Aldo Gutiérrez Mendieta

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Agricultural and Resource Economics

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Visa Status: F-1 (3 year OPT)

Placement Directors

Prof. M.R. Sharan	sharan@umd.edu	(301) 405-1293
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Education

University of Maryland, College Park — College Park, MD
Ph.D. Candidate in Agricultural and Resource Economics — *Expected May 2023*

Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas (CIDE) — Aguascalientes, Mexico
M.A. in Environmental Economics — *Aug. 2014 – May 2016*

Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey — Mexico City, Mexico
B.A. in Economics (with distinction) — *Aug. 2006 – Dec. 2010*

Dissertation

Title: Fifty shades of green: essays on eco-friendly consumption, public policy, and environmental quality
Committee Members: Prof. Neslihan Uler (chair), Prof. Jorge Holzer, Prof. Roberton C. Williams III

Fields of Specialization

Experimental Economics, Environmental Economics, Microeconomic Theory

Job Market Paper

"Green Consumption and Income Inequality"

Following the literature on public good provision, I develop a baseline model to understand the impact of income redistribution on Environmental Quality. Consumers have the choice to buy a cheap product that generates a negative externality (Brown Good) or a more expensive neutral substitute (Green Good). I find that the individual consumption of the Brown Good follows a Kuznets-like behavior: it is a normal good for low levels of income and an inferior good as income starts to rise. The model predicts that reducing income inequality can increase Environmental Quality if it benefits consumers who have the incentive to reduce their consumption of the Brown Good. Otherwise, it can have a negative effect or no impact at all. I use a novel design to test these predictions in the lab. Based on the results, I explore two behavioral motivations to explain the deviations from the standard predictions. The first one involves adding a "warm-glow" preference over the Green Good (Andreoni 1990), while the second uses a theory of conformity (Bernheim 1994) in which consumers receive disutility if their own consumption of the Brown Good differs from the average of the group. Combined, these two models provide a useful framework to rationalize the data. The findings of this paper can help guide policies that seek to address issues between environmental justice and income inequality.

Teaching Experience

- Teaching Assistant, Data Science for Environmental Economics (undergraduate), University of Maryland, Fall 2020
- Teaching Assistant, Advanced Microeconomic Theory I & II (graduate), University of Maryland, Spring 2020-Fall 2019
- Teaching Assistant, Intermediate Applied Microeconomics (undergraduate), University of Maryland, Fall 2016
- Teaching Assistant, Mathematics II-Calculus (undergraduate), CIDE, Spring 2016
- Teaching Assistant: Quantitative Methods II-Time Series and Panel Data (undergraduate), CIDE, Fall 2015
- Teaching Assistant: Introduction to Microeconomics (graduate), CIDE, Summer 2015

Other Works in Progress

- A Tale of Two News: The impact of media outlets on consumption choice (*joint with Juan Carlos Angulo*)
- Double trouble: The impact of individual transferable quotas on green markets
- To Ban or not to Ban: Public Policy in the Presence of Environmentally Friendly Substitutes
- When going green goes bad: The role of free-riding and status effects in consumer decisions

Research and Relevant Work Experience

- Administrative Assistant, The Graduate School, University of Maryland, Jul. 2021-Present
- Research Assistant, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of Maryland, Jan. 2021-Aug. 2021 & Jan. 2017-Aug. 2019
- Head of Department: Public-Private Partnerships Division, nstitute for Social Security and Services for State Workers, Mexico, Mar. 2014-Aug.2014
- Financial Services Consultant, Ernst & Young (EY), Mexico, Oct. 2013-Mar.2014
- Head of Department: Sustainable Use of Energy Division, Department of Energy, Mexico, Mar. 2012-Sep. 2013
- Marketing Projects Analyst, Mequity Consulting, Mexico, Sep. 2010-Dec. 2011
- Research Assistant, Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey, Aug. 2009-Dec. 2009

Service Experience

- University Senate-Student Affairs Committee, University of Maryland, Fall 2021 and Spring 2022
- Graduate Student Government Representative, University of Maryland, Summer 2020-Spring 2022
- AREC Graduate Student Representative, University of Maryland, Spring 2020-Spring 2022
- AGNR Dean Review Committee, University of Maryland, Fall 2020-Spring 2021

Conference & Seminar Presentations

- 2022: Economic Science Association North-American Meeting (scheduled), Western Economic Association International 97th Annual Conference (Graduate Student Workshop), Economic Science Association World Meeting, Economic Science Association Special Meeting
- 2021: Economic Science Association North American Regional Meeting, International Atlantic Economic Society 92nd Conference, Umea University 27th Ulvön Conference on Environmental Economics
- 2020: Centro de Investigación y Docencias Económicas (CIDE) Seminar

Awards & Fellowships

- The Ann G. Wylie Dissertation Fellowship, 2022-2023, University of Maryland
- Jacob K. Goldhaber Travel Grant, Fall 2022, Fall 2021
- Dean's Fellowship, Spring 2022, Fall 2021, Fall 2020, Spring 2017, Fall 2016, University of Maryland
- The Bruce and Mary Ann Gardner Dissertation Enhancement Award, Spring 2021, University of Maryland
- Fellowship for Ph.D. Students Delayed by COVID, Spring 2021, University of Maryland
- Honors scholarship, Fall 2015, Spring 2015, Fall 2014 CIDE, Aguascalientes, Mexico
- Fellowship for graduate studies by the National Council of Science and Technology (CONACYT), 2014-2016, Mexico.

Technical Skills

Languages: English (fluent), Spanish (Native), French (Intermediate), Italian (intermediate), Mandarin (basic)
Computational: MS Office (Word, Excel, Power Point, Outlook), Stata, R, Matlab, LaTeX, Python, Qualtrics, JavaScript

References

Prof. Neslihan Uler	University of Maryland	neslihan@umd.edu	(301) 405-1273
Prof. Jorge Holzer	University of Maryland	jholzer@umd.edu	(301) 405-1918
Prof. Roberton C. Williams III	University of Maryland	roberton@umd.edu	(301) 405-1918