

### Student Presenters:



**Bernadin Géraud Comlan Ahodode**  
University of Yaoundé II

I am PhD Candidate in Knowledge/Innovation Economics. My research interest is on the field of Innovation Systems, Innovation and Knowledge Economics, International Economics, Economic Growth, Development Economics (Climate Change, Enterprise Performance, Agriculture and Labor Productivities, Gender, Inequalities) and Quantitative Analysis (Macro and Micro Econometrics).



**Sanday Amos**  
Anadolu University

Amos is currently a graduate research assistant at Anadolu University, Eskisehir Turkey and an affiliate at Research Fellow at the Economic Research Centre Makerere University Kampala Uganda. He was a Young African Leaders Fellow 2019 at Kenyatta University Nairobi Kenya. He holds a BA. Development Finance (Microfinance), MA. Economic Policy Management from Makerere University and currently finalizing his PhD in Economics at Anadolu University. His Research interests include Development Economics, Finance and Applied Microeconomics.



**Chris Boyd**  
University of Minnesota

Chris Boyd is a PhD candidate in Applied Economics at the University of Minnesota. Before her PhD, she was a junior researcher at a Peruvian Think Tank (The Institute of Peruvian Studies), where she studied diverse topics related to Rural Development, especially financial literacy, and ran impact evaluations. Her dissertation focuses on the impacts of food price and food price risk, using primary and secondary data from different sources. Currently, she is also a graduate trainee in Population Studies at the Minnesota Population Center, where she studies the relationship between women's time-use, climate, and child nutrition in rural Uganda.



**Yiming Cao**  
Boston University

Yiming Cao is a PhD candidate in Economics at Boston University. He works at the intersection of development economics and political economy. His research centers around topics such as bureaucracy, corruption, and conflict. His recent work examines building damages in the 2008 Sichuan Earthquake and provides evidence of how the patron-client relationship creates social vulnerabilities that magnify the impact of negative shocks. He is also in the progress of identifying information flows among politicians and personal networks using state-of-the-art natural language processing (NLP) techniques. Prior to joining Boston University, he received his bachelor's degree at Fudan University.



**Sugat Chaturvedi**  
Indian Statistical Institute, Delhi

I am a Ph.D. candidate at the Economics and Planning Unit, Indian Statistical Institute, Delhi. I am particularly interested in development economics, labor economics and political economy as well as applications of machine learning in these areas.



**Abhishek Dureja**  
Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research

I am a Doctoral student at Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR), Mumbai, India. My research interests include Health and Development Economics. In my Dissertation, I evaluate the welfare consequences of health shocks and the ex-post risk-coping strategies utilized by poor rural agricultural households in developing countries. In my future work, I plan to understand the behavioral mechanisms because of which the markets for healthcare have failed in India.



**Victoria Endl-Geyer**  
Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich

Victoria Endl-Geyer is a Ph.D. Candidate at the Ludwig-Maximilians-University (LMU) and a Junior Economist at the ifo Institute in Munich. She worked as an Economics Specialist at the Bavarian Parliament and as a Subject Specialist at ifo Institute before starting her Ph.D. Victoria received a B.Sc. from the LMU in 2014 and completed her Master in Economics at the University of Graz in 2017. Victoria's research interests lie at the intersection of the Economics of Crime, Development Economics, and the Economics of Gender.



**NGOKO Eric Hubert**  
University of Maroua

NGOKO Eric Hubert is a doctoral student in applied microeconomics at the University of Maroua in Cameroon. Prior to his PhD, he was a junior researcher at the Centre de Recherche en Microéconomie Appliqué (REMA) and the Centre de Recherche en Économie et Gestion (CEREG) where he studied various topics related to the economics of human resources, in particular, the economics of education and labor and participated in the writing of research reports. He uses primary data from the survey on the Improvement of Employment Policies in Cameroon carried out in 2017 by IDRC and CEREG to write his thesis on the theme: Essays on the transition of young people to the labor market in Cameroon. He is currently a doctoral student of the project "Youth Transition to the Labour Market in Francophone Africa" funded by IDRC: cases of Cameroon, Chad and Burkina Faso.





