

# Laura Caron

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## EDUCATION

**Columbia University**, PhD in Economics (2020 – present)

Fields: Applied microeconomics (labor, education, and health) and econometrics

Advisors: Alessandra Casella and Simon Lee

Dean's Fellow

NSF Graduate Research Fellow

Vickrey Award for best third year paper for 2022-2023 academic year

**Columbia University**, MPhil in Economics (May 2023)

**Columbia University**, MA in Economics (May 2022)

**Georgetown University**, BSFS in International Political Economy with a minor in Mathematics (2016-2020)

School of Foreign Service

Dean's Medal for highest GPA

Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society

Alpha Sigma Nu National Honor Society

## WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant/Short-Term Consultant (working with Victor Sulla and Erwin Tiongson)  
World Bank Social Protect Global Practice Group, Europe and Central Asia, March 2023 – October 2023.

Research Assistant/Short-Term Consultant

World Bank World Development Report 2023, February 2022 – May 2023.

Research Assistant (working with Alessandra Casella)

Columbia University Department of Economics, May 2021 – August 2021.

Research Assistant/Short-Term Temporary (working with Victor Sulla and Erwin Tiongson)

World Bank Poverty & Equity Global Practice Group, Africa, August 2019 – August 2020.

Research Assistant/Short-Term Temporary (working with Xubei Luo and Erwin Tiongson)  
World Bank Poverty & Equity Global Practice Group, East Asia, April 2019 – June 2020.

Research Assistant (working with Katharine Donato)  
Institute for the Study of International Migration at Georgetown University, June 2019 – October 2020.

Carroll Round Research Scholar (working with Shareen Joshi and S. Anukriti)  
Georgetown University, June 2019 – December 2019.

Independent Consultant (working with Tomoko Harigaya)  
Precision Agriculture for Development, Boston, MA,  
Research Intern June 2018 – August 2018, Independent Consultant August 2018 – May 2019.

MSFS Research Scholar (working with Erwin Tiongson)  
Master of Science in Foreign Service Program at Georgetown University, September 2017 – June 2019.

Research Assistant (working with Erik Voeten)  
Georgetown University, June 2018 – August 2018.

Constituent Affairs Intern  
Office of State Senator Jason Lewis, May 2017 - August 2017.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### Teaching Assistantships

Fall 2023. Political Economy with Professor Alessandra Casella, Columbia University  
Department of Economics.

Spring 2022. Intermediate Microeconomics with Professor Ingmar Nyman, Columbia  
University Department of Economics. Evaluation 4.8/5.

Fall 2021. Political Economy with Professor Alessandra Casella, Columbia University  
Department of Economics. Evaluation 4.5/5.

Spring 2017. Macroeconomics with Professor Carol Rogers, Georgetown University  
Department of Economics. Evaluation 4.1/5.

### Awards

Wueller Award for Best TA in Undergraduate Core Courses for the 2021-2022 academic year.

## OTHER EXPERIENCE

President, Georgetown University Astronomical Society  
December 2016 – May 2020.

## ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- Caron, Laura (2022). “Empty Digital Wallets: New Technologies and Old Inequalities.” *Oxford Open Economics* 1 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1093/ooec/odac001>.
- Caron, Laura (2020). “Disability, Employment and Wages: Evidence from Indonesia.” *International Journal of Manpower* 42 (5): 866–88. <https://doi.org/10.1108/IJM-01-2020-0022>.
- Donato, Katharine M, Laura Caron and Erin Hamilton (2020). “Migration and Mental Health in Mexico: Domestic Migrants, Return U.S. Migrants, and Non-Migrants.” *Front. Psychiatry* 10:970. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsy.2019.00970>.

