

# Matthew J. WISWALL

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he/him/his

(Update: 27 September 2023)

## CURRENT POSITIONS

Visiting Research Professor, Johns Hopkins University, Department of Economics, 2023-24  
David Edwin and Lucille Hartmann Davies Chair, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2021-  
Professor of Economics, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2018- (on-leave 2023-24)  
Associate Editor, *Econometrica*, 2019-  
Associate Editor, *Quantitative Economics*, 2017-2022  
Editorial Board, *Industrial and Labor Relations Review*, 2019-  
Faculty Affiliate, Center for Financial Security, UW-Madison, 2019-  
Faculty Fellow, Center for Research on the Wisconsin Economy, 2018-  
Faculty Affiliate, Center for Demography and Ecology, UW-Madison, 2017-  
Faculty Affiliate, Institute for Research on Poverty, UW-Madison, 2016-  
Faculty Research Associate, National Bureau of Economic Research, 2014-

## PREVIOUS POSITIONS

Juli Plant Grainger Professor of Economics, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2018-21  
Associate Professor of Economics, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2017-18  
Associate Editor, *Journal of Business and Economics Statistics*, 2015-18  
Visiting Associate Professor of Economics, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2016-17  
Associate Professor of Economics, W.P. Carey School of Business, Arizona State University,  
2015-2017 (On leave, 2016-17)  
Assistant Professor of Economics, W.P. Carey School of Business, ASU, 2012-2015  
Researcher, Statistics Norway, Research Department, 2008-2015  
Visiting Assistant Professor of Economics, Johns Hopkins University, January-May 2012  
Assistant Professor of Economics, New York University, 2005-2012

Faculty Affiliate, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development, NYU,  
2006-2012

Faculty Affiliate, Institute of Human Development and Social Change, NYU, 2007-2012

Faculty Affiliate, Institute for Education and Social Policy, NYU, 2006-2012

Visiting Scholar, Federal Reserve Bank of New York, January-June 2009

## **EDUCATION**

Ph.D. Economics, University of California-Los Angeles, 2005

M.A. Economics, University of California-Los Angeles, 2001

B.A. History (with Honors), University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1998

## **FIELDS**

Applied Microeconomics

Applied Econometrics

Labor Economics

Public Economics

Education and Demographic Economics

## **AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

H. I. Romnes Faculty Fellowship, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2023-28

(Graduate)

Spencer Foundation Fellowship for Research Related to Education, 2004-2005

Dissertation Year Fellowship, UCLA, 2004-2005

Institute for Labor and Employment, Dissertation Fellowship, 2003-2004

Institute for Labor and Employment, Pre-Dissertation Fellowship, 2002-2003

All University of California Group in Economic History Summer Fellowship, 2001

Graduate Research Mentorship Fellowship, UCLA, 2000-2001

Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Fellowship, UCLA, 2000

(Undergraduate)

Harrington Prize for Best Senior Thesis, UW-Madison, Department of History, 1998

Trewartha Honors Undergraduate Research Grant, UW-Madison, Letters and Sciences Honors Program, 1997

Hilldale Undergraduate Research Award, UW-Madison, College of Letters and Sciences, 1997

University Bookstore Academic Excellence Award, UW-Madison, College of Letters and Sciences, 1997

Gerald G. Somers Undergraduate Essay Award, UW-Madison, Department of Economics, 1996

## GRANTS

William T. Grant Foundation, “A Lever for More Equitable Access to Schools? Evidence from San Francisco” (with Damon Clark, Paco Martorell, and Adrianna Villavicencio), 2020-23

Amount: \$519,868; Role: Co-Principal Investigator

US National Science Foundation, “Household Decision-Making and Child Development” (with Daniela del Boca and Christopher Flinn), 2014-17

Amount: \$530,000; Role: Principal Investigator

Smith Richardson Foundation, “Do Summer Jobs Matter? Causal Evidence on the Impact of Summer Employment on Urban Youth” (with Amy Ellen Schwartz, Jacob Leos-Urbel and Meryle Weinstein), 2013-15