**Valeria Ferraro**  
Boston College

I am a fifth-year PhD student in Economics at Boston College. My research interests include labor economics, personnel economics, and finance. In my research, I study how to improve female representation in top corporate positions. Before joining Boston College, I have been a consultant at the OECD for over a year, and took part to research projects in India and Sub-Saharan Africa.



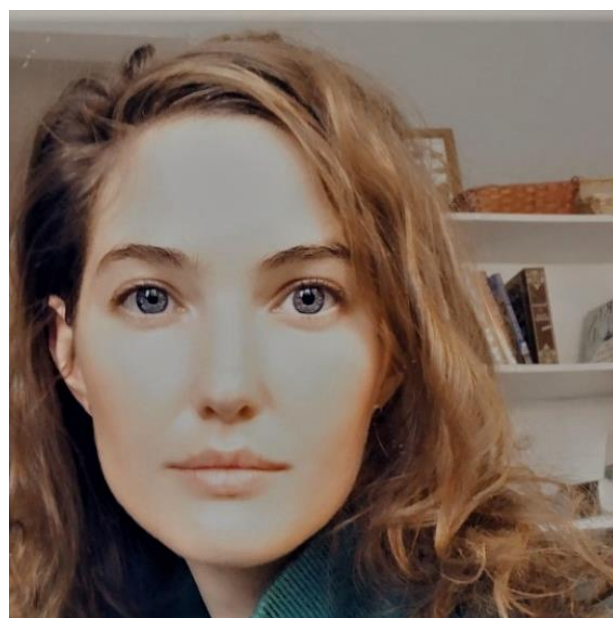
**Aria Golestani**  
UC Irvine

Aria Golestani is a fifth-year PhD student in economics at the University of California-Irvine. He works in the fields of crime and public economics, with a particular focus on gendered criminal justice and racial bias in policing. Currently, he is studying the consequences of nuisance property ordinances on crime reporting and domestic violence, the racial bias in policing and prosecuting sex work, and how specialization in domestic violence court impacts decision making and re-victimization. Before coming to UC Irvine, he received his M.A. from Cal State LA in 2015 and graduated from University of Tehran (Iran) in 2011 with a B.A in Economics.



**Maryiam Haroon**  
Lahore School of Economics

Maryiam Haroon is a PhD Candidate in Department of Economics at Lahore School of Economics. She is also a Research Fellow at the Centre for Research in Economics and Business. Her research interests include impact of the trade agreements and agglomeration externalities on firm. She is also working on designing optimal contracting, hiring and monitoring of employees in low-resource settings; and behavioral interventions to develop non-cognitive skills and improve academic performance of female students.



**Katherine Hauck**  
University of Arizona

Katherine Hauck is a 3rd year Ph.D. student at the University of Arizona, specializing in economic history and industrial organization. Her work focuses on the impact of public land laws, specifically the Homestead Act, in the late nineteenth century. Of particular interest is modeling the historical consolidation of family farms over time in terms of endogenous horizontal mergers. She will be presenting “Two Different Types of Settlers: Effects of Selection into Purchase and Homesteading” which explores the selection into and the mechanisms driving purchasing and homesteading land at the settler level in Kansas.



**Lisa Ho**  
MIT

I am a third year PhD student at MIT specializing in development economics. In my thesis research, I plan to study the introduction and growth of internet access in low- and middle-income countries, particularly its effects on education and women's work. Through this workshop, I am excited to meet students and professors with a wider set of personal and career experiences in economics.



**Kelly Hyde**  
University of Pittsburgh

Kelly Hyde is a PhD candidate in economics at University of Pittsburgh, with concentrations in health, environmental, and behavioral economics. His research broadly focuses on the environmental and behavioral determinants of health disparities in both developed and developing economic contexts. Kelly's recent work studies the relationship between drinking water contamination, extreme temperatures, and dimensions of poverty in the United States, including food security and risks of adverse health outcomes. He is also interested in the influence of pessimistic beliefs in the presence of uncertainty on the adoption and maintenance of normative behaviors.





**Philippe Kabore**  
University of Ottawa

Philippe has a great interest in studies related to climate change and pollution. His research focus is the impact of climate change on business activities and individual's outcomes. In addition to his doctoral studies, Philippe held various research and teaching assistant positions at the University of Ottawa (Introduction to econometrics, Econometrics I, Introduction to probability and mathematics). During his free time, Philippe likes to spend time doing outside activities such as biking, running, and playing tennis.



