

ACADEMIC RESUME

Aashish Mehta

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Contact Information

Department of Global Studies
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University of California-Santa Barbara
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Personal

Date of Birth: June 23, 1974
Place of Birth: Mumbai, India

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
Faculty Affiliate, Economics
Associate Professor, Global Studies, 2014-Present
Assistant Professor, Global & International Studies, 2007- 2014

Asian Development Bank (Manila, The Philippines)
Economist: Economics and Research Department, 2005-2007
Economist: East & Central Asia Department, Energy Division, 2004- 2005

Appointments

Affiliated Faculty, Department of Economics, UCSB
Research Associate, Broom Center for Demography, UCSB
Affiliated Faculty, Center for Studies in Higher Education, UC Berkeley
Senior Research Fellow, Angelo King Institute for Economics and Business Studies, Manila

List of Publications

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* (2022, February, Lead Article).
2. Is employment globalizing? (with Liming Chen, Jesus Felipe and Andrew Kam), *Structural Change and Economic Dynamics* (2021)
3. 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)
4. Manufacturing matters, but it's the jobs that count (with Jesus Felipe and Changyong Rhee), *Cambridge Journal of Economics* (2019).
5. When development is not enough: Structural Change, Conflict and Gendered Insecurity (with Alison Brysk), *Global Society* (2017).
6. Labor Regulations, Employment and Wages: Evidence from India's Apparel Sector (with Rana Hasan, Nidhi Kapoor and Asha Sundaram), *Asian Economic Policy Review* (2017)
7. 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)
8. Deindustrialization? A Global Perspective (with Jesus Felipe), *Economics Letters* (2016).
9. Research Diversification and Impact: The case of National Nanoscience Development (with Patrick Herron, Cong Cao and Timothy Lenoir) *Scientometrics* (2016)
10. Comment on Jan Nederveen Pieterse's "Rethinking Modernity – add context and stir", *Sociopedia* (2015)
11. Pilferage from opaque food subsidy programs: theory and evidence (with Shikha Jha). *Food Policy* (2014)
12. Do rights at home boost rights abroad? Sexual equality and humanitarian foreign policy (with Alison Brysk) *Journal of Peace Research* (2014)
13. Self-targeted food subsidies and voice: Evidence from the Philippines (with Shikha Jha and Pilipinas Quising) *Food Policy* (2013).
14. Does industry affiliation influence wages? Evidence from Indonesia and the Asian Financial Crisis (with Wei Sun) *World Development* (2013).
15. 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)
16. Corruption, Food Subsidies and Opacity: Evidence from the Philippines (with Shikha Jha), *Economics Letters* (2012)
17. Globalization and De-Globalization in Nanotechnology Research: The role of China (with Patrick Herron, Yasuyuki Motoyama, Richard Appelbaum and Tim Lenoir). *Scientometrics* (2012).

18. Economic Liberalization and Rising College Premiums in Mexico: A Reinterpretation (with Belinda Acuna Mohr). *World Development* (2012)
19. The effects of trade and services liberalization on wage inequality in India (with Rana Hasan) – *International Review of Economics and Finance* (2012)
20. 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)
21. 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).
22. Why Do Diplomas Pay? An Expanded Mincerian Framework Applied to Mexico (with Hector J. Villarreal). *Applied Economics*. (December 2008)
23. Responding to the Coffee Crisis: What Can We Learn from Price Dynamics? (with Jean-Paul Chavas) *Journal of Development Economics* (February 2008)
24. 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).
25. Under-Representation of Disadvantaged Classes in College: What do the Data Tell Us? (With Rana Hasan). *Economic and Political Weekly (of India)* (September 2006).
 - Subsequently republished in S. Thorat & N. Kumar (2008) *In search of Inclusive Policy: Addressing Graded Inequality*. Indian Institute for Dalit Studies / Rawat Publications.
26. Price Dynamics in a Vertical Sector: The Case of Butter (with Jean-Paul Chavas). *American Journal of Agricultural Economics* (November 2004).

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 (2023).

