

Matt Lowe

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS · VANCOUVER SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

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Academic Positions

Vancouver School of Economics, University of British Columbia

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS

Vancouver, BC

2019 - present

Institute on Behavior and Inequality (briq)

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW

Bonn, Germany

2018 - 2019

Affiliations

Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)

FACULTY AFFILIATE

Cambridge, MA

2023 - present

Canadian Institute for Advanced Research (CIFAR)

AZRIELI GLOBAL SCHOLAR

Toronto, Canada

2023 - 2025

Bureau for Research and Economic Analysis of Development (BREAD)

FACULTY AFFILIATE

London, UK

2022 - present

Center for Effective Global Action (CEGA)

FACULTY AFFILIATE

Berkeley, CA

2021 - present

briq/IZA

ASSOCIATED MEMBER

Bonn, Germany

2019 - present

CESifo Research Network

AFFILIATE MEMBER

Munich, Germany

2019 - present

Education

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

PHD ECONOMICS

Cambridge, MA

2012 - 2018

- Fields: Development Economics, Political Economy, Behavioural Economics
- Committee: Daron Acemoglu, Esther Duflo, Frank Schilbach, Abhijit Banerjee

University of Oxford

MSc ECONOMICS FOR DEVELOPMENT

Oxford, U.K.

2010 - 2011

- Distinction (ranked 1st)
- Probationary Research Student (1st year of DPhil) 2011-2012

University of Cambridge

BA ECONOMICS

Cambridge, U.K.

2007 - 2010

- First Class Honours (ranked 1st)

Papers

PUBLICATIONS

Types of Contact: A Field Experiment on Collaborative and Adversarial Caste Integration

American Economic Review, 2021.

Winner of the 2019 CESifo Award for Best Paper in Behavioral Economics

Press: [Marginal Revolution](#), [Hindustan Times 1, 2](#), [Ideas for India](#), [The Print](#), [The National](#), [Quartz](#)

India's Food Supply Chain During the Pandemic (with G V Nadhanael and Ben Roth)

Food Policy, 2021.

The Public and Private Marginal Product of Capital (with Chris Papageorgiou and Fidel Perez-Sebastian)

Economica, 2018.

Press: [VoxEU](#)

WORKING PAPERS

Creating Cohesive Communities: A Youth Camp Experiment in India (with Arkadev Ghosh, Purna Kundu, and Gareth Nellis)

Conditionally Accepted, Review of Economic Studies.

Legislature Integration and Bipartisanship: A Natural Experiment in Iceland (with Donghee Jo)

Conditionally Accepted, Journal of Politics.

Coupling Labor Supply Decisions: An Experiment in India (with Madeline McKelway)

Revise and Resubmit, Journal of the European Economic Association.

Internal Versus Institutional Barriers to Gender Equality: Evidence From British Politics (with Noor Kumar, Uyseok Lee, and Olaitan Ogunnote)

Do Virtue Signals Signal Virtue? (with Deivis Angeli)

Religious Revival and Social Order

Social Protection and Social Distancing During the Pandemic: Mobile Money Transfers in Ghana (with Robert Darko Osei, Dean Karlan, Isaac Osei-Akoto, Ben Roth, and Chris Udry)

Do Collusive Norms Maximize Profits? Evidence From A Vegetable Market Experiment in India (with Abhijit Banerjee, Greg Fischer, Dean Karlan, and Ben Roth)

WORK IN PROGRESS

Has Intergroup Contact Delivered?

Under preparation for the *Annual Review of Economics*.

