
MATIAS BUSO

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Employment

- 2008- Lead Economist, *Research Department*, Inter-American Development Bank.
- 2005-2008 Research Assistant. *Ford School of Public Policy*, University of Michigan.
- 2002-2003 Research Assistant. *Research Department*, Inter-American Development Bank.
- 1999-2001 Economist, *Research Department*, Secretary of Finance, Buenos Aires Province, Argentina.
- 1997-1999 Research Assistant, *Research Department*, Secretary of Finance, Buenos Aires Province, Argentina.

Education

- 2008 Ph.D. in Economics, University of Michigan.
- 2005 M.A. in Economics, University of Michigan.
- 2002 M.A. in Economics, Universidad Nacional de La Plata, Argentina.
- 1999 Licentiate in Economics, Universidad Nacional de La Plata, Argentina.

Affiliations and Professional Activities

- 2016- Associate Editor, *Economia* (Journal of LACEA)
- 2014- Executive Committee Member. *Network of Inequality and Poverty (NIP)*, LACEA
- 2003- Research Fellow. *Center for Income Distribution, Labor and Social Studies (CEDLAS)*, Argentina.

Fields of Interest

Development Economics: Education, Health, Labor, Productivity.

Publications

Articles in Refereed Journals

1. “How Much are we Willing to Contribute for Better Educational Outcomes? Evidence from a survey experiment”, with Samuel Berlinski. *Economic Inquiry*, 2016, vol. 54(1), pages 63-75, 01.
2. “Did You Get Your Shots? Experimental Evidence on the Role of Reminders from Rural Guatemala”, with Julian Cristia and Sarah Humpage. *Journal of Health Economics*, Elsevier, 2015, vol. 44(C), pages 226-237.
3. “Is the Glass Half Empty or Half Full? Enrollment, Graduation, and Dropout Rates in Latin America”, with Marina Bassi and Juan Sebastian Muñoz. *Economia*, Fall 2015, pages 113-156, October.
4. “New Evidence on the Finite Sample Properties of Propensity Score Reweighting and Matching Estimators”, with John DiNardo and Justin McCrary. *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, vol. 96(5), December 2014, pages 885-897.
5. “Productivity and Resource Misallocation in Latin America” with Lucia Madrigal and Carmen Pagés. *The B.E. Journal of Macroeconomics*, vol 13:1, June 2013.
6. “Assessing the Incidence and Efficiency of a Prominent Place Based Policy”, with Jesse Gregory and Patrick Kline. *American Economic Review*, 103, April 2013, pp. 897-947.

Articles under Review in Refereed Journals

7. “Adapting to Climate Change: Long-Term Effects of Drought on Local Labor Markets”, with Paulo Bastos and Sebastian Miller. *The Review of Economics and Statistics*. Reject & Resubmit.
Current Version: IDB Working Paper 466
8. “The Causal Effect of Competition on Prices and Quality: Evidence from a Field Experiment”, with Sebastian Galiani. *American Economic Journal: Applied*. Revise & Resubmit
Current Version: NBER Working Paper 20054
9. “The effects of financial aid and returns information in selective and less selective schools: Experimental evidence from Chile”, with Taryn Dinkelman, Claudia Martinez, and Dario Romero, *Labour Economics*. Revise & Resubmit
10. “Challenges in Educational Reform: An Experiment on Active Learning in Mathematics”, with Samuel Berlinski. *Under Review*.
Current Version: IDB Working Paper 561
11. “(In)Formal and (Un)Productive: The Productivity Costs of Excessive Informality in Mexico” with Victoria Fazio and Santiago Levy. *Under Review*.
Current Version: IDB Working Paper 341

Books

12. “Disconnected: Skills, Education and Employment in Latin America” with Marina Bassi, Sergio Urzua and Jaime Vargas. *Inter-American Development Bank*. 2012.
13. “Ethnicity and MDGs in Latin America”, with Martin Cicowiez and Leonardo Gasparini. *United Nations*. 2005.

