DANIEL MARK DEIBLER

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Placement Chairs Placement Assistant

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Research Interests

Labor Economics, Public Economics, Economics of Education, Law and Economics

References

Professor W. Bentley Macleod Columbia University bentley.macleod@columbia.edu Professor Suresh Naidu Columbia University sn2430@columbia.edu Professor and Chair Miguel Urquiola Columbia University msu2101@columbia.edu

Education

2015-PRES. Columbia University

Doctor of Philosophy in Economics, Expected: May 2022 Dissertation Title: What Makes a Good Job? Essays in Labor Economics Masters of Philosophy, 2018 Masters of Arts, 2017

2010-2014 Washington University in St. Louis

Bachelor's of Arts: Summa Cum Laude, 2014

Job Market Paper

The Effect of Outsourcing on Remaining Workers, Rent Distribution, and Inequality

Firms can decide whether to produce some goods and services in-house or purchase them from the market. Increasingly, they are purchasing from the market—using subcontractors, temp agencies, and other outsourced labor. Low-wage workers' wages decline when they are outsourced, but little is known about how outsourcing affects remaining workers. If firms are rent sharing, outsourcing might increase remaining workers' earnings because there are more rents or fewer workers to share them with. This paper measures the impact of occupational layoff (OL) outsourcing, where firms outsource some occupations, on the earnings and separations of workers who remain employed by those firms. Using employer-employee data based on German social security records in a dynamic difference-in-differences design, outsourcing increases remaining workers' long-run earnings by 6% in a sample of 260 OL outsourcing events. Remainers are also more likely to stay at the outsourcing firm—outsourcing decreases the probability of remainers switching firms by 7.5 percentage points. Higher earnings and fewer separations are consistent with remainers receiving additional rents. Earnings gains are larger for workers in the bottom-half of the within-firm earnings distribution. Outsourcing only increases remainers' earnings in firms with collective bargaining agreements (CBAs). In firms with CBAs, outsourcing increases remainers' long-term earnings by 6%. In firms without CBAs, outsourcing lowers short-term earnings by 3%. The results are consistent with a model of wage setting where outsourcing firms with CBAs need to compensate remainers. When there is no CBA, firms do not compensate remainers and can lower their wages.

Analyzing the impact of outsourcing on within-firm and overall wage inequality, a typical outsourcing event in the sample lowers the within-firm Gini index by 2.5% as low-wage workers leave the firm and low-wage remainers are compensated. Using Recentered Influence Functions, increasing the share of workers part of an outsourcing event by 10 percentage points (from a baseline of 11.7%) increases the top of the earnings distribution by approximately 1-1.5%, and the overall Gini index by 1%. Remainers are relatively high-wage, and outsourcing increases their earnings. By not accounting for this effect, prior studies likely underestimate the total impact of outsourcing on earnings inequality in Germany.

Working Papers

"What's in a Name? How Definitions of "Employee" Shape Worker-Firm Relationships" [joint with Elliott Ash. Supported by NSF Award Number 1949415]

This paper provides causal evidence on how changing the legal boundaries of employment—whether a worker is defined as a firm's "employee" versus an outside contractor—affects labor market outcomes. We introduce a dataset of all U.S. Circuit Court cases making substantive employment determinations for the years 1990-2018 and link them to state- and occupation-level data on employment and earnings. Our difference-in-differences analysis reveals how employee definitions impact firm structure: when courts give workers additional legal rights by declaring them "employees", low-wage workers are more likely to be outsourced. For occupations where effort is more easily monitored (e.g. janitors, guards), "is-employee" determinations increase outsourcing and reduce earnings. For occupations where effort cannot be monitored easily (e.g. doctors, scientists, engineers), employment declines and workers are more likely to be independent contractors.

"Why Choose Alternative Work Arrangements? The Effect of Labor Demand Shocks on AWAs in the U.S. Labor Market" [supported by the DOL Scholars Program]

Alternative work arrangements (AWAs) are employment contracts where workers have fewer legal protections relative to traditional employment. I analyze the effect of economic downturns on AWA prevalence using two negative labor demand shocks. In a framework with uncertainty and fixed labor costs, I find that negative labor demand shocks reduce the probability that workers are in AWAs. The largest declines in AWAs occur in industries most affected by the shocks. This result suggests that AWAs are more marginal employment contracts, and are mostly let go during downturns.

"Keep Going to School: The Effect of Social Promotion on Wage Response to Childhood Labor"

Research has shown that when wages increase, families are less likely to send their children to school. I explore whether the uncertainty about children's success in school can explain part of this behavior. India's "No Detention Policy", enacted in 2010, required Social Promotion – automatic promotion regardless of test results – up to grade 8. I exploit pre-2010 variation in states with Social Promotion, and random wage shocks, to explore whether families are less likely to respond to wage shocks after Social Promotion is implemented. I find that without Social Promotion, higher wages increased dropout probability by 5%. With Social Promotion, higher wages decreased dropout probability by 1.1%, a sign switch and 80% decline in absolute effect. I find no effect on attendance, suggesting no intensive-margin response. These results illustrate that responses to wage shocks can depend on existing education policy, and that families internalize the likelihood of schooling success.

Grants and Awards

| 2020 | National Science Foundation Dissertation Improvement Grant |
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| 2019 | Wueller Pre-Dissertation Award, Columbia University |
| 2018 | Runner up – Columbia University Vickrey Award for Best 3rd Year Paper |
| 2017 | Department of Labor Scholars Program Grant |
| 2015 | Columbia University Graduate Fellowship |
| 2015 | Columbia University Graduate Summer Fellowship |
| 2014 | Adam Smith Prize for Excellence in Economics, Washington University |

Presentations (including upcoming)

| 2021 | Columbia University Applied Micro Workshop |
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| 2021 | Society of Labor Economics (SOLE) |
| 2020 | ETH Zurich |
| | Columbia University Applied Micro Workshop |
| | Society of Institutional and Organizational Economics |
| 2019 | Columbia University Applied Micro Colloquium |
| | W.E. Upjohn Institute Visiting Presentation |
| | 3rd IZA Conference on Contract Work |
| | Columbia University Applied Micro Colloquium |
| 2018 | Midwestern Economics Association |
| | Columbia University Applied Micro Colloquium |
| | Briq Workshop on Firms, Jobs, and Inequality |
| | Columbia University Applied Micro Colloquium |
| 2017 | Columbia University Applied Micro Colloquium |
| | Columbia University Applied Micro Colloquium |
| 2016 | Columbia University Applied Micro Colloquium |

Research and Professional Experience

| 2019 | W.E. Upjohn Institute, Visiting Researcher |
|-----------|--|
| 2018-2019 | Columbia University, Research Assistant for Professor Francois Gerard |
| 2016-2019 | Columbia University, Research Assistant for Professor W. Bentley MacLeod |
| 2014-2015 | NERA Economic Consulting, Research Associate |

Teaching Experience

Fall 2021 Intermediate Microeconomics

Professor: Prajit Dutta Position: Teaching Assistant

Fall 2020 Introduction to Microeconomics

Professor: Prajit Dutta Position: Teaching Assistant

Spring 2019 Seminar in Political Economy

Professor: W. Bentley MacLeod Position: Teaching Assistant

Spring 2017 Intermediate Microeconomics

Professor: Jonathan Vogel Position: Teaching Assistant

Fall 2016 Intermediate Microeconomics

Professor: Pietro Ortoleva Position: Teaching Assistant

Other Skills

Skills: STATA, R, MATLAB