## WORKING PAPERS AND WORKS IN PROGRESS

- Caron, Laura. “The Impacts of Disability-Inclusive Public Education: Evidence from Triple Difference-in-Difference with Staggered Treatment”. In progress.
- Caron, Laura; Jesper Eriksen, and Jeppe Johansen. “The Price of Inclusion?: Impacts of Mainstream Classroom Education for Disabled Students and their Peers”. In progress.
- Caron, Laura and Tarikua Erda. “The On-Campus Recruiting Labor Market: Experimental Evidence”. In progress. Pre-registered in the AEA RCT Registry.
- Caron, Laura, Alessandra Casella, and Victoria Mooers. “Women, Men, and Poly Urns. Underrepresentation at Equal Talent in the Absence of Discrimination”. In progress.
- Caron, Laura. “Cross-Sectional Identification of Disability Wage Discrimination: Approaches and New Evidence”. In progress.
- Caron, Laura and Erwin Tiongson (2022). “Households in Transit: COVID-19 and the Changing Measurement of Welfare”. *IZA Discussion Paper No. 15670* <https://docs.iza.org/dp15670.pdf>.
- Schuetzler, Kirsten and Laura Caron (2020). “Jobs Interventions for Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons”. Jobs Working Paper; No. 47. World Bank, Washington, DC. World Bank. <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/33953>.

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO POLICY AND INSTITUTIONAL REPORTS

- Ahmed, S., Bossavie, L. L. Y., Bartl, E. M., Caron, L. K., Khadka, U., Khan, M., ... & Wang, H. (2020). *Towards Safer and More Productive Migration for South Asia* (No. 147272, pp. 1-153). The World Bank. <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/33559>.
- Sulla, Victor; Zikhali, Precious; Cuevas, Pablo Facundo (2022). *Inequality in Southern Africa : An Assessment of the Southern African Customs Union*. World Bank, Washington, DC. <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/099125303072236903/P1649270c02a1f06b0a3ae02e57eadd7a82>

- World Bank (2023). World Development Report 2023: Migrants, Refugees, and Societies. World Bank, <https://www.worldbank.org/en/publication/wdr2023>
- World Bank (2020). The Kingdom of Eswatini Toward Equal Opportunity: Accelerating Inclusion and Poverty Reduction. Systematic Country Diagnostic. World Bank, <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/34970>
- World Bank (2020). The Middle Class in the Philippines: An Exploration of the Conditions for Upward Mobility. World Bank, Washington, DC. <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/34099>
- World Bank (2020). Namibia Systematic Country Diagnostic. World Bank, Washington, DC. <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/35434>
- World Bank (2020). Eswatini - Economic Recovery Development Policy Loan Project. Washington, D.C.: World Bank Group. <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/366911606100452341/Eswatini-Economic-Recovery-Development-Policy-Loan-Project>

## COMMENTARY & BLOG POSTS

- Caron, Laura (2022). “Digital banking is the in-thing – but it excludes many users in Tanzania and Senegal.” *The Conversation*. April 17, 2022. <https://theconversation.com/digital-banking-is-the-in-thing-but-it-excludes-many-users-in-tanzania-and-senegal-180092>
- Caron, Laura (2021). “Disability and labour markets in Indonesia.” *Devpolicy*. November 3, 2021. <https://devpolicy.org/disability-and-labour-markets-in-indonesia-20211102/>
- Caron, Laura and Erwin R. Tiongson (2021). “The Pandemic Drove Savings Rates Sky-High. They Still Haven’t Fallen to Earth.” *Barron’s*. June 23, 2021. <https://www.barrons.com/articles/the-pandemic-changed-how-we-save-spelling-trouble-for-the-recovery-51624476916>
- Caron, Laura and Erwin R. Tiongson (2021). “The pandemic poverty penalty: how COVID-19 complicates our measure of household well-being.” *London School of Economics COVID-19 Blog*. June 15, 2021. <https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/covid19/2021/06/15/the-pandemic-poverty-penalty-how-covid-19-complicates-our-measure-of-household-well-being/>
- Caron, Laura and Erwin R. Tiongson (2020). “China, India lead in Asia but new growth sources will shake up the global economy.” *South China Morning Post*. November 12, 2020. <https://www.scmp.com/comment/opinion/article/3109263/china-india-lead-asia-new-growth-sources-will-shake-global-economy>
- Caron, Laura and Erwin R. Tiongson (2020). “Immigrants are still sending lots of money home despite the coronavirus job losses – for now.” *The Conversation*. October 21, 2020. <https://theconversation.com/immigrants-are-still-sending-lots-of-money-home-despite-the-coronavirus-job-losses-for-now-148387>
- Caron, Laura (2019). “How Can Digital Finance Support Agriculture? Using Alternative Data Sources to Support Consumer Protection.” *Responsible Finance Forum* (blog). September 30, 2019. <https://responsiblefinanceforum.org/can-digital-finance-support-agriculture-using-alternative-data-sources-support-consumer-protection/>
- Caron, Laura (2019). “Fintechs and Big Data: Opportunities, Risks, and Approaches to Consumer Data Protection in Kenya and East Africa.” *Responsible Finance Forum* (blog).

