

CAROLINA MEJÍA-MANTILLA

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WORK EXPERIENCE

Economist (Young Professionals Program)

September 2014 – Present

World Bank Group, PREM South Asia, Washington, D.C.

- Co-authored a Poverty and Social Impact Analysis note that examines the effects of tax reform on poverty, shared prosperity and inequality in Pakistan, combining the results from a CGE model with micro-data.
- Co-authored the poverty background paper for Pakistan’s Systematic Country Diagnosis.
- Co-authored a paper on poverty measurement issues in Pakistan and the robustness of the official recent poverty trends to different methodological assumptions and alternative non-monetary indicators (in process).
- Organized and provided a one-week technical assistance training on poverty measurement and poverty mapping for the officers of the Central Bureau of Statics of Nepal (in process).
- Wrote a paper using poverty decomposition techniques to examine the main drivers of poverty reduction in Nepal for the period 2003-2010 (in process).

Graduate Summer Intern, Research Department

Summer 2011

Inter American Development Bank (IADB), Washington, D.C.

- Co-authored a book chapter on the Political Economy of Pension Reforms in Latin America. The chapter included a review of the theoretical models on the subject, the case study of five different countries that have reformed their pension system recently and a section on policy recommendations for policy makers.
- Participated in the team that decided the outline and topics to be included in the yearly flagship document of the Research Department on the effects of taxes on different aspects of the Latin American economies.

Research Economist

July 2007 – July 2008

Fedesarrollo, Bogotá, Colombia

- Lead the team that conducted the impact evaluation of the largest subsidy program of the Ministry of Agriculture: designed the household survey, collected and analyzed the data and directly interviewed beneficiaries in rural areas.
- Formed part of a multi-country team (lead by the IPPR institute in the United Kingdom) to study the impact of migration on households: adapted household survey for Colombia, collected and analyzed the data. Published two book chapters (co-authored) on the relationship between subjective measures of wellbeing and education and nutrition outcomes. Responsible for designing and implementation of the empirical strategy.

Visiting Research Economist

January 2007 – June 2007

Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS), London, UK

- Conducted detailed applied research on the fiscal decentralization of four countries in Latin America: collected and analyzed data on tax revenue and fiscal expenditure, to determine the degree of success of the decentralization scheme.
- Collaborated with a team that evaluated the effectiveness of the subsidized health insurance in Colombia. Responsible for the computer codes to process the data from the Colombian Household Survey.

Head of the Economic Outlook Team

July 2005 – December 2006

Fedesarrollo, Bogotá, Colombia

- Editor of the bi-annual Journal “Coyuntura Económica” (Economic Outlook): reviewed and refereed the articles, wrote the editorial and a central piece on relevant economic outlook and economic policy topics.
- Co-editor of the monthly bulletin “Economía y Política” (Economics and Politics), which analyzed the economic implications of the legislative agenda in Colombia. The bulletin was read by 60% of Congressmen and was often cited in the media.
- Leader of a group of four people that produced a monthly economic outlook consisting of three articles, an analysis of the main macroeconomic indicators of Colombia and Latin America, and the report of the results of three different surveys Fedesarrollo conducts (Consumer Confidence, Firm Confidence and Financial Opinion surveys). The group also produced a bi-annual economic outlook report with the predictions of the main economic indicators in the mid-term, obtained through a general equilibrium model.
- Co-author of several research studies on diverse topics such the effects of business informality, the political economy of budget making process and migration trends. In all of these, I was in charge of the empirical strategy, data collection and analysis.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Economics University of California, Los Angeles GPA: 3.68/4.0	2013
M.A. in Economics University of California, Los Angeles GPA: 3.6/4.0	2009
M.Sc. in Economics, Honors Degree Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia GPA: 4.68/5.0, Graduated 3 rd /20	2005
B.A. in Economics (Minor Finance), Honors Degree Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia GPA: 4.7/5.0, Graduated 1 st /60	2004

AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS

UCLA Graduate Student Fellowship	2009 - 2013
Central Bank of Colombia Study Abroad Fellowship (1 out of 5 scholars, out of more than 500 applicants)	2008 - 2009
Ramón de Zubiría Academic Excellence Scholarship (<u>Top 1%</u> of Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia)	2004