Learning About Outgroups: The Impact of Broad Versus Deep Interactions (with Anujit Chakraborty, Arkadev Ghosh, and Gareth Nellis)

Ayahuasca Ceremonies Durably Improve Psychological Well-Being (with Patrick Francois and Ieda Matavelli)

Investing in Angels: The Impacts of a Century of Randomized Grants to British Clergy (with Ben Milner and Cory Smith)

MISCELLANEOUS WRITING

Night Lights and ArcGIS: A Brief Guide

Teaching Experience

2022-2024	Applied Economics (Master's thesis) , Instructor	UBC
2020-2024	Behavioural Development Economics (graduate) , Instructor	UBC
2020-2022	Behavioural Development Economics (undergraduate) , Instructor	UBC
2018	Political Economy of Institutions and Development (graduate) , Teaching Assistant	MIT
2017-2018	Economics of Incentives (undergraduate) , Teaching Assistant	MIT
2017	J-PAL Executive Education , Guest Lecturer	New Delhi
2014	Microeconomic Theory and Public Policy (undergraduate) , Teaching Assistant	MIT
2014	Introduction to Political Economy (graduate) , Teaching Assistant	MIT
2014-2015	Indian Economic Service Training , Teaching Assistant	New Delhi

Advising

PhD Student Placements: Arkadev Ghosh (Duke Economics), German Vega (University of Piura), Ieda Matavelli (UNSW post-doc), Deivis Angeli (Global Talent Lab post-doc), Yupei Ma (Analysis Group), Aditi Singh (ongoing), Vibhu Pratyush (ongoing), Perna Kundu (ongoing), Dashleen Kaur (ongoing)

PhD Program Placements (Economics unless stated otherwise): Mélyne Nzabonimpa (MIT), Carla Colina (Stanford Organizational Behavior), Noor Kumar (Princeton), Jamie Emery (MIT), Poushali Mohanta (Colorado Boulder), Jordan Hutchings (Toronto Marketing), Carlos Perez Caverro (LSE), Umy Yasar (Chicago Booth Behavioral Science), Asmi Khushi (Michigan), Phoebe Cai (Harvard)

Other Academic Placements: Ines Moran (UBC MA), Eugene Kwok (UToronto MSc), Erin Woodell (Berkeley Law), Colby Chambers (NBER pre-doc), Chihiro Tanigawa (Harvard MPA/ID), Louise Cheng (Yale IDE), Akash Uppal (Yale pre-doc), Pulkit Aggarwal (Duke pre-doc), Olivia Klaassen (LSE MSc Health Economics), Ayushi Srivastava (Berkeley MDP)

Awards and Fellowships

2020, 2021, 2022, 2023	Excellence in Refereeing Award , <i>AER:Insights</i>
2018, 2022	Excellence in Refereeing Award , <i>American Economic Review</i>
2019	Distinguished Affiliate Award in Behavioral Economics , CESifo
2018	Undergraduate Teaching Assistant of the Year , MIT
2015	J-PAL Fellowship , MIT
2013	Graduate Fellowship , MIT
2012	Kennedy Scholarship , UK
2011	George Webb Medley Prize for Best Performance in MSc , University of Oxford
2010	Adam Smith Tripos Prize , University of Cambridge Malthus Prize for Economics , University of Cambridge Senior Keller Prize , University of Cambridge

Grants

- 2024 Weiss Family Program Fund
NSF Standard Grant
CEGA Spring 2024 Development Economics Challenge
SSHRC Insight
CIDER Seed Grant
Institute for Humane Studies
CIDER Small Grant
- 2023 SSSR Jack Shand Research Award
J-PAL Governance Initiative
Weiss Family Program Fund × 2
- 2022 CIDER Small Grant × 3
SSHRC Explore
UBC Work Learn Summer 2022 (9 Students)
UBC Work Learn IURA Summer 2022 (2 Students)
Arts Undergraduate Research Award (1 Student)
- 2021 CIDER Small Grant × 3
UBC Work Learn Winter 2021 (7 Students)
SSHRC Explore Arts Graduate RA Support Grant
Weiss Family Program Fund
UBC Work Learn Summer 2021 (3 Students)
UBC Work Learn IURA Summer 2021 (1 Student)
J-PAL Governance Initiative
- 2020 SSSR Jack Shand Research Award
UBC Work Learn Winter 2020 (2 Students)
SSHRC Insight Development
UCSD Hellman Fellowship (with Gareth Nellis)
UBC Arts Student Remote Campus Work (2 Students)
IGC COVID-19 Grant
J-PAL DigiFI COVID-19 Grant
UCSD Yankelovich Center Grant
IPA Peace and Recovery Program COVID-19 Grant
SSHRC Explore
SSHRC Exchange
EHA Arthur H. Cole Grant
IPA Peace and Recovery Program Pilot Grant
CIDER Small Grant × 2
- 2019 Hampton New Faculty Grant
PEDL Exploratory Grant
IPA Peace and Recovery Program Exploratory Grant
IGC States Theme
- 2018 George and Obie Shultz Fund
- 2017 J-PAL Governance Initiative
- 2017 MIT-India Program

