

Elira Kuka

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The George Washington University
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Academic Positions

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| Associate Professor of Economics, George Washington University | August 2023 – |
| Assistant Professor of Economics, George Washington University | August 2019 – July 2023 |
| <i>Fall 2019, Spring 2022: Maternity Leave</i> | |
| Assistant Professor of Economics, Southern Methodist University | August 2015 – May 2019 |

Affiliations

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| Research Associate, National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) | 2023 – present |
| <i>Program Affiliations:</i> Children, Public Economics | |
| Faculty Research Fellow from 2017 – 2023 | |
| Affiliate, CESifo Research Network | 2022 – present |
| Affiliated Faculty, The Institute for International Economic Policy (IIEP) at the Elliott School for | |
| International Affairs, George Washington University | 2019 – present |
| Research Fellow, IZA – Institute of Labor Economics | 2016 – present |

Academic Visits

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| Visiting Scholar, Center for Economic Studies (CES) at University of Munich | June 2022 – July 2022 |
| Visiting Scholar, University of California at Berkeley | June 2018 – December 2018 |

Education

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| Ph.D., Economics, University of California at Davis | June 2015 |
| M.S., Economics, University of California at Davis | 2010 |
| B.A., Economics, Wellesley College | 2009 |
| International Baccalaureate, United World College of the Adriatic | 2005 |

Research Fields

Public Economics, Labor Economics, Applied Microeconomics

Publications

“Long-Run Effects of Incentivizing Work After Childbirth”, (with Na’ama Shenhav), Accepted, *American Economic Review*, Updated May 2023

“Women’s Suffrage and Children’s Educations” (with Esra Kose and Na’ama Shenhav), *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, Vol. 13 (3): 374–405, 2021

“Quantifying the Benefits of Social Insurance: Unemployment Insurance and Health”, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, Vol. 102 (3): 490–505, 2020

“Do Human Capital Decisions Respond to the Returns to Education? Evidence from DACA”, (with Na’ama Shenhav and Kevin Shih), *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, Vol. 12 (1): 293–324, 2020

- “A Reason to Wait: The Effect of Legal Status on Teen Pregnancy” (with Na’ama Shenhav and Kevin Shih), *American Economic Association Papers and Proceedings*, Vol. 109: 213–217, 2019
- “The Long-Run Effects of Disruptive Peers” (with Scott E. Carrell and Mark Hoekstra), *American Economic Review*, Vol. 108 (11): 3377–3415, 2018
- “Do In-Work Tax Credits Serve as a Safety Net?” (with Marianne Bitler and Hilary Hoynes), *Journal of Human Resources*, Vol. 52 (2): 319–350, 2017
- “Child Poverty, the Great Recession, and the Social Safety Net in the United States” (with Marianne Bitler and Hilary Hoynes), *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, Vol. 36 (2): 358–389, 2017
- “Reexamining the Consumption Smoothing Benefits of Unemployment Insurance” (with Chloe N. East), *Journal of Public Economics*, Vol. 132: 32–50, 2015
- “EITC and the Self-Employed: Real or Reported Effects?”, *Public Finance Review*, Vol. 42 (6): 691–719, 2014

Working Papers

- “Racial Inequality in Unemployment Insurance Receipt” (with Bryan Stuart), NBER Working Paper 29595, Updated December 2023
- “Welfare Program Spillovers” (with David Jinkins and Claudio Labanca), February 2024

Grants and Fellowships

- Russell Sage Foundation, “Adopt a Paper: The impact of high-quality paper feedback on the academic success of junior scholars”, Co-Principal Investigator (with Danila Serra), \$49,818 2021-2023
- The Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, “Adopt a Paper: The impact of high-quality paper feedback on the academic success of junior scholars”, Co-Principal Investigator (with Danila Serra), \$49,839 2021-2022
- Shapiro Policy Research Scholarship, George Washington Institute of Public Policy 2020-2021
- NBER Retirement and Disability Research Center, “Retirement Benefits and Incentives for Work: New Evidence from Eligibility Criteria”, Principal Investigator, \$51,466 2019-2020
- University Research Council Research Grant – Southern Methodist University, Co-Principal Investigator (with Na’ama Shenhav) 2018
- NBER Disability Research Center, “The Safety Net, Liquidity Constraints, and Disability Benefits”, Co-Principal Investigator (with Na’ama Shenhav), \$47,181 2017-2018
- Sam Taylor Fellowship, Co-Principal Investigator (with Na’ama Shenhav) 2016
- University Research Council Research Grant – Southern Methodist University, Co-Principal Investigator (with Chloe East) 2015
- All-UC Group in Economic History Research Grant, Co-Principal Investigator (with Esra Kose and Na’ama Shenhav) 2014
- UNICEF, “Child Poverty and the Great Recession in the United States”, Co-Principal Investigator (with Marianne Bitler and Hilary Hoynes), \$22,000 2013-2014

Honors and Awards

- Member (elected), National Academy of Social Insurance 2020
- Referee of the Year Award, *National Tax Journal* 2017
- IPUMS Research Award, for Best Work by a Graduate Student using IPUMS-USA data 2014
- Ray Beaumont Graduate Student Award, for Departmental Improvement, UC Davis 2014

