About the Pacific Development Conference

Past PacDev Conferences

2017: University of California, Riverside
2016: Stanford University
2015: University of California, San Diego
2014: University of California, Los Angeles
2013: San Francisco State University
2012: University of California, Davis
2011: University of California, Berkeley
2010: University of Southern California
2009: San Francisco State University
2008: University of California, San Diego
2007: University of California, Davis

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PacDev 2018 Summary Schedule
(All sessions take place at the UC Davis International Center)

8:00 – 9:30 a.m.  Breakfast and Registration  
Multipurpose Room

9:30 – 10:50  Concurrent Sessions I
Room 1213  Session 1A: Women’s Empowerment: Political & Institutional Change
Room 1206  Session 1B: Hope, Hopelessness & Poverty
Room 1204  Session 1C: Local Governance & Participation
Room 1208  Session 1D: Risk Sharing, Savings & Investment
Room 1210  Session 1E: Structural Change & Resource (Mis)Allocation

10:50 – 11:15  Coffee Break

11:15 – 12:25 p.m.  Concurrent Sessions II
Room 1213  Session 2A: Women’s Decisionmaking Power: Economics, Law and Domestic Violence
Room 1206  Session 2B: Health & Behavioral Economics
Room 1204  Session 2C: Quality & Delivery of Public Services
Room 1208  Session 2D: Impacts of Shocks on Behavior & Personality: Junior Researcher’s Work
Room 1210  Session 2E: Industrialization & Industrial Organization

12:30 – 1:15  Lunch
Multipurpose Room

1:15 – 2:00  Keynote Speaker: Paul Niehaus
Multipurpose Room

2:10 – 3:30  Concurrent Sessions III
Room 1213  Session 3A: Education
Room 1206  Session 3B: Violence and Conflict
Room 1204  Session 3C: Political Economy: Social and Geographic Distance & Bureaucratic Turnover
Room 1208  Session 3D: Assets & Technology Adoption in Agriculture
Room 1210  Session 3E: Firm Productivity & Wage Work

3:30 – 3:40  Break

3:40 – 5:00  Concurrent Sessions IV
Room 1213  Session 4A: Political Economy: Information, Entry & Elections
Room 1206  Session 4B: Satellite & Other Big Data to Measure Poverty, Competition & Economic Activity
Room 1204  Session 4C: Tax Compliance
Room 1208  Session 4D: Environment and Development

5:00 – 6:30  Reception
Multipurpose Room
Keynote Speaker: Paul Niehaus

Paul Niehaus is an associate professor of economics at the University of California, San Diego, where he works with governments in emerging markets to improve the implementation of social programs.

He is a Faculty Research Fellow at the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), a Junior Affiliate at the Bureau for Research and Economic Analysis of Development (BREAD), an Affiliate of the Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL), and an Affiliate at the Center for Effective Global Action (CEGA).

He is also cofounder and president of GiveDirectly, currently the top-rated nonprofit by GiveWell and ranked among the 25 most audacious companies (Inc) and 10 most innovative companies in finance (Fast Company), and co-founder of Segovia Technology Co.

He holds a PhD in economics from Harvard University. In 2013 Foreign Policy named him one of its 100 leading “Global Thinkers.”

Co-sponsors

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The UC Davis Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics receives national and international recognition for its high-quality faculty and its undergraduate and graduate programs. In each area of emphasis, the Ph.D. program consistently ranks number one or two in the world, and its graduates hold positions in academia, government, international organizations and industry. More at are.ucdavis.edu.

UC Davis Department of Economics

The UC Davis Department of Economics offers students the opportunity to gain superior problem-solving analytical skills, state-of-the-art economic and econometric techniques, and other tools used in policy-relevant and business-related quantitative analysis from internationally prominent economics scholars. More at economics.ucdavis.edu.

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The Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Assets and Market Access at UC Davis conducts and supports research on policies and programs designed to help poor and smallholder farmers worldwide to manage risk, adopt productive technologies and take an active part in economic growth. More at basis.ucdavis.edu.
Sessions

Concurrent Sessions I | 9:30 – 10:50 a.m.

**Session 1A: Women’s Empowerment: Political & Institutional Change**
Room 1213

**Moderator:** Beth Katz, University of San Francisco

- Marriage Markets and the Rise of Dowry in India
  Gaurav Chioplunkar and Jeffrey Weaver

- Closing the Gender Gap in Leadership Positions: Can Expanding the Pipeline Increase Parity?
  Ryan Brown, Hani Mansour and Stephen O’Connell

- Policy or Perception? Women’s Political Liberalization and Sex-selection in India
  Nabaneeta Biswas

**Session 1B: Hope, Hopelessness & Poverty**
Room 1206

**Moderator:** Bruce Wydick, University of San Francisco

- Developing Educational and Vocational Aspirations through International Child Sponsorship: Evidence from Kenya, Indonesia, and Mexico
  Phillip H. Ross, Paul Glewwe, Daniel Prudencio and Bruce Wydick

- Income, Psychological Well-being, and the Dynamics of Poverty: Evidence from South Africa
  M Alloush

