

IAIN BAMFORD

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Placement Assistant: Amy Devine, (212) 854-6881, aed2152@columbia.edu

Fields of Specialization

Primary Field: Urban Economics

Secondary Fields: Applied Microeconomics, Labor Economics

Education

Ph.D. in Economics, Columbia University	2015-2022 (<i>expected</i>)
M.Phil. in Economics, Columbia University	2018
M.A. in Economics, Columbia University	2017
M.Sc. in Economics, London School of Economics (with Distinction)	2014
B.Sc. in Economics, University of St Andrews	2013

Job Market Paper

Monopsony Power, Spatial Equilibrium, and Minimum Wages

Abstract: What role does labor market competitiveness play in determining the spatial distribution of economic activity? We develop a model of monopsony power in spatial equilibrium. Workers and firms are free to locate in any labor market. The degree of market power a firm enjoys depends on the number of competing firms in its location. We show the model can rationalize concentrations of economic activity and the city-size wage premium through an endogenous labor market competitiveness channel. Using administrative data from Germany, we calibrate the model to match reduced-form evidence on labor market size and labor market competitiveness. We find endogenous labor market competitiveness can explain approximately one-third of the city-size wage premium and 15% of all agglomeration. We use the model to study the spatial and welfare implications of the 2015 German national minimum wage law, and compare its effects to alternative spatially-targeted policies proposed at the time.

Work in Progress

Pedestrianization and Business Visits: Evidence from NYC Open Streets (with Pablo Warnes)

Persistence in Segregation: Evidence from City Segregation Ordinances

Research Experience

Research Assistant for Donald Davis (Columbia University) *Fall 2021, Summer 2018, Summer 2017*

Research Assistant for Bentley Macleod (Columbia University) *Spring 2018*

Research Assistant for Francois Gerard (Columbia University) *Fall 2016*

Research Assistant for Daniel Sturm (London School of Economics) *Fall 2014, Spring 2015*

Research Assistant for Johannes Spinnewijn (London School of Economics) *Spring 2015*

Research Assistant for Reka Juhasz (London School of Economics) *Spring 2015*

Teaching Fellowships

Economics of New York City
Instructor: Donald Davis *Spring 2021, Spring 2020, Spring 2019*

Financial Economics
Instructor: Tamrat Gashaw *Fall 2018*

Intermediate Microeconomics
Instructor: Qingmin Liu *Fall 2017*

International Trade
Instructor: Reka Juhasz *Spring 2017*

Honors and Awards

Dissertation Fellowship, Columbia University	2019-2020
Program for Economic Research: Field or Experimental Research Grant Award (\$3,800)	2020
Wueller Pre-Dissertation Award: Best Fourth Year Application (runner-up)	2018
Dr. Edwin P. and Dr. Beatrice G. Reubens Travel and Research Fund, Columbia University	2018
Dean's Fellowship, Columbia University	2015-2020

References

[Donald R. Davis](#)
Ragnar Nurkse Professor of
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Personal

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