# Brian K. Kovak

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### **EMPLOYMENT**

Last updated: 02/04/2025

Carnegie Mellon University, Heinz College	
Professor of Economics and Public Policy	(July 2023 – present)
Associate Professor (with tenure) of Economics and Public Policy	(July 2018– June 2023)
Associate Professor (without tenure) of Economics and Public Policy	(July 2017 – June 2018)
Dean's Career Development Professorship	(Nov 2015 – June 2018)
Assistant Professor of Economics and Public Policy	(Aug 2010 – Jun 2017)

## **OTHER AFFILIATIONS**

National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), Research Associate (ITI) Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA), Research Fellow

### **EDUCATION**

- Ph.D., Economics, University of Michigan (2010).
- M.A., Economics, University of Michigan (2006).
- M.P.A., Indiana University (2004).
- B.S., Computer Engineering, Penn State (2002).

## JOURNAL ARTICLES

- "The Long-Run Labour Market Effects of the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement" (2024) (with Peter Morrow) *Review of Economic Studies*.
- "The International Transmission of Local Economic Shocks Through Migrant Networks" (2023) (with Maria Esther Caballero and Brian Cadena) *Journal of International Economics*. Vol. 145 No. 103832.
- "Distributional Impacts of the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement" (2023) (with Peter Morrow) **AEA Papers and Proceedings** Vol. 11 p. 585-589.
- "Social Learning along International Migrant Networks" (2022) *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization* Vol. 195 p.103-121 (with Yuan Tian and Maria Esther Caballero).
- "Wage Insurance and Labor Market Trajectories" (2021) *American Economic Association Papers and Proceedings*. Vol. 111 p.491-495 (with Ben Hyman, Adam Leive, and Theodore Naff).
- "The Labor Market Effects of Offshoring by U.S. Multinational Firms" (2021) *Review of Economics and Statistics*. Vol. 103 No. 2 p.381-396 (with Lindsay Oldenski and Nick Sly).
- "Why Has China Overinvested in Coal Power?" (2021) *Energy Journal*. Vol. 42 no. 2 p.113-134 (with Mengjia Ren, Lee Branstetter, Daniel Erian Armanios, and Jihai Yuan).

- "How do U.S. Visa Policies Affect Unauthorized Immigration?" (2020) *Journal of Monetary Economics*. Vol. 113 p. 92-108. (with Rebecca Lessem).
- "Margins of Labor Market Adjustment to Trade" (2019), *Journal of International Economics* Vol. 117 p.125-142 (with Rafael Dix-Carneiro).
- "Measuring Sub-national Migration Networks using *Matriculas Consulares*" (2018), *Demography*. Vol. 55 no. 3, p.1119-1145 (with Brian Cadena and Maria Esther Caballero)
- "Trade Liberalization and Regional Dynamics" (2017), *American Economic Review*. Vol. 107 no. 10, p.1908-2946 (with Rafael Dix-Carneiro).
- "Quality-Adjusted Price Measurement: A New Approach With Evidence from Semiconductors" (2017) *Review of Economics and Statistics* Vol. 99 no. 2, p. 330-342 (with David Byrne and Ryan Michaels).
- "Immigrants Equilibrate Local Labor Markets: Evidence from the Great Recession" (2016) *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* Vol. 8 no. 1, p.257-290 (with Brian C. Cadena).
- "Trade Liberalization and the Skill Premium: A Local Labor Markets Approach" (2015) *American Economic Review: Papers and Proceedings* Vol. 105 No. 5, p.551-557 (with Rafael Dix-Carneiro).
- "Regional Effects of Trade Reform: What is the Correct Measure of Liberalization?" (2013). *American Economic Review*. Vol. 103 No. 5, p1960-1976.
- "Overestimating the Effect of Complementarity on Skill Demand" (2011) *B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis & Policy.* Vol. 11: Iss. 1 (Topics), Article 65.

