

Brent R. Hickman

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY

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CITIZENSHIP: United States

LANGUAGES: English (native), Spanish (castellano, fluent)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Empirical methods for models of private information; auctions; industrial organization; higher education; affirmative action; black-white inequality.

EDUCATION

Degree	Field	Institution	Graduation
Ph.D.	Economics	University of Iowa	December 2010
B.A.	Economics	Brigham Young University	May 2005
B.A.	Spanish Translation	Brigham Young University	May 2005

EMPLOYMENT

Queen's University Economics Department
Assistant Professor: July 2017–*present*
University of Chicago Economics Department
Assistant Professor: July 2010–June 2017
University of Wisconsin–Madison Economics Department
Visiting Scholar: Fall 2014/Winter 2015.

RESEARCH

Refereed Publications

["On the Pricing Rule in Electronic Auctions,"](#) *The International Journal of Industrial Organization*, September 2010, vol. 28, pp. 423–578.

["Structural Econometric Methods in Auctions: A Guide to the Literature,"](#)
Journal of Econometric Methods, August 2012, issue 1, pp. 67–106, with Timothy P. Hubbard and Yigit Saglam

["Replacing Sample Trimming with Boundary Correction in Nonparametric Estimation of First-Price Auctions,"](#) *Journal of Applied Econometrics*, August 2015, Volume 30, Issue 5, pp. 739–762, with Timothy P. Hubbard.

["Identification and Estimation of a Bidding Model for Electronic Auctions,"](#) *Quantitative Economics*, July 2017, Volume 8, Issue 2, pp. 505–551, with Timothy P. Hubbard and Harry J. Paarsch.

["College Assignment as a Large Contest,"](#) *Journal of Economic Theory*, May 2018, Volume 175,

pp. 88–126, with Aaron L. Bodoh-Creed

[“How Efficient Are Decentralized Auction Platforms?”](#)

forthcoming, *Review of Economic Studies*, with with Joern Boehnke and Aaron Bodoh-Creed.

Working Papers

[“Pre-College Human Capital Investment and Affirmative Action: A Structural Policy Analysis of US College Admissions”](#), current version: August 2018; *R&R Econometrica*

[“Incentive Provision in Investment Contests: Theory and Evidence,”](#)

with Christopher Cotton and Joseph P. Price,

current version: October 2018, *R&R Journal of Labor Economics*

[“Productivity Versus Motivation: Using Field Experiments and Structural Econometrics to Better Understand Adolescent Human Capital Production,”](#)

with Christopher Cotton, John List, and Joseph P. Price, 2019.

[“Toward an Understanding of Corporate Social Responsibility: Theory and Field Experimental Evidence,”](#) with Daniel Hedblom and John List, March 2019

[“Using Machine Learning to Explain Violations of the ‘Law of One Price’,”](#)

December 2018, with Joern Boehnke and Aaron Bodoh-Creed (under review)

[“Resolving Failed Banks: Uncertainty, Multiple Bidding, and Auction Design,”](#)

March 2019, with Jason Allen, Rob Clark, and Eric Richerte.

Work In Progress

[“How Maleable Are Unobserved Student Characteristics During Middle Childhood?: A Field Experimental Investigation,”](#) with Juanna Joensen, John List, and Anya Samek

[“Less Proficient or More Methodical: a Field Experimental Investigation of Measured Gender Gaps in Math Scores,”](#) with Christopher Cotton, Eliane Hamel Barker, and John List

[“Is Math Tutoring a Treatment for Lack of Understanding or Lack of Engagement?: a Field Experimental Investigation of Response to Intervention,”](#) with Christopher Cotton, John List, and Joseph Price

[“Becker Versus Spence: on the Cost of Over-Investment in Human Capital Before College,”](#) with Aaron Bodoh-Creed

[“On the Non-Pecuniary Impacts of Access to a High-Quality University Education,”](#) with Aaron Bodoh-Creed

[“How Does Affirmative Action Shape Expected Payoffs from College?,”](#) with Jack Mountjoy