Amount: \$261,925; Role: Consultant

Institute of Human Development and Social Change Seed Award, “Household Choices and Child Development” (with Daniela Del Boca), 2010-11

Amount: \$10,500; Role: Principal Investigator

US National Science Foundation, “Women in Science from High School to College: Evidence from New York City Public Schools” (with Amy Schwartz and Leanna Stiefel), 2008-11

Amount: \$354,726; Role: Co-Principal Investigator

US Dept. of Education (Institute for Education Sciences), “Do Small Schools Improve Student Performance in Large, Urban Districts? Evidence from New York City” (with Amy Schwartz and Leanna Stiefel), 2007-10

Amount: \$482,584; Role: Co-Principal Investigator

NYU Research Challenge Fund, “Long Term Changes in Field of Study Choices for College Educated Women,” 2006

Amount: \$7,139; Role: Principal Investigator

**PEER REVIEWED PUBLISHED AND FORTHCOMING ARTICLES**

25) “Estimating the Technology of Children's Skill Formation” (with Francesco Agostinelli), 2022, accepted, *Journal of Political Economy* (NBER Working Paper 22442). [Link](#)

24) “Inequality in Early Care Experienced by U.S. Children” (with Sarah Flood, Joel F.S. McMurry, and Aaron Sojourner), *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 36 (2), Spring 2022 (NBER Working Paper 29249). [Link](#)  
Media: [New York Times](#)

23) “Human Capital Investments and Expectations about Career and Family” (with Basit Zafar), *Journal of Political Economy* 129 (5), May 2021 (NBER Working Paper 22543). [Link](#)

22) “The Role of Heterogeneous Risk Preferences, Discount Rates, and Earnings Expectations in College Major Choice” (with Arpita Patnaik, Joanna Venator, and Basit Zafar), forthcoming, *Journal of Econometrics* (NBER Working Paper 26785). [Link](#)

21) “Making Summer Matter: The Impact of Youth Employment on Academic Performance” (with Amy Ellen Schwartz, Jacob Leos-Urbel, and Joel McMurry), *Quantitative Economics* 12 (2), May 2021 (NBER Working Paper 21470). [Link](#)

20) “Child Care and Child Care Policy: Existing Policies, Their Effects, and Reforms” (with V. Joseph Hotz), November 2019, *The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*. [Link](#)

19) “Preference for the Workplace, Human Capital, and Gender” (with Basit Zafar), *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 133 (1), February 2018, p. 457–507. [Link](#)  
Media: [The Atlantic](#)

18) “Preferences and Biases in Education Choices and Labor Market Expectations: Shrinking the Black Box of Gender” (with Ernesto Reuben and Basit Zafar), *Economic Journal* 127 (604), September 2017, p. 2153-2186. [Link](#)

17) “Beyond LATE with a Discrete Instrument: Heterogeneity in the Quantity-Quality Interaction of Children” (with Christian Brinch and Magne Mogstad), *Journal of Political Economy* 125 (4), August 2017, p. 985-1039. [Link](#)

16) “Transfers to Households with Children and Child Development” (with Daniela Del Boca and Christopher Flinn), *Economic Journal* 126 (596), October 2016, p. F136-F183. [Link](#)