# **WORKING PAPERS**

- "Wage Insurance for Displaced Workers" (2023) (with Ben Hyman and Adam Leive) revise and resubmit, *Journal of Political Economy*.
- "Understanding Migration Responses to Local Shocks" (2023) (with Kirill Borusyak and Rafael Dix-Carneiro).

# WORK IN PROGRESS

- "Housing Allocation Under the Allegheny Housing Assessment Decision Support System" (with Lingwei Cheng, Alexandra Chouldechova, and Lowell Taylor)
- "Migration Restrictions and Economic Misallocation" (with Yuan Tian)
- "The Effect of Mexican Migrants on U.S. Labor Markets: A New Approach Using Weather Shocks and Migrant Networks" (with Maria Esther Caballero, Brian Cadena, and Marieke Kleemans)

# **OTHER PUBLICATIONS**

- "Globalization and Inequality in Latin America" (2023) Latin American and Caribbean Inequality Review. International Inequalities Institute Working Paper 92 (with Rafael Dix-Carneiro)
- "Assessing Price Indexes for Markets with Trading Frictions: A Quantitative Illustration." (2015), in Susan Houseman and Michael Mandel eds., *Measuring Globalization: Better Trade Statistics for Better Policy*. W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research (with Ryan Michaels).
- "The Growing Problem of Disconnected Single Mothers." (2009), in Carolyn Heinrich and John Karl Scholz eds., *Making the Work-Based Safety Net Work Better: Forward-Looking Policies to Help Low-Income Families.* Russell Sage Foundation (with Rebecca Blank).

### FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Journal of the European Economic Association (JEEA) Excellence in Refereeing Award (2022) Martcia Wade Teaching Award, Carnegie Mellon Heinz College (2020) Andrew Carnegie Fellowship (2019) Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA) Young Labor Economist Award (2014)

### GRANTS

- NSF Economics "Doctoral Dissertation Research in Economics and Public Policy: Employer Preference for Applicants based on Geographic Location - A Resume Audit" (2020-2021) (supporting the dissertation work of Ashley Orr)
- NSF Economics "Wage Insurance for Displaced Workers" (2019-2021) (co-PI with Ben Hyman and Adam Leive)
- NSF SciSIP "Not all Technologies are Equal: Measuring and Disentangling the Labor Effects of Technology Change in Manufacturing" (2019-2022) (co-PI with Erica Fuchs, Laurence Ales, and Katie Whitefoot)
- Russell Sage Foundation Grant: Future of Work Program "Emerging Manufacturing Technologies and the Demand for Skills" (2019-2021) (co-PI with Laurence Ales, Erica Fuchs, and Katie Whitefoot)
- Manufacturing Futures Initiative Grant, Carnegie Mellon (2018-2019) (co-PI with Laurence Ales, Erica Fuchs, and Katie Whitefoot)
- Russell Sage Foundation Grant: Race, Ethnicity, and Immigration Program "The International Transmission of Local Economic Shocks Through Migrant Networks" (2018-2019) (co-PI with Brian C. Cadena).
- Manufacturing Futures Initiative Grant, Carnegie Mellon (2017-2018) (co-PI with Laurence Ales, Erica Fuchs, and Katie Whitefoot)
- Early Career Research Grant, W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research (2014) (with Rafael Dix-Carneiro)
- Berkman Faculty Development Grant, Carnegie Mellon (2014-2017)
- Wimmer Faculty Grant for the Development of Teaching, Carnegie Mellon (2014)
- Science and Technology Foundation, Portuguese Ministry of Science (2013-2014) (with Ana Venancio)
- Russell Sage Foundation Grant: The Social and Economic Effects of the Great Recession (2012-2013) (co-PI with Brian C. Cadena).
- Scientific Research and Technological Development Grant, Science and Technology Foundation, Portuguese Ministry of Science and Education (2013) (co-PI with Ana Venancio).
- Young Investigator Grant, University of Kentucky Center for Poverty Research (2011) (co-PI with Brian C. Cadena).
- Rackham Predoctoral Fellowship, University of Michigan (2009-2010).
- Marshall Weinberg Research Fellowship, Population Studies Center, University of Michigan (2009).
- National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, Population Studies Center Training Fellowship, University of Michigan (2008-2009).

