

**PAUL NIEHAUS**

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**Appointments**

Associate Professor of Economics, University of California, San Diego, 2015-  
Assistant Professor of Economics, University of California, San Diego, 2009-2015  
Visiting Researcher, Microsoft Research New England, June 2012-January 2013  
Visiting Researcher, Marshall Institute, London School of Economics, June 2018  
Visiting Researcher, Stanford King Center on Global Development, November 2019

**Affiliations**

Research Associate, National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), 2013-present  
Affiliated Faculty, Graduate School of International Relations and Pacific Studies, UC San Diego, 2013-present  
Fellow, Bureau for Research and Economic Analysis of Development (BREAD)  
Affiliate, Center of Evaluation for Global Action (CEGA)  
Affiliate, Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)  
Co-founder, president (2009-2014) and director (2009-present), GiveDirectly  
Co-founder and director (2014-2019), Segovia Technology Co.  
Co-founder and director (2019-2020), Taptap Send Inc.

**Education**

Ph.D. in Economics, Harvard University, June 2009.  
Advisors: Edward Glaeser, Sendhil Mullainathan (primary), Markus Mobius  
Dissertation: Essays in Economic Development  
S.B., Harvard University, June 2004  
Concentration: Applied Math and Economics

**Honors and Awards**

Sloan Fellowship, 2015

Top 100 “Global Thinker,” *Foreign Policy*, 2013  
Mars Fellow at the Lindau Meetings of Nobel Laureates in Economic Science, 2008  
National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, 2006-2009

### **Recent Working Papers**

“Effects of a Universal Basic Income during the pandemic,” with Abhijit Banerjee, Michael Faye, Alan Krueger, and Tavneet Suri

“General equilibrium effects of cash transfers: experimental evidence from Kenya,” with Dennis Egger, Johannes Haushofer, Ted Miguel, and Michael Walker. *Revise and resubmit, Econometrica*.

“Identity verification standards in welfare programs: experimental evidence from India,” with Karthik Muralidharan and Sandip Sukhtankar.

“General Equilibrium Effects of (Improving) Public Employment Programs,” with Karthik Muralidharan and Sandip Sukhtankar. *Revise and resubmit, Econometrica*.

### **Publications**

“Filtered Social Learning,” *Journal of Political Economy* 119 (4), 2011, pp. 686-720.

“Political Aid Cycles”, with Michael Faye. *American Economic Review* 102 (7), 2012, pp. 3516-30.

“Targeting with Agents”, with Antonia Attanassova and Marianne Bertrand and Sendhil Mullainathan. *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy* 5 (1), 2013, pp. 206-38.

“Corruption Dynamics: the Golden Goose Effect”, with Sandip Sukhtankar. *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy* 5(4), 2013, pp.230-69. *AEJ: Economic Policy Best Paper Prize, 2014*.

“The Marginal Rate of Corruption in Public Programs”, with Sandip Sukhtankar. *Journal of Public Economics* 104, 2013, pp. 52-64.

“Building State Capacity: Evidence from Biometric Smartcards in India,” with Karthik Muralidharan and Sandip Sukhtankar. *American Economic Review* 106 (10), 2016, pp. 2895-2929.

“Experimentation at Scale,” with Karthik Muralidharan. *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 31 (4), Fall 2017, pp. 103-124.

“Universal basic income in the developing world,” with Abhijit Banerjee and Tavneet Suri. *Annual Review of Economics* 11, August 2019, pp. 959-983.

“Improving Last-Mile Service Delivery using Phone-based Monitoring,” with Karthik Muralidharan, Sandip Sukhtankar, and Jeff Weaver. *Forthcoming, American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*.

“Pathways of Persuasion,” with Lucas Coffman. *Forthcoming, Games and Economic Behavior*.

## **Other Writing**

“Show Them the Money: Why Giving Cash Helps Alleviate Poverty,” with Chris Blattman. *Foreign Affairs*, May-June 2014, pp. 117-126.

“Worth Every Cent,” with Chris Blattman and Michael Faye. *Foreign Affairs*, October 2015.

“Cash as Capital,” with Chris Blattman, Michael Faye, Dean Karlan, and Chris Udry. *Stanford Social Innovation Review*, Summer 2017.

## **Teaching**

Graduate Teaching Award . UCSD, 2020.

Special Topics: Corruption (Graduate – GPEC 449). UCSD, 2016-2021.

Intermediate Microeconomics Video Handbook project. UCSD, 2014.

Seminar in International Studies (Undergraduate – Intl 190). UCSD, 2012-2014, 2016-2021.

