

CHRISTINE M. OSTROWSKI

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Placement Director: Gianluca Violante

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Graduate Administrator: Laura Hedden

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Undergraduate Studies

Kenyon College, 2007-2011

B.A. in Mathematics and Economics, Summa Cum Laude

Graduate Studies

Princeton University, 2014 to present

Ph.D. Candidate in Economics

Expected Completion Date: June 2021

M.A. Economics, Princeton University, 2016

References

Professor Richard Rogerson (advisor)

Department of Economics

Princeton University

+1 609-258-4839, rdr@princeton.edu

Jeffrey Campbell

Senior Economist

Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago

+1 312-322-6156, jcampbell@frbchi.org

Tricia Koroknay-Palicz

Economist

World Bank, Gender Innovation Lab

+1 202-361-9408, tgonwa@worldbank.org

Research Fields and Coursework

Primary Fields Macroeconomics, Development

Secondary Fields Labor Economics

Relevant Coursework Industrial Organization, Econometrics

Research Experience and Employment

2011 – 2013 Associate Economist, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago

2013 – 2014 Senior Associate Economist, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago

2019 Intern, Gender Innovation Lab, World Bank

Teaching Experience

Fall 2020 Law and Economics, Princeton University

Teaching Assistant for Professor Thomas Leonard

Fieldwork and International Research

2010 Intern, Innovations for Poverty Action, Uganda

Professional Activities

Referee for International Journal of Industrial Organization

Software Languages

MATLAB, Stata, Python, R, RATS, SAS, SQL, Perl

Honors, Scholarships, and Fellowships

2016 – 2019	NSF Graduate Research Fellow
2007 – 2011	Trustee Scholar, Kenyon College
2008, 2009	Individual Academic All-American in cross-country and track and field

Publications

- Marco Bassetto, Todd Messer, and Christine Ostrowski. “Forecasting Inflation and the Great Recession,” *Economic Perspectives*, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, 2013, vol. 37, n.3, pp. 79-106

Job Market Paper

“R&D Misallocation in China”

Abstract: The Chinese government plays a significant role in directing private R&D and innovative activity. This top-down intervention has the potential to distort the optimal allocation of resources. Rogerson and Restuccia (2008), Hsieh and Klenow (2009), and others have documented that distortions in the allocation of capital and labor have large negative effects on productivity. I extend this misallocation literature by developing a model with distortions on R&D spending that alter the distribution of R&D across firm productivity. I use an Atkeson-Burstein (2010) model, calibrated using firm-level data from China’s Annual Survey of Industries, to identify both output and R&D distortions as a function of firm size and state-ownership. The pattern of distortions suggests that large and state-owned firms are favored at the expense of small and medium-sized enterprises. I find that relative to a counterfactual economy with no distortions, adding China’s distribution of R&D distortions decreases aggregate productivity and GDP by about 12 percent. However, when added to the already-existing capital and labor distortions, the net effect is an increase in productivity.

Research Papers in Progress

“Evaluating the Impact of Commitment Savings Accounts Linked to Mobile Money” (with Markus Goldstein, Leora Klapper, Tricia Koroknay-Palicz, and Simone Schaner)

Abstract: This study is designed to increase understanding of how intra-household dynamics and gender impact savings. As part of this study, we offer mobile-phone based bank savings accounts that are linked to mobile money to married men and women in Ghana’s Volta region. In order to answer our research questions, we randomly vary three elements: (i) whether a liquidity restriction on the account is binding; (ii) spousal information regarding which liquidity restriction is in place; and (iii) the value of incentive

payments for choosing a binding versus non-binding liquidity restrictions. The first set of research questions will look at the demand curve for hard vs soft commitment; the correlation between baseline characteristics and demand for hard vs soft commitment; the extent to which the spousal information treatment impacts demand for hard vs soft commitment; and how all of these vary by gender. The second set of research questions will look at impacts on savings, including: how the spousal information treatment impacts savings; how the hard commitment treatment impacts savings; the interaction between the hard commitment treatment and the spousal information treatment; and the impact of perceived (but not actual) binding commitment from the perspective of the spouse.

“Hours Worked With and Without Capital Income” (with Jeffrey Campbell)

Seminar and Conference Presentations

Paper Presenter, Midwest Macroeconomics Meeting, Boulder, CO, 2012

Paper Presenter and Discussant, Society for Economic Dynamics Annual Meeting, Seoul, South Korea, 2013