## TEACHING

Heinz College, Carnegie Mellon University
Ph.D. Microeconomics I (Ph.D. core)
Ph.D. Seminar I (Ph.D. core)
Policy in a Global Economy (International Trade) (MS Public Policy and Management)
Migration Policy (MS Public Policy and Management)
Critical Analysis of Policy Research (MS Public Policy and Management)

## **PROFEESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

Associate Editor, Journal of International Economics	(Oct 2020 – present)
Associate Editor, Journal of Development Economics	(Jun 2014 – Dec 2019)
NBER Labor Studies Summer Institute organizing committee	(Jul 2023)
Advisory Board, LACEA Trade, Integration, and Growth Network	(Mar 2015 – Mar 2018)

Grant Proposal Reviewer: National Science Foundation, Russell Sage Foundation, IZA

Referee: American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics, American Economic Review, American Economic Review: Insights, B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis and Policy, Canadian Journal of Economics, Econometrica, Economic Development and Cultural Change, Economic Inquiry, Economic Journal, Economics Letters, International Economic Review, Journal of Comparative Economics, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of International Economics, Journal of Labor Economics, Journal of Political Economy, Journal of the European Economic Association, Journal of Urban Economics, Operations Research, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Economic Dynamics, Review of Economics and Statistics, Review of Economic Studies, World Bank Economic Review, World Development

#### SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- 2024: International Monetary Fund; Peterson Institute; Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis; NBER Summer Institute Labor Studies; NBER Wage Dynamics (discussant); Stanford
- 2023: AEA Annual Meeting (New Orleans); University of Georgia; Penn State; Federal Reserve Board; World Bank; Globalization and Labor Markets Conference, Univ. of Paris-Dauphine; OECD Paris; Chicago Booth; Philadelphia Fed.; UC Santa Cruz; Oregon
- 2022: CEU Vienna; San Diego State CHEPS; IZA Migration Conference, Harvard Kennedy School; NBER Summer Institute: Trade (discussant); NBER Labor Studies, Stanford; Carlo Alberto, Turin Italy
- 2021 AEA Annual Meeting; Johns Hopkins SAIS; Groningen; Melbourne; FAU Erlangen Nürnberg, IAB; Maryland
- 2020 FGV São Paulo; Chinese Univ. Hong Kong; Georgetown; Atlanta Fed
- 2019 Colorado-Denver; Dartmouth; Pitt Katz; Notre Dame; SED St. Louis; NYU Trade and Labor miniconference; USC
- 2018 Duke; UT Austin; Princeton; IDB
- 2017 Illinois Urbana-Champaign; UCL; IDB; Houston; Michigan; Stanford SITE; UBC Sauder

- 2016 Ryerson; Toronto; IZA; LSE; Warwick; Carnegie Mellon
- 2015 AEA Annual Meeting (Boston); UC Berkeley; UCLA; Chicago Booth; UVA; UC Davis; UBC; Stanford
- 2014 Lisbon School of Economics and Management (ISEG); Colorado-Boulder; George Washington; Oregon; Hitotsubashi (Tokyo); Keio (Tokyo); REITI (Tokyo); Kyoto; NBER Summer Institute Labor; NBER Trade; UC Merced
- 2013 AEA Annual Meeting (San Diego); NBER Trade; Queens College; Columbia; Maryland; Society of Labor Economists (Boston); DePaul; Dartmouth; Essex Trade Workshop
- 2012 PAA Economic Demography Workshop; RMET Conference (Vancouver); UC San Diego
- 2011 World Bank; ILO (discussant); NBER Summer Institute CRIW; MIT
- 2010 LSE; Carnegie Mellon; Purdue; Duke; John Hopkins; Brandeis; Notre Dame; Syracuse; Chicago Harris; Department of Commerce; Yale

#### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Economic Association Research Affiliate, International Growth Centre (2010 – present) (Mar 2016 – present)