MELANIE KHAMIS

EDUCATION

The London School of Economics (LSE), London, U.K.

2008

PhD

Thesis Title: An empirical investigation of the informal labor market, minimum wages and workfare programs at times of growth and crisis in urban Argentina, 1992-2005

University of Warwick, Coventry, U.K.

1999

MSc in Economics (distinction in main subjects)

The London School of Economics (LSE), London, U.K.

1998

BSc in Economics (upper second class honors)

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Labor Economics, Development Economics, Applied Microeconomics, Microeconometrics

EMPLOYMENT

Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT, USA

Chair of Latin American Studies Program

Core Member of Latin American Studies Program

Professor of Economics, Department of Economics

Associate Professor of Economics (with tenure), Department of Economics

Assistant Professor of Economics, Department of Economics

2011 to present

July 2023 to present

2018 to 2023

2011 to 2018

Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA), Bonn, Germany

2008-2011

Postdoctoral Research Associate

Department for International Development (DFID), London, U.K.

2003-2007

Government Economist

The World Bank Group, Washington D.C., U.S.A.

2006-2007, 2019, 2020-2022

Consultant

The World Bank Group, Buenos Aires, Argentina

2004-2005

Consultant

The World Bank Group, Washington D.C., U.S.A

2002

Summer Internship

The International Monetary Fund (IMF), Washington D.C., U.S.A

2000-2001

Research Assistant

Maxwell Stamp PLC, London, U.K.

1999-2000

Economic Consultant in International Development Consultancy

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- 1. Demography, Human Capital Investment, and Lifetime Earnings for Women and Men, with Joyce Jacobsen and Mutlu Yuksel, *Eastern Economic Journal*, June 2024, vol. 50(3).
- 2. It's Not Easy Being A Green Party: Green Politics as a Normal Good, with Patrick Gourley. *European Journal of Political Economy*, January 2023, vol. 76.
- 3. Declining Outmigration and Local Labor Markets, with Emily Conover and Sarah Pearlman. *Journal of Human Resources*, 2023, vol. 58(6).
- Initial Job Match Quality and Labor Market Transitions: Evidence from Mexican Informal and Formal Labor Markets, with Emily Conover and Sarah Pearlman. UNU- WIDER Working Paper 2021/23. *Journal of Development Studies*, July 2022, vol. 58(7).
- 5. Gender Imbalances and Labor Market Outcomes: Evidence from Large-Scale Mexican Migration, with Emily Conover and Sarah Pearlman, *IZA Journal of Migration and Development*, 2021, 12.
- 6. Environment Matters: New Evidence From Mexican Migration, with Xiyue Li, *Applied Economics Letters*, 2020, 27, 168-173.
- Women Make Houses, Women Make Homes, with Mevlude Akbulut-Yuksel and Mutlu Yuksel, Labour Economics, 2017, 49, 145-161.
 (new title and substantially revised from working paper: 'Rubble Women: The Long-Term Effects of Postwar Reconstruction on Female Labor Market Outcomes' (IZA DP No.6148)).
- 8. For Better or for Worse: The Long-Term Effects of Postwar Reconstruction on Family Formation, with Mevlude Akbulut-Yuksel and Mutlu Yuksel, *Applied Economics*, 2016, 48:29, 2771-2784.
- 9. Convergences in Men's and Women's Life Patterns: Lifetime Work, Lifetime Earnings and Human Capital Investment, with Joyce Jacobsen and Mutlu Yuksel, Research in Labor Economics, 2015, 41, 1-33.
- 10. Does the minimum wage have a higher impact on the informal than on the formal labor market? Evidence from quasi-experiments, *Applied Economics*, 2013, 45:4, 477-495.
- 11. Is informal sector work an alternative to workfare benefits? The case of pre-program expansion and economic crisis, *Review of Development Economics*, 2012, 16:4, 579–593.
- 12. Consumption and Social Identity: Evidence from India, with Nishith Prakash and Zahra Siddique, *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*, 2012, 83, 353–371.
- 13. The Persistence of Informality: Evidence from Panel Data, with Aslan Akay, Research in Labor Economics, 2012, 34, 229–255.