- Can Hope Elevate Microfinance? Evidence from Oaxaca, Mexico
  Ruben Irvin Rojas Valdes, Bruce Wydick and Travis J. Lybbert

- Violence & The Formation of Hopelessness in Colombia
  Andres Moya and Michael R. Carter

**Session 1C: Local Governance & Participation**
Room 1204

**Moderator:** Monica Singhal, UC Davis

- Targeting Credit Through Community Members
  Diego A. Vera-Cossio

- Rescuing Autocracy from Itself: China’s Anti-Corruption Campaign
  Xi Lu and Peter Lorentzen

- Resistance is Futile? Institutional and Geographic Factors in China’s Great Famine
  Elizabeth Gooch

**Session 1D: Risk Sharing, Savings & Investment**
Room 1208

**Moderator:** Arman Rezaee, UC Davis

- In-Kind Transfers as Insurance
  Lucie Gadenne, Samuel Norris, Monica Singhal and Sandip Sukhtankar

- The Long-Term Effects of Temporary Incentives to Save: Evidence from a Prize-Linked Savings Experiment in Mexico
  Paul Gertler, Sean Higgins, Aisling Scott and Enrique Seira
Imperfect Monitoring and Informal Risk Sharing: The Role of Social Ties
Prachi Jain

At What Price? Price Supports, Agricultural Productivity, and Misallocation
Nandita Krishnaswamy

Structural Change with Input-Output Linkage
Hang Hu

Allocation of Female Talent and Cross-Country Productivity Differences
Munseob Lee

Session 1E: Structural Change & Resource (Mis)Allocation
Room 1210
Moderator: Ashish Shenoy, UC Davis

Concurrent Sessions II | 11:15 – 12:25 p.m.

Session 2A: Women’s Decisionmaking Power: Economics, Law and Domestic Violence
Room 1213
Moderator: Michael Carter, UC Davis

Domestic Violence, Decision-Making Power and Female Employment in Colombia
Johanna Fajardo-Gonzalez

Divorce Laws and Intimate Partner Violence: Evidence from Mexico
Aixa Garcia-Ramos

Competing for the Benefit of Offspring Eliminates the Gender Gap in Competitiveness
Alessandra Cassar, Feven Wordofa and Y. Jane Zhang

Session 2B: Health & Behavioral Economics
Room 1206
Moderator: Nick Magnan, University of Georgia

Does Children’s Education Matter for Parents’ Health and Cognition in Old Age? Evidence from China
Mingming Ma

Reflecting on Major Life Decisions: Changing Your Mind and Not Recalling It
Jennifer Johnson-Hanks, Joan Hamory-Hicks, Edward Miguel and Maximilian W. Mueller

The Role of Social Signaling in Community Deworming: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Kenya
Anne Karing and Karim Naguib
Session 2C: Quality & Delivery of Public Services
Room 1204

Moderator: Diana Moreira, UC Davis

Political Opposition, Politician Performance, and Public Service Delivery: Evidence From Brazil
Alexander Poulsen

 Outsourcing Service Delivery in a Fragile State: Experimental Evidence from Liberia
Mauricio Romero, Justin Sandefur and Wayne Aaron Sandholtz

 Voice and Action: Can Communities Change Education Outcomes? Evidence from a Field Experiment in Pakistan
Salman Asim and Amina Riaz

Session 2D: Impacts of Shocks on Behavior & Personality
(Junior Researcher Session)
Room 1208

Moderator: Steve Boucher, UC Davis

Impacts of Frequent Weather Shocks on Peruvian Farmers’ Conservation Behavior
Heleene Tambet
PhD Candidate Discussant: Laura Paul, UC Davis

Economic Valuation of Biodiversity: Measuring Willingness-to-Pay for Quinoa Conservation in Peru
Craig Scott and Sarah Elmes
PhD Candidate Discussant: Amanda Lindsay, UC Davis

Drawings from Syria’s Lost Generation: Psychological Impacts of the Refugee Crisis
Rafael Panlilio
PhD Candidate Discussant: Anubhab Gupta, UC Davis

Shocks And Personality
Shikhar Mehra
PhD Candidate Discussant: M Alloush, UC Davis

Session 2E: Industrialization & Industrial Organization
Room 1210

Moderator: Gaurav Khanna, UC San Diego

Structural Transformation and Spillovers from Industrial Areas
David Blakeslee, Ritam Chaurey, Ram Fishman and Samreen Malik

Industrialization from Scratch: The ‘Third Front’ and Local Economic Development in China’s Hinterland
Jingting Fan and Ben Zou

Insecurity and Industrial Organization: Evidence from Afghanistan
Joshua Blumenstock, Tarek Ghani, Sylvan Herskowitz, Ethan B. Kapstein, Thomas Sherer and Ott Toomet
Concurrent Sessions III | 2:10 – 3:30

Session 3A: Education  
Room 1213

Moderator: Diana Moreira, UC Davis

- Increasing Students’ Aspirations: The Impact of Queen of Katwe on Students' Educational Attainment  
  Emma Riley

