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**Personal Details:**

Date of birth: July 23, 1977  
Gender: Male  
Civil Status: Married  
Nationality: Italian

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**Current Position**

09/2013-present Associate Professor in Real Estate Economics and Finance; Department of Geography and Environment, London School of Economics (LSE).  
09/2013-present Research Director; Spatial Economics Research Centre (SERC), LSE.  
01/2014-present Director of Graduate Studies; Department of Geography and Environment, LSE.

**Other Affiliations**

01/2013-present Research Affiliate; CES-ifo Network, Munich.  
09/2007-present Research Associate; Centre for Economic Performance (CEP), LSE.  
05/2006-present Research Fellow; IZA (Institute for the Study of Labor), Bonn.

**Current Research Interests**

Applied Microeconometrics; Economics of Education; Economics of Entrepreneurship; Urban Economics.

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**Previously Held Positions**

09/11-12/13 Director; PhD Programme in Economic Geography; Department of Geography and Environment, LSE.  
09/07-08/13 Lecturer and Senior Lecturer (Assistant Professor) in Real Estate Economics and Finance; Department of Geography and Environment, LSE.  
08/11-12/11 Visiting Scholar, Taubman Center for State and Local Government; Harvard Kennedy School, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA.  
09/04-08/07 Research Officer, Education and Skills Programme; CEP, LSE.  
12/02-02/04 Research Assistant, Prof. A. Ichino; Dept. of Economics, EUI, Florence.

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**Education**

09/01-01/06 European University Institute (EUI), Dept. of Economics, Florence: PhD in Economics.  
02/04-08/04 University College London (UCL), Dept. of Economics, London: Marie Curie Fellow.  
09/00-06/01 Bocconi University, Dept. of Economics, Milan: Master in Economics.  
01/99-07/99 Institut d'Etudes Politiques (IEP), Paris: International Certificate of Political and Social Sciences.  
09/96-09/00 Bocconi University, Dept. of Economics, Milan: B.Sc. in Economics.

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## Refereed Journal Articles and Chapters

- ‘Neighbourhood Turnover and Teenage Attainment’ (with S. Gibbons and F. Weinhardt); *Journal of the European Economic Association*, forthcoming (IZA DP 8381).
- ‘Heterogeneous Agglomeration’ (with G. Faggio and W. Strange); *Review of Economics and Statistics*, forthcoming (SERC DP 0152).
- ‘Self-Employment and Entrepreneurship in Urban and Rural Labour Markets’ (with G. Faggio); *Journal of Urban Economics*, vol. 83(1), pp. 67-85, 2014 (SERC DP 0109).
- ‘Targeting Non-Cognitive Skills to Improve Cognitive Outcomes: Evidence from a Remedial Education Intervention’ (with H. Holmlund); *Journal of Human Capital*, vol. 8(2), pp. 126-160, 2014 (IZA DP 4476).
- ‘Everybody Needs Good Neighbours? Evidence from Students’ Outcomes in England’ (with S. Gibbons and F. Weinhardt); *Economic Journal*, vol. 123, pp. 831-874, 2013 (IZA DP 5980).
- ‘Valuing School Quality Using Boundary Discontinuity Regressions’ (with S. Gibbons and S. Machin); *Journal of Urban Economics*, vol. 75(1), pp. 15-28, 2013 (SERC DP 0018).
- ‘The Good, The Bad and The Average: Evidence on Ability Peer Effects in Schools’ (with V. Lavy and F. Weinhardt); *Journal of Labor Economics*, vol. 30(2), pp. 367-414, 2012 (NBER WP 15600).
- ‘Faith Primary Schools: Better Schools or Better Pupils?’ (with S. Gibbons); *Journal of Labor Economics*, vol. 29(3), pp. 589-635, 2011 (IZA DP 4089).
- ‘School Quality, Child Wellbeing and Parents’ Satisfaction’ (with S. Gibbons); *Economics of Education Review*, vol. 30(2), pp. 312-331, 2011 (CEE DP 103).
- ‘Choice, Competition and Pupil Achievement’ (with S. Gibbons and S. Machin), *Journal of the European Economic Association*, vol. 6(4), pp. 912-947, 2008 (IZA DP 2214).
- ‘Urban Density and Pupil Attainment’ (with S. Gibbons), *Journal of Urban Economics*, vol. 63(1), pp. 631-650, 2008 (IZA DP 2728).
- ‘Why So Many Local Entrepreneurs?’ (with C. Michelacci), *Review of Economics and Statistics*, vol. 89(4), pp. 615-633, 2007 (CEMFI WP 0506 and CEPR DP 5828).
- ‘The Jack-of-All-Trades Entrepreneur: Innate Talent or Acquired Skill?’, *Economics Letters*, vol. 97, pp. 118-123, 2007 (IZA DP 2264).
- ‘New Technology in Schools: Is there a Payoff?’ (with S. Machin and S. McNally), *Economic Journal*, vol. 117, pp.1145-1167, 2007 (IZA DP 2234).
- ‘Competition and Accessibility in School Markets: Empirical Analysis Using Boundary Discontinuities’ (with S. Gibbons), in T.J. Gronberg and D.W. Jansen (eds.), *IMPROVING SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY: CHECK-UPS OR CHOICE?*, *Advances in Applied Microeconomics*, Vol.14, Elsevier, 2006.
- ‘Not only Nokia: What Finland tells us about *new economy* growth’ (with F. Daveri), *Economic Policy*, vol. 19(38), 2004.

