

Alejandro Gutiérrez-Li, Ph.D.

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North Carolina State University
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EDUCATION

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS

Ph.D. in Economics, May 2020

Dissertation: Essays on Immigration and Entrepreneurship

Committee: Barton Hamilton (chair), Costas Azariadis, George-Levi Gayle

M.A. in Economics, 2016

ITAM (MEXICO CITY)

M.A. in Economic Theory

UNIVERSITY OF COSTA RICA

Licenciatura in Economics

B.A. in Economics (with highest honors)

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY

August 2020-present:

Assistant Professor, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics

Member, Economics Graduate Faculty, Department of Economics, Poole College of Management

Extension Economist, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Faculty Affiliate, Plant Sciences Initiative, November 2022-present

INTERESTS

Labor economics, applied microeconomics, economics of immigration, entrepreneurship

RESEARCH

Published and forthcoming

The Self-Employment Effects of Secure Communities in the United States (with Raffi Garcia). *American Economic Association Papers and Proceedings*. May 2023

—Recipient of the best paper award on Hispanics' Business and Entrepreneurship research by the Kauffman Foundation and the American Society of Hispanic Economists.

Self-Employment and Migration: Evidence from Mexico. *American Economic Association Papers and Proceedings*. May 2022

Market Power, Economies of Scale and Scope in the Costa Rican Banking System During the Period of 1997-2009 (published in Spanish as Poder de mercado, Economías de Escala y de Ámbito en el Sistema Bancario Costarricense Durante el Periodo 1997-2009). *Serie de Divulgación Económica*, IICE, Universidad de Costa Rica, 28. 2014

Determinants and Differences in Tax Moral in Central America. An analysis From the 2005 Latinobarometer (published in Spanish as Determinantes y Diferencias en la Moral Fiscal en Centroamérica. Un análisis desde el Latinobarómetro 2005). *Revista de Ciencias Económicas*, Universidad de Costa Rica, 29.1. 2011

Working Papers

Immigrant Entrepreneurship in the United States: The Role of Pre-Migration Work Experience —*Revise and Resubmit 3rd Round*

H-2A Workers' Preferences for Job Attributes: Evidence from an Experiment (with Rodolfo Nayga, Jeffrey Luckstead, Wei Yang, Bernardita Sallato, and Karina Gallardo) —*Revise and Resubmit*

The Labor Market Engagement of Immigrants Across Borders

Business Ownership and Mexico-US Immigration

Family CEOs, Turnover, and Firm Performance (with Barton Hamilton and Andrés Hincapié)

Work in Progress

The Effect of Internal Immigration Enforcement Shocks on the Agricultural Labor Supply (with Joaquin Rubalcaba)

Climate Change and Farm Labor Availability (with Roderick Rejesus)

Determinants of Mechanization Adoption in the Dairy Sector (with Cesar Escalante, Luis Pena, Shaheer Burney, and Grace Melo)

COMPETITIVE GRANTS

Caterpillar Foundation, Co-P.I., **\$86,761**; 2024-2027

Southern Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education, Co-P.I., **\$345,000**; 2023-2026

Northern Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education, Co-P.I., **\$249,945**; 2022-2024

National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA), P.I., **\$20,000**; 2021-2026

North Carolina Christmas Tree Association, P.I., **\$3,000**; 2020-2023

HONORS AND AWARDS

a) Fellowships, Scholarships, and Distinctions

NC State Impact Scholar, 2022

Best paper award on Hispanics' business and entrepreneurship research, Kauffman Foundation and American Society of Hispanic Economists, 2022
University fellowship, Washington University, 2014-2019
Summer research fellowship, Washington University, 2016-2019
Preparation in pedagogy certificate, Teaching Center, Washington University, 2019
Master studies fellowship, ITAM, 2012-2014
Academic excellence scholarship, University of Costa Rica, 2006-2011
Graduation with highest honors, University of Costa Rica
Dr. Frankin Chang Díaz scholarship for English studies, American-Costa Rican Cultural Center (CCCN), 2009-2010

b) Competitive Travel Awards

Russell Sage Foundation, 2023
Institute for Humane Studies, 2019, 2020, 2022, 2023 (x2)
Northeastern Agricultural and Resource Economics Association, 2022
American Economic Association, 2022, 2024
Diversity Initiative for Tenure in Economics, 2021, 2022 (x2)
Washington University in St. Louis, 2016, 2017, 2019, 2020

c) External Mentoring Programs (Competitively Selected)