- 2016 J-PAL Governance Initiative
Weiss Family Program Fund
Center for International Studies Summer Grant
George and Obie Shultz Fund
- 2015 Weiss Family Program Fund
Center for International Studies Summer Grant
George and Obie Shultz Fund
PEDL Exploratory Grant

Presentations

**scheduled*

- 2025 *Chicago Harris, *University of Bonn, *University of Cologne.
- 2024 *University of Manchester, *Monash, *University of New South Wales, *University of Melbourne, University of Washington, Institute for Fiscal Studies
- 2023 NBER DEV, George Mason University, University of Virginia, CIFAR BMB Program Meeting, McGill, SITE Gender, SSRC (New York), ECBE (Cambridge), Oxford, Warwick, Berkeley, USC, PacDev (Seattle), Chicago Booth Behavioral Science
- 2022 UBC, Queen's, SIEPR Economics of Religion, ASREC (Virtual), NBER PE (discussant)
- 2021 Georgetown/World Bank, UCSD Political Economy, Kellogg MEDS, Southampton, Simon Fraser University, UK FCDO, Harvard Political Economy, Canadian Economics Association, CEMFI, Economics of Crime Seminar, ITAM
- 2020 ECBE (Bonn), Ryerson (guest lecture), UK Department for International Development, NBER DEV (discussant), Chicago Virtual Advances with Field Experiments, Notre Dame, Washington State, Center for Advanced Study of India Pennsylvania, J-PAL North America Training (panelist), IPA Webinar
- 2019 CESifo Conference (Munich), Princeton, UBC, Chicago Advances in Field Experiments, Tilburg, LSE, Bonn, Beliefs Workshop (Munich), Bocconi, ASREC (Boston), CESifo Munich, Stockholm School of Economics, Indian School of Business (Hyderabad)
- 2018 LSE, Social and Moral Behavior Workshop (Zurich), NEUDC (Cornell), Bonn, Northeastern, Global Youth Economic Opportunities Summit (Washington D.C.), IMF, ECBE (Bergen), Rookiefest (Northwestern), Dartmouth, UCLA Luskin, UCSD, UBC, Chicago Booth Economics, Boston University, Cambridge, NHH (Bergen), IIES
- Up to 2017 UCSD Rady, NEUDC (Tufts), AidData Workshop (Berlin), ASREC (Boston), Harvard Political Economy Lunch, DEVPEC (Stanford), Macroeconomic Challenges Facing LICs Conference (IMF), African Econometric Society Meetings (Uganda), C.r.e.t.e. Conference (Greece)

Professional Activities

REFEREE

American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, American Economic Review, American Economic Review: Insights, Center for Global Development, Econometrica, Economic Development and Cultural Change, Economic Journal, Economics Letters, European Economic Review, Experimental Economics, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Journal of Economic Growth, Journal of the European Economic Association, Journal of Macroeconomics, Journal of Political Economy, Journal of Political Economy: Microeconomics, Journal of Politics, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Urban Economics: Insights, Nature: Human Behaviour, Review of Economics and Statistics, Review of Economics of the Household, Review of Economic Studies, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Scandinavian Journal of Economics, World Bank Economic Review, World Development

GRANT REVIEWER

World Bank Knowledge for Change Program, J-PAL Governance Initiative, CIDER Small Grants, NSF, NEUDC

MISCELLANEOUS

Russell Sage Behavioral Camp Participant (2016), Co-interviewer of Daniel Kahneman (2021), accidentally went viral on TikTok (2022)