

Curriculum Vitae

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Current Position

Assistant Professor, Mecop Institute, University of Lugano, Switzerland, since 2008.

Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, York University, Canada, since 2006 (on leave).

Affiliations

CESifo Research Network, Affiliate.

Social and Economic Dimensions of an Aging Population (SEDAP), National Collaborator.

Previous Positions

Visiting Scholar, IEB, University of Barcelona, Spain, 2009.

Visiting Professor, IAP, Universidad Nacional de Ingeniería, Nicaragua, 2008.

Visiting Scholar, CES, University of Munich, Germany, 2008.

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Department of Economics, McMaster University, Canada funded by Swiss National Science Foundation, 2004 - 2006.

Research Assistant, Department of Economics, Université de Lausanne, Switzerland, 2001 - 2004.

Teaching Assistant, Department of Economics, Université de Lausanne, Switzerland, 2000 - 2004.

Lecturer, Departamento de Economía Aplicada, Universidad Centroamericana, Managua, Nicaragua, 1999 - 2000.

Lecturer, Facultad de Ciencias Comerciales, Universidad de Santiago, Chile, 1998.

Representative for Central America, Inecon S.A., Managua, Nicaragua 1998 - 2000.

Consultant, Inecon S.A., Santiago, Chile, 1996 - 1998.

Research Assistant, Department of Geography, McMaster University, Canada, 1996.

Teaching Assistant, Department of Economics, McMaster University, Canada, 1995 - 1996.

Education

Ph.D. Economics, Université de Lausanne, Switzerland, August 2004. (Thesis Committee : Thomas von Ungern-Sternberg, Marius Brühlhart, Gebhard Kirchgässner)
Swiss Program for Beginning Doctoral Students in Economics, Studienzentrum Gerzensee, 2002.

M.A. Economics, McMaster University, Canada, 1996.

B.A. Economics, Université de Lausanne, Switzerland, 1995.

Fields of Interest

Public Economics, Applied Microeconomics, Applied Econometrics, Industrial Organization.

Publications

“Risk Selection in Natural Disaster Insurance” (with Thomas von Ungern-Sternberg). *Journal of Institutional and Theoretical Economics* 166:344-364, 2010.

“Underfunding of Defined Benefit Pension Plans and Benefit Guarantee Insurance - An Overview of Theory and Evidence“. *Canadian Public Policy* 34(s1):39-45, 2008.

“Vertical Versus Horizontal Tax Externalities: An Empirical Test” (with Marius Brühlhart). *Journal of Public Economics* 90(10-11): 2027-2062, 2006.

“Assessing the Efficiency of an Insurance Provider - a Measurement Error Approach” (with Thomas von Ungern-Sternberg). *The Geneva Risk and Insurance Review* (formerly *Geneva Papers*) 30:15-34, 2005.

Invited Papers

“The Rise of Partial Decentralization and Shared Responsibility Federalism” (with Marcelin Joanis). IEB's World Report on Fiscal Federalism '09, 2010.

Working Papers

“Determinants of Fiscal Decentralization: Political Economy Aspects” (with Marcelin Joanis, 2010). Document de treball de l'IEB 2010/7.

“Hurricane Insurance in Florida” (with Thomas von Ungern-Sternberg, 2009). CESifo Working Paper 2768. **Revise and resubmit to *Journal of Insurance Regulation*.**

“Pension Benefit Insurance and Pension Plan Portfolio Choice” (with Thomas Crossley, 2008). York University Working Paper #2008-05. **Revise and resubmit to *Review of Economics and Statistics*.**

“Do Agglomeration Economies Reduce the Sensitivity of Firm Location to Local Taxes?” (with Marius Brühlhart and Kurt Schmidheiny, 2007). Working Paper #2007-09, York University; Cahiers de Recherche DEEP #07.13, Université de Lausanne, CEPR Discussion Paper 6606.

“Does Tax Competition Tame the Leviathan?” (with Marius Brühlhart, 2007). Working Paper #2007-07, York University; Cahiers de Recherche DEEP #07.09, Université de Lausanne, CEPR Discussion Paper 6512. **Revise and resubmit to *Journal of Political Economy*.**

“Die Übernahme von Denner durch Migros verstösst gegen das Kartellgesetz“ (with Thomas von Ungern-Sternberg, 2007). Cahiers de Recherche DEEP #07.02, Université de Lausanne.

“Disaster Insurance or a Disastrous Insurance - Natural Disaster Insurance in France” (with Thomas von Ungern-Sternberg, 2004), CESifo discussion paper #1303, Cahiers de Recherche DEEP #04.12, Université de Lausanne and Department of Economics Working Paper #2004-13, McMaster University.

“Der Bericht der Expertengruppe: 'Reform der Währungsordnung' - Eine kritische Würdigung” (with Thomas von Ungern-Sternberg, 2001). Cahiers de Recherche DEEP #01.06, Université de Lausanne.

Work in Progress

“Horizontal and Vertical Tax Reaction Functions Across Federations”.

“Tax reaction functions in oligopolistic markets: an application to gasoline and cigarette markets” (with Anindya Sen).

“Determinants of the Conversion from Defined Benefit to Defined Contribution Pension Plans in Canada”

Grants, Awards and Fellowships

Sinergia Grant, Swiss National Science Foundation (co-applicant), 2010 - 2012.