Book Chapters

14. “Firm Productivity as an Engine of Saving”, with Andres Fernandez and Cesar Tamayo. In “Saving for Development: How Latin America and the Caribbean Can Save More and Better”, Eduardo Cavallo and Tomas Serebrisky (Eds), 2016
15. “Facts and Determinants of Female Labor Supply in Latin America”, with Dario Romero Fonseca. In “Bridging gender gaps? The rise and deceleration of female labor force participation in Latin America”, Leonardo Gasparini and Mariana Marchioni (Eds), 2015.
16. “Computers in Schools: Why Governments Should Do their Homework”, with Samuel Berlinski, Julian Cristia, and Eugenio Severin. In “Development Connections: Unveiling the Impact of New Information Technologies”, Alberto Chong (ed), New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2011.
17. “Productivity from the Bottom Up: Firms and Resource Allocation in Latin America”, with Lucia Madrigal and Carmen Pagés. In “The Age of Productivity”, Carmen Pagés (ed), New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2010.
18. “Job and Worker Dynamics: The Hidden Side of the Labor Market”, with Alejandro Micco. In “Good Jobs Wanted”, Carmen Pagés (ed). Inter-American Development Bank. 2003.

Articles (Non-Refereed)

19. “Results of the Federal Urban Empowerment Zone Program” with Jesse Gregory and Patrick Kline, *Focus*, vol 30:1, 2013.
20. “Finite Sample Properties of Semiparametric Estimators of Average Treatment Effects”, with John DiNardo and Justin McCrary. In “Three Essays on Semiparametric Methods for the Evaluation of Social Programs”, Chapter 3, pp. 62-125, University of Michigan, 2008.
21. “A Sequential Method of Moments Variance Estimator of Weighting Estimators of Average Treatment Effects.” In “Three Essays on Semiparametric Methods for the Evaluation of Social Programs”, Chapter 4, pp. 126-154, University of Michigan, 2008.
22. “Do Local Economic Development Programs Work? Evidence From the Federal Empowerment Zone Program”, with Patrick Kline. *Cowles Foundation Discussion Papers* 1639, Cowles Foundation for Research in Economics, Yale University, 2008.
23. “Employability in the Southern Cone”, with Leonardo Gasparini, Hernan Winkler, and Francisco Haimovich, IDB Working Paper 22058, Inter-American Development Bank, 2006.
24. “Poverty, Growth and Inequality: Deciphering the Last Decade in Argentina”, with Martin Cicowiez and Federico Cerimedo. *Argentine Economic Association*. 2004.
25. “How and Why Should we Reform the Buenos Aires Province Educational System?”, *Cuadernos de Economía* vol. 62. 2001. (In Spanish).
26. “Biases in the CPI: The Plutocratic Bias in Argentina”, with Agustin Lodola and Federico Cerimedo. *Argentine Economic Association*. 2000. (In Spanish).

Selected Work in Progress

27. “The Effect of China Competition on Local Labor Markets in Mexico”, with Juan Blyde and Dario Romero.
28. “Skills, Informality and the Size Distribution of Firms”, with Andres Neumeyer and Mariano Spector.
29. “Occupational Choice, Skills and Education around the World”, with Andres Neumeyer.
30. “Information and Health: Effect of Reminders on Women’s Health”, with Dario Romero.
31. “Intra-household Spillovers: Experimental Evidence ”, with Dario Romero.
32. “Local Labor Market Effects of Hurricanes”, with Sebastian Miller.
33. “Informality and Productivity: Quasi-experimental Evidence”, with Mariano Bosch.