Book Chapters and Reports for Public Agencies:

1. The purposes and provisioning of higher education: Can economics and humanities approaches be reconciled? (with Christopher Newfield). In Anna Alexandrova, Stephen John and Christopher Newfield (eds.) [*The Limits of the Numerical: The Abuses and Uses of Quantification*](#). 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. [*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)

4. 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).
 - Previously published as: Effectiveness of Public Spending: The Case of Rice Subsidies in the Philippines (with Shikha Jha). Asian Development Bank, Economics and Research Department Working Paper 138. 2008.
 5. Production Function (with Jesus Felipe) – International Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences – 2nd Edition. (2008)
 6. 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.
 7. [*Education and Structural Change in Four Asian Countries*](#) (with Jesus Felipe). In *Asian Development Outlook 2007*.
 8. [*International Payments Imbalances*](#) (with Frank Harrigan and Jesus Felipe). Asian Development Bank Economics and Research Department Policy Brief 45. (2006)
 9. [*A Diagnostic Review of Regulatory Approaches and Challenges: An Overview of Power Sector Reforms in Seven CAREC Member Countries*](#) (with David Butcher). 2005
 10. [*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. [*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.
2. [*Endogeneity Bias and Other Problems in the Estimation of Production Functions*](#) (with Donna Faye Bajaro, Jesus Felipe and John McCombie, 2021).

3. [Gendered Employment Trends and the Female College Boom](#) (with Vedant Koppera, 2014).

Other Work in Progress:

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

Referee Reports

Journal articles: Agricultural Economics, Applied Economics, Asia Pacific Education Review, Asia Pacific World, China Economic Review, Economic Journal, Economics of Education Review, Economies, Education Economics, Environment and Development, European Review of Agricultural Economics, Food Security, Industrial and Labor Relations Review, International Review of Economics and Finance, IZA Journal of Labor and Development, Journal of Labor Research, Journal of Peace Research, Journal of Public Economics, Metroeconomica, Review of Development Economics South African Journal of Economics, Structural Change and Economic Dynamics, World Development.

Books/proposals: Springer, University of California Press.

Consultancies/Appointments

Consultant - Social Safety Nets – Asian Development Bank. (November 2008-March 2009)

Statistician – The Shop Consulting, Madison, Wisconsin (June-August 2004)

Consultant – Skills for equitable development – Asian Development Bank (January – July 2015).

Study Team Leader – Skills and Manufacturing Jobs – Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (July 2014-June 2016)

Consultant – Education and Structural Transformation – Asian Development Bank (September 2012-October 2014)

Recent Presentations

1. How Does Growth Affect Everyday Corruption? Exit, Empowerment, and Voice in Indian Public Services (Pacific Conference for Development Economics, 2023)
2. Major Restrictions and Student Stratification (Western Economic Association International Conference – Portland, Oregon, 2022)
3. Major Restrictions and Student Stratification (Society of Labor Economists - Minneapolis, 2022)
4. Major Restrictions and Student Stratification (American Educational Research Association Conference – San Diego, 2022)
5. Why and how to measure impact in an educational organization (MuktanganEdu, Mumbai, India, 2021)
6. How Does Growth Affect Corruption? Exit, Empowerment, and Voice in Indian Public Services (University of Heidelberg, South Asia Institute, 2021)
7. Major Restrictions and Social Stratification in the UC System and Beyond (UCSB Alumni Profs at the Pub Series)
8. What does growth do to public services corruption? (Dept. of Political Science, Jamia Milia Islamia, New Delhi)
9. Education and the Evolution of Comparative Advantage (National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies, Tokyo)
10. Education and the Evolution of Comparative Advantage (Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department Seminar, Asian Development Bank, The Philippines)
11. Major choice restrictions and student stratification (Applied Microeconomics Lunch Seminar, UCSB, 2019)
12. What happened to the world's manufacturing jobs? (Ground-breaking Research & Innovative Technology (GRIT) talks series, UCSB; recorded for UCTV, 2019)
13. What does economic growth do to public services corruption: Exit, Empowerment and Voice in India (with Amit Ahuja, American Political Science Association, Washington, DC, 2019)
14. Academic stratification at a public university: new measures of something that really matters (Disquantified: Metrics culture in higher education. UCSB, 2019)
15. What does economic growth do to corruption? Exit, empowerment and voice in Indian public services (Annual Conference on Economic Growth and Development, Indian Statistical Institute, New Delhi, 2018)
16. Academic stratification in a public university: new metrics to measure what really matters (Association for the Study of Higher Education Conference, Tampa, FL, 2018)
17. The "global" labor market: how real is it, and how should governments respond? (Levy Economics Institute of Bard College, 2018)
18. Humanities and Economics views on the value of education (Limits of the Numerical Symposium, Cambridge University, UK, 2018)
19. Equality of opportunity at a public university (UC Humanities Research, Institute Irvine, CA, 2018)
20. Is employment globalizing? (UCSB Global Studies Colloquium, 2018)