14. A Note on Informality in the Labor Market, *Journal of International Development*, 2012, 24, 894–908.

WORKING PAPERS

- 15. Comparative Advantage, Segmentation and Informal Earnings: A Marginal Treatment Effects Approach, with Omar Arias, (IZA DP No.3916) (earlier version background paper to World Bank Report "Informality: Exit and Exclusion" 2007) (January 2013).
- 16. The Early Labor Market Impacts of COVID-19 in Developing Countries: Evidence from High-Frequency Phone Surveys, with Daniel Prinz, David Newhouse, Amparo Palacios-Lopez, Utz Pape, Michael Weber, World Bank Policy Research Working Paper, No. 9510, 2021
- 17. Risk Attitudes and Informal Employment in Ukraine, with Thomas Dohmen, Hartmut Lehmann and Norberto Pignatti) (IZA DP No. 16445) (September 2023).
- 18. Migration and Household Informal Activity, with Ira Gang and John Landon-Lane (December 2020).
- 19. Absentee Landlords and Land Tenancy, with Annemie Maertens and Siddharth Sharma World Bank Policy Research Working Paper, No. 10865, 2024.
- 20. Cable and the Gender Gap in College Majors, with Sarah Pearlman and Emily Conover (August 2024).
- 21. The Labor Market Effects of Mobile Internet: Evidence from Mexico, with Lisa Hoeckel, Anica Kramer and Manuel Santos Silva (August 2024).

OTHER PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- 22. Formalization of jobs and firms in emerging economies, May 2014, IZA World of Labor.
- 23. Ethnic Fragmentation, Conflict, Displaced Persons and Human Trafficking: An Empirical Analysis (with Randall Akee, Arnab Basu and Nancy Chau), in Gil S. Epstein and Ira N. Gang eds., *Migration and Culture*, Frontiers of Economics and Globalization, Volume 8, Emerald Publishing, 2010.
- 24. Crisis and Recovery in Argentina: Labor market, poverty, inequality and pro-poor growth dynamics, in Stephan Klasen and Felicitas Nowak-Lehmann eds., *Poverty, Inequality and Migration in Latin America*, Peter Lang Verlag, 2008.

PEER-REVIEWED POLICY PUBLICATIONS

- 25. JobsWatch COVID-19: Early Labor Market Impacts of COVID-19 in Developing Countries, with Daniel Prinz, David Newhouse, Amparo Palacios-Lopez, Utz Pape, Michael Weber, World Bank, January 2021.
- 26. JobsWatch COVID-19: The Evolving Labor Market Impacts of COVID-19 in Developing Countries, with Daniel Prinz, David Newhouse, Amparo Palacios-Lopez, Utz Pape, Michael Weber, World Bank, July 2021.

27. JobsWatch COVID-19. How did countries respond to the COVID-19 crisis? Emerging Patterns on Jobs-related policies, with Ivette Contreras, David Newhouse, and Michael Weber, World Bank, April 2023.

RESEARCH FUNDING AND AWARDS

External

UNU-WIDER Grant "Transforming informal work and livelihoods" (2019) \$8,000 (with Sarah Pearlman and Emily Conover)

W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research Early Career Research Grant (2014) \$5,000 (with Mevlude Akbulut-Yuksel and Mutlu Yuksel)

Volkswagen Foundation Project (with Hartmut Lehmann) (2011-2014) Euro 420,000

Alexander von Humboldt TransCoop on Human Trafficking (with Randall Akee, Arnab Basu, Nancy Chau and Hilmar Schneider) (2009-2011) Euro 51,000

World Bank 1st Round Funding for Informality Project Proposal (with Hartmut Lehmann) (2009) \$10,000