Presentations and Dissemination

Conferences

UNU-WIDER Human Capital and Growth (2016) Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association Annual Meetings (2008, 2009, 2010, 2013, 2014, 2015), Latin American Meeting of the Econometric Society (2008, 2009), Research Institute for Development Growth and Economics (RIDGE, 2015), Research in Economic Development (RECODE, 2013) NBER Labor Studies Spring Meeting (2009)

Invited Academic Seminars

[2016:] University of Miami. [2015:] University of Maryland, Universidad de Montevideo, The World Bank. [2014:] Urban Institute [2013:] University of Michigan, Universidad Nacional de La Plata, Universidad de San Andres, Universidad de Chile. [2002-2012:] Universidad Nacional de La Plata (2002), University of Michigan (2006, 2007, 2008), United States Treasury Department (2011), Universidad Torcuato DiTella (2010), Inter-American Development Bank (several during 2008-2013).

Comments in Conferences and Workshops

Research Institute for Development Growth and Economics (Ridge)–Inequality, Poverty and Politics Forum (2015, 2016), Effects of Tax Reform in Colombia (LMK-IDB 2015), Structure and Composition of Firms’ Balance Sheets (RES-IDB, 2015), Gender and Agency in LAC (World Bank, 2014), Universidad de Chile Meeting of NIP-LACEA (2014), Public Policies for the Reduction and Prevention of Urban Crime (IFD-IDB, 2014), Skills for the Labor Market (LMK-IDB, 2013).

Selected Mentions in the Press

Bastion Digital (Argentina, Feb 24, 2015), Huffington Post (US, Jan 23, 2014), Infobae (Argentina, Feb 11, 2014), New York Times (US, Feb 4, 2012), CNN en Español, La Tercera (Brazil, 2012), Excelsior (Mexico, Mar 3, 2012), El Mercurio (Chile, 28 Jun 2011), Clarin (Argentina, Mar 19, 2012), ABC (Paraguay, 2012), La Industria (Peru, 2012), La Nacion (Argentina), Todo Noticias (Argentina), El Espectador (Uruguay, 2011), El Pais (Uruguay, 2011).

Policy Reports and Blog Posts

“Measuring the Effect of Competition on Prices and Quality in the Dominican Republic”, Policy Brief, Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL), 2015.

“¿Cómo mantener a los niños en la escuela?”, Vox Lacea, Feb 23, 2015 & Ideas que Cuentan 2015.

Grants and Projects

External Grants

1. 2015-2016. Spencer Foundation. Project: “Leveraging School-generated data to improve parent-school communication and schooling outcomes”. (\$50,000). Co-principal Investigator.
2. 2014-2016. Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL). Project: “SMS-based School-Parents Communication Technology”. (\$220,000). Co-principal Investigator.
3. 2010-2012. Fundacin Costa Rica Estados Unidos para la Cooperacin (CRUSA). “Evaluating the Benefits and Costs of Alternative ICT Uses in Education”. (\$250,000). Co-principal Investigator.
4. 2008-2014. Census Bureau Research Data Center. Project. “Job Availability and Employment”. Co-principal Investigator.
5. 2006-2007. National Poverty Center. Project: “Local Economic Development Programs”. Co-principal Investigator.

Internal Grants (competitive)

1. 2014. Project: “Information, Parental Investments, and School Dropout.”IDB. (\$35,000). Co-principal Investigator.
2. 2013. Project: “After Secondary School: Career Choice under Imperfect Information. Evidence from a Randomized Control Trial in Chile. ”IDB. (\$45,000). Co-principal Investigator.
3. 2010-2013. Project: “Evaluating the Benefits and Cost of Alternative ICT Uses in Education.”IDB. (\$750,000). Co-principal Investigator.