**Ajinkya Keskar**  
Rice University

Ajinkya Keskar is currently a Ph.D. student at Rice University. Before pursuing his Ph.D., he received a Master's in economics at the University of Wisconsin Madison and a Bachelor's in Electronics and Communications Engineering from PES University, Bangalore, India. Ajinkya's research interest is primarily development economics, focusing on the economics of the family, gender, and marriage markets. Some of his recent work looks at the effect of marriage transfers on women's post-marital outcomes in India.





**Fatima Jamal Khan**  
University of New South Wales

Fatima is a final year PhD candidate at the University of New South Wales with a focus in behavioural and development economics. She is currently working on a randomized control trial to assess the impact of a positive psychology intervention on improving learning outcomes for school age children in low-income settings. Fatima also works as a Policy Analyst at the ARC Centre of Excellence in Population Ageing Research in Sydney. She received her MSc in Economic History from the London School of Economics in 2016 and her BSc (Hons) in Economics from the Lahore University of Management Sciences in 2015.



**MinSub Kim**  
The Ohio State University

MinSub Kim is a PhD candidate in Economics at The Ohio State University. His primary fields of research are labor economics with a particular emphasis on gender disparities and social networks. He has focused on studying coworker networks within the workplace to understand how manager-employee connections affect employee productivity and workforce diversity.



**Yoonjung Kim**  
UC Irvine

Yoonjung Kim is a fourth-year PhD student in economics at the University of California-Irvine. She works in the fields of labor and public economics, with a particular focus on the impacts of public assistance programs on outcomes such as labor supply decisions, household consumption, and food security. In current projects, she is studying the effects of public pension reforms in South Korea, the impacts of expanding cash welfare under TANF in the U.S., and the effects of the introduction of universal free lunch in South Korean schools.



**Sultan Mehmood**  
University of Paris

My name is Sultan Mehmood. My research interests are in development economics and political economy. Particularly, my research seeks to understand the conditions for establishment of Rule of Law in societies and its consequences for institutional design and development.



**Angela Cindy Emefa Mensah**  
Colorado State University

Born in 1989 in Volta Region of Ghana, Angela Cindy Emefa Mensah holds a Bachelor of Education in Social Science (Economics and Mathematics) from the University of Cape Coast and received a Master of Philosophy (MPhil) in Economics from the University of Ghana. She worked as a research assistant in the United Nations University's World Institute for Development Economics Research (UNU-WIDER) office at the University of Ghana. She is a member of the African Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (AFAERE). Her research interests are within the field of Natural resources and environmental economics and empirical econometric analysis. She is currently pursuing a PhD in Economics at Colorado State University.



**Yongwei Nian**  
Bocconi University

I am currently a 2nd-year PhD student in economics at Bocconi University, Italy. I am interested in applied micro and try to answer questions in development and environmental economics using micro data including satellite imagery and digitized textual data. In a recent paper, I use high-resolution satellite data combined with two natural experiments to access the role of incentives and penalties in curbing agricultural fires.





**Christopher Oconnor**  
University of Alabama

Christopher Oconnor is 4th year Economics PhD student at The University of Alabama. Before starting his PhD studies, he worked for 4 years at a policy research institute in Jamaica where he worked as a poverty and inequality economist. This experience has led him into the field of Development Economics, which is his main area of specialization for his PhD. His research is focused on issues surrounding individual vulnerability to, and resilience against, welfare shortfalls. As a part of his dissertation, he also does some research in experimental and public economics.



**Karen Ortiz-Becerra**  
UC Davis

Karen Ortiz-Becerra is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at the University of California, Davis. Her research interests include Development Economics, Political Economy, and Applied Econometrics. Karen studies the implications of agricultural development and land consolidation on rural labor markets. She also conducts research on empirical methods with a special focus on field experiments and causal inference.



**Mitali Pradhan**  
Fordham University

I am a PhD candidate in Economics at Fordham University. My main fields of research interests are international trade and development, applied econometrics and applied microeconomics. I am writing my dissertation on the impact of a trade policy reform on the exports from developing countries. My current research agenda is twofold. First, I aim to provide data driven impact estimates to aid the trade policy dialogue between developing and developed countries. And second, acknowledging that even the most development friendly international trade rules need to be backed by sound domestic policy reforms, I aim to investigate the role of state capacity in facilitating trade and investment.



