

Magdalena Bennett

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Research Interests Causal inference methodologies; Economics of education, particularly in educational segregation and impact evaluation of educational policies.

Academic Positions **The University of Texas at Austin** Jun 2020 - Present
Assistant Professor at McCombs School of Business

Education **Columbia University** Jan 2015 - May 2020
Doctorate in Economics and Education (PhD)

London School of Economics Sep 2013 - Sep 2014
MSc. Social Policy (Research), *Merit Distinction*

P. Universidad Catolica de Chile Dec 2010 - Nov 2012
MSc. in Engineering Science, Applied Microeconomics,
Maximum Distinction

P. Universidad Catolica de Chile Mar 2005 - Dec 2010
BS. in Civil Industrial Engineer, *Maximum Distinction*

Awards, Honors, & Grants ENAR International Biometrics Society 2019 Distinguished Student Paper Award. "Building Representative Matched Samples with Multi-valued Treatments".

J-PAL Post-Primary Education Initiative Grant (\$45,000): Allende, C. & Bennett, M. (2018). "Biased Beliefs and the Dynamic Role of Information in College Choice"

Education Policy Dissertation Research Fellowship, Teachers College – Columbia University 2018-2019

Roe Student Travel Grant for AEFPP Annual Conference 2019

Burke Scholarship Award, Teachers College – Columbia University 2018

Fulbright PhD Scholar 2014

Research PhD RESEARCH

Bennett, M. (2020). "All Things Equal? Heterogeneity in Policy Effectiveness against COVID-19 Spread in Chile". *World Development*, (Accepted).

Bennett, M. (2020). "How Far is Too Far? Estimation of an Interval for Generalization of a Regression Discontinuity Design Away from the Cutoff". Job Market Paper, *Teachers College - Columbia University*.

Bennett, M., J. Vielma, & J.R. Zubizarreta (2020). "Building Representative Matched Samples with Multi-valued Treatments in Large Observational Studies". *Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics*.

Allende, C. & M. Bennett (2020). “Biased Beliefs and the Dynamic Role of Information in College Choice”. (RCT in the field).

Bennett, M. & P. Bergman (2019). “Better Together? Social Networks in Truancy and the Targeting of Treatment”. *Journal of Labor Economics* (Forthcoming).

Tapia, J., J. Fabres, M. Bennett, G. Marshall, P. Mena, M. Escalante, D. Sabatelli, N. Dinerstein, D. Masoli, & J.R. Zubizarreta (2019). “Breastmilk and its effects in Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia and other major morbidities in Very Low Birthweight Infants”. Working Paper.

PREVIOUS RESEARCH

Hilliger, I., C. Gelmi, L. Cifuentes, M. Bennett, & J. de la Llera (2018). “Design and Implementation of an Alternative Admission Program to Engineering: Talent and Inclusion”. *Studies of Higher Education (CSHE)*, 43(8) p.1454-1467.

Bennett, M. (2014). “Socioeconomic Diversity within Schools: The Impact of a Preferential Voucher Scheme in Chile”, Master Dissertation, *London School of Economics*.

Claro, F., R. Paredes, F. Wilson & M. Bennett (2013). “Incentivos a Estudiar Pedagogía: El Caso de la Beca Vocación de Profesor” (“Incentives for studying teaching: The case of the vocational scholarship”), *Estudios Públicos N 131*, Centro de Estudios Públicos.

Naslund-Hadley, E., E. Vezza, P. Giovagnoli & M. Bennett (2012). “Rethinking Sequencing of Pregnancy, School Dropout and Marriage: An Analysis of DHS Data on Early Childbearing and Educational Trajectories in Six Latin American Countries”, Report, *Inter-American Development Bank*.

Bennett, M. & Paredes, R. (2012). “Cognitive Abilities and Preschool Education in Chile”, Working Paper, *Department of Industrial Engineering, Faculty of Engineering PUC*.

Presentations & Conferences

Bennett, M. (2020). “All Things Equal? Heterogeneity in Policy Effectiveness against COVID-19 Spread in Chile”. Economics and COVID-19 Seminar. Universidad Adolfo Ibanez, Santiago, Chile.

