

MARGINAL MEMOS

Volume 62, Number 39, November 2, 2020
Editor: Sadie Brendalen

Announcements

Join the MCEE Virtual Friendraiser

Please join us on Thursday, November 19th, from 5-5:30 pm for the Minnesota Council on Economic Education's virtual Friendraiser. This will be a 30 minute event to learn about what's happening these days with MCEE.

I'm sure that many of you are familiar with the Council, led in the past by Claudia Parliament and Donald Liu and currently by Julie Bunn. MCEE works hard to train teachers to teach economics in the K-12 system and has also provided opportunities for our graduate and undergraduate students to become involved.

To learn more about MCEE, please [view a general MCEE video](#) and/or one that focuses on their [student capstone/competition experiences](#).

Please [register](#) for the Zoom event by November 18th.

If you prefer to donate, please [use this link](#).

Jon Goldstein Memorial Lecture on Economics & Environmental Policy

"What Can an Economist Possibly Say About Climate Change?"

Hosted on Thursday, November 5th, 2020

12:00 -1:00 pm Virtual Lecture + Q&A

Featuring Robert Stavins, A.J. Meyer Professor of Energy & Economic Development, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, Director of the Harvard Environmental Economics Program.

[Register online](#)

Call for papers: 18th annual MIEDC

The [Global Poverty Research Lab](#) at Northwestern University will host the 18th annual Midwest International Economic Development Conference (MWIEDC) on April 30-May 1, 2021. The conference invites papers and organized sessions on all topics in economic development.

Presentations at the conference must be accompanied by completed papers. Each presenter will have a 30 minute presentation slot, including a 5 minute commentary by an assigned discussant. Sessions will begin at 8 am on April 30 and end at lunch on May 1. At this time we are planning to conduct this as an in-person event, but if that proves impossible we will hold it virtually, possibly

with a modified schedule.

The keynote speaker will be Eliana La Ferrara, Fondazione Romeo ed Enrica Invernizzi Chair in Development Economics at Università Bocconi.

You are invited to submit a paper or propose a session to present at the conference. The [deadline for submissions](#) is January 6, 2021. Submissions will be evaluated by a scientific committee and acceptances will be notified by early February. For more information and to submit a paper, [visit their website](#).

November 4- Online Agricultural and Resource Economics Seminar

The seminar will be held on Wednesdays at 11 am Central US time.

The seminar this week will be held on November 4, 2020. Josh Merfeld, KDI School, will present "Misallocation and Agricultural Production: Evidence from India."

If you would like to register, see the OARES website [here](#), and make sure to sign up with your institutional address. The OARES website includes a schedule of forthcoming talks as well.

Jobs

Post-Doc in Agricultural Technology Adoption: University of Illinois

The University of Illinois Urbana- Champaign seeks a postdoctoral research associate to conduct innovative interdisciplinary research examining the incentives for spatially and behaviorally heterogeneous farmers to adopt precision farming technologies for site-specific input application and its implications for farm profitability and the environment. The research will integrate engineering information about technologies with spatially varying biophysical characteristics of the landscape and heterogeneous farmer characteristics to develop optimal farm management strategies at the parcel and landscape levels. Primary responsibilities will include developing spatial optimization models, conducting and analyzing a discrete choice experiment, building an economic model of technology adoption, and an agent-based model that integrates biophysical models characterizing field conditions with a model of landowner decision-making for input application.

The successful candidate will work directly with the project's PI, Dr. Madhu Khanna, ACES Distinguished Professor of Environmental Economics in the Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

To apply, email the following items to [Amy Rosenbery](#) with the subject POSTDOC: (i) a cover letter explaining how your experience qualifies you and why you are interested in the position; (ii) your CV including PhD degree date; (iii) names and contact information for three (3) professional references; and (iv) a professional writing sample that illustrates the required/desired qualifications for the position. If you have experience developing and contributing programming codes please include this information in your CV or other application materials.

Post-doc, Energy and Environmental Policy: University of Calgary

The Energy and Environmental Policy Research Division in the School of Public Policy at the University of Calgary invites applications for a postdoctoral scholar in energy and environmental policy. Specific research areas of interest are oil and gas policy and regulation, natural resource economies, and environmental impacts of resource extraction. The incumbent's primary work will be aligned with the University of Calgary's Global Research Initiative in Sustainable Low Carbon Unconventional Resources Theme 2 research, focusing on the challenges of tight oil and gas resource exploitation. In particular, the incumbent's work will examine existing policy and regulatory regimes addressing fugitive greenhouse gas emissions resulting from oil and gas operations and their environmental implications. The goal of this research is to dramatically reduce the impact of energy extraction and energy use on the environment.

The researcher will directly work under the supervision of Dr. Jennifer Winter and with potential collaborators from an interdisciplinary team of researchers at the School of Public Policy and GRI Theme 2. Excellent data management skills are essential, as well as the ability to work autonomously.

