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Personal Details:

Date of birth: July 23, 1977
Gender: Male
Personal: married, one child
Nationality: Italian

Current Position

08/2017-present Professor in Real Estate Economics and Finance; Department of Geography and Environment, London School of Economics (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.

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 and Social Sciences (DES).

Previously Held Positions

09/07-07/17 Lecturer and Senior Lecturer (Assistant Professor) and Associate 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.

Administrative and Managerial Roles

06/2019-present Head of the Economic Geography Cluster; Department of Geography and Environment, LSE.
01/2014-present Director of Graduate Studies; Department of Geography and Environment, LSE.
09/13-10/16 Research Director; Spatial Economics Research Centre (SERC), LSE.
09/11-12/13 Director; PhD Programme in Economic Geography; Department of Geography and Environment, LSE.

Refereed Journal Articles

‘School Choice During a Period of Radical Reform. Evidence from the Academy Programme’ (with M. Bertoni and S. Gibbons); *Economic Policy*, vol. 35(104), pp. 739-795, 2020 (IZA DP 11162).

Tales of the City: What Do Agglomeration Cases Tell Us About Agglomeration in General?’ (with G. Faggio and W. Strange); *Journal of Economic Geography*, vol. 20(5), pp. 1117-1143, 2020 (CEP DP1619).

‘The Bedroom Tax’ (with S. Gibbons and M. Sanchez-Vidal); *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, vol. 82(2020), pp. 1-13, 2020 (CEP DP 1537).

‘Mortgage Debt and Entrepreneurship’ (with P. Bracke and C. Hilber); *Journal of Urban Economics*, vol. 103(1), pp. 52-66, 2018 (Bank of England Staff WP 560).

‘Academies 2: The New Batch – The Changing Nature of Academy Schools in England’ (with A. Eyles and S. Machin); *Fiscal Studies*, vol. 39(1), pp. 121-158, 2017 (CEP DP 1370).

‘Neighbourhood Turnover and Teenage Attainment’ (with S. Gibbons and F. Weinhardt); *Journal of the European Economic Association*, vol. 15(4), pp. 746-783, 2017 (IZA DP 8381).

‘Heterogeneous Agglomeration’ (with G. Faggio and W. Strange); *Review of Economics and Statistics*, vol. 99(1), pp. 80-94, 2017 (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). Award for “Top 5 Most Cited Papers” in the *Journal of Urban Economics* in 2014, 2015 and 2016.

‘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).

‘Not only Nokia: What Finland tells us about new economy growth’ (with F. Daveri), *Economic Policy*, vol. 19(38), pp. 117-163, 2004.

Research in Progress and Research Projects

‘Judge Dread: Court Severity, Repossession Risk and Demand in Mortgage and Housing Markets’ (with P. Montebruno-Bondi and N. Szumilo); CEP Discussion Paper 1766 and Department of Geography and Environment Paper 25.

‘School Types: Evidence on the Relative Effectiveness of Different School Arrangements’ (with M. Bertoni and T. Klein), work-in-progress, LSE.

‘The Organizational Economics of School Chains’ (with L. Neri and E. Pasini); work-in-progress, LSE.

Selected Handbook Chapters, Policy Articles and Reports

‘School Competition and the Quality of Education’ (with F. Foliano); in S. Bradley and C. Green (eds.), *THE ECONOMICS OF EDUCATION: A COMPREHENSIVE OVERVIEW (2ND EDITION)*, Elsevier, 2020.

‘The Impact of Academies on Educational Outcomes’ (with J. Andrews, A. Eyles, G. Heller-Sahlgren, S. Machin, N. Pereira and M. Sandi); Policy Booklet, Education Policy Institute (EPI), London, July 2017.

‘The Impact of Academies’ (with A. Eyles, G. Heller-Sahlgren, S. Machin and M. Sandi); report prepared for the “Academies: 15 Years On” Conference organized by the Education Policy Institute (EPI), London, July 2016 (20 pages – slides).

‘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.

‘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, Giuffrè 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.

‘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.

‘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 – Economic Evaluation of Opportunity Bursaries’, (with C. Emmerson, C. Frayne and S. McNally), DfES Research Report RR647, 2005.

Grants

ESRC funded Centre for Economic Performance Education (CEP), 2020-2025; co-investigator for core funding (CI; with S. Machin, H. Overman and others): £4.25m total.

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.

Teaching

2020-present	‘The Economics of Cities’; 2 nd Year Undergraduate (UG) Course.
2008-present	‘The Economics of Housing Markets and Migration’; 3rd Year UG Course.
2007-present	‘Real Estate Finance’; Master Programme Course.
2006-present	‘The Economic Geography of Growth and Development’; 3rd Year UG Course.

PhD Students’ Supervision and Examination

Antonio Avila: *Topic in Environmental and Transport Economics*. On-going (Year 1).

Capucine Riom: *Environmental Shocks, Inequality and Sustainability*. On-going (Year 1)

Natalie Pruet: *Land Use and Vacancies in Flint and the US Rust Belt*. On-going (Year 2).

Sandro Provenzano: *Essays in Environmental and Development Economics*. On-going (Year 3).

Jose-Maria Casado Garcia: *Three Essays on the Geography of Household Consumption Decisions*. Defended: 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*. Defended: 2012. First employment: ONS.

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

Piero Montebruno: *Essay in Economic Geography*. Defended: 2016. First employment: Cambridge University.

Paolo Lucchino: *Essays on Social Enterprise and Not-for-Profit Business Ventures*. Defended: 2017. First employment: Premise Data.

Pascal Jaupart: *Migration, Remittances and Political Outcomes in Developing Countries*. Defended: 2017. First employment: Oxford University.

Nathalie Piccarelli: *Export Protection Zones, Institution, Conflict and Economic Development in Latin-America*. Defended: 2017. First employment: The World Bank.

Ying Chen: *Essays on Urban and Environmental Economics in Developing Countries*. Defended: 2018 First employment: Xiamen University, Fujian.

Cong Peng: *Essays on Urban and Development Economics*. Defended: 2019. First Employment: Post-Doctoral Fellow, Harvard University.

Filippo Boeri: *Essays in Urban Economics and International Trade*. Defended: 2020. First Employment: ERC Post-Doctoral Fellow, LSE.

Martina Manara: *Urbanization and planning in Dar-Es-Salam; A mix-method approach*. Defended: 2021.

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

Maria Sanchez Vidal: *Essays on Urban Economics* – Examiner; University of Barcelona, PhD in Economics (2016).

Bernardo Sarmiento: *Measuring the Impact of School Attendance* – Examiner; University of Nottingham, PhD in Economics (2019).

Jose' Montalban-Castilla: *Essays in the Economics of Education* – Examiner; Paris School of Economics, PhD in Economics (2019).

Caterina Pavese: *Studies in the Economics of Migration and Education* Examiner; University of Venice – Ca' Foscari, PhD in Economics (2020).

Selected Conferences and Seminars

Speaker at conferences (selected): *EPR Research Network 'The Economics of Education and Education Policy in Europe' (EEEPE) Annual Conferences (2004-2009); CESifo Conference, 'Economics of Education', 2016; IZA-SOLE Transatlantic Conference, 2008; EALE Annual Conference (2006 and 2004); EEA Annual Conference