Bennett, M. (2020). “All Things Equal? Heterogeneity in Policy Effectiveness against COVID-19 Spread in Chile”. 3er Workshop de Modelamiento Aplicado al COVID-19 en Chile. Mesa Social COVID-19, Santiago, Chile.

Bennett, M. (2019). “How Far is Too Far? Generalization of a Regression Discontinuity Design Away from the Cutoff”. Atlantic Causal Inference Conference, May 2020, Austin, TX, USA (*Suspended due to COVID-19*).

Bennett, M. (2019). “Building Representative Matched Samples with Multi-valued Treatments in Large Observational Studies”. ENAR Spring Meeting, Mar 2019, Philadelphia, PA, USA.

Bennett, M. (2019). “How Far is Too Far? Generalization of a Regression Discontinuity Design Away from the Cutoff”. AEFPP Annual Conference, Mar 2019, Kansas City, MO, USA.

Bennett, M. (2019). “How Far is Too Far? Generalization of a Regression Discontinuity Design Away from the Cutoff”. SREE Spring Conference, Mar 2019, Washington, DC, USA.

Bennett, M. (2018). “Better Together? Social Networks in Truancy and the Targeting of Treatment”. APPAM Fall Research Conference, Nov 2018, Washington, DC, USA.

Bennett, M. & P. Bergman* (2018). “Better Together? Social Networks in Truancy and the Targeting of Treatment”. NBER Economics of Education Meeting, Apr 2018, Cambridge, MA, USA (*Paper presented by co-author in conference we both attended*).

Bennett, M. (2018). “Better Together? Social Networks in Truancy and the Targeting of Treatment”. AEFPP Conference, Mar 2018, Portland, OR, USA.

Bennett, M. (2017). “Building a representative matched sample with treatment doses”. Empirics and Methods in Economics Conference, Oct 2017, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, USA.

Bennett, M. (2016). “Representative Template Matching”. Economics of Education Seminar, Teachers College, Columbia University, NY, USA.

Bennett, M. (2014). “Cognitive Abilities and Preschool Education in Chile”. Second meeting of the Network of Chilean Researchers in Education, Bristol, UK.

Bennett, M. (2013). “Impact of Attending Preschool in Chile: Short and Medium-Term Outcomes”. MIDE UC Conference, Santiago, Chile.

Research Experience

Senior Research Assistant 2016 - 2020
Prof. Peter Bergman, Columbia University, New York

Research Assistant 2015 - 2017
Prof. Jose Zubizarreta, Columbia University, New York

Research Analyst 2012 - 2013/ 2014
Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL), Santiago - Chile

External Consultant 2013
Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) – Education Dept., Washington DC

Research Assistant 2011 - 2013
Prof. Ricardo Paredes, P. Universidad Catolica, Santiago - Chile

Research Analyst 2010-2013
Engineering School, P. Universidad Catolica, Santiago - Chile

Teaching Experience

Teaching Assistant 2015 - 2019
Columbia University, New York

- Advanced Microeconomics (Prof. P. Bergman, Fall '19 and '17)
- Quantitative Methods for Evaluating Ed. Policies (Prof. S. Cohodes, Fall '18)
- Field Experiments (Prof. P. Bergman, Spring '18)
- Data Mining (Prof. B. Goodrich, Fall '16)
- Data Analysis (Prof. B. Goodrich, Spring '16)
- Economics of Education (Prof. H. Levin, Fall '15)
- Educational Privatization and School Choice (Prof. S. Abrams, Spring '15)

Teaching Assistant 2007 - 2011
P. Universidad Catolica, Santiago - Chile
Applied Econometrics (2011)

Industrial Organization (2010-2011)
Introduction to Economics (2010)
Calculus I (2007-2011)

**Technology
Skills**

Statistical Software: R (Advanced), Stata (Advanced).
Programming Languages: Python (Advanced).
Other Software: ArcGIS (Advanced), MS Excel (Advanced), MS Office (Advanced),
CSPRO (Advanced).

Other

Languages: Spanish (native), English (fluent).
Nationality: Chilean.