

OWEN HEAREY

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Education

University of California, Los Angeles
Los Angeles, CA

Ph.D., June 2016 (expected)

Economics

C. Phil., Dec. 2014

M.A., Dec. 2011

Columbia College, Columbia University
New York, NY

B.A., May 2008

Economics-Political Science, Mathematics

Employment

June 2008 – July 2010

Federal Reserve Board of Governors
Washington, DC

Sr. Research Assistant

Fields of Interest

Public, Labor, Urban, Education

Published Work

“Urbanization in the United States, 1800-2000,” with Leah Boustan and Devin Bunten. *The Handbook of American Economic History*. Eds. Louis P. Cain, Price V. Fishback and Paul W. Rhode (New York, NY: Oxford University Press, forthcoming).

Job Market Paper

“The Effect of Rising Income Inequality Across Neighborhoods on Local School Funding and Enrollment.”

Income inequality across neighborhoods more than doubled in the U.S. between 1970 and 2010. This spatial reallocation of household income may affect public schools through changes to the distribution of peers and provision of local tax revenues. I find that rising income inequality across neighborhoods within a school district increases local public school funding, suggesting that the median voter substitutes a higher property tax rate for declines in neighborhood peer quality. But this income sorting also depresses human capital investment, primarily due to a widening enrollment gap between low- and high-income neighborhoods. These results are robust to instrumenting for changes in neighborhood incomes with the initial allocation of households interacted with differential national trends in household income growth by percentile.

Research in Progress

“The Business Cycle Dynamics and Information Salience of School Quality Valuation,” with Stuart Gabriel, Matthew Kahn and Ryan Vaughn.

The existing hedonic literature on school quality valuation leaves open the questions of how these valuations evolve with the broader economic environment, and how exactly households process

new information about local schools. This paper uses home price and school quality data for Los Angeles County spanning 2000 to 2015 to identify households' willingness to pay for a school quality improvement using a dynamic spatial regression discontinuity approach. We also estimate the differential effect of both continuous and discrete sources of information about local schools. Overall, we find that households treat public school quality as an inferior good – they value it more during a downturn than an upswing. Moreover, even after accounting for changes in a school's academic performance index, labeling a school in need of “program improvement” (a discrete, more salient measure of school quality) is estimated to have an additional negative effect on valuations.

Fellowships and Awards

UCLA Ziman Center for Real Estate, Howard and Irene Levine Program in Housing and Social Responsibility Grant (2015-16, \$5,000)

Marcia & Herbert Howard Endowed Graduate Fellowship for Excellence in Teaching (Winter 2015, \$500)

UCLA Graduate Research Mentorship (2013-14, \$20,000 plus standard tuition and fees)

Marcia & Herbert Howard Endowed Graduate Fellowship for Excellence in Teaching (Fall 2011, \$500)

Research Assistance

Winter, Spring 2014	J.R. DeShazo	Luskin Center for Innovation
Winter, Fall 2012	Stuart Gabriel and Matthew Kahn	Ziman Center for Real Estate

Teaching Experience

Fall 2015	Comparative Gov't and Politics of Western Europe Raffaele Asquer	Reader
Spring 2015	Microeconomic Theory II Jernej Copic	Teaching Fellow
Winter 2015	Introduction to Econometrics Randall Rojas	Teaching Fellow
Fall 2014	Statistics for Economists Randall Rojas	Teaching Associate
Summer 2013	Environmental Economics with Matthew Kahn	Lecturer
Spring 2013	Introduction to Econometrics Randall Rojas	Teaching Associate
Winter 2013	Microeconomic Theory II Edward Kung	Teaching Associate
Fall 2012	Real Estate, the Economy and the Capital Markets Stuart Gabriel	Reader
Summer 2012	Environmental Economics Matthew Kahn	Teaching Assistant
Spring 2012	Microeconomic Theory I William R. Zame	Teaching Assistant

Fall 2011 Microeconomic Theory II Teaching Assistant
 Jernej Copic
 Real Estate, the Economy and the Capital Markets Reader
 Stuart Gabriel

Professional Activities

UCLA Ziman Center for Real Estate	Research Fellow (2015-)
All-California Labor Economics Conference	Poster Session (2015)
UCLA Graduate Economics Association	Representative (2014-)
Data Acquisition and Data Management for Economic Research	Participant (2014)
Global Green Business Week for Young Leaders	Program Lecturer (2014)
VSCSE Data Intensive Summer School	Participant (2014)
California Center for Population Research	Affiliate (2013-)
UCE3 Summer School in Environmental and Energy Economics	Participant (2011)

Skills

Proficient with STATA, SAS, Matlab and ArcGIS; working knowledge of R; familiar with Java, C++, Python

Citizenship

U.S.

References

Leah Boustan Associate Professor Department of Economics University of California, Los Angeles 8283 Bunche Hall Mail Stop: 147703 Los Angeles, CA 90095 (310) 794-4263 lboustan@econ.ucla.edu	Matthew Kahn Professor Institute of the Environment University of California, Los Angeles La Kretz Hall, Ste. 300 Mail Stop: 149605 Los Angeles, CA 90095 (310) 794-4904 mkahn@ioes.ucla.edu	Adriana Lleras-Muney Professor Department of Economics University of California, Los Angeles 8283 Bunche Hall Mail Stop: 147703 Los Angeles, CA 90095 (310) 825-3925 alleras@econ.ucla.edu
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Placement

John Asker Placement Director (310) 825-1011 johnasker@ucla.edu	William R. Zame Placement Director (310) 206-9463 zame@econ.ucla.edu	Christina Romero Placement Coordinator (310) 206-1413 cromero@econ.ucla.edu
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