ProDoc, Swiss National Science Foundation, 2010 - 2012.

Empirical Project Grant, Swiss Public Administration Network (SPAN), 2009.

IEB Research Grant on Fiscal Federalism, University of Barcelona, 2009.

SSHRC Conference Travel Grant, York University, 2007.

Faculty of Arts Research Grant, York University, 2007 - 2008.

SSHRC Small Grant, York University, 2007.

Postdoctoral Fellowship, SEDAP, McMaster University, 2006.

Postdoctoral Fellowship, Swiss National Science Foundation, extension to initial fellowship, 2005 - 2006.

Postdoctoral Fellowship, Swiss National Science Foundation, 2004 - 2005.

Prix de la Banque Cantonale Vaudoise for best thesis in 2004, 2005.

Prix Jean Charles Burnens for academic excellence in undergraduate studies, Université de Lausanne, 1995.

Conference Presentations (last 5 years)

SGVS Conference, Fribourg, June 2010.

CEA Conference, Québec, May 2010.

CPEG Meeting, Québec, May 2010 (discussant).

CESifo Area Conference Public Sector Economics, Munich, April 2010.

Netspar Pension Workshop, Amsterdam, January 2010.

WDA/scala Workshop on Pension Challenges and the Financial Crisis, University of St. Gallen, October 2009 (discussant)

Séminaire “Les choix budgétaires locaux: entre opportunisme et mimétisme”, University of Fribourg, October 2009

SGVS Conference, Geneva, June 2009

III Workshop on Fiscal Federalism, IEB, Barcelona, June 2009 (discussant)

Journées Louis-André Gérard-Varet, Marseille, June 2009

AEA Meetings, San Francisco, January 2009 (+ session organizer)

IAES Conference, Montreal, Canada, October 2008.

IIPF Conference, Maastricht, Netherlands, August 2008.

National Tax Association Conference, Columbus, Ohio, November 2007.

IIPF Conference, Warwick, UK, August 2007.

Canadian Economic Association Annual Meeting, Halifax, June 2007.

Canadian Public Economics Group Conference, Halifax, May 2007.

International Industrial Organization Conference, Savannah, April 2007.

QED Public Economics Workshop, Kingston, November 2006.

Invited Seminars

2010 U Brescia

2009 IEB, Barcelona

2008 IFS, London; U of Munich

2007 U of Berne, U of Lugano, U of Toronto

2006 U of St. Gallen, York U, U of Oklahoma, U of Alabama, U Carlos III, Guelph U, Ottawa U, U of Waterloo, Wilfrid Laurier U

2005 McMaster U, U of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, U of Leicester

Invited Talks

“Estado, Economía y Políticas Públicas”, invited lecture at Universidad Nacional de Ingeniería, Nicaragua, July - 2008.
Central Europe Economic Forum, Toronto and Montreal, September - 2007.

Professional Associations

Canadian Economic Association
International Institute of Public Finance
Econometric Society

Teaching

Public Economics (MSc Public Policy), University of Lugano, Switzerland.
Microeconomics (MSc Public Policy), University of Lugano, Switzerland.
Advanced Microeconomics (PhD), University of Lugano, Switzerland.
Industrial Organization (MSc), University of Lugano, Switzerland.
Public Economics II (graduate, topics in empirical public), York University, Canada.
Public Economics II (4th year, expenditure), York University, Canada.
Use of Economic Data (3rd year, econometrics), York University, Canada.
Intermediate Microeconomics II (Consumer Behaviour), McMaster University, Canada.
Introductory Microeconomics, McMaster University, Canada.
International Economics, Universidad Centroamericana, Nicaragua.
Principles in Economics, Universidad de Santiago de Chile.

Teaching Assistant for *Principles in Economics* and *Seminar on Applied Microeconomics*, Université de Lausanne.

Executive Teaching

Introductory Economics (co-instructor), NetMEGS, University of Lugano, 2009 -
Public Economics (executive master in public policy), UNI, Nicaragua. 2008.

Referee *Canadian Journal of Economics, Canadian Public Policy, Journal of Institutional and Theoretical Economics, Journal of Pension Economics and Finance, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Urban Economics, National Tax Journal, Structural Change and Economic Dynamics, Urban Studies.*

Dissertation Committees

Valerio Dotti, University of Lugano, 2009 - (supervisor)
Simin Seury, York University, 2008 - 2009 (committee member).
Muhammad Cheema, McMaster University, 2005 - 2009 (committee member).

Master Thesis Supervision

Doris Gasser, Julien Mozzo

Comprehensive Exam Committees

Applied Economic Theory, York University, 2007 - 2008.

Seminar series co-organizer

York University, 2006 - 2008.

Conference co-organizer

Private Pensions and Income Security in Old Age: An Uncertain Future, SEDAP
Hamilton, 2006.

Scientific Commissions

DSAS-SUPSI (Department of Management and Social Sciences, University of Applied Sciences, Lugano), 2009 -
National Research Programme proposal "Death in a changing society - reality and new challenges", 2008.

Personal Information

Citizenship: Swiss

Personal interests: sports involving running after a ball (squash, tennis, soccer, softball), travel, cinema, languages.

Languages

German, French, English and Spanish (all speaking and writing), Italian (getting there).