

Aashish Mehta

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Education

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Ph.D. - Agricultural and Applied Economics (2004)

Master's Certificate – Energy Analysis and Policy (2003)

M.Sc. – Economics (2000)

Oberlin College

B.A. – High Honors in Economics (1997)

Employment

University of California-Santa Barbara

Associate Professor, Global & International Studies, July 2014-Present

Assistant Professor, Global & International Studies, July 2007- June 2014

Asian Development Bank (Manila, The Philippines)

Economist: Economics and Research Department, November 2005-June 2007

Economist: East & Central Asia Department, Energy Division, July 2004-November 2005

Awards

Distinguished Teaching Award - UCSB Faculty Senate, 2017.

A. Work in Education and Research Policy

Journal Articles

1. Will studying economics make you rich? A regression discontinuity analysis of the returns to college major (with Zachary Bleemer), *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* (forthcoming).
2. Is employment globalizing? (with Liming Chen, Jesus Felipe and Andrew Kam), *Structural Change and Economic Dynamics* (2021)
3. Why Do Diplomas Pay? An Expanded Mincerian Framework Applied to Mexico (with Hector J. Villarreal). *Applied Economics*. (December 2008)
4. Research Diversification and Impact: The case of National Nanoscience Development (with Patrick Herron, Cong Cao and Timothy Lenoir) *Scientometrics* (2016)
5. Where have all the educated workers gone? Services and wage inequality in three Asian economies (with Jesus Felipe, Pilipinas Quising and Sheila Camingue). *Metroeconomica* (2013)
6. Globalization and De-Globalization in Nanotechnology Research: The role of China (with Patrick Herron, Yasuyuki Motoyama, Richard Appelbaum and Tim Lenoir). *Scientometrics* (2012).

7. Economic Liberalization and Rising College Premiums in Mexico: A Reinterpretation (with Belinda Acuna Mohr). *World Development* (2012)
8. The effects of trade and services liberalization on wage inequality in India (with Rana Hasan) – *International Review of Economics and Finance* (2012)
9. Overeducation in Developing Economies: How can we test for it and what does it mean? (with Jesus Felipe, Pilipinas Quising and Sheila Camingue) – *Economics of Education Review* (2011).
10. Under-Representation of Disadvantaged Classes in College: What do the Data Tell Us? (With Rana Hasan). *Economic and Political Weekly (of India)* (September 2006).

Books:

1. *Metrics that Matter: Student life in the quantified university* (with Zachary Bleemer, Christopher Muellerleile, Mukul Kumar and Christopher Newfield). Johns Hopkins University Press (forthcoming).

Book Chapters and Reports for Public Agencies:

1. What humanities scholars and economists think higher education is for – and how quantification sidelines both views (with Christopher Newfield). In Anna Alexandrova, Stephen John and Christopher Newfield (eds.) *The Limits of the Numerical*. University of Chicago Press (forthcoming).
2. [Major restrictions, socioeconomic stratification and student success](#) (with Zachary Bleemer). University of California Office of the President Policy Brief (2020).
3. [Education and Structural Change in Four Asian Countries](#) (with Jesus Felipe). In *Asian Development Outlook 2007*.

Working Papers

1. [College major restrictions and student stratification](#) (with Zachary Bleemer). Center for the Study of Higher Education, Research and Occasional Paper 14.21.
2. [Education and the Journey to the Core: What does schooling do for industrial diversification?](#) (with Jesus Felipe and Hongyuan Jin, 2021). Asian Development Bank, Economics Working Paper Series 635.
3. [Gendered Employment Trends and the Female College Boom](#) (with Vedant Koppera, 2014).

Conferences Organized

1. Disquantified: Critical Perspectives on Metrics Culture (with Christopher Newfield and Heather Steffen), UCSB, 2019
2. The Limits of the Numerical: Metrics and the Humanities in Higher Education (with Christopher Newfield and Heather Steffen) – UC Humanities Research Institute, Irvine, CA, 2018.

B. Work in Economics / Political-Economy / Development Studies

Journal Articles

1. The effects of labor regulation on firms and exports: Evidence from Indian apparel manufacturing (with Asha Sundaram and Rana Hasan), *Journal of Comparative Economics* (2021)
2. Manufacturing matters, but it's the jobs that count (with Jesus Felipe and Changyong Rhee), *Cambridge Journal of Economics* (2019).
3. When development is not enough: Structural Change, Conflict and Gendered Insecurity (with Alison Brysk), *Global Society* (2017).
4. Labor Regulations, Employment and Wages: Evidence from India's Apparel Sector (with Rana Hasan, Nidhi Kapoor and Asha Sundaram), *Asian Economic Policy Review* (2017)
5. Is only fair lovely in Indian politics? Consequences of skin color in a survey experiment in Delhi (with Amit Ahuja and Susan Ostermann). *Journal of Race, Ethnicity and Politics* (2016)
6. Deindustrialization? A Global Perspective (with Jesus Felipe), *Economics Letters* (2016).
7. Comment on Jan Nederveen Pieterse's "Rethinking Modernity – add context and stir", *Sociopedia* (2015)
8. Pilferage from opaque food subsidy programs: theory and evidence (with Shikha Jha). *Food Policy* (2014)
9. Do rights at home boost rights abroad? Sexual equality and humanitarian foreign policy (with Alison Brysk) *Journal of Peace Research* (2014)
10. Self-targeted food subsidies and voice: Evidence from the Philippines (with Shikha Jha and Pilipinas Quising) *Food Policy* (2013).
11. Does industry affiliation influence wages? Evidence from Indonesia and the Asian Financial Crisis (with Wei Sun) *World Development* (2013).
12. Corruption, Food Subsidies and Opacity: Evidence from the Philippines (with Shikha Jha), *Economics Letters* (2012)
13. Incomplete Property Rights, Exposure to Markets, and the Provision of Ecosystem Services in China (with Michael T. Bennett and Jintao Xu) – *China Economic Review* (2011).
14. Responding to the Coffee Crisis: What Can We Learn from Price Dynamics? (with Jean-Paul Chavas) *Journal of Development Economics* (February 2008)
15. Electricity Sector Reform in Central Asia: Observations on the Diverse Experiences of Five Central Asian Republics and Mongolia (with Anil Terway & Satish Rao). *Journal of Cleaner Production* (2007).
16. Price Dynamics in a Vertical Sector: The Case of Butter (with Jean-Paul Chavas). *American Journal of Agricultural Economics* (November 2004).

