

IAIN BAMFORD

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Fields of Specialization

Primary Field: Urban Economics

Secondary Fields: Applied Microeconomics, Labor Economics

Education

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

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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