**Helene Purcell**  
Fordham University

Helene Purcell is a PhD candidate in Economics at Fordham University and expects to graduate in May 2021. Her research aims to make contributions to the areas of development economics, environmental economics, and human capital accumulation using applied econometric techniques that facilitate causal interpretation. Her main research interest lies in exploring the impact of natural disasters and climate change on individual preferences and behavioral factors, paying close attention to causal inference and attempts to quantify the impact of a volatile environmental landscape on individual behavior and economic outcomes. She has accepted a postdoctoral research position at the University of Pennsylvania in the Population Studies Center analyzing the impacts of living through the HIV epidemic in Malawi.



**Laëtitia Renée**  
McGill University

I am a Ph.D. candidate in economics at McGill University, on the job market in 2021-22. I am an applied labor and public economist with special interests in the economics of education. My job market paper focuses on understanding the socio-economic gap in college enrollment and graduation.

I am a first-generation college student and a mother of a 2-year-old who keeps me very busy!



**Komal Sareen**  
Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi

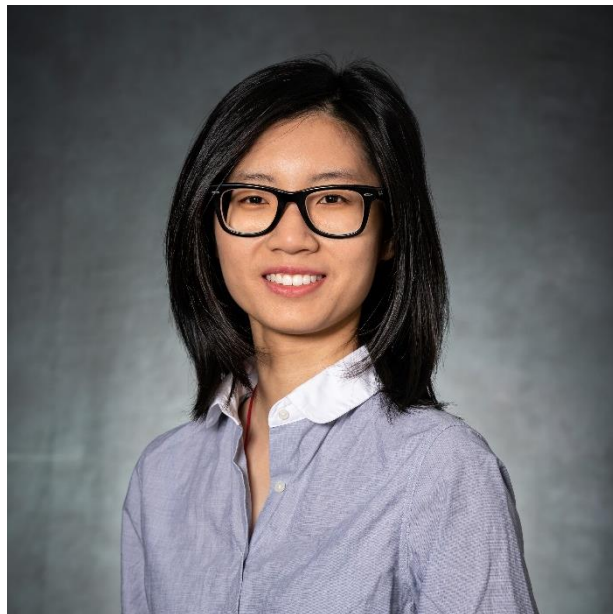
Komal is a second-year PhD scholar at the Humanities and Social Science (HUSS) Department at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi. Her research interests centre around health and development economics. She is also interested in woman-specific issues and exploring the upcoming Machine Learning (ML) techniques in the field of economics. She has completed her masters in Economics from Delhi School of Economics (DSE), Delhi University (DU) and her bachelors from Sri Ram College of Commerce, Delhi University (DU).





**Kaitlyn Sims**  
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Kait is a PhD candidate in applied economics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Her research is at the intersection of public health, economics of violence and conflict, and political economy. Broadly, she is interested in the ways that individuals cope with political and social turbulence, including political instability and domestic violence, and the impact of institutions like prisons and discretionary policing. Outside of the office, she teaches yoga, oil paints, and spends time with her pup at the dog park. Kait will be on the academic job market in 2021-2022.



**Xiaochen Sun**  
Carnegie Mellon University

My name is Xiaochen Sun, and I am a third year PhD student in Public Policy at Carnegie Mellon University. My research is in the area of applied microeconomics with a special focus on environmental and energy economics. Before joining CMU, I worked at Duke University Energy Initiative as a Research Analyst and provided research assistance to various energy projects led by faculty at Duke. I hold a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Economics from Renmin University, China and a Master's degree in Environmental Economics and Policy from Duke University.



**Revathy Suryanarayana**  
Cornell University

Revathy Suryanarayana is a third-year Ph.D. student in the Policy Analysis and Management department at Cornell University. Her primary research interests involve topics in health and public economics. Her current work looks at the impact of federal income support on long-run crime and risky behavior of adults in the US. Revathy holds an M.A. in Economics from the University of Warwick and an undergraduate degree in Economics from the University of Delhi.