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## **EDUCATION**

*Doctor of Philosophy in Economics, West Virginia University, August 2006*

Primary Fields: Public Economics and International Economics  
Secondary Fields: International Development and Regional Economics

*M.A. in Economics, West Virginia University, December 2004*

*B.A. in Economics with a minor in Spanish, Utah State University, May 2002*

## **ACADEMIC POSITIONS**

Associate Professor of Economics, The University of Texas at El Paso, 9/2013-Present.  
Assistant Professor of Economics, The University of Texas at El Paso, 8/2007-8/2013.  
Western Hemispheric Trade Research Professorship, The University of Texas at El Paso,  
10/2009-8/2011.  
Visiting Assistant Professor of Economics, The College of Wooster, 8/2006-5/2007.

## **RESEARCH**

### **Refereed Publications**

“Productivity within Groups: An Analysis of Shirking in High School Cross Country Competitions,” (with Miguel Ramos). *Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics*, forthcoming [ABDC=A], 106(2023),  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socec.2023.102070>

“An Examination of Peer Effects Using High School Competition Realignment,”  
*Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, 2023, 206(C), 122-135. [ABDC Rating=A\*]

“Peer Effects: The Case of High School Harriers,” *Applied Economics Letters* [ABDC=B], forthcoming

“Mexican Migration Flows to the United States: The Impact of Business Cycles on Unauthorized Immigration to the United States,” (with Jesus Mendoza), *Economics Bulletin*, 2019, 39(2), 798-815. [ABDC Rating=C]

“Access to Dual Enrollment in the United States: Implications for Equity and Stratification,” (with Luis Rivera and Steve Kotok), *Texas Education Review*, Spring 2019, 14-29.

“The Halo Effect: Violent Crime and Foreign Direct Investment,” (with Miguel Ramos). *Multinational Business Review*, 2017, 25(4), 287-306. [ABDC Rating=B]

“Assessing the Impacts of Labor Market and Deterrence Variables on Homicide Rates in Mexico.” (with Yu Liu and Thomas Fullerton) *Contemporary Economic Policy*, 2013, 31(4), 669-90. [ABDC Rating=B]

“Economic Freedom and Economic Development in the Mexican States.” (with Avilia Bueno and Deborah Martinez) *Journal of Regional Analysis and Policy*, 2013, 43(1), 21-33.

“Heterogeneous Firm Response to Organized Crime: Evidence from FDI in Mexico,” (with Miguel Ramos), *Journal of International Management*, 2013, 19(2), 176-94. [ABDC Rating=A]

“Foreign Direct Investment and Industry Response to Organized Crime: The Mexican Case,” (with Miguel Ramos) *European Journal of Political Economy*, 2013, 30, 80-91. [ABDC Rating=A]

“The Determinants of Immigration from Mexico to the United States: A State-to-State Analysis.” (with Avilia Bueno and Deborah Martinez) *Applied Economics Letters*, 2013, 20 (7), 638-41. [ABDC Rating=B]

“Freedom and International Migration.” *Southern Economic Journal*, 2010, 77(1), 49-62. [ABDC Rating=A]

“Institutions and Human Progress: An Analysis of International Pooled Data.” *Eastern Economic Journal*, 2009, 35(3), 396-414. [ABDC Rating=B]

“Income Inequality and Economic Freedom in the U.S. States.” (with Russell Sobel) *Public Choice*, 2008, 134(3-4), 329-346. [ABDC Rating=A]

“Economic Freedom and Migration Flows Between U.S. States.” *Southern Economic Journal*, 2007, 73(3), 677-697 [ABDC Rating=A]

## **Books**

*Economic Freedom of North America: 2012 Report*. 2012, Vancouver: The Fraser Institute (with Avilia Bueno and Fred McMahon)

*Economic Freedom of North America: 2011 Report*. 2011, Vancouver: The Fraser Institute (with Avilia Bueno and Fred McMahon)

*Economic Freedom of North America: 2010 Report*. 2010, Vancouver: The Fraser Institute (with Amela Karabegović, Fred McMahon, and Avilia Bueno)

### **Selection of Book Chapters**

“Destructive and Productive Entrepreneurship: An Analysis of International Panel Data,” Chapter 16 in *Economic Behavior, Entrepreneurship, and Economic Freedom*, Editors R. Cebula, J. Hall, J. Payne, Edward Elgar Publishing, 2015, 193-206.