Seminar and Conference Presentations

- [2024] [scheduled] Bristol Workshop on Economic Policy (Keynote Speaker), Florida Applied Micro Virtual Seminar Series, Texas Economics of Crime Workshop, Tulane University
- [2023] George Mason University, Washington Area Labor Economics Symposium (WALES), University of Wisconsin IRP, Virtual Crime Economics (ViCE) seminar
- [2022] Michigan State University, New York Federal Reserve Bank, University of California at San Diego, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, University of Munich (LMU)
- [2021] American University, Institute for Research on Poverty Summer Research Workshop (University of Wisconsin), Tax Policy for Low-Income Americans (University of Chicago), Wayne State University
- [2020] (including cancelled due to Covid-19) Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Annual Conference, DePaul University, Texas A&M University
- [2019] Baylor University, Cornell University, Dartmouth College, Duke University (Sanford School of Public Policy), George Washington University, Rutgers University, University of Delaware, University of Pittsburgh, University of Toronto, University of Zurich, Vanderbilt University
- [2018] Dartmouth College, Human Capital Workshop (Bank of Italy), Grinnell College, Northwestern University MPES, Santa Clara University, Society of Labor Economists Annual Meeting, University of California at Berkeley IRLE, University of California at Davis, University of California at Irvine, University of California at Merced, University of California at Santa Barbara, University of Notre Dame
- [2017] Barcelona GSE Summer Forum, Chicago Federal Reserve, IZA/SOLE Transatlantic Meeting of Labor Economics, Oklahoma State University, Society of Labor Economists Annual Meeting, University of California at Davis Alumni Conference, University of California at Santa Cruz, Wellesley College
- [2016] Bocconi University, Stata Texas Empirical Microeconomics Conference, Texas Christian University
- [2015] Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Annual Conference, Claremont McKenna College, College of William and Mary, Georgia State University, Indiana University SPEA, Southern Economics Association Annual Meetings, Southern Methodist University, Stata Texas Empirical Microeconomics Conference, Syracuse University, Western Economic Association International Annual Conference, University of Amsterdam, University of Oklahoma
- [2014] All-California Labor Economics Workshop (Poster), Southern California Conference in Applied Microeconomics, War on Poverty Conference (Poster), Western Economic Association International Annual Conference

Professional Activities

Conference Organizer

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| Washington Area Labor Economics Symposium (WALES), Co-organizer | 2021 |
| National Tax Association (NTA) Annual Meeting, Program Committee Member | 2021 |
| International Institute of Public Finance (IIFP) Annual Congress, Scientific Committee Member | 2021 |

Referee

American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, American Economic Review, American Economic Review: Insights, Contemporary Economic Policy, Demography, Economic Inquiry, Economic Journal, Empirical Economics, International Tax and Public Finance, Journal of Applied Econometrics, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Journal of Economic History, Journal of Health Economics, Journal of Housing Economics, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Labor Economics, Journal of Law and Economics, Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of the

European Economic Association, Journal of Urban Economics, Health Economics, Labour Economics, National Tax Journal, Public Finance Review, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Economics and Statistics, Review of Economic Studies, Social Service Review

Reviewer (ad-hoc)

Israel Science Foundation, National Science Foundation

Member

American Economics Association, Society of Labor Economists (SOLE), National Tax Association

Teaching

George Washington University

Introduction to Econometrics – Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2022, Fall 2023, Spring 2024

Graduate Public Economics – Spring 2023

Southern Methodist University

Federal Government Taxation – Fall 2015, Spring 2016, Fall 2016, Spring 2017, Fall 2017, Spring 2019

Graduate Public Economics – Fall 2016, Spring 2018

University of California at Davis

Public Finance (taxes) – Fall 2013

PhD Advising

George Washington University

Kathryn Blanchard*, Eric Dehus*, Prerna Dokania, Rui Zhong*

** denotes students for whom I am/was primary advisor or co-advisor*

Southern Methodist University

Priyanka Chakraborty, Cullum Clark, Hao Li, Manini Ojha, Soeun Park, Punarjit Roychowdhury
(Committee Member)

Departmental Service

George Washington University

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| Advisory Committee | 2023-current |
| Special Department Taskforce Committee on Undergraduate Majors and Enrollments | 2023-current |
| Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee | 2023-current |
| Applied Micro Brownbag Organizer | 2022-current |
| Departmental Seminar Coordinator | 2021-current |
| PhD Committee | 2019-2023 |

Southern Methodist University

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| Undergraduate Studies Committee | 2018-2019 |
| Member of Hiring Committee, Assistant Professor in Econometrics | 2017-2018 |
| Departmental Seminar Coordinator | 2016-2018 |
| Member of Hiring Committee, Assistant Professor in Global Economic Issues and Related Areas | 2016-2017 |
| Member of Hiring Committee, Assistant Professor in Global Economic Issues | 2015-2016 |
| Faculty Participant in “Women in Economics Club” | 2015-2017 |

Languages

Italian (native fluent), English (fluent), Albanian (fluent), Spanish (basic)