Analyst, The World Bank Group, Office of the Chief Economist for the Africa Region, August 2013 – June 2015

Research Assistant, The World Bank Group, Office of the Chief Economist for Latin America and the Caribbean, February 2012 – June 2013

Young Researcher Scholarship, Department of Science, Technology, and Innovation, Colombia, 2010

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Best Third Year Paper, 1st Prize, Department of Economics, University of Maryland, 2018

Melville J. Ulmer Award for Best Second Year Paper, University of Maryland, 2017.

CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

2018: Education Division of the Inter-American Development Bank, 2017: Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association (LACEA) Labor Network, 2016: Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association (LACEA) Labor Network

LANGUAGES

Spanish (native), English (fluent)

COMPUTATIONAL SKILLS

Stata, R

REFERENCES

Prof. Sergio Urzúa	University of Maryland	surzua@umd.edu	(301) 405-3266
Prof. Guido Kuersteiner	University of Maryland	gkuerste@umd.edu	(301) 405-3493
Prof. Nolan Pope	University of Maryland	npope@umd.edu	(801) 995-9184