Internal

Carol Baker '81 Memorial Prize for PAC Junior Faculty 2015-2016

COE/Wesleyan University Faculty Fellowship 2015–2016

Wesleyan University Project Grant 2012, 2014, 2015, 2017

Wesleyan University Research Funding 2012-2022

Wesleyan University Travel Funding 2012-2019

Wesleyan University Student-Faculty Research Internship Funding 2012-2021

Weslevan University Teaching and Pedagogy Grant 2015-2016, 2017-2018

Wesleyan University Summer Research (QAC) Program 2012, 2018, 2022

LSE Research Student Scholarship (2006/2007)

Michio Morishima Travel Award (2007)

RESEARCH VISITS

Cornell University Spring 2023 Visiting Associate Professor of Economics (invited by: Prof. Arnab Basu and Prof. Nancy Chau)

NBER Applied Microeconomics/Health Group (NYC)

Visiting Researcher (invited by: Prof. Michael Grossman and Prof. David Jaeger)

January-June 2019

Harvard Kennedy School of Government, Cambridge, MA, USA 2018-2019 Fellow with the Women and Public Policy Program (WAPPP) (selected by committee)

Transatlantic Senior Researcher, Ruhr Graduate School of Economics December 2018

University of California, Berkeley

Visiting Research Scholar, Center for Labor Economics (invited by: Prof. David Card)

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA
Visiting Scholar, Department of Economics (invited by: Prof. Jerry Green)

Shorter Research Visits: RWI Essen, IZA Bonn, Rutgers, Cornell, College of William & Mary, Fordham.

PRESENTATIONS

2024

3rd Workshop of Applied Economics, Halifax, Canada (August)

2023

Eastern Economic Association (February); University of Arkansas (April); Fordham (April); CUNY Baruch (April); MLPortal 2nd Workshop of Applied Microeconomics Halifax, Canada (August), SEA (2 presentations, discussant) (November) 2022

Western Economic Association (June); MLPortal 1st Workshop of Applied Microeconomics Halifax, Canada (August); LACDEV Wellesley College (discussant) (September); NEUDC Yale (chair) (November); ASSLE University of Tokyo (December) 2021

LAC Labor and Public Conference 2021 (session chair), World Bank Latin America Region (virtual)

2020

UNU-WIDER workshop on "Transforming informal work and livelihoods", Helsinki, Finland (April 2020 due to COVID organizer moved to October 2020 virtual);

IZA / World Bank / NJD Jobs and Development Conference, Warsaw, Poland (May 2020 due to COVID organizer moved to September Virtual Conference 2020);

AEA Conference on Teaching and Research in Economic Education, Chicago (CTREE) (chair and discussant, May 2020, organizer cancelled the conference due to COVID);

ESPE Conference, Barcelona, Spain (June 2020, organizer cancelled the conference due to COVID);

EALE/SOLE Conference, Berlin, Germany (June 2020, in person conference cancelled due to COVID)

2019

Williams College CGD conference "Gender and Development" (April 2019); Canadian Economic Association (May/June 2019); IZA/World Bank/NJD Jobs and Development Conference (June 2019); Western Economic Association (June 2019); European Association for Labor Economist (EALE) (invited flash talk) (September 2019); Yale (September 2019); University of Arkansas (October 2019); Wesleyan (November 2019). 2018

UMass Amherst; RWI Essen (June 2018); IZA World of Labor Conference, Berlin, Germany (June 2018); The Brookings Institution (October 2018); NEUDC Cornell University (October 2018); SEA (November 2018) (panelist for CSWEP and presentation); Universitate Bamberg (December 2018));

2017

IAFFE Conference, Seoul, Korea

2016

AEA (chair); Fordham; Wesleyan (PAC); LSE; Indiana/Cornell University Conference in Honor of Elinor Ostrom

2015

AEA/ACES (discussant for 3 papers); UC Berkeley; EEA; IZA/CEPR European Summer Symposium for Labor Economics

2014

9th IZA/World Bank Conference, Lima, Peru; Pacific Conference for Development Economics (PacDev), Los Angeles; Wesleyan University; Panel Discussant in CSMGEP panel on Diversity and Research at AEA, Philadelphia 2013

AEA/CSWEP San Diego; ACES San Diego; World Bank; Hamilton College; Rutgers University; Connecticut College; 8th IZA/World Bank Conference, Bonn; EEA Gothenburg; LAC-DEV Amherst (discussant); Wellesley College 2012