Macroeconomics of Development (Graduate). UCSD, 2009-2012, 2014, 2016-2017.

The Economics of Organizations in Developing Countries (Graduate). UCSD, 2018-2021.

Intermediate Microeconomics (Undergraduate – 100C). UCSD, 2009-2012.

Microeconomic Theory (Graduate), Harvard University, 2006-2008. Teaching Fellow.

## **Professional Activities**

Refereeing: American Economic Journal – Economic Policy; American Economic Journal – Applied Economics; American Economic Review; American Political Science Review; Agricultural Technology Adoption Initiative; Econometrica; Economic Journal; Economics Letters; Games and Economic Behavior; International Economic Review; Journal of Development Economics; Journal of the European Economic Association; Journal of Human Resources; Journal of Law and Economics; Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization; Journal of Policy Analysis and Management; Journal of Political Economy; Private Enterprise Development in Low-Income Countries initiative; Journal of Public Economics; National Science Foundation; Oxford Economic Papers; Quarterly Journal of Economics (2011 Excellence in Refereeing Award); Reviews of Economics and Statistics; Review of Economic Studies; Science; World Development

## **Invited Seminars**

2008-2009 Yale University, Cornell University, the London School of Economics, Warwick University, University of California – San Diego, University of Wisconsin – Madison, Dartmouth College, Gordon College

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| 2009-2010 | Stanford University, University of California – San Diego, World Bank, Center for Global Development  |
| 2010-2011 | University of California – Berkeley, Iowa State University, University of California – Los Angeles (Anderson)   |
| 2011-2012 | University of California – Santa Cruz, University of California – Berkeley (Haas), Stanford University, Naval Postgraduate School, New York University, University of California – Berkeley, University of Chicago (Booth), Microsoft Research New England  |
| 2012-2013 | Microsoft Research, Duke University, University of Chicago, University of San Francisco, Columbia University, London School of Economics / University College London, Oxford University, Warwick University, University of California – Berkeley (Haas), University of Southern California, Stanford University (GSB), University of California – Los Angeles, UCSD – Rady School of Business |
| 2013-2014 | University of California – Berkeley, World Bank, Center for Global Development (US), Center for Global Development (UK)   |
| 2014-2015 | Yale University, University of California – Los Angeles, University of Pittsburgh, Stanford University  |
| 2015-2016 | Berkeley (Haas), RAND Corporation, Apple University, World Bank   |
| 2016-2107 | Claremont Graduate University, Princeton University, Oxford University, UK Department for International Development   |
| 2017-2018 | Stanford University, World Bank, Duke University, University of California – Berkeley, University of Michigan, Northwestern University  |
| 2018-2019 | Penn State University, University of Chicago, Harvard Business School, Georgetown University, University of San Diego, University of British Columbia, Harvard / MIT,   |
| 2019-2020 | University of Geneva, University of Zurich, Maastricht University, University of Washington, Stanford University, University of California – Berkeley, University of California – Santa Cruz, University of Pennsylvania – Wharton School   |
| 2020-2021 | Yale University, University of California – Berkeley, Brown University  |

### **Conference Presentations**

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| 2005-2006 | Economic Science Association   |
| 2008-2009 | Northeast Universities Development Consortium (NEUDC), Bureau for Research and Economic Analysis of Development (BREAD)  |
| 2009-2010 | NEUDC, MOVE Barcelona “Development: Experiment and Field” Workshop   |
| 2010-2011 | Southwestern Economic Theory Conference (SWET), National Bureau for Economic Research – Public Economics   |
| 2011-2012 | CEGA Day   |
| 2012-2013 | Brown University Mini-conference on Networks, Stanford Institute for Theoretical Economics (SITE)  |
| 2013-2014 | NEUDC, Duke Mini-conference on Charitable Giving   |
| 2015-2016 | Effective Altruism Global, Delhi Economics Conclave, Skoll World Forum, San Diego Global Poverty Forum   |
| 2016-2017 | ideas42 Behavioral Summit, Hewlett Foundation  |
| 2017-2018 | Economics of Social Sector Organizations (London School of Economics), University of Connecticut, The Graduate Institute (Geneva), Williams College Center for Development Economics |
| 2018-2019 | Stanford Institute for Theoretical Economics (SITE), Y-RISE conference (Yale University), World Bank, Bridgewater (corporate retreat)  |

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| 2019-2020 | Y-RISE conference (Yale University), Korean Economic Review International Conference, Science of Philanthropy Conference (University of Chicago) |
| 2020-2021 | American Economic Association Annual Meetings  |