- 15) “Testing the Quantity-Quality Model of Fertility: Estimation using Unrestricted Family Size Models” (with Magne Mogstad), *Quantitative Economics* 7, March 2016, p. 157-192. [Link](#)
- 14) “Are All Schools Created Equal? Learning Environments in Small and Large Public High Schools in New York City” (with Amy Ellen Schwartz and Leanna Stiefel), *Economics of Education Review* 52, June 2016, p. 272–290. [Link](#)
- 13) “Does Small High School Reform Lift Urban School Districts? Evidence from New York City” (with Amy Ellen Schwartz and Leanna Stiefel), *Educational Researcher* 44 (3), 2016, p. 161-172. [Link](#)
- 12) “How Do College Students Respond to Public Information about Earnings?” (with Basit Zafar), *Journal of Human Capital* 9 (2), 2015, p. 117-169. [Link](#)  
Media: [Washington Post](#)
- 11) “Determinants of College Major Choices: Identification from an Information Experiment” (with Basit Zafar), *Review of Economic Studies* 82 (2), 2015, 791-824. [Link](#)  
Media: [Wall Street Journal](#)
- 10) “Household Choices and Child Development” (with Daniela Del Boca and Christopher Flinn), *Review of Economic Studies* 81 (1), 2014, p. 137-85. [Link](#)
- 9) “Evolution of Gender Differences in Post-Secondary Human Capital Investments: College Majors” (with Ahu Gemici), *International Economic Review* 55 (1), 2014, p. 23-56. [Link](#)
- 8) “Does Attending a STEM High School Improve Student Performance? Evidence from New York City” (with Amy Ellen Schwartz, Leanna Stiefel, and Jessica Boccoardo), *Economics of Education Review* 40, 2014, p. 93-105. [Link](#)
- 7) “Do Small Schools Improve Performance in Large, Urban Districts? Causal Evidence from New York City” (with Amy Ellen Schwartz and Leanna Stiefel), *Journal of Urban Economics* 77, September 2013, p. 27–40. [Link](#)
- 6) “The Dynamics of Teacher Quality,” *Journal of Public Economics* 100, April 2013, p. 61–78. [Link](#)
- 5) “What Linear Estimators Miss: Re-Examining the Effects of Family Income on Child Outcomes” (with Katrina V. Loken and Magne Mogstad), *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* 4 (2), April 2012, p. 1-35. [Link](#)
- 4) “Instrumental Variables Estimation with Partially Missing Instruments” (with Magne Mogstad), *Economics Letters* 114 (2), February 2012, p. 186-189. [Link](#)

3) “Risk Aversion and Support for Merit Pay: Theory and Evidence from Minnesota's Q Comp Program” (with Carl Nadler), *Education Finance and Policy* 6 (1), Winter 2011, p. 75–104. [Link](#)

2) “Before and After: Gender Transitions, Human Capital, and Workplace Experiences” (with Kristen Schilt), *B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis & Policy* 8 (1), 2008. [Link](#)  
Media: [Time](#) [New York Times](#) [Harvard Business Review](#)

1) “A Parallel Implementation of the Simplex Function Minimization Routine” (with Donghoon Lee), *Computational Economics* 30 (2), September, 2007. [Link](#)

## BOOK CHAPTERS

“College Majors” (with Arpita Patnaik and Basit Zafar) in *The Routledge Handbook of the Economics of Education*, ed. Brian P. McCall, forthcoming. (NBER Working Paper 27645) [Link](#)

## POLICY BRIEFS AND SHORT PIECES

“Fixing Child Care: What Expanded Public Subsidies Could Mean for Children, Families, and Teachers” (with Jonathan Borowsky, Jessica H. Brown, Elizabeth E. Davis, Chloe Gibbs, Chris M. Herbst, Aaron Sojourner, Erdal Tekin), June 14, 2022, Brookings. [Link](#)

“Private Health Care Spending and Medicaid Expansion: Evidence for Wisconsin” (with Gwyn C. Pauley), Center for Research on the Wisconsin Economy Research Report, April 2019. [Link](#)  
Media: [Wisconsin State Journal](#)

“Private Health Care Spending and Medicaid Expansion: Another Report and Much Lower Cost Estimates” (with Gwyn C. Pauley), June 2019. [Link](#)

“New Approaches to Understanding Choice of Major” (with Basit Zafar), NBER Reporter 2, June 2021. [Link](#)

## WORKING PAPERS

8) “The Impacts of Same and Opposite Gender Alumni Speakers on Interest in Economics” (with Arpita Patnaik, Gwyn C. Pauley, and Joanna Venator), 2023, (NBER Working Paper 30983). [Link](#)