Workshop on Human Trafficking, International Crime and National Security: A Human Rights Perspective (Goettingen); Wesleyan (CSS); Vassar; SOLE (poster); Universitaet Goettingen; EALE; Tufts; SEA; UCONN; Christmas meeting of German economists abroad 2011

ASSA, LERA (poster); Wesleyan University; Dalhousie University; 3rd Annual Meeting on Risky Behaviors (discussant); IZA; 6th IZA/World Bank Conference, Mexico (2 papers presented); Wesleyan (ODE); IZA/World Bank Workshop on Institutions and Informal Employment in Emerging and Transition Economies (presenter and discussant) 2010

ASSA, ACES; IZA; Stockholm University; Enforcement, Evasion and Informality: Theory and Practice Conference at University of Michigan; EALE/SOLE; The Empirics of Law Enforcement and Compliance (discussant); Ruhr-Universitaet Bochum; SAEe Madrid; Universitaet Goettingen

2009

4th IZA/World Bank Conference; IZA/SOLE Transatlantic Meeting of Labor Economists; LASA (presenter and discussant); IZA; The Shadow Economy Conference, Universitate Muenster; EALE (presenter and discussant); 1st CIER/IZA Conference; IZA/Volkswagen Foundation Topic Week on Transition Economies (presenter and discussant); World Bank; IZA Prize Conference; College of William & Mary; Cornell University; Rutgers University; NEUDC (poster)

2008

Royal Economic Society; 3rd IZA/World Bank Conference; SOLE (poster); 5th IZA Annual Migration Meeting (AM²) and 2rd IZA Migration Topic Week (discussant); Nordic Conference in Development Economics; IZA; LACEA; IPEA; IZA Prize Conference (poster) 2007 and earlier

2nd IZA/World Bank Conference (2007); STICERD, LSE; World Bank (2006); Poverty, Inequality and Policy in Latin America Symposium, Universitaet Goettingen (2005)

REFEREEING

<u>Iournals:</u>

American Economic Review, Applied Economics, Applied Economics Letters, The B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis & Policy, The B.E. Journal of Macroeconomics, Economics, Economics Bulletin, Economics and Human Biology, Economic Modelling, Economics of Transition, Empirical Economics, Industrial & Labor Relations Review, International Journal of Manpower, IZA Journal of Labor & Development, IZA Journal of Migration and Development, Journal of Applied Economics, Journal of Comparative Economics, Journal of Demographic Economics, Journal of Development Studies, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Journal of Economic Policy Reform, Journal of Economic Psychology, Journal of Family and

Economic Issues, Journal of Gender Studies, Journal of Institutional Economics, Journal of International Development, Journal of Human Trafficking, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Labor Market Research, Journal of Population Economics, Labour Economics, Singapore Economic Review, Research in Labor Economics, Review of Development Economics, Review of International Organizations, Review of Social Economy, The Review of Regional Studies, The Manchester School, Oxford Economic Papers, Oxford Development Studies, PlOS One, World Development

Grants and Reports:

IZA/DFID Growth and Labour Markets in Low Income Countries Program (GLM | LIC): Phase 3 grants (2013), Phase 2 grants (2013), Phase 1 grants (2012); OECD Report 'Is Informal Normal? Towards More and Better Jobs in Developing Countries' (2008)

Books

Oxford University Press Book Proposal "Climbing the Job Ladder? Informal and formal work in a dynamic context"

MIT Press Book Proposal "The Economics of Contemporary Latin America"

Routledge Press Book Proposal "The Informal Economy in Developing Countries"

Routledge Press Book 2nd Edition "Latin American Economic Development"

ORGANISATION OF WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES

Reviewer/Program Organizer:

Australian Gender Economics Workshop (AGEW) (January 2024)

LAC Public/Labor Economics Conference (June 2022)

IZA / World Bank / NJD Jobs and Development Conference (December 2022,

September 2021, September 2020, June 2019)

Organizer/Attendance:

LAC-DEV: 4th Liberal Arts Development Economics Conference, Vassar College, September 2016

AALAC Workshop "A Workshop to Enhance Inclusivity in Economics at Liberal Arts Collges", Pomona College, February 2016; Follow-up Workshop ASSA Philadelphia, January 2018

LAC-DEV: 3rd Liberal Arts Development Economics Conference, Lafayette College, September 2015

LAC-DEV: 2nd Liberal Arts Development Economics Conference, Colgate University, September 2014

ASSA/ACES Session Organizer, Chair and Discussant, January 2014

LAC-DEV: 1st Liberal Arts Development Economics Conference, Amherst College, October 2013

IZA Workshop: Understanding Informal Employment in Transition: The case of Georgia, Bonn, Germany (2011);

IZA Workshop: Legal and Illicit Immigration: Theory, Empirics and Policy, Bonn, Germany (2010);

Graduate Workshop in Development Economics, Bonn, Germany (2009);

1st CIER/IZA Workshop: Research in Labor Economics, Beijing, China (2009)

Scientific Committee:

Pacific Conference for Development Economics (PacDev) (2014);

3rd EALE/SOLE Conference at UCL, London, U.K. (2010);

4th IZA/World Bank Conference, Bonn, Germany (2009)

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Economic Association, Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association, Association for Comparative Economic Studies, UK Government Economic Service (2003-2007), STICERD affiliate (2005-2007), Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA) Research Fellow (2011-present), Global Labor Organization (GLO) Fellow (2017-present)

MENTORING ACTIVITY

Mentor in American Economic Association Mentoring Program, Fall 2021 to now Job Market Coach for American Economics Association Pipeline Conference, June 2023, June 2024

Job Market Coach for American Economic Association Mentoring Program, Fall 2021, Fall 2023, Fall 2024

American Economic Association CSWEP Newsletter contribution: "Being at a Liberal Arts College with High Research Expectations", 2020, Issue III. (Service to the profession) Invited "Guru" talk to the Berlin Network for Labor Market Research, July 2020 (Service to the profession)

Mentor in CSWEP Mentoring program at AEA San Diego 2020 (Service to the profession) Mentee Participant in CSWEP Mentoring program at AEA Philadelphia 2014

EXTERNAL EXAMINER AND REVIEWER

2014: PhD (1), 2020: Tenure (1), 2021: Tenure (3), 2022: Promotion (1); Master's Degree (1) 2023: Tenure (2), IZA Fellow (2), External Review of the BA Economics at University of Arkansas

2024: IZA Fellow (2)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Wesleyan University

2011 to present

ECON301 Microeconomic Analysis (Fall 2011, Spring 2012, Spring 2013, Spring 2014, Fall 2014, Fall 2016, Spring 2017, Fall 2017, Spring 2018, Fall 2019 (2 sections), Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Fall 2022, Fall 2023);

ECON261 Latin American Economic Development (Fall 2011, Fall 2012, Spring 2013, Spring 2014, Fall 2014, Spring 2017, Fall 2017, Spring 2020, Spring 2021, Spring 2022);

ECON361 Development and Labor in Latin American Economies (Fall 2016, Spring 2018, Spring 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2021, Fall 2022, Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Fall 2024);

ECON366 The Economics of Developing Countries (Spring 2012);

ECON300 Introduction to Econometrics (Fall 2012, Spring 2024); ENVS391 COE Senior Colloquium (Fall 2015); ENVS241 Labor and Development Economics in Latin America (Spring 2016)

Weslevan University

Fall 2022

GLSP SOCS 649 Current Topics in Development Economics, Master's Degree class

University of New Haven, Pompea College of Business Guest Lectures "Development Economics" for EMBA 2021

RWI, Ruhr Graduate School, Essen, Germany

2018

Mini-Lectures 'Gender in the Labor Market' for PhD in Economics Students

Universitaet Bonn, Department of Economics, Bonn, Germany
Lecturer for Master level course in Development Economics (team-taught course)

LSE, Department of International Development, London, U.K. 2006 Class Teacher for interdisciplinary Master level course on Poverty measurement