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## Submitted Articles and Completed Research Papers

- ‘Academies 2: The New Batch’ (with A. Eyles and S. Machin); CEP DP 1370, 2015 (submitted).
- ‘Mortgage Debt and Entrepreneurship’ (with P. Bracke and C. Hilber); Bank of England Staff WP 560 (previously SERC DP 0103), 2015 (submitted).
- ‘The Demand for Autonomous Schools’ (with M. Bertoni and S. Gibbons); mimeo, LSE.
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## Research in Progress and Research Projects

- ‘Co-Agglomeration of Service Industries’ (with G. Faggio and W. Strange); work-in-progress.
- ‘School Autonomy and Students’ Outcomes’ (with M. Bertoni and S. Gibbons); work-in-progress.
- ‘The Impact of a Systemic Education Reform: The Case of Academy Schools in England’ (with S. Gibbons, G. Heller-Sahlgren and S. Machin); work-in-progress.

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## Selected Policy Oriented Articles and Reports

- ‘Everybody Needs Good Neighbours?’ (with S. Gibbons and F. Weinhardt), *Centrepiece*, vol. 18(3), 2014.
- ‘School Structure, School Autonomy and The Tail’ (with S. Machin), in P. Marshall (ed.), *THE TAIL – HOW ENGLAND’S SCHOOLS FAIL ONE CHILD IN FIVE AND WHAT CAN BE DONE*, Profile Books, 2013.
- Book Review, ‘The Triumph of the City: How Our Greatest Invention Makes us Richer, Smarter, Greener, Healthier and Happier, by Edward Glaeser, Penguin Press. Accessible via *LSE British Politics and Policy Blog* (<http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/politicsandpolicy/category/book-reviews/>), 2011.
- ‘The Good, The Bad and The Average: Evidence of Ability Peer Effects in Schools’ (with V. Lavy and F. Weinhardt), *Vox* (<http://www.voxeu.org/>), 2010.
- ‘What Works in Primary Schools?’, *Centrepiece*, vol. 14(1), 2009.
- ‘Targeting Pupils at Risk of Exclusion: An Evaluation of the xl Club Programme’ (with H. Holmlund), Report to The Prince’s Trust, 2008.
- ‘In Brief: Faith Primary Schools: Better Schools or Better Pupils?’ (with S. Gibbons), *Centrepiece*, vol. 12(1), pp. 24-25 (2 pages), Summer 2007.
- ‘The Effectiveness of Primary Education’, in C. Beria di Argentine (ed.), *SISTEMI EDUCATIVI E CAPITALE UMANO*, Atti del Congresso, 22-23 June 2007, Milano, Giuffre’Editore, 2007 (updated as IZA PP 5, 2009).
- ‘Computers in Schools – New Technology in Schools: Is There a Payoff?’ (with S. Machin and S. McNally), *Vox* (<http://www.voxeu.org/>), December 2007.
- ‘The Educational Impact of Parental Choice and School Competition’ (with S. Gibbons and S. Machin), *Centrepiece*, vol.11(3), 2007 (lead article).
- ‘New Technology in Schools: Is There a Payoff?’ (with S. Machin and S. McNally), *Centrepiece*, vol. 11(1), pp. 10-12 (3 pages), Summer 2006.
- ‘An Evaluation of the Impact of Aimhigher: Excellence Challenge Using the Labour Force Survey’ (with C. Emmerson, C. Frayne and S. McNally), Department for Education and Skills (DfES), Research Report RR813, 2006.
- ‘An Economic Evaluation of the Early Impact of Aimhigher: Excellence Challenge on Pre-16 Outcomes – Update to Previous Analysis’ (with C. Emmerson, C. Frayne and S. McNally), DfES Research Report RR812, 2006.
- ‘Evaluation of Aimhigher: Excellence Challenge – The Early Impact of Aimhigher on Pre-16 Outcomes: an Economic Evaluation’ (with C. Emmerson, C. Frayne and S. McNally), DfES Research Report RR652, 2005.
- ‘Evaluation of Aimhigher: Excellence Challenge – Economic Evaluation of Opportunity Bursaries’, (with C. Emmerson, C. Frayne and S. McNally), DfES Research Report RR647, 2005.