21. Two concepts of value The uses of higher education in the humanities and economics (Limits of the Numerical Symposium, U. of Chicago Franke Institute for the Humanities, 2017)
22. Is work deglobalizing? (North American Global Studies Association Conference, Berkeley CA, 2017)
23. The effects of globalization on employment, inequality and the demand for education (UCSB Residential Services, Faculty Speaker Series)
24. What does growth do to everyday corruption? Exit, empowerment and voice in India's public services (with Amit Ahuja, UCSB, Political-Economy & Development Hub, 2016)
25. Manufacturing matters... but it's the jobs that count (Midwest International Economic Development Conference, Minneapolis, 2016).
26. Is work deglobalizing? Theory & Evidence (Structural and Historical Roots of Inequality, UCSB, 2016)
27. The STEM skills gap cacophony: Why industry bodies and social scientists observe the same labor market and reach totally different conclusions. (Center for Nanotechnology in Society, UCSB, 2015)
28. Firms and skills (Asian Development Bank, the Philippines, 2015)
29. Combatting Inequality in a World of Soft Labor Demand (Panel Presentation, Pacific Council for International Policy, Malibu, CA, 2014).
30. Education, Skills and International Competitiveness in an Era of Soft Labor Demand (Invited talk, World Bank, Washington, D.C., 2014)
31. Manufacturing Skill gaps in the Indian and Global Contexts (Invited Talk, Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations, New Delhi, 2014)
32. Globalization, College Booms and Wage Inequality: Why everywhere, why now? (UCSB Global Studies Conference, 2014)
33. The Employment Effects of Nanotechnology: Informed speculation, going beyond the R&D sectors (Sustainable Nanotechnology Organization Conference, Santa Barbara, CA, 2013).
34. Education and Flexible Industrial Development (Industry Studies Association, Kansas City, MO, 2013)
35. Education, Export Diversification and Path-Dependent Development (Midwest International Economic Development Conference, Madison, WI, 2013).
36. Education and export diversification (Asian Development Bank, the Philippines, 2013).
37. Competing at home or competing abroad? Globalization and conflict at the university gates – (Invited talk, Monterey Institute for International Studies, 2013)
38. Schooling and the journey to the core: What does education do for export diversification? (UCSB Global Studies Conference, 2013)
39. Education, Export Diversification and Path-Dependent Development (Invited talk, UC-Riverside, Department of Economics, 2012).

40. Overeducation in Developing Economies: How can we test for it, and what does it mean? – invited talk (UC-Davis, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, 2012).
41. The scientific influence of nations: Quantity, impact and the role of international collaboration in Nanotechnology. (S-NET conference, Twente, The Netherlands, 2012)
42. Education & Structural Transformation in Asia (Invited talk, Asian Development Bank, The Philippines, 2012).
43. Polarizing wages in liberalizing developing economies: Trade, technology or Class Dynamics? (North American Global Studies Association Conference, Victoria, Canada, 2012)
44. Globalization & Deglobalization of nanotechnology research: The role of China (UCSB Global Studies Conference, 2012)
45. Food security reforms and participation: A Philippines case study (UCSB Global Studies Conference, 2012)
46. Food subsidy reforms in the Philippines - Indira Gandhi Institute for Development Research (Mumbai, India, 2010)
47. Rising college premiums in Mexico: How important is trade? - Midwest International Economic Development Conference. (Minneapolis, Minnesota, 2010)
48. Trends in Employment Composition and Returns to Schooling - Midwest International Economic Development Conference. (Madison, Wisconsin, 2008)
49. Education and Structural change in Three Asian Economies - Conference: The institutional and social dynamics of growth and distribution. (Lucca, Italy, 2008)
50. Responding to the Coffee Crisis: Lessons from Price Dynamics - International Food Policy Research Institute (Washington D.C., 2007)
51. Education and Structural change in Four Asian Economies - Eighth annual forum of the Global Development Network (Beijing, China, 2007)

Conferences Organized

Disquantified: Critical Perspectives on Metrics Culture (with Christopher Newfield and Heather Steffen), UCSB, 2019

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.

Structural and Historical roots of Economic Inequality: A Global Perspective – UCSB, 2015

First Annual Meeting of the CAREC Members' Electricity Regulators Forum – Beijing, 2005

Awards

Distinguished Teaching Award - UCSB Faculty Senate, 2017.

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)