Mentee, Diversity Initiative for Tenure in Economics, Duke University, 2020-present
Mentee, Northeastern Agricultural and Resource Economics Association, Career Advancement Program, 2023-present

d) Invited Participant (Competitively Selected)

Summer Institute in Migration Research Methods, Berkeley Interdisciplinary Migration Initiative. University of California Berkeley, June 2023 (Berkeley, CA)
Entrepreneurship Research Boot Camp, National Bureau of Economic Research, July 2017 (Boston, MA). Keynote speaker: Dr. Oliver Hart, Economics Nobel Laureate and Distinguished Professor of Economics at Harvard University
Summer School in Socioeconomic Inequality, Human Capital and Economic Opportunity, University of Chicago, July 2016 (Chicago, IL)

RESEARCH CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

2024

Wharton Business School, University of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia, PA)
UC Berkeley, Summer Institute in Migration Research Methods (Berkeley, CA)
Western Economic Association International (Seattle, WA)
AEA Summer Meeting for Underrepresented Minority Economists (Washington, DC)
Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (New Orleans, LA)
Virginia Tech University, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, invited seminar (Blacksburg, VA)

2023

Immigration Impacts on Healthcare (Washington, DC)
Downstream Effects of Covid-19 Restrictions on Immigration (San Diego, CA)
Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (Washington, DC)
UC Berkeley, Summer Institute in Migration Research Methods (Berkeley, CA)
UC Davis (pres. by coauthor)
NBER Immigrants and the U.S. Economy Conference (virtual; invited discussant only)
American Economic Association/ASSA Annual Meeting (pres. by coauthor)

2022

Southern Economic Association Annual Conference (Fort Lauderdale, FL)
American Society of Hispanic Economists (virtual)
Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (Anaheim, CA)
DITE, Duke University (Durham, NC)
AEA Summer Meeting for Underrepresented Minority Economists (Washington, DC)
Northeastern Agricultural and Resource Economics Association (Mystic, CT)
City University of New York (CUNY)-Lehman College (virtual)
American Economic Association/ASSA Annual Meeting (virtual)

2021

DITE Annual Research Conference (Washington, DC)
Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (Austin, TX)
Western Economic Association International Annual Meeting (virtual; presenter and discussant)
CSMGEP-CSWEP/WEAI (virtual; presenter and discussant)
Triangle Applied Microeconomics Conference (virtual)
Midwest Economics Association Annual Meeting (virtual)

2020

DITE (virtual)
ITAM Alumni Conference (virtual)
Western Economic Association International Annual Conference (session cancelled)
Tecnológico de Monterrey (virtual)

2019

Southern Economic Association Annual Conference (Fort Lauderdale, FL)
Latin American Meeting of the Econometric Society (Puebla, Mexico)
Economics Graduate Student Conference (St. Louis, MO)
Midwest International Trade Fall Conference (St. Louis, MO)
Indiana University (Bloomington, IN)
Midwest Economics Association/Society of Labor Economists Annual Meeting (presenter and discussant) (St. Louis, MO)

Washington University (St. Louis, MO)

2018

Washington University (St. Louis, MO)

2017

Washington University (St. Louis, MO)

MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

Best & Worst States for Jobs (2023). Ask the Experts. *WalletHub*. (November 29, 2023).

Interview about the Farm Workforce Modernization Bill. *Politico*. (September 20, 2023).

2023's States with the Highest Resignation Job Rates. Ask the Experts. *WalletHub*. (September 19, 2023).

Interview about the H-2A program. *Charlotte Observer*. (September 11, 2023).

The Hands That Feed Us. *NC State Bulletin, NC PSI News, and ARE News*. (August 29, 2023).

Interview About Immigrant Labor in Florida. *Miami Herald*. (August 18, 2023).

Interview About Employment Outlook for Hispanics and Blacks. *New York City News Service*. (March 22, 2023).

Lab Rats to Field Mice: The N.C. Plant Sciences Initiative's Inaugural Backroad Tour. *CALS News*. (November 1, 2022).

AAEA Column. *Members in the News*. (September 19, 2022).