[Apply online](#)

Assistant/Associate Professor: Norwegian School of Economics

NHH in Bergen, Norway, invites applicants for a tenure-track Assistant Professor/Associate Professor position for seven years in Natural Resource and Environmental Economics at the Department of Economics. This offers a multitude of opportunities for research and collaboration.

The new hire will be encouraged to develop an individual research agenda and contribute to the Department's long-term academic development. We offer financial support for research projects, participation in conferences and shorter research stays. The position will involve a competitive teaching load, which also includes some graduate student supervision and administrative duties. Faculty members at NHH are expected to be good teachers. NHH offers the opportunity to participate in a program for university pedagogy, and candidates hired for tenure-track positions must take one basic module of the program during the fixed-term period.

[Apply online](#)

Research Economist: US EPA, Washington, D.C.

The Environmental Protection Agency is recruiting research economists to join the National Center for Environmental Economics (NCEE) to conduct economic research and analysis. NCEE's mission is to advance the theory and practice of economics and risk analysis within EPA. NCEE serves as a center of expertise for cutting-edge policy analysis and research in environmental economics.

[Apply online](#)

Assistant Professor: College of Wooster

The Department of Economics invites applications for a tenure-track position beginning August 2021. Qualified candidates must have a Ph.D. completed (or completion anticipated) in Economics or a closely held discipline that connects the environment with economics. The successful candidate will demonstrate teaching excellence and a strong ability to mentor undergraduate research. The research and/or teaching experience of the successful candidate must be in the field of Environmental, Ecological, Climate, or Resource Economics. They are especially interested in applicants that consider the distributional or spatial impacts of social, political, philosophical, and/or governance systems in their work (e.g. political economy of the environment, ecologies, environmental justice, political economy of agriculture, food, and the environment, collaborative or public provisioning of ecosystem services, environmental urban economics, and spatial methodologies).

[Apply online](#)

Multiple Position: J-PAL

J-PAL and its partner organizations recruit for hundreds of positions on a regular basis. Positions may be located at universities, research centers, and non-profit organizations connected to the work of our affiliated professors and partners around the world. They are available in field research, project management, and data analysis, as well as policy outreach, training, and finance & administration.

[Apply online](#)

3 post-doc positions: UC-Santa Barbara

The Environmental Market Solutions Lab (emLab) is an interdisciplinary team of scientists at UC Santa Barbara dedicated to developing market-based solutions for efficient and equitable environmental outcomes. emLab is seeking up to three postdoctoral researchers to lead in the development and execution of applied and/or academic research projects in environmental and resource economics.

The postdoc(s) will have the opportunity to work with the six emLab principals and will report directly to the principal who most closely aligns with their area of interest.

[Apply online](#)

Departmental Seminars

Trade & Development Seminar

Friday, November 6

10:30-12:00 pm

Leah Bevis, Assistant Professor, Department of Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics, Ohio State University
"Soils and South Asian Stunting: Soil Zinc Deficiency Drives Child Stunting in Nepal"

Abstract:

The natural environment shapes health, productivity, and long-run societal development, sometimes in ways that are difficult to observe. We examine one example: the negative child health impacts of soil zinc (Zn) deficiency. Soil Zn deficiency limits crop yields and the Zn concentration in food crops, leading many to speculate that it underlies human Zn deficiency and child stunting, globally and particularly in South Asia. We find strong evidence that soil Zn deficiency does have a causal impact on local child stunting in Nepal's Tarai region, the breadbasket of the country. Using conservative causal bounds, we find that a 1 part per million increase in plant-available soil Zn — achievable with application of Zn-enriched fertilizer — decreases child stunting by 9-10 percentage points in the long run, and 4-7 percentage points in the short run. Multiple statistical sensitivity tests indicate that these relationships are not manufactured by omitted, relevant variables. The association is strongest in the most isolated areas and in seasons where dependence on food crops is strongest, as expected if soil Zn deficiency reduces local crop Zn concentration and through that human Zn intake and status.

Seminars in other departments

Federal Bag Lunch

Tuesday, November 3

12:00 p.m.

Marco Bassetto, Minneapolis Federal Reserve: "A Ramsey Theory of Financial Distortions"

To have Economics Department and Fed workshops automatically entered into your calendar program, from your google calendar page click "add a friend's calendar," use the plus symbol at the right to select "from url" and paste in the following link :

http://www.google.com/calendar/ical/umn.edu_iolnsocgnepgcst7drr734n5ao%40group.calendar.google.com/public/basic.ics

Note:

If you wish to attend a seminar at the Fed, please contact Nancy Moua at nancy.moua@mpls.frb.org for the zoom link .



UNIVERSITY
OF MINNESOTA

CFANS

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL
AND NATURAL RESOURCE SCIENCES

APPLIED ECONOMICS

[Mass email privacy statement](#) • [View this email online](#)