Book Chapters and Reports for Public Agencies:

1. [Asia's Economic Transformation: Where to, How and How fast?](#) (with Jesus Felipe (lead), Roehl Brihones, Douglas Brooks and Hubertus Verspagen). In *Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2013*. Asian Development Bank (2013)
2. Inclusiveness through Food Security: The Case of the Philippines National Food Authority (with Shikha Jha), in Juzhong Zhuang (ed.) *Inequality and Inclusive Growth in Asia: Measurement, Policy Issues and Country Studies*. Anthem Press (2010).
3. Production Function (with Jesus Felipe) – International Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences – 2nd Edition. (2008)
4. Power Sourcing Report: Initial Trends in the Philippines Power Market (with A. Terway, S. Gupta, N. Beronnila, and C.L. Torregosa) Sector Study for the Asian Development Bank's Energy Sector Coordinating Committee. 2007.
5. [International Payments Imbalances](#) (with Frank Harrigan and Jesus Felipe). Asian Development Bank Economics and Research Department Policy Brief 45. (2006)
6. [A Diagnostic Review of Regulatory Approaches and Challenges: An Overview of Power Sector Reforms in Seven CAREC Member Countries](#) (with David Butcher). 2005
7. [The Economics and Feasibility of Electricity Generation using Manure Digesters on Small and Medium Size Dairy Farms.](#) Technical paper for the Rural Energy Issues Project, UW-Madison Extension (2002).
- 8-12. Several country chapters for the Asian Development Outlook on India, Hong Kong and S. Korea.

Invited online articles

1. [Are labor markets increasingly global? Some empirical and policy concerns.](#) Global-e, the E-journal of the Global Studies Consortium (2018)
2. [How Serious are India's Manufacturing Skill Gaps?](#) , Ideas for India (2015)
3. [The Manufacturing Conundrum](#), (with Jesus Felipe and Changyong Rhee), World Bank Jobs and Development Website (2015)
4. [Five ways to lessen inequality as demand for labor softens worldwide](#), Huffington Post (2014).
5. [Strawberries, Chocolate and Skill Gaps](#), World Bank Jobs and Development Website (2014).
6. [Why Global students should study economics.](#) Global-e, the E-journal of the Global Studies Consortium (2013)

Working Papers

1. [Endogeneity Bias and Other Problems in the Estimation of Production Functions](#) (with Donna Faye Bajaro, Jesus Felipe and John McCombie, 2021).

Other Work in Progress:

1. What does growth do to everyday corruption? Exit, empowerment and voice in India's public services (with Amit Ahuja).
2. Does studying economics change your political perspective (with Zachary Bleemer)
3. Trade liberalization and inequality as if Businessmen existed (with Andrew Dawson, Miguel Flores Segovia and Asha Sundaram)
4. Does the US Nanotechnology sector suffer a skills gap? (with Stacey Frederick and Rachel Parker)
5. The many meanings of "skill gaps": Evidence from India's manufacturing sector (with Deboshree Ghosh)

Conferences Organized

Structural and Historical roots of Economic Inequality: A Global Perspective – UCSB, 2015
First Annual Meeting of the CAREC Members' Electricity Regulators Forum – Beijing, 2005

Grants

Limits of the Numerical – higher education strand (with Christopher Newfield and Heather Steffen, 2016-2020, \$69,000)

How does growth affect corruption? Exit, empowerment and voice in Indian public services – UCSB Senate Research Grant (Co-grantee with Amit Ahuja, 2017-2018, \$14,000)

Economic Globalization and Wage Inequality as if the Commercial Class Existed - Social Science Research Grant Program (2017-18, \$8,000)

Does the US Nanotechnology Sector Suffer a Skill Gap? – Center for Nanotechnology and Society (2014-15, \$75,000)

How interconnected are global labor markets? – Social Science Research Grant Program (2013-14, \$8,000)

Mapping the Global Race for National Security Technologies - Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation (Co-grantee with Luciano Kay, 2013-14, \$11,000)

Instructional Development Grant for Global 197 - UCSB Instructional Improvement Grant (2013-14; \$944)

Emerging Employment Opportunities in the Global South: Implications for Employment and Education -Hellman Family Faculty Fellowship (2010-2012, \$18,000)

Structural transformation and inequality in developing countries – Faculty Career Development Award (2010-2011, \$8,000)

Instructional Development Grant for Global Studies 1 and 2 – UCSB Instructional Improvement Grant (Co-grantee with Esther Lezra, 2008-2009; \$10,844)

Establishment of the CAREC (Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation) Member's Electricity Regulators' Forum – Public Private Infrastructure Advisory Facility (2005-2007; \$280,000) and Asian Development Bank (2005-2007; \$500,000)