- 7) “An Equilibrium Model of the Impact of Increased Public Investment in Early Childhood Education” (with Jonathan Borowsky, Jessica H. Brown, Elizabeth E. Davis, Chloe Gibbs, Chris M. Herbst, Aaron Sojourner, Erdal Tekin), 2022 (NBER Working Paper 30140). [Link](#)  
Media: [New York Times](#), [Washington Post](#), [Axios](#), [Huffington Post](#), [Bloomberg](#)
- 6) “Early Childhood Care and Cognitive Development” (with Juan Chaparro and Aaron Sojourner), 2020, revision request (1<sup>st</sup> round) *Journal of Political Economy* (NBER Working Paper 26813). [Link](#)
- 5) “Home and School in the Development of Children” (with Francesco Agostinelli and Morteza Saharkhiz), 2020, conditionally accepted, *International Economic Review* (NBER Working Paper 26037). [Link](#)
- 4) “Actors in the Child Development Process” (with Daniela Del Boca, Christopher J. Flinn, and Ewout Verriest), 2019, revision request (1<sup>st</sup> round) *Journal of Political Economy* (NBER Working Paper 25596). [Link](#)
- 3) “Labor Market Search with Imperfect Information and Learning” (with John J. Conlon, Laura Pilossoph, and Basit Zafar), 2018 (NBER Working Paper 24988). [Link](#)
- 2) “Identification of Dynamic Latent Factor Models: The Implications of Re-Normalization in a Model of Child Development” (with Francesco Agostinelli), 2016 (NBER Working Paper 22441). [Link](#)
- 1) “Licensing and Occupational Sorting in the Market for Teachers,” 2010. [Link](#)

## TEACHING

Labor Economics (Undergraduate): 2005, 2006, 2009-11, 2015-16

Honors Thesis Tutorial (Undergraduate): 2007-09, 2017, 2020-23

Econometrics (Masters): 2020-22

Econometrics (Ph.D., first year course): 2012-16

Labor Economics (Ph.D., second year course): 2005, 2012-16

Public Economics (Ph.D., second year course): 2017-18, 2020, 2023

Applied Microeconometrics (Ph.D., second year course): 2006-2011, 2018, 2022

Short course on Applied Microeconometrics, University of Oslo Summer School, 2010

Ph.D. Thesis Supervision (as primary or co-primary advisor):

(date of completion, Ph.D. granting institution, initial placement)

Elise Marifian (2024 expected, UW-Madison, TBA)

Jeremy Kirk (2024 expected, UW-Madison, TBA)

Lois Miller (2024 expected, UW-Madison, TBA)  
Sahber Ahmadi-Renani (2023, UW-Madison, Iran)  
Joel McMurry (2022, UW-Madison, Uber)  
Arpita Patnaik (2021, UW-Madison, Charles River)  
Sadegh Eshaghnia (2019, ASU, University of Chicago Post-Doc)  
Francesco Agostinelli (2018, ASU, University of Pennsylvania Economics)  
Morteza Saharkhiz (2018, ASU, IMPAQ)  
Sajad Vahedi (2017, ASU, IMPAQ)

Ph.D. Thesis Supervision (as member of committee):

(date of completion, Ph.D. granting institution)

Adibah Abdulhadi (2022, UW-Madison)  
Joanna Venator (2021, UW-Madison)  
Nicolas Badaracco (2021, UW-Madison)  
Yu (Alan) Yang (2021, UW-Madison)  
Amrita Kulka (2020, UW-Madison)  
Ewout Verriest (2019, NYU)  
Shanke Zho (2019, UW-Madison)  
Carlos Felipe Yevenes (2018, UW-Madison)  
Hoyong Jung (2018, UW-Madison)  
Taehoon Kim (2017, UW-Madison)  
Adam Blandin (2016, ASU)  
Jessica Boccardo (2013, NYU)  
Maria Garibotti (2011, NYU)  
Bledi Taska (2011, NYU)  
Anja Sautmann (2010, NYU)  
Julia Schwenkenberg (2009, NYU)  
Elizabeth Potamites (2007, NYU)  
Luis Hall (2007, NYU)  
Giovanni Serio (2006, NYU)  
James Mabli (2006, NYU)  
Fernando Barbosa (2006, NYU)