“Economic Freedom of Mexico 2012,” Chapter 4 in *Economic Freedom of North America: 2012*. Vancouver: The Fraser Institute (with Deborah Martinez and Avilia Bueno)

“Reduce Labor Market Restrictions: From Right-to-Work to School Choice,” (with Joshua C. Hall, Ashley Harrison, and Susan S. Douglass), Chapter 7 in *Freedom and Prosperity in Tennessee*, Editor J.R. Clark, 2012, Scott L. Probasco Jr. Chair of Free Enterprise.

“Economic Freedom in the United Mexican States,” Chapter 4 in *Economic Freedom of North America 2008 Annual Report*, 2008, 69-76. Vancouver: The Fraser Institute.

“Reduce Labor Market Restrictions: From School Choice to Right to Work,” Chapter 10 in *Unleashing Capitalism: Why Prosperity Stops at the West Virginia Border and How to Fix it*, 2007, ed. Russell S. Sobel, 147-167, (with Mark Gillis). West Virginia: Public Policy Foundation of West Virginia.

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

#### **Courses Taught:**

University of Texas at El Paso: Principles of Microeconomics (two sections), Principles of Macroeconomics (two sections), International Economics (15 sections), Independent Study, Intermediate Micro Theory (1 section), Global Economic Environment (seven sections) (MBA, MS ECON), Master Thesis, Public Choice (2 sections, BBA, 2 sections MS), Institutions and Economic Development, Public Sector Economics (2 section BBA, 2 sections MS ECON), International Economics Module (Ph.D.), Country Risk Analysis (MS ECON), Managerial Economics (20 sections BBA, 1 section MBA), Micro Theory (MS ECON), Applied International Economics (MS ECON, 2 Sections), History of Economic Thought (3 sections), Intermediate Microeconomics

College of Wooster: Principles of Economics (three sections), Public Choice, Junior Independent Study, and Senior Independent Study.

West Virginia University: Principles of Macroeconomics (two sections), Intermediate Macroeconomics (two sections), Principles of Microeconomics (two sections), and Public Economics.

Courses Developed and Approved by Faculty Senate:

Public Choice (ECON 3325, ECON 5321), Public Sector Economics (ECON 5330)

**Pedagogical Innovations:**

International Economics Text [In progress]

Musical Compositions [Deadweight Loss, Ceteris Paribus]

Market Simulator for Regression Analysis, 2020 [Developed for ECON 5311 in May 2020 and updated in Fall 2020 and Fall 2021]

Comparative Advantage Trading Game, [Introduced for ECON 4325 in June 2012, updated January 2020]

Purchasing Power Parity Activity, [Introduced for ECON 4325 in June 2012]

**SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP**

**Leadership: Department, College, and University Committees**

Faculty Advisor, Omicron Delta Epsilon, Department of Economics, 2019-Present

Chair, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Department of Economics, 2021-Present

Chair, Faculty Welfare Committee (University), The University of Texas at El Paso, 2020-22

Economics Undergraduate Program External Review, 2020-21

Economics Faculty Search Chair (Department), 2018-2021

Interim Chair, Student Grievance Committee (University), 2015

Advisor for Collegiate Advisory Board Program (College), El Paso Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, Fall 2013

**Membership: Department, College, and University Committees**

IOA Committee, University, 2023-Present

Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (College), 2012-Present

Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, University, 2022-Present.