February 26, 2019. <https://responsiblefinanceforum.org/fintechs-big-data-opportunities-risks-approaches-consumer-data-protection-data-protection-kenya-east-africa/>.

Smith, Isabelle, and Laura Caron (2019). “Leveraging Digital Presence for Consumer Relationships.” *Responsible Finance Forum* (blog). January 31, 2019.

<https://responsiblefinanceforum.org/leveraging-digital-presence-consumer-relationships/>.

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Caron, Laura. “The Heyden Observatory at Georgetown University.” *Historical Astronomy Division (HAD) News: The Newsletter of the Historical Astronomy Division of the American Astronomical Society*. October 2018.

## PRESENTATIONS

Caron, Laura and Erwin Tiongson. “Households in Transit: COVID-19 and the Changing Measurement of Welfare”. Presented at 5<sup>th</sup> IZA Labor Statistics Workshop: The Measurement of Incomes, Living Costs and Standards of Living, July 2022; Korean Development Institute (KDI) School Impact Evaluation Conference, August 2022.

Caron, Laura. “Empty Digital Wallets: New Technologies and Old Inequalities in Digital Financial Services Among Women”. Presented at the Better than Cash Alliance, June 2022.

Caron, Laura. “Women’s Work: Can the Burden of Household Work Explain the Gender Wage Gap?” Presented at Carroll Round Conference, May 2019.

Caron, Laura. “Where do Global Forest Watch users come from and how do we know?” Presented at the World Resources Institute, May 2019.

Caron, Laura. “Disability, Employment, and Wages: Evidence from Indonesia”. Presented at Georgetown University Undergraduate Research Colloquium, April 2019.

Caron, Laura. “Drivers of Returning Users to the Global Forest Watch Site”. Presented at the World Resources Institute, January 2019.

### Other presentations

Caron, Laura, Grace Maglieri, and Patrick Seitzer. 2018. “The Legacy of the Georgetown College Observatory (D.C.)” 231:126.02.

<http://adsabs.harvard.edu/abs/2018AAS...23112602C>.

Del Gado, Emanuela, and Laura Caron. 2018. “L’esperienza Di Padre Angelo Secchi Negli USA’ (The Experience of Father Angelo Secchi in the USA).” presented for the Science, Territory, and Civil Protection Conference, Istituto Superiore Antincendi, October 23.

Caron, Laura, Cathy Bailey, Tom Neltner, and Doug Farquhar. 2017. “Lead in the Water: Disclosing Lead Service Lines.” presented for the National Conference of State Legislatures, December. <http://www.ncsl.org/research/environment-and-natural-resources/lead-in-the-water-disclosing-lead-service-lines.aspx>.

## SERVICE & MENTORING

Diversity representative, Columbia University Economics Department Diversity Initiative. September 2022 – present.

Program organizer, Columbia University Economics Department Diversity Initiative's Undergraduate Mentoring Program. September 2021 – May 2023.

Mentor to undergraduates, Columbia University Economics Department Diversity Initiative's Undergraduate Mentoring Program. January 2021 – present.

Mentor to PhD first-years, Association of Graduate Economics Students at Columbia. September 2021 – present.

Mentor to undergraduates, Women in Science at Columbia Mentoring Program. September 2020 – May 2023.

Mentor to Master's students, Women in Economics Initiative. November 2022 – present.