

Rebecca Lessem

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Position

Associate Professor of Economics (without tenure) <i>Tepper School of Business, Carnegie Mellon University</i>	2020-
Assistant Professor of Economics <i>Tepper School of Business, Carnegie Mellon University</i>	2012-2020
Instructor <i>Tepper School of Business, Carnegie Mellon University</i>	2011-2012

Education

University of Wisconsin-Madison <i>Ph.D. Economics</i>	2011
University of Wisconsin-Madison <i>M.S. Economics</i>	2009
Massachusetts Institute of Technology <i>B.S. Economics, B.S. Political Science</i>	2005

Published papers

“Do house prices affect campaign contributions” (with Sarah Niebler and Carly Urban), *Economics and Politics*, 2023, 35(2): 629-660.

“How do U.S. visa policies affect unauthorized immigration?” (with Brian Kovak), *Journal of Monetary Economics* (Carnegie-Rochester-NYU), 2020, 113:92-108.

“Immigrant wage growth in the United States: The role of occupational upgrading” (with Carl Sanders), *International Economic Review*, 2020, 61(2): 941-972.

“Immigrant wages and recessions: Evidence from undocumented Mexicans” (with Kayuna Nakajima), *European Economic Review*, 2019, 114: 92-115.

“Mexico-U.S. migration: Effects of wages and border enforcement”, *The Review of Economic Studies*, 2018, 85 (4), 2353-2388.

“Local economic growth from primary election spending” (with Carly Urban), *The Economic Journal*, 2016, 126 (597): 2147-2172.

“The political orientation of newspaper endorsements in U.S. Elections” (with Stephen Ansolabehere and James Snyder), *Quarterly Journal of Political Science*, 2006, 1 (4): 393-404.

Work in Progress

“The effect of family structure on children” (with Carl Sanders)

“Matching job applicants to vacancies: An empirical model of multi-stage hiring” (with Robert Miller)

“Job reallocation within firms” (with Paul Grieco and Matthias Kehrig)

Awards

“Dynamics of Firm Location Decisions” (with Paul Grieco and Matthias Kehrig), NBER, \$15,000.

“PaCE: Developing a Pandemic Consumption Expenditure Index” (with Laurence Ales, Chris Telmer, and Ariel Zetlin-Jones), 2020, Block Center for Technology and Society, Carnegie Mellon University, \$27,000

“PaCE: Developing a Pandemic Consumption Expenditure Index” (with Laurence Ales, Chris Telmer, and Ariel Zetlin-Jones), 2020, Richard King Mellon Foundation, \$50,000

“Immigrant wage growth in the United States: The role of occupational upgrading” (with Carl Sanders), 2013, Borders Awards in Immigration Research, University of Arizona, \$30,000

Berkman Award, Carnegie Mellon University, 2015

Christensen Award in Empirical Economics, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2010

NICHD Trainee, Center for Demography and Ecology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2009

Field Research Award, Center for Southeast Asian Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2009

Conference & Seminar Presentations

2025 Duke (scheduled), Monash University (scheduled), University of Melbourne (scheduled)

2024 University of Wisconsin-Madison, Workshop on Labor Supply and Inequality within Families (University of Copenhagen), Stanford Institute for Theoretical Economics (The Labor market Experience of Vulnerable Populations of Workers), University of Pennsylvania, Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia

2023 Society of Labor Economists, Stanford Institute for Theoretical Economics (Micro and Macro of Labor Markets), University of North Carolina, Southern Economics Association

2022 University of Colorado-Boulder, Society of Labor Economists, North American Summer Meeting of the Econometric Society, Banff Empirical Microeconomics Workshop

2021 Barcelona GSE Summer Forum (Structural Microeconometrics)

2020 Bocconi University

2019 Rochester, Penn State, Barcelona GSE Summer Forum (Structural Microeconometrics), Society for Economic Dynamics, Carnegie-Rochester-NYU conference on public policy

2018 Society for Economic Dynamics, UVA (Darden), Southern Economics Association

2017 Georgetown, Notre Dame, Society of Labor Economists, University of Wisconsin alumni conference

2016 Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Barcelona GSE Migration workshop, Institute for Research on Poverty Summer Research Workshop (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

2015 University of Calgary, ZEW workshop on “Development and Consequences of Atypical Employment”

2014 UCL, LSE, Society of Labor Economists, North American Summer Meeting of the Econometric Society

2013 NYU, Society of Labor Economists, Montana State University

2012 European Society for Population Economics

2011 Carnegie Mellon, Penn State, Ohio State, American University, Census Bureau, Royal Economic Society, Midwest Economic Association, Norface migration network conference on “Migration: Economic Change, Social Challenge”

2010 UW-Madison, Kent State, Midwest International Economic Development Conference

Professional Activities

Referee: Econometrica, Review of Economic Studies, International Economic Review, Journal of Labor Economics, American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, Review of Economic Dynamics, Journal of Human Resources, European Economic Review, Journal of the European Economic Association, , Journal of Monetary Economics, Economic Inquiry, Labour Economics, Public Choice, International Migration Review, Aging and Society, Journal of Demographic Economics, Economics of Education Review

Program committee: Society of Labor Economists annual conference (2023)