- Tackling Youth Unemployment: Evidence from a Labor Market Experiment in Uganda  
  Livia Alfonsi, Oriana Bandiera, Vittorio Bassi, Robin Burgess, Imran Rasul, Munshi Sulaiman and Anna Vitali

- Trickle-Down Education? Effects of Elite Public Colleges on Primary and Secondary Schooling Markets in India  
  Maulik Jagnani and Gaurav Khanna

- Incentivizing Standards or Standardizing Incentives? Affirmative Action in India  
  Gaurav Khanna

Session 3B: Violence and Conflict  
Room 1206

Moderator: Arman Rezaee, UC Davis

- The Reach of Radio: Ending Civil Conflict through Rebel Demobilization  
  Alex Armand, Paul Atwell and Joseph Gomes

- Did the Invasion of Afghanistan Deter Ungoverned Spaces? Not in Africa  
  Mitch Downey

- Conflict and Trade: Evidence from Russian-Ukranian Trade Transactions  
  Vasily Korovkin and Alexey Makarin

- Losing your Cool: Psychological Mechanisms in the Temperature-Crime Relationship in Mexico  
  Gordon C. McCord and Aleister Montfort

Session 3C: Political Economy  
Social and Geographic Distance & Bureaucratic Turnover  
Room 1204

Moderator: Steven Helfand, UC Riverside

- Social Proximity and Bureaucrat Performance: Evidence from India  
  Guo Xu, Marianne Bertrand and Robin Burgess

- Political Turnover, Bureaucratic Turnover, and the Quality of Public Services  
  Mitra Akhtari, Diana Moreira and Laura Trucco

- The Cost of Distance: Geography and Governance in Rural India  
  Sam Asher, Karan Nagpal and Paul Novosad
Session 3D: Assets & Technology Adoption in Agriculture
Room 1208

Moderator: Steve Boucher, UC Davis

Agricultural Technology Adoption, Market Participation, and Price Risk in Kenya
Samuel S. Bird

Allocative Inefficiency under Heterogeneous Technology in Bolivian Agriculture
Travis McArthur

Short-term Impacts of a Pay-it-Forward Livestock Transfer and Training Program in Nepal
Sarah Janzen, Nicholas Magnan and William M. Thompson

Locus of Control and Investment Behavior Among Smallholding Maize Farmers: An Empirical Study from Mozambique and Tanzania
Jonathan Malacarne

Session 3E: Firm Productivity & Wage Work
Room 1210

Moderator: Ashish Shenoy, UC Davis

Estimating the Production Function when Firms are Constrained
Ajay Shenoy

Environmental Regulation and Firm Productivity in China: Estimates from a Regression Discontinuity Design
Guojun He, Shaoda Wang and Bing Zhang

Microenterprises and the Lure of Wage Work: Theory and Evidence from Mexican Export Manufacturing
Michael Koelle

Concurrent Sessions IV | 3:40 – 5:00

Session 4A: Political Economy: Information, Entry & Elections
Room 1213

Moderator: Arman Rezaee, UC Davis

Barriers to Political Entry: Experimental Evidence from Local Government Elections in Pakistan
Saad Gulzar and Muhammad Yasir Khan

Can More Information Lead to More Voter Polarization? Experimental Evidence from Turkey
Ceren Baysan

Information, Accountability, and Public Goods: Evidence from Three Linked Field Experiments in Liberia
Mauricio Romero, Justin Sandefur and Wayne Aaron Sandholtz

Computerization and Development: Formalizing Property Rights and its Impact on Land and Labor Markets
Sabrin Beg
Session 4B: Satellite & Other Big Data to Measure Poverty, Competition & Economic Activity
Room 1206

Moderator: Travis Lybbert

Poverty Mapping Using Convolutional Neural Networks Trained on High and Medium-Resolution Satellite Images, With an Application in Mexico
Boris Babenko, Jonathan Hersh, David Newhouse, Anusha Ramakrishnan, and Tom Swartz

Properties of Satellite Imagery for Measuring Economic Activity at Small Geographies
Ran Goldblatt, Kilian Heilmann, and Yonatan Vaizman

Scoping for Competition in Network Industries: Evidence from Mobile Telecommunications in Rwanda
Daniel Bjorkegren

Session 4C: Tax Compliance
Room 1204

Moderator: Monica Singhal, UC Davis

Enforcement and Compliance with Labour Legislation
Clemente Pignatti

Tax Audits as Scarecrows: Evidence from a Large-Scale Field Experiment
Marcelo L. Bergolo, Rodrigo Ceni, Guillermo Cruces, Matias Giacobbasso and Ricardo Perez-Truglia

Wealth Taxation and Evasion: Quasi-Experimental Evidence from Colombia
Juliana Londono-Velez and Javier Avila

Session 4D: Environment and Development
Room 1208

Moderator: Steve Boucher

Volcanic Risk and Social Behaviors: Evidence from Ecuador
Victor Stephane

The Ecological Footprint of Transportation Infrastructure
Sam Asher, Teevrat Garg and Paul Novosad

Water When it Counts: Reducing Water Scarcity through Irrigation Monitoring in Central Mozambique
Paul Christian, Florence Kondylis, Valerie Mueller, Astrid Zwager and Tobias Siegfried