Undergraduate Thesis Supervision:

(date of completion, undergraduate degree granting institution)

Clarence Harley (2023, UW-Madison)  
Jacob Goss (2021, UW-Madison)  
Susan Jiao (2021, UW-Madison)  
Jonathan Kim (2018, UW-Madison)  
Brett Fischer (2015, ASU)  
Yoo Jin Lee (2011, NYU)  
Leah Clark (2010, NYU)



Samantha Mak (2008, NYU)  
Zachary Saltzman (2008, NYU)  
Carl Nadler (2007, NYU)  
Mary Alexander (2007, NYU)  
Holly Cline (2006, NYU)

## **REVIEWER**

Journal Referee (Economics-General Interest):

Review of Economic Studies  
Econometrica  
Journal of European Economic Association  
Journal of Political Economy  
American Economic Review  
European Economic Review  
International Economic Review  
Quarterly Journal of Economics  
Quantitative Economics  
American Economic Journals: Applied Economics  
American Economic Journals: Policy  
Economics Letters  
Berkeley Electronic Press

Journal Referee (Economics-Public, Labor, and Education)

Journal of Public Economics  
Journal of Human Resources  
Labour Economics  
Education Finance and Policy  
Economics of Education Review  
Journal of Economic Inequality  
Journal of Population Economics  
Journal of Labor Economics  
Journal of Human Capital

Journal Referee (Economics-Econometrics, Statistics, Methods):

Journal of Econometrics  
Computational Economics  
Review of Economics and Statistics  
Journal of Applied Econometrics  
Review of Business and Economics Statistics

Journal Referee (Economics-Macroeconomics):  
American Economic Journals: Macroeconomics  
Review of Economic Dynamics

Journal Referee (Outside Economics):  
Demography  
American Educational Research Journal  
Social Science Research

Grant Reviewer:  
Economic Policy Institute  
US-Israel Bi-national Science Foundation  
National Science Foundation

Book Manuscript Reviewer:  
Addison-Wesley

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS**

(2006-2011)

US Census Bureau Restricted Data Centers Conference  
New York State Economics Association Annual Conference  
American Educational Finance Association (AEFA) Annual Conference  
American Educational Research Association (AERA) Annual Conference  
Econometric Society North American Summer Meeting  
Federal Reserve Bank Workshop on Quantitative Macroeconomics  
Society of Labor Economics (SOLE) Annual Meeting  
Institute for Research on Poverty (IRP) Summer Research Meeting  
Econometric Society European Summer Meeting  
“Global Perspectives on Public and Private Investments in Children,” Collegio Carlo Alberto  
“Workshop on the Economics of Couples: Theory and Applications,” Université de Cergy-  
Pontoise  
“New Economics of the Family” Conference at the Milton Friedman Institute

(2012)

“Parental and Public Investments and Child Outcomes,” Collegio Carlo Alberto  
National Bureau of Economic Research Summer Institute  
“Formation and Revision of Subjective Expectations,” CIRPEE, Laval University, Québec City  
American Economics Association Annual Meeting

(2013)

“Dynamic Policy Design with Human Capital,” Laboratory for Aggregate Economics and Finance  
American Economics Association Annual Meeting

(2014)

“Workshops on Risk and Family Economics,” Human Capital and Economic Opportunity  
Global Working Group and Institute for Fiscal Studies, University College London  
“Cowles Conference on Structural Empirical Microeconomics Models,” Yale University  
Association for Public Policy and Management (APPAM), Fall Research Conference  
Southern Economics Association Annual Meeting

(2015)

American Economics Association Annual Meeting  
“Workshop on Actors in the Child Development Process,” Collegio Carlo Alberto  
Southern Economics Association Annual Meeting

(2016)

American Economics Association Annual Meeting  
Barcelona GSE Summer Forum

(2017)

Wisconsin-La Crosse Economics of Education Conference

(2018)

American Economics Association Annual Meeting

(2019)

Authors’ Conference, Journal of Political Economy, Special Edition on the Economics of Child  
Development

(2020)

American Economics Association Annual Meeting

(2021)

American Economics Association Annual Meeting  
Southern Economics Association Annual Meeting

(2022)

“Rohit and Harvanit Kumar Conference on Early Childhood Development: Economic Theory  
and Data,” University of Chicago

(2023)

“Triangle Applied Microeconomics Conference (TAMC),” North Carolina State University,  
September 22, Keynote Speaker

“Human Capital Formation Over the Life-Cycle,” University of Rochester, October 5-6

“Education, Labor Market Outcomes, and Inequality,” Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis,  
November 30-December 1.