SERVICE AT WESLEYAN

University, Department of Economics, LAST program and COE:

Faculty Representative (Finance) to the Board of Trustees

2023-2024

Chair of the Search Committee for Economics Department, 2019-2020

Search Committee for Economics Department 2011-2012, 2016-2017

Search Committee for Center for the Americas Postdoctoral Mellon Fellow 2015-16

Board Member of the Center of the Americas 2011-2012, 2015-2016

Board Member of the Center for Global Studies 2016-2017

Chair of Latin American Studies Program 2020-2021

Core Member of Latin American Studies Program 2011 to present

Economics Department Seminar Organizer 2012-2013

Department Committee on Response to External Review, April 2018

COE Think Tank Fellow Meetings 2015-2016

Wesleyan Alumni Event (LA 2016, Seoul 2017, Wesleyan Asian Pacific American Alumni Council and the Alumni of Color Council, NYC 2018)

Coursera Grant for Wesleyan Specialization on Data Analysis and Interpretation (2015, participated in the application and project workshop in Silicon Valley)

Organizer of Economics Department reading group (Fall 2014, Spring 2016, Fall 2016)

Research Mentor for Samir Bandaogo, Assistant Professor of Economics (2018)

Research Mentor for Jennifer Raynor, Assistant Professor of Economics (2019 to 2022)

Research Mentor Carycruz Bueno, Assistant Professor of Economics (2022 to 2023)

Research Mentor Xiaoxue Zhao, Assistant Professor of Economics (2023 to now)

Teaching Mentor for Gillian Brunet, Assistant Professor of Economics (2020 to 2023)

Student-related Service/Advising:

Thesis Adviser 2012-2013: Romaine Campbell (Class 2013) 'The Effect of Female Ownership and Management on Firm Performance: Evidence from Latin America', High Honors

Thesis Adviser 2015-2016: Xiyue Li (Class 2016) 'Climate Change and Migration: Two Case Studies on Mexico', High Honors

LAST Senior Essay Tutorial 2016-2017: Kathy Yun (Class 2017) 'Resource Curse in Latin America: Evidence from Brazil, Venezuela, and Mexico'

Economics Senior Essay Tutorial Fall 2019: Sam Smith (Class 2020) 'Migration and Children's Education in China: The Effect of Gender-Specific Migration on the Education of Left-Behind Children'

Academic Adviser to the Wesleyan Football Team 2016 to present

Advising: 22 Economics Majors and 6 Pre-Majors 2012-2013; 27 Economics Majors 2013-2014; 18 Economics Majors 2014-2015; 6 Economics Majors and 9 Pre-Majors 2015-2016; 26 Economics Majors and 7 Pre-Majors 2016-2017; 29 Economics Majors and 6 Pre-Majors 2017-2018; 6 Economics Majors 2018-2019;14 Economics Majors and 6 Pre-Majors 2019-2020; 15 Economics Majors and 6 Pre-Majors 2020-2021; 37 Economics Majors 2021-2022; 28 Economics Majors 2022-2023; 25 Economics Majors and 3 Pre-Majors 2023-2024; 21 Economics Majors and 3 Pre-Majors 2024-2025

Committee Member of COE senior thesis 2015-2016: (2)

Thesis reader: 2012: CSS(1), Economics (2), 2013: Economics (1), 2014: CSS(2), 2016: Economics(1), 2017: Economics(1), 2018: Economics(1), 2019: Economics(1). 2020: Economics(1), 2022: Economics (1), 2024: Economics/CSS (2).

Faculty Adviser/ panelist at the Forum for International Development (February 2012); Speaker at 1st TedxWes Westalk Conference (February 2013); Presenter at book event "The Capital in the 21st century, by Thomas Piketty" (December 2014); Women in Business Student Group Presentation (February 2018)

LANGUAGES

English (fluent), German (fluent), Spanish (good), French (good), Latin (good), Japanese (advanced intermediate)

COMPUTER SKILLS

STATA, EViews, Latex, Python, R, SQL