CHAPTERS IN BOOKS

- "La economía política de una reforma pensional integral en América Latina". (Forthcoming). In Carmen Páges (editor). *Cobertura Universal en Pensiones: ¿una posibilidad real o una utopía para América Latina y el Caribe?*. Inter-American Development Bank, Washington, D.C. (With Eduardo Lora).
- "Changes in Fiscal Outcomes in Colombia 1970-2006: The Role of the Budget Process". 2009. In Carlos Scartascini, Ernesto Stein y Mark Hallberg (editors). *Who Decides the Budget? A Political Economy Analysis of the Budget Process in Latin America*. Inter-American Development Bank, Washington D.C. (With Mauricio Cárdenas y Mauricio Olivera).
- "Vulnerabilities and Subjective Well-Being". 2009. In Carol Graham and Eduardo Lora (editors). *Paradox and Perception: Measuring Quality of Life in Latin America*. The Brookings Institution, Washington D.C. (With Mauricio Cárdenas and Vincenzo di Maro).
- "Education and Life Satisfaction: Perception or Reality?". 2009. In Carol Graham and Eduardo Lora (editors). *Paradox and Perception: Measuring Quality of Life in Latin America*. The Brookings Institution, Washington D.C. (With Mauricio Cárdenas and Vincenzo di Maro).
- "Migraciones internacionales en Colombia: ¿Qué sabemos?". 2008. In Andrés Solimano (editor). *Migraciones en América Latina. Booms, Crisis y Desarrollo*. Fondo de Cultura Económica, Mexico. (With Mauricio Cárdenas).

PUBLICATIONS IN REFEREED JOURNALS

- "Informalidad en Colombia: Nueva evidencia". 2007. *Coyuntura Económica*, Fedesarrollo. Volumen 72, No. 2. (With Mauricio Cárdenas).
- "Evaluating the Impact of Health Care Reform in Colombia: from Theory to Practice". 2007. *Economía*, LACEA Journal, Spring 2007. (With Alejandro Gaviria y Carlos Medina).
- "Reformas políticas y fiscales en Colombia: la agenda pendiente". 2007. *Coyuntura Económica*, Fedesarrollo. Volumen 72, No. 1. (With Mauricio Cárdenas, Camila Aguilar, Camila Casas y Gustavo Morales).

WORKING PAPERS

- "Crisis and Education: Mid-term and long-term effects of the 1998 Asian Crisis in Indonesia". 2013. Job Market Paper, UCLA.
- "Peer Feedback and Teaching Performance: A Randomized Control Trial". 2012. Mimeo, UCLA. (With Gabriela Rubio)
- "Risk Preferences and Risk Sharing: Evidence from Mexico". 2010. Mimeo, UCLA.
- "La otra cara de la diáspora: los nexos de los emigrantes colombianos con su país de origen". 2005. Documento CEDE, Universidad de los Andes. (With Alejandro Gaviria).
- *El impacto de las regalías del carbón en las condiciones socioeconómicas de los municipios del Cesar*. 2005. Publicaciones PNUD. (With Fabio Sánchez).
- "El impacto de variables políticas sobre resultados presupuestales y sociales en un marco de descentralización: El caso de Colombia". 2004. SSNR- Working Paper. (Con Jean Paul Faguet and Fabio Sánchez).
- "The Political Economic Effects of Decentralization in Colombia". 2004. Crisis State Research Center - Working Paper. (With Marcela Ceballos, Diana Hoyos, Jean Paul Faguet and Fabio Sánchez).

CONSULTANCY REPORTS

- "Situación de la descentralización en América Latina". 2007. Study prepared for the Eurosocietal. (With Orazio Attanasio).
- "La descentralización en México, Colombia y Chile". 2007. Study prepared for the Eurosocietal. (With Orazio Attanasio).
- "La industria del cemento en Colombia". 2006. Study prepared for Holcim. (With Mauricio Cárdenas and Fabián García).
- "Colombia: vulnerabilidad macroeconómica y desarrollo". 2006. Study prepared for the IADB. (With Mauricio Cárdenas, Mónica Hernández y Juan Camilo Chaparro).
- "Perfil de Gobernabilidad en Colombia: Descentralización". Diciembre 2005. Study prepared for the IADB. (With Mauricio Cárdenas, Mónica Pachón y Felipe Botero).
- "La estructura económica actual del Casanare y Posibilidades Futuras de Crecimiento y Competitividad". 2004. Study prepared for British Petroleum Company. (With Mariana Martínez and Fabio Sánchez).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of California, Los Angeles

2009 - 2011

Teacher Assistant: Microeconomics I (2009 – 2010), Macroeconomics I (2010, 2011, 2012), Statistics for Economists (2011).

Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia

2002 - 2006

Teacher Assistant: Introduction to the Colombian Economy (2006), Experimental Economics (2005), International Trade (2003), Colombian Economic Policy (2002), Investments Analysis (2002).

PRESENTATIONS

University of South Carolina 2014, UCLA 2014, LACEA 2010 (Medellín, Colombia), LACEA 2008 (Bogotá, Colombia), CEPAL 2006 (Santiago, Chile), UN PROJECT LINK 2005 (Geneve, Switzerland).

OTHER

Languages: Spanish (native), English (fluent), Italian (beginner).

Computing: Matlab, Stata, Lyx, Scientific Workplace.

Interests: Yoga, running, Latin American Boom Literature and contemporary Indie Rock Music.