## **SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS**

(2006-2011)

City University of New York Graduate Center

University of Pennsylvania

New York University Center for Advanced Social Science Research

Rochester University

Federal Reserve Bank of New York

Statistics Norway

University of Maryland-College Park

Boston College

Rutgers University-Newark

Ohio State University

University of Oslo

(2012)

University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill

Johns Hopkins University

Arizona State University

Clemson University

(2013)

Duke University

Carnegie Mellon University

University of Pittsburgh

University of California-Los Angeles

Boston College

(2014)

University of California-Irvine

Washington University-St. Louis

University of Michigan-Ann Arbor

University of Wisconsin-Madison

University of Alabama-Tuscaloosa

(2015)

Brown University  
University of Minnesota-Twin Cities  
University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign  
Washington University-St. Louis  
Rice University  
Collegio Carlo Alberto  
University of Virginia  
University of Wisconsin-Madison

(2016)

University of Western Ontario  
University of Chicago

(2017)

Duke University  
University of Houston  
University of Illinois-Chicago  
University of Pennsylvania  
Johns Hopkins University  
University College London  
Federal Reserve Bank of New York  
University of Bristol  
Iowa State University  
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

(2019)

Cornell University  
Yale University  
Purdue University  
Ohio State University  
University of Minnesota-Twin Cities  
University of California-Berkeley  
University of Georgia

(2020)

Texas A&M University  
Toulouse School of Economics  
Université de Montréal

(2021)

University College London

Michigan State University  
University of Zurich  
Banco de España  
Australian Health and Human Capital Economics Seminar

(2022)

University of Chicago-Booth School of Business  
University of Chicago, Center for the Economics of Human Development  
University of Pennsylvania  
Johns Hopkins University

(2023)

Carnegie Mellon University, Tepper School of Business  
George Washington University  
New York University

## **CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION**

Co-Organizer, “Conference to Honor V. Joseph Hotz,” Duke University, September 8-9, 2023  
Co-Organizer, “Rohit and Harvanit Kumar Conference on Early Childhood Development: Economic Theory and Data,” University of Chicago, November 17-18, 2022  
Co-Organizer, “Advances in Policy Evaluation,” Arizona State University, February 19-20, 2016  
Program Committee, Econometric Society North American Winter Meetings, January 4-6, 2019  
Program Committee, Society of Labor Economics Annual Meeting, June 25-27, 2020

## **SERVICE**

(Professional)

Advisory Group Member, Nuffield Home Visiting Project, 2019-  
Advisory Group Member, Chicago Home Visiting Partnership Project, 2022-

(UW-Madison, University)

Interdisciplinary Training Program in Education Sciences Steering Committee, 2021-  
Center for Demography and Ecology, Executive Committee, 2020-  
Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education Research Committee (Fall Research Competition), 2018-20

(UW-Madison, Department of Economics)

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, 2021- (Co-chair, 2022-23)

Graduate Committee, 2018-20  
Recruitment Committee, 2016-18  
Assistant Professor Review Committee, 2016-17

(ASU)

Graduate Studies Committee, 2012-13  
Recruitment Committee, 2013-16  
Personnel Committee, 2015-16

(NYU)

Junior Recruitment Committee, 2006-07  
Ph.D. Admissions Committee, 2006, 2011  
Computer Committee, Chair, 2009-10  
Search Committee, Applied Statistician and Psychometrician Positions, NYU Steinhardt School of Education, 2008