Food Costs up 10% in a Year, But Immigration Reform Might Help, Some Experts Say. *The National Desk*. (September 8, 2022).

AAEA Column. *Members in the News*. (September 12, 2022).

Farmers Push for Immigration Reform to Counter Labor Shortages and Rising Food Prices *NBC News*. (September 5, 2022).

From Robots to Customers: Exploring New Opportunities for Dairy Farmers. *CALS News*. (August 2, 2022).

AAEA Column. *Members in the News*. (March 7, 2022).

Labor Shortage for NC Farmers Ripples Across Broader Economy. *Triangle Business Journal*. (February 18, 2022).

Gutierrez-Li Selected for NC State Impact Scholars Program. *ARE January Newsletter*. (January 27, 2022) and *CALS News*. (February 1, 2022).

Interview About the H-2A Visa Program. *Triangle Business Journal*. (January 13, 2022).

AAEA Column. *Members in the News*. (August 16, 2021).

US Jobless Claims Rose to 419,000 Last Week. *Wall Street Journal* (and others). (July 22, 2021).

Introducing Dr. Alejandro Gutierrez-Li. *CALS News and ARE November Newsletter*. (November 2, 2020).

North Carolina Farm Bureau Report. (November 6, 2020).

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

ITAM, Center for Economics Research (CIE)

Research assistant, 2013-2014

UNIVERSITY OF COSTA RICA, Economics Institute of Research (IICE)

Economics researcher, 10/2010-12/2011

Research assistant, 05/2008-09/2010

CENTRAL BANK OF COSTA RICA (BCCR)

Summer internship, 06/2013-07/2013

EXTENSION/OUTREACH/POLICY WORK

Policy/Outreach Peer-Reviewed Publications

15. Feeding America? The Role of Immigrants in the U.S. Agricultural Sector. Working Paper. Center for the U.S. and Mexico. Baker Institute. Rice University
14. The Costs and Benefits of Mechanization: A Look at the Dairy Sector (with Cesar Escalante and Shree Acharya) *Submitted*
13. Reforming the H-2A Guest Farmworker Visa Program: Sectoral Coverage Expansion and Workers' Path to Permanent Residency (with Cesar Escalante and Shree Acharya) *Southern Ag Today* 4(10.3). March 6, 2024
12. What is the TN Visa Program? *Southern Ag Today* 3(7.3). February 14, 2024
11. How to Protect Farmworkers During Heat Waves? *Southern Ag Today* 3(30.5). July 28, 2023
10. Labor Needs of North Carolina Christmas Tree Growers. *Limbs & Needles*. NC Christmas Tree Association. Spring/Summer 2023
9. New Rules for the Calculation of H-2A Workers' Wages. *Southern Ag Today* 3(26.3). June 28, 2023
8. The Christmas Tree Industry in North Carolina: Characteristics and Challenges Ahead. (2023). *NC State Economist*. November-December 2022, Part 2.
7. Adverse Effect Wage Rates of H-2A Workers Increase in 2023. *Southern Ag Today* 3(3.5). January 20, 2023
6. Urban Development and Farm Labor Scarcity: Are Workers Leaving Agriculture for Construction? *Southern Ag Today* 2(50.5). December 9, 2022
5. Job Market Behavior During Pandemic Times. *Southern Ag Today* 2(33.5). August 12, 2022
4. Immigration Projects under Discussion: Why do They Matter for the Agricultural Labor Supply? *Southern Ag Today* 2(32.5). August 5, 2022

3. The H-2A Visa Program: Addressing Farm Labor Scarcity in North Carolina. (2021). *NC State Economist*. Summer 2021.

—Featured by the *NC Farm Bureau, Daily Briefing, 7/14/21*

2. The H-2A Visa Program in North Carolina. (2021). Factsheets, NC State Extension Publications.

1. Analysis of the Contribution of Recreational and Commercial Fisheries to the Costa Rican Economy, with Fernández, C; González, G; Lucke, R; Rojas, F; Yong, M. (2010). Technical report. IICE, University of Costa Rica. Sponsored by The Billfish Foundation.