Faculty Welfare Committee (University), University,  
2019-22

Library Liaison (Department), 2017-Present

Economics and Finance Merit Review Committee, 2021-Present

Economics Merit Review Committee (Department), 2013-2021

Teaching Award Committee (College), 2015, 2019, 2020

Promotion and Tenure Committee (College), 2015, 2018

Honors Visioning Committee (University), 2018-19

Student Grievance Committee (University), 2013-2016

Honors Program Evaluation Team (University), 2013-2014

Faculty Senate (Department), 2012-2014, 2018-2020

Best Dissertation and Thesis Committee (University), 2012,

Undergraduate Research Committee (University), Fall 2009

### **Thesis Committees**

University of Texas at El Paso (\*=completed),

Adrian Villasenor\*, MS, 2011 (Committee Chair)

Nathanael Robinson\*, MS, 2011 (Committee Chair)

Carolina Cerda\*, MS, 2011 (Committee Member)

Francisco Pallares\*, MS, 2012 (Committee Member)

Avilia Bueno\*, MS, 2013 (Committee Chair)

Shwetima Joshi\*, MS, 2014 (Committee Chair)

Krystal Sanchez-Osio\*, MS, 2014 (Committee Chair)

Kenny Nweke\*, MS, 2015 (Committee Chair)

Jesus Mendoza\*, MS, 2017 (Committee Chair)

Luis Rivera\*, MS, 2017 (Committee Chair)

Jose Moreno\*, MS, 2017 (Committee Chair)

Andrew Ryle. MS, 2021 (Committee Member)

Jakia Sultana, MS, 2021 (Committee Member)

### **Dissertation Committees**

University of Texas at El Paso (\*=completed)

Syed Zaidi\*, Ph.D., 2012 (Committee Member)

Maria Barulina\*, Ph.D., 2014 (Committee Member)

Nora Alaniz-Bouqayes\*, Ph.D., 2016 (Committee Member)

Lifei Xue\*, Ph.D., 2018 (Committee Member)

Randika Eramudugoda, Ph.D., 2019 (Committee Member)

Rawia Ahmed, Ph.D., 2019 (Committee Member)

### **Letters of Recommendation**

It is my honor to have written letters of recommendation for over 40 students over the years for employment, graduate school, and consideration for other awards and opportunities

### **External Academic Service**

#### **Selected Referee Experience: List of Journal and Organization (#articles reviewed)**

Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization (2), Southern Economic Journal (7), Public Choice (4), European Journal of Political Economy (4), Contemporary Economic Policy (5), Applied Economics (2), Applied Economic Letters (2), Applied Economic Letters (2), Journal of Economics (2), Eastern Economic Journal (2), Risk Management (2), Journal of Financial Economic Policy (2), International Journal of Conflict Management (2), Journal of Financial Research, Journal of Business Research, Small Business Economics, Social Science Journal, Social Science Quarterly, Cato Journal

### **Other External Service**

Adjunct Program Officer, Institute for Humane Studies at George Mason University, 2015 [Compensated]

### **Other Non-Academic Service**

Regional Commissioner, American Youth Soccer Organization Region 272, July 2017-June 2019

Board Member, American Youth Soccer Organization Region 272, July 2014-2020

Coach, American Youth Soccer Organization Region 272, August 2012-Present

### **Grants and Research Support**

Center for Free Enterprise and Hispanic Entrepreneurship, 2019-20, Kickapoo Springs Foundation, (Co-PI with James Payne and Timothy Roth) [\$ 3,430,125]

Summer Grant Proposal Seed Funding, The College of Business Administration, UTEP, “Decomposing Peer Effects: Understanding the Impact of Peer Effects Conditional on Task Complexity,” 2020 [\$7,500]

Summer Research Grant, UTEP, College of Business Administration, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011 [\$12,000]

Charles G. Koch Foundation for Readings Group and Lecture Series, 2010 [\$11,475]

Charles G. Koch Foundation for a course and Lecture series, 2009 [\$10,500]

Fraser Institute Grant for work on Economic Freedom of North America, 2009 [\$10,745]

University Research Institute Award for work on Economic Freedom in the Mexican States, 2009 [\$3,635]

### **Other Grant Applications Not Funded**

UTEP Interdisciplinary Research and Education Program 2020, “Decomposing Peer Effects: Understanding the Variation Across Gender, Age and Skill Composition,” (with John Gibson [Co-PI], Fernanda Wagstaff, Fernando Jimenez, Michael Zarate) [Amount Requested: \$20,000]