Field Work

1. 2014-. Project: “Revaluing Teachers: Selection and Incentives”. IDB (EDU). Country: Peru. Co-Principal Investigator.
2. 2014-. Project: “Group Assignment, Peer Effects and Class Dynamics: Evidence from an RCT in Middle Schools”. IDB (RES). Country: Mexico. Co-Principal Investigator.
3. 2013-. Project: “Information, Parenting Skills, and School Performance”. IDB-Universidad Catolica de Chile-Dartmouth College. Country: Chile. AEARCTR-0000458. Co-Principal Investigator.
4. 2013-2015. Project: “Information and Higher Education School Choice”. IDB-Universidad Catolica de Chile-Dartmouth College. Country: Chile. Co-Principal Investigator.
5. 2009-2014. Project: “Competition, Prices of Goods and Welfare in the Dominican Republic”. IDB-University of Maryland. Country: Dominican Republic. AEARCTR-0000343. Co-Principal Investigator.
6. 2010-2013. Project: “Evaluating the Benefits and Cost of Alternative ICT Uses in Education.” IDB-CRUSA-FOD. AEARCTR-0000337. Country: Costa Rica. Co-principal Investigator.
7. 2010-2012. Project: “Electronic Medical Records in Guatemala”. IDB-USAID. Country: Guatemala. Co-principal Investigator.
8. 2008-2011. Project: “Measuring Skill Demand using Firm Level Data”. IDB (EDU). Countries: Argentina, Chile, and Brazil. Co-principal Investigator.

Country Experience

Throughout my career I have performed analytic or operational work in: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru, and the United States.

Professional Service

2015-2016 Economics Seminar, Co-Coordinator, Research Department, Inter-American Development Bank.

2008- Research Fellow Program, Coordinator, Research Department, Inter-American Development Bank.

2011- Recruiting Panels, Member, Inter-American Development Bank. SPH(2011, 2014), EDU(2011, 2013).

2006 Ph.D. Admissions Committee, Department of Economics, University of Michigan.

Program Committee of: Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association (LACEA) Program Committee (2009, 2014), IDB Studies Committee (2008-), Latin American Meeting of the Econometric Society Program Committee (2014).

Referee for *American Economic Review*, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, *American Economic Journal - Economic Policy*, *Journal of European Economic Association*, *Economic Journal*, *Journal of Applied Econometrics*, *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, *Journal of Business and Economic Statistics*, *Journal of Development Economics*, *Journal of Public Economics*, *Journal of Human Resources*, *Labour Economics*, *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, *Journal of Development Studies*, *Economia*, *Economica*, *European Journal of Comparative Economics*, *Empirical Economics*, *Public Budgeting & Finance*, *Oxford Development Studies*, *Journal of International Development*, *Review of Development Economics*, *World Development*, *Economic Development Quarterly*, *Economic Bulletin*, *Journal of Labor Research*, *Urban Studies*, *Urban Affairs Review*.

External reviewer for: The National Science Foundation (US); FONCyT (Argentina).

Teaching Experience

- Spring 2013 Visiting Professor, Department of Economics, Universidad Nacional de La Plata
Econometrics II
- 2004-2007 Graduate Student Instructor, Department of Economics, University of Michigan.
Graduate Econometric Theory I (Fall 2004, 2005, 2006 and, 2007.)
Graduate Econometric Theory II (Winter 2006 and 2007.)
Principles of Economics (Winter 2005.)
- 1997-2002 Department of Economics, Universidad Nacional de La Plata.
Teaching Assistant, Graduate Microeconomics (Spring 2001.)
Lecturer, Public Finance (Spring 1999-2001.)
Teaching Assistant, Calculus I (Fall 1997-1999.)

Honors, Awards and Fellowships

- Best teaching assistant for a graduate class in 2005 and 2007 (elected by first year Ph.D. students.)
- Selected among the best 10 Graduate Student Instructors in Fall 2004 & 2005, Winter 2006 & 2007.
- Graduate Summer Grant, Department of Economics, University of Michigan, 2005.
- Regents Fellowship, *Rackham Graduate School*, University of Michigan, 2003-2004.

Languages

Proficient in Spanish (native) and English

Professional Society Memberships

American Economic Association, Econometric Society, Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association

Last updated: July 2016