Workshops and Presentations

16. Conversations on Migration: Agricultural Workers and U.S. Visas. Baker Institute for Public Policy at Rice University. October 2023 (virtual)

15. University and Industry Consortium, Keynote Invited Speaker (Chicago, IL)

14. Virginia Cooperative Extension, Keynote Invited Speaker, Virginia Tech. June 2023 (virtual)

13. Pickle Packers International (PPI), Keynote Invited Speaker. April 2023 (Raleigh, NC).

12. NC Christmas Tree Association. Winter Meeting. February 2023 (Boone, NC).

11. Invited Speaker, NC Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers. February 2023 (Raleigh, NC)

10. NC Extension Annual Conference. October 2022 (Greensboro, NC)

9. Virginia Cooperative Extension, Keynote Invited Speaker, Virginia Tech. July 2022 (virtual)

8. Green Industry Research Consortium (co-organizer). Multi-state Hatch. Fall meeting. September 2022 (Raleigh, NC).

7. NC Christmas Tree Association. Winter Meeting. February 2022 (Boone, NC)

6. Agricultural Labor in NC, Extension Annual Conference. October 2021 (virtual)

5. Carbon Markets, Conservation Practices, and Ag. Labor (with R. Rejesus and E. Edwards), Extension Annual Conference. October 2021 (virtual)

4. Invited Speaker. Agricultural Labor Outlook. Southern Outlook Conference. September 2021 (Atlanta, GA)

3. Green Industry Research Consortium. Multi-state Hatch. Fall meeting. September 2021 (virtual)

2. Green Industry Research Consortium. Multi-state Hatch. Winter meeting. March 2021 (virtual)

1. Agricultural Labor Outlook, Extension Agent Educational Series, ARE/NCSU. November 2020 (virtual)

TEACHING AND MENTORING EXPERIENCE

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Instructor

Political Economy, Summer 2017, Summer 2016

Teaching Assistant

Fall 2015-Spring 2018

Professional Development in Teaching:

Preparation in Pedagogy Program, certificate awarded in September of 2019

UNIVERSITY OF COSTA RICA

Teaching Assistant

Multiple courses in the Economics and Mathematics departments, 2005-2011

OTHER

Mentor and research supervisor of many students at all levels (undergraduate, master's, and doctoral). NC State University. 2020-

Guest speaker. ARE 303. Farm Management. Spring 2023. NC State University.

Keynote Speaker. *Do's and Don'ts of Life in College*. Mexican Studies Institute, City University of New York. Webinar, January 31, 2022.

Panelist. *Networking and Interacting with the Media*. American Economic Association. Summer Mentoring Pipeline Conference, June 17, 2022 (Washington, DC).

PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT AND SERVICE

Referee

Journal of Population Economics (x3), World Development, Small Business Economics, American Journal of Agricultural Economics, Applied Economic Perspectives and Policy, Agricultural Economics, Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics, Choices, Journal of Extension, USDA-ERS Economic Information Bulletin, Revista de Ciencias Económicas

Reviewer

BARD US-Israel Binational Agricultural Research and Development Fund, AAEA Annual Conference (2021, 2022, 2023, 2024) abstract reviewer, WashU Economics Graduate Student Conference, CORESTA Guide 17 Sustainability in Leaf Tobacco Production

Memberships

American Economic Association, Society of Labor Economists, Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, Midwest Economics Association, European Association of Labor Economists, Western Economic Association, Northeastern Agricultural and Resource Economics Association, Southern Economic Association, Southern Agricultural Economics Association, American Society of Hispanic Economists

Committee Service

External:

Guest Editor, Hispanic Economic Outlook. Issue on Hispanics' Business and Entrepreneurship, Spring 2024

Distinguished Outreach/Extension Award, AAEA, 2023-

Hispanic Economic Outlook, American Society of Hispanic Economists, 2022-

Farmworker Pesticide Education Program, NCSU, September 2020-

Secretary and Treasurer (elected), Latin American Section, AAEA, 2024-

NCSU:

Search committee member for the CALS faculty cluster hire on Artificial Intelligence (appointed by the Dean of the college), 2024

Co-organizer, Brownbag Seminar for Applied Microeconomics (BAM) with Melinda Morrill and Raymond Guiteras, 2021-2022

Search committee member for a Farm Management Extension Associate position, ARE, 2021

ARE Representative, NC State Employees Combined Campaign, 2021-2024

SKILLS

Computer

Stata, Matlab, R, Eviews, Python, LaTeX

Languages

English (fluent), Spanish (native); Mandarin, Cantonese, French, and German (basic)