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## Grants

- Centre Forum Research and Dissemination Grant for “The Impact of Academy Schools”, 2016; principal investigator (PI; with A. Eyles, G. Heller-Sahlgren, S. Machin and M. Sandi): £14,325.
- Leverhulme Trust Grant for “A Randomised Control Trial to Identify the Causal Effects of Accelerator Programmes”, 2015; principal investigator (PI; with M. Nathan and H. Overman): £234,029.
- ESRC funded Centre for Economic Performance Education (CEP), 2015-2020; co-investigator for core

funding (CI; with J. Van Reenen, S. Machin and others): £5.5m total.

ESRC funded What Works Centre (WWC) for Local Economic Growth, 2013-2016; co-investigator for core funding (CI; with H. Overman and others): £3.7m total.

STICERD-LSE Research Grant for “Co-agglomeration of Industries and the Micro-foundation of Agglomeration Economies”, 2013; principal investigator (PI; joint with G. Faggio): £4,893

ESRC funded Spatial Economics Research Centre (SERC), 2012-2013; co-investigator for extension of core funding (CI; with H. Overman, S. Gibbons and others): £1.4m total.

ESRC funded Centre for Economic Performance Education (CEP), 2010-2015; co-applicant for education-related projects within core funding (with J. Van Reenen, S. Machin and others): £6.08m total.

BERR/CLG/ESRC/WAG funded Spatial Economics Research Centre (SERC), 2008-2010; co-applicant for core-funding (with H. Overman, S. Gibbons and others): £2.9m total.

Prince’s Trust (London) grant for “Evaluation of the xl Clubs”, 2007; principal investigator (PI; with H. Holmlund): £24,375.

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### **Current Teaching**

2008-present ‘Urban and Spatial Economic Analysis II’; 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Undergraduate Course.

2007-present ‘Real Estate Finance’; Master Programme Course.

2006-present ‘Theories of Regional Development’; 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Undergraduate Course.

### **Recent PhD Students’ Supervision and Examination**

Filippo Boeri: *Trade and the Changing Nature of Agglomeration*. On-going.

Ying Chen: *Education, Migration and Enterprise Zones in China*. On-going.

Pascal Jaupart: *Migration, Remittances and Entrepreneurship in Developing Countries*. On-going.

Paolo Lucchino: *Essays on Social Enterprise and Not-for-Profit Business Ventures*. On-going.

Piero Montebruno: *School choice and competition in the Chilean Education Market*. On-going.

Cong Peng: *The Agglomeration of Service Industries: The Case of Finance in Shanghai*.

Nathalie Piccarelli: *Export Protection Zones, Institution, Conflict and Economic Development in Latin-America*. On-going.

Jose-Maria Casado Garcia: *Three Essays on the Geography of Household Consumption Decisions* (review supervisor). Defended: July 2011. First employment: Bank of Spain.

Phil Wales: *Graduate specialisation, training and labour market outcomes in the context of disparities in local economic performance in the UK* (review supervisor). Defended: June 2012. First employment: ONS.

Felix Weinhardt: *Applied Essays in Education and Urban Economics* (main supervisor). Defended: April 2012. First employment: Humboldt University, Berlin.

