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**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

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NAME: Leigh L. Linden

eRA COMMONS USER NAME: lindenll

POSITION TITLE: Associate Professor, Department of Economics

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**EDUCATION/TRAINING**

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INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE	Completion Date MM/YYYY	FIELD OF STUDY
The University of Texas at Austin, TX	BS	05/1997	Mathematics
The University of Texas at Austin, TX	BA	05/1997	Economics
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA	PhD	08/2004	Economics

**A. Personal Statement**

I am an economist who works in the fields of development economics and economics of education; I explore the role of education in the microeconomic foundations of poverty. I focus on understanding both the education production process and the family decision problems that determine the allocation of educational opportunities within the household. Methodologically, I specialize in the use of large-scale randomized controlled trials. My research has been published in the *American Economic Review*, the *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, and the *Applied Economic Journal: Applied Economics*. It has also been featured in several popular press publications. My research fits into the PRC's primary research area of Demography: Education, Work, and Inequality.

The Administrative Core at the PRC furthers my research agenda by providing assistance with proposal submissions and post-award management of budgets, travel, and subcontracts.

**B. Positions and Honors****Positions and Employment**

1999-2001	White House Council of Economic Advisors, Staff Economist for Environmental Economics and Industrial Organization
2004-2011	Assistant Professor, Department of Economics and School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University
2008	Visiting Research Scholar, Center for Research on Child Wellbeing, Princeton University
2011-2014	Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, The University of Texas at Austin
2011-2014	Assistant Professor, Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, The University of Texas at Austin
2011-present	Faculty Research Associate, Population Research Center, The University of Texas at Austin
2014-present	Associate Professor, Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, The University of Texas at Austin
2014-present	Associate Professor, Department of Economics, The University of Texas at Austin

**Other Experience and Professional Memberships**

2003	MacArthur Foundation Fellowship
2004-2011	Faculty Fellow, Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy (ISERP), Columbia University
2007-present	Affiliated Researcher, Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA)
2007-present	Research Fellow, Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA)
2009-present	Junior Fellow, Bureau for Research and Economics Analysis of Development (BREAD)
2010-present	Associate Editor, <i>Journal of Development Economics</i>
2010-present	Faculty Research Fellow, National Bureau of Economic Research
2010-2014	Evaluation Advisory Board, Carrera Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Program
2010-present	Technical Advisory Board, Project Malawi
2013-present	Research Fellow, Center for Economic Research in Pakistan
2012-present	Faculty Affiliate, Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies, The University of Texas at Austin

2012-present Core Member, South Asia Institute, The University of Texas at Austin  
2014-2015 Scientific Advisor, The National Partnership for Education Access (NPEA) Collective Impact Data Project

### **Honors**

2011-Present Fellow, Murray S. Johnson Chair in Economics  
2011-Present Fellow, Leroy G. Denman, Jr. Regents Assistant Professorship in Economics  
2008-2010: National Academy of Education/Spencer Postdoctoral Fellowship, Amount: \$50,000  
2003 MacArthur Foundation Fellowship  
1997-2002 Jacob K. Javits Fellowship  
1997 Phi Beta Kappa, The University of Texas at Austin  
1997 College of Liberal Arts Dean's Distinguished Graduate, The University of Texas at Austin

### **C. Contributions to Science**

**1. The use of educational services and programs to improve the well-being of children from poor families.** This includes both understanding how the provision of various types of educational resources affects the development of human capital and understanding the factors that determine the demand for education by both children and families.

Medium Term Educational Consequences of Alternative Conditional Cash Transfer Designs: Experimental Evidence from Colombia, [CESR-Schaeffer Working Paper No. 2015-026](#), 2015

Abeberese, Ama Baafr, Todd J. Kumler and Leigh L. Linden. 2014. "Improving Reading Skills by Encouraging Children to Read in School: A Randomized Evaluation of the Sa Aklat Sisikat Reading Program in the Philippines," *The Journal of Human Resources*.

Banerjee, Abhijit V., Shawn Cole, Esther Duflo and Leigh L. Linden. 2007. "Remedying Education: Evidence from Two Randomized Experiments in India," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 122(3): 1235-1264.

Linden, Leigh L. and Gauri Kartini Shastry. 2012 "Grain Inflation: Identifying Agent Discretion in Response to a Conditional School Nutrition Program," *Journal of Development Economics*, 99(1): 128-138.

**2. The use of randomized evaluations both to test economic theories of human behavior and to assess the efficacy of social programs.** This work includes evaluations of numerous school-based learning interventions as well as programs designed to encourage school participation.

The Medium-Term Impacts of Girl-Friendly Schools: 7-Year Evidence from School Construction in Burkina Faso, Oklahoma State University Economics Working Paper Series

Kazianga, Harounan, Dan Levy, Leigh L. Linden and Matt Sloan. 2013. "The Effects of 'Girl-Friendly' Schools: Evidence from the BRIGHT School Construction Program in Burkina Faso," *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*. 5(3): 41-62.

Burde, Dana and Leigh L. Linden. 2013. "Bringing Education to Afghan Girls: A Randomized Controlled Trial of Village-Based Schools," *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*. 5(3): 27-40.

Barrera-Osorio, Felipe, Marianne Bertrand, Leigh L. Linden and Francisco Perez-Calle. 2011. "Improving the Design of Conditional Transfer Programs: Evidence from a Randomized Education Experiment in Colombia," *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 3(2): 167-195.

### **D. Research Support**

#### **Ongoing Research Support**

7173516 (L. Linden, PI)

12/08/14-05/31/17

The World Bank

Evaluation of Plan Sarmiento

The objective of this project was to provide the Ministry of Education of the City of Buenos Aires technical assistance in the development and implementation of its impact evaluation agenda.

Role: Principal Investigator

Responsibilities: responsible for literature review, proposed methodological approach, identification strategy/strategies to measure the intermediate and outcomes variables, statistical power calculations, and a timeline for implantation of activities

### **Completed Research Support**

201100116 (L. Linden, PI)

06/01/12-08/31/16

Spencer Foundation

Challenging Under-Served Children to Achieve Academic Excellence

This project seeks to determine the Higher Achievement OST impact on students' test scores, academic attitudes and behaviors, and matriculation at competitive high schools. Also, by analyzing the relationship of these outcomes to particular services provided by the program, it explores the mechanisms through which the program may affect student outcomes.

Role: Principal Investigator

Responsibilities: primary responsibility for all data cleaning, data management, and analytical work

2011-8710 (J.Grossman, PI)

10/15/11-08/31/14

The Smith Richardson Foundation

Encouraging Underserved, Intellectually Curious Children: An Evaluation of the Higher Achievement Program in Washington, DC

The purpose of this project was to complete an evaluation of the long-term effects of a mature, time-intensive, "Cadillac" version of an OST academic enrichment program that boasted the characteristics aiming to improve students' academic attitudes and performance by increasing their access to high-quality academic supports and opportunities

Role: Co-Investigator

Responsibilities: primary responsibility for data analysis and writing the journal article

Research Award (H.Kazianga, PI)

10/01/10-09/30/15

Millennium Challenge Corporation

Long-Term Effects of Girl Friendly Schools in Burkina Faso

We evaluate a "girl-friendly" primary school program in Burkina Faso using a regression discontinuity design.

Role: Co-Investigator

Responsibilities: responsibility for data analysis and writing article for publication