### **SELECTION OF OTHER AWARDS AND HONORS**

Dialogues in Leadership, The University of Texas at El Paso, 2020-21 Cohort

Economics Department Outstanding Research Award 2014, College of Business Administration, University of Texas at El Paso

Economics Department Outstanding Research Award 2010, College of Business Administration, University of Texas at El Paso

Princeton Summer Institute Fellow 2011, Intercollegiate Studies Institute’s American Studies Center

Department Best Paper Award (Economics), 2008, 2007, College of Business Administration, University of Texas at El Paso

Association of Private Enterprise Education Young Scholar, 2006, 2009

Hayek Fund for Scholars Award, Institute for Humane Studies at George Mason University, Fall 2007

### **INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

*“Panel I: Which Institutions Best Support Prosperity in Texas and Beyond??”* Panelist, Institute for Humane Studies at George Mason University and Texas Public Policy Foundation, Austin, TX, (June 2, 2018)

“Freedom and Immigration,” Presented at Oklahoma University (November 16, 2015)

“Economic Freedom and Migration.” Presented to Young President’s Organization-El Paso Chapter, El Paso, TX (October 2014)

“Economic Freedom and Migration.” Presented at the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual O’Neil Center Conference, Southern Methodist University (September 2014)

“Economic Freedom of North America 2011.” Presented at Rio Grande Foundation event, Las Cruces, NM (March 2012)

“Immigration and Economic Freedom.” Presented at the Smith Center for Private Enterprise Studies, Cal-State Eastbay, Hayward, CA (October 2011)

“Economic Freedom and Entrepreneurship in North America.” Celebrating Hispanic Entrepreneurship Conference Sponsored by Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation and the University of Texas at El Paso, El Paso, TX (May 2009)

“Economic Freedom of Mexico.” Presented at the University of Texas-Pan American, Edinburg, TX (April 2009)

“Economic Freedom in the Mexican States.” Presented at el Coloquio Internacional de Desarrollo Económico y Globalización Universidad Autónoma de Ciudad Juárez (November 2008)

## **CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION**

### **Presentations**

Southern Economic Association Meetings, 2004-2006, 2008-2009, 2011, 2018

Association of Private Enterprise Education Meetings, 2006, 2009-2013

Academy of Management, 2014

Public Choice Meetings, 2008, 2016

Economic Freedom of the World Network Meeting, 2008

### **Session Chair**

Association of Private Enterprise Education (2011)



Public Choice Society Meetings (2008)

Southern Economic Association Meeting (2005, 2018)

**Discussant**

Southern Economic Association Meetings (2004, 2005, 2006, 2008, 2010, 2011, 2018)

**Colloquiums Attended**

Liberty and Responsibility in Corporate Governance, Liberty Fund and Charles G. Koch Institute, Ogden, UT (October 2014)

Applying the Lessons of Markets to Management, Liberty Fund and Charles G. Koch Institute, Logan, UT (March 2014)

Princeton Summer Institute, Intercollegiate Studies Institute's American Study Center, (June 2011)

Public Choice Outreach Conference, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA (June 2006)

**Op-Eds**

*Las Cruces Sun News, El Paso Times, Washington Examiner*

**SAMPLE OF MEDIA COVERAGE/NEWSPAPER ARTICLES**

Newspapers: *The Wall Street Journal, Los Angeles Times, El Paso Times, New Mexico Business Weekly*

Television: *Fox News, KFOX 14 News El Paso, KDBC 4 News El Paso*

Radio: *News New Mexico Radio*

**ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Two-year LDS Mission**, Monterrey, Mexico, 1996-1998

**MEMBERSHIPS**

American Economic Association

**OTHER**

**MUSIC**

Composer, Guitar (Intermediate), piano (early intermediate), mandolin (advanced beginner), ukulele (advanced beginner), banjo (beginner), cowbell (I hold my own)

## **LANGUAGES**

English (Native), Spanish (fluent)

Last Updated: July 2023