Tommaso Colussi: *Empirical Essays on the Economic Analysis of Social Connections* (examiner); Queen Mary University, PhD in Economics (September 2013)

Maria Sanchez Vidal: *Essays on Urban Economics* (examiner); University of Barcelona, PhD in Economics (April 2016)

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### **Recent Conferences and Seminars**

Speaker at conferences (selected): *UEA Annual Conference 2015 (Portland), 2012 (Ottawa) and 2011 (Miami)*; *SERC Annual Conference 2013, 2012, 2011 and 2010 (London)*; *SOLE Annual Conference 2014 (Washington), 2010 (London) and 2009 (Boston)*; *CEPR Research Network ‘The Economics of Education and Education Policy in Europe’ (EEEPE) Annual Conference 2009 (London), 2007 (Madrid), 2006*

(Padua), 2005 (Uppsala) and 2004 (Amsterdam); IZA-SOLE Transatlantic Conference, 2008 (Ammresee); EALE Annual Conference 2006 (Prague) and 2004 (Lisboa); EEA Annual Conference 2005 (Amsterdam); ESSLE-IZA 2009, 2005 and 2004 (Ammresee); EUI-Economics Alumni Conference 2013.

Speaker in seminars (selected): *Bocconi University (Milan); Brown University (Providence, RI); Catholic University of Milan; CEIS-Tor Vergata (Rome); CEP, London School of Economics; CMPO, University of Bristol; CPB (The Hague); DIW (Berlin); Harvard Business School (Cambridge, MA); Harvard Department of Economics (Cambridge, MA); Harvard Kennedy School (Cambridge, MA); HECER (Helsinki), IFAU (Uppsala); IZA (Bonn); PSI (London); Stockholm University; University College Dublin; University of Barcelona; University of Bologna; University of California at Santa Cruz (UCSC); University of Chicago, Harris School (Chicago, IL); University of Essex; University of Leicester; University of Oslo; University of Warwick; University of York; Tinbergen Institute (Amsterdam), VATT (Helsinki).*

Seminar series co-organizer: ‘Urban and Regional Economics’, hosted by the Spatial Economics Research Centre (SERC), London School of Economics (joint with R. Crescenzi and C. Hilber); 2008-2015.

Conference organizer: ‘The Educational impact of School Competition and Choice’; Department for Education and Skills, London; May 2006.

Conference co-organizer: ‘Frontiers in Empirical Entrepreneurship Research’; University of Stirling, January 2013 (joint with S. Hebllich).

Conference co-organizer: ‘The Economics of Entrepreneurship: Bringing Back the Entrepreneur into Economics’, CESifo Venice Summer Workshop, July 2015 (joint with O. Falck and S. Hebllich).

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### **Referee and Professional Activities**

Referee for (selected): *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics; Economic Journal; Economics Letters; Journal of Applied Econometrics; Journal of Economic Geography; Journal of the European Economic Association; Journal of Human Resources; Journal of Labor Economics; Journal of Population Economics; Journal of Public Economics; Journal of Urban Economics; Labour Economics; Management Science; Quarterly Journal of Economics; Regional Science and Urban Studies; Review of Economics and Statistics; Review of Economic Studies; Scandinavian Journal of Economics; Small Business Economics.*

Journal of the European Economic Association (JEEA) ‘Excellence in Refereeing’ award, 2015.

Scientific Committee (paper selection), ASSET Annual Conference, 2008; EUI (Florence).

Scientific Advisory Board, HEINE (Network for Higher Education and Innovation Research), Helsinki, Finland, 2011-2012.

### **Services to the Profession and Expert Witness**

Expert Peer Review Panel (Member), Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS); April 2016-present.

Expert Witness, 1922 Committee – Public Policy Group on ‘School Choice, School Autonomy and Academies’; March 2014.

Expert Witness, Parliament Education Select Committee on ‘Academy Schools’; March 2014.

Governing Body (Member and Curriculum Task Force), Ark Putney Academy, Ark School Network; September 2013-present.

External Advisor, Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS), talk on ‘Spatial Disparities in Entrepreneurship’; January 2013.

Finance Committee, London School of Economics and Political Science: *Nominated Faculty Member*; August 2011-present.

### **Selected Media Coverage**

Articles/research featured in: *BBC News, Channel 4 (Richard Dawkins’ reportage), ESRC Britain in 2016,*

*Rai Uno (Italy), Slate, The Conversation, The Daily Mail, The Economist, The Evening Standard, The Financial Times, The Guardian, The Huffington Post, The Independent, The Telegraph and The Times Educational Supplement, VoxEU.*

**Language Skills**

Italian (native), English (fluent), French (good), Spanish (basic).

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