[“Macro-Level Market Design: Optimal Fees in Two-Sided Platform Selling Mechanisms,”](#) with Joern Boehnke and Aaron Bodoh-Creed

[“R&D In Durable Goods Markets with Resale,”](#) with Joern Boehnke and Aaron Bodoh-Creed

[“Information Processing versus Self-Control: A Field Experimental Look at the Drivers of Obesity”](#) with Justin Holz and John List

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Conference Organizing:

EC14: 15th ACM Conference on Economics and Computation, June 2014, Stanford University (program committee member)

Conference Presentations

- 53rd Annual Canadian Economic Association Meetings, Banf, Alberta, June 2019
- 88th Annual Southern Economic Association Meetings (invited speaker), Washington D.C., November 2018.
- Canadian Public Economics Group Meetings, Toronto, November 2018.
- Summer Institute on Field Experiments (invited speaker), Becker Friedman Institute for Research in Economics and University of Chicago Economics Department, July 2017.
- Summer Institute on Field Experiments (invited speaker), Becker Friedman Institute for Research in Economics and University of Chicago Economics Department, July 2017.
- 15th Annual International Industrial Organization Conference, Boston, MA, April 2017.
- North American Economic Science Association Meetings, Tucson, AZ, November 2016.
- Advances with Field Experiments (invited speaker), Becker Friedman Institute for Research in Economics and University of Chicago Economics Department, September 2016.
- HCEO Conference on Market Design Perspectives on Inequality (invited speaker), Becker Friedman Institute for Research in Economics, August 2016.
- Summer Institute on Field Experiments (invited speaker), Becker Friedman Institute for Research in Economics and University of Chicago Economics Department, July 2016.
- North American Summer Meetings of the Econometric Society, University of Pennsylvania, June 2016.
- INFORMS Annual Meeting (invited speaker), Philadelphia, PA, November 2015.
- Southern Economics Association Conference (invited speaker), New Orleans, LA, November 2015.
- Econometric Society World Congress, Montreal, Canada, August 2015.
- Conference on Auctions, Competition, Regulation, and Public Policy (invited speaker), Lancaster University June 2014.
- 12th Annual International Industrial Organization Conference, Northwestern University Law School, April 2014.
- Conference on Matching at Sciences Po (invited speaker), Paris, France, September 2013.
- Allied Social Sciences Association Meetings, San Diego, CA, January 2013.
- Econometric Society North American Summer Meetings, Evanston, IL, June 2012.
- "Common Ground: Recent Work in Empirical Labour and Industrial Organization" (invited speaker), sponsored by Copenhagen Business School, May 2012.
- 10th Annual International Industrial Organization Conference, George Mason Law School, March 2012.
- NSF/NBER Mathematical Economics and General Equilibrium Conference (invited speaker), University of Iowa, October 2011.
- Society for Economic Dynamics Annual Conference, Ghent, Belgium, July 2011.
- Institute on Computational Economics (invited speaker), sponsored by Argonne National Laboratory and The University of Chicago, July 2010;
- "Theory-Based Microeconomic Modeling" (invited speaker), sponsored by the Stanford Institute for Theoretical Economics, July 2010;
- "Economic Analysis and Education Policy" (invited speaker), co-sponsored by the Milton Friedman Institute, Searle Freedom Trust, and U of Chicago Committee on Education, June 4, 2010;
- 20th Stony Brook Game Theory Festival of the Game Theory Society, International Conference on Game Theory, July 2009;
- The Association for Public Economic Theory 10th Annual Conference, Galway, Ireland, June 2009;
- Midwest Economic Theory Meeting, Iowa City, May 2009;
- Midwest Economics Association 73rd Annual Meeting, Cleveland, OH, March 2009;
- Missouri Valley Economics Association Conference, Columbia, MO, March 2008.

Seminar Presentations

Pennsylvania State University, April 2019
Bank of Canada, October 2018
Vanderbilt University Economics Department, October 2018
United States Federal Trade Commission, September 2018
University of Toronto Economics Department, February 2018
Centre de Recherche en Economie et Statistique, May 2017
Queen's University Economics Department, March 2016
University of Pennsylvania Economics Department, December 2015
University of Wisconsin–Madison Economics Department, November 2015
University of Chicago Applications of Economics Seminar, October 2015
University of Guelph Economics Department, March 2015
Arizona State University Economics Department, December 2014
University of Chicago Workshop on Education, November 2014
University of Missouri Economics Department, October 2014
London School of Economics, June 2014
Brigham Young University Economics Department, October 2013
Harvard University Economics Department, September 2013
Rice University Economics Department, September 2013
University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee Economics Department, May 2013
Cornell University Economics Department, April 2013
Ohio State University Economics Department, March 2013
Washington University in St. Louis Economics Department, September 2012
Brigham Young University Economics Department, July 2012
DePaul University Economics Department, March 2012
University of California–Berkeley Economics Department, March 2011
Texas Tech University Economics Department, February 2011
Northwestern University Management and Strategy Department, November 2010
Penn State University Economics Department, October 2010
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Economics Department, September 2010
Brigham Young University Economics Department, September 2010
Brigham Young University Anthropology Department, September 2010
Yale University Economics Department, September 2010
University of Wisconsin–Madison Economics Department, March 2010
Australian National University Economics Department, February 2010
University of Georgia Economics Department, February 2010
University of Chicago Economics Department, February 2010
Johns Hopkins University Economics Department, February 2010
University of Northern Iowa, Economics Department, September 23, 2009

Referee

American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, American Economic Review, American Journal of Agricultural Economics, Econometrica, Econometrics Journal, Econometric Reviews, Economic Inquiry, Economics Letters, Economic Theory, International Economic Review, International Journal of Game Theory, International Journal of Industrial Organization, Journal of Business and Economic Statistics, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Economic Literature, Journal of Econometric Methods, Journal of Forest Economics, Journal of Industrial Economics, Journal of Labor Economics, Journal of Political Economy, Journal of Public Economics, National Research Council, National Science Foundation, Quantitative Economics, Quarterly Journal of Economics, RAND Journal of Economics, Review of Economic Dynamics, Review of Economic Studies

TEACHING

Graduate

Introduction to Structural Identification and Inference (w/emph. on Auctions and Market Design):
Queen's U: Winter 2018, Winter 2019

Empirical Methods in Auctions and Market Design:

U of Chicago: Spring 2012, Winter 2013, Winter 2014, Spring 2016, Winter 2017

Introduction to Numerical Computation for New Ph.D. Students:

U of Iowa: Fall 2009, Spring 2009

Introduction to Probability for Graduate Economic Theory:

U of Iowa: Fall 2008, Fall 2009

Math Camp for New Ph.D. Students:

U of Iowa: Summer 2007, Summer 2008, Summer 2009

Undergraduate

Introduction to Econometrics:

U of Iowa: Spring 2010

U of Chicago: Spring 2011, Spring 2012, Winter 2013, Winter 2014, Spring 2016, Fall 2016

Queen's U: Winter 2018, Winter 2019

ADVISING

Graduate Advising (with graduation date and first job placement):

Semih Tumen (UChicago 2011, Bilkent Economics Dept.);

Jonathan Hall (UChicago 2012, Toronto Economics Dept.);

Chungsang (Tom) Lam (UChicago 2013, Clemson Economics Dept.);

James Edwards (UChicago 2014, Moody's Analytics);

Daniel Tannenbaum (UChicago 2014, University of Nebraska Economics Dept.);

Ian Fillmore (UChicago 2015, Washington University in St. Louis Economics Dept.);

Sam Hwang (UChicago 2015, University of British Columbia Economics Dept.);

Jörn Boehnke (UChicago 2015, University of California–Davis Marketing Department);

Pietro Bonaldi (UChicago 2015, Carnegie Mellon University, Tepper School of Business);

Ignacia Mercadal (UChicago 2016, Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs);

Alex McKay (UChicago 2016, Harvard Business School);

Karl Schurter (UChicago 2017, Pennsylvania State University Economics Dept.);

Daniel Hedblom (UChicago 2017, U. of California–Berkeley, School of Information [postdoc]);

Wang Tong (UChicago 2018, Waseda University Economics Dept.);

Jose Tudon Maldonado (UChicago 2018, ITAM Economics Dept.);

Liya Zhu (UChicago 2018, Ford Motor Company);

David Rosé (Queen's 2019 [expected], Wilfrid Laurier University Economics Dept.);

Ken Chow (Queen's 2019 [expected]);

Shaoteng Li (Queen's [current]);

Xiaoran Guo (Queen's [current]);

Jarone Gittens (Queen's [current]);

Nihal Kuch (Queen's [current]);

Eric Richerte (Queen's [current]);

Eliane Barker (Queen's [current]);

Alex Arsenault (Queen's [current]);

Ludovic Auger (Queen's [current]);

Post-Doctoral Supervision:

Hayri Alper Arslan (Queen's [current]);

Graduate Second-Year Paper Reader:

Adriaan Ten Kate (UChicago, passed off Spring 2012);
Mallika Thomas (UChicago, passed off Spring 2013);
James Marrone (UChicago, passed off Spring 2014);
Mohammad Moravvej (UChicago, passed off Spring 2014);
Jack Mountjoy (UChicago, passed off Winter 2014)
Eric Richerte (Queen's, passed off Winter 2018)
Alex Arsenault (Queen's, passed off Winter 2018)

Undergraduate Research:

Anais Jollivet (UChicago, for course credit, Spring 2012)
Claire Mackevicius (UChicago, for course credit, Spring 2014)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Graduate Admissions Committee: U of Chicago, 2012, 2013, 2014

Junior Faculty Search Committee: U of Chicago, 2013-2014, 2014-2015, 2016-2017

Faculty Hiring Committee: Queen's University 2017-2018, 2018-2019

IO Working Group/Reading Group Organizer: U of Chicago, Winter 2014, Spring 2014

Junior Faculty Working Group Organizer: U of Chicago, 2015-2016, 2016-2017

Faculty Working Group Organizer: Queen's University, 2017-2018, 2018-2019

Visitor's Committee: Queen's University (Weatherall Endowment), 2017-2018

Department Equity Representative: Queen's University, 2017-2018

AWARDS AND HONORS

Nominated by my students for the Frank Knox Award for Excellence in Teaching,
Queen's University, winter term 2019 (undergraduate Introductory Econometrics)
J. William and Marion E. MacKinnon Junior Faculty Fellowship,
Queen's University Economics Department, 2017-2020
University of Chicago Intramural Floor Hockey Champions,
Maclean House Men's Team (goalie): 2014 & 2015;
Andrew J. Walters Research Award, U of Chicago Economics Dept., Spring 2016; Amount: \$5,000;
In support of research on Affirmative Action in College Admissions;
Social Science Division Research Grant, U of Chicago, Spring 2014; Amount: \$4,000;
Title: *Affirmative Action and Higher Education Choices*
Social Science Division Research Grant, U of Chicago, Spring 2013; Amount: \$4,000;
Title: *Assessing the Impact of Affirmative Action with Randomized Field Experiments*
Andrew J. Walters Research Award, U of Chicago Economics Dept., Spring 2013; Amount: \$5,000;
In support of research on two-sided market platforms;
2011 Paul Geroski Award, *International Journal of Industrial Organization* for "On the Pricing
Rule in Electronic Auctions," selected as one of two best papers published at *IJIO* during 2010;
Seed Grant, Office of the VP for Research, U of Chicago, Spring 2011; Amount: \$8,000;
Title: *Firm Dynamics and Industry Evolution in the Market for Higher Education Services*;
Outstanding Research Paper Award, U of Iowa Economics Dept, 2009;
Second place paper, 11th annual James F. Jakobsen Conference, Social Sciences & Education Division,
sponsored by U of Iowa Graduate College and Graduate Student Senate, March 2009;
Fellow, Institute on Computational Economics, jointly sponsored by U of Chicago Economics Dept
and Argonne National Laboratory, July 2008;
Graduate Presidential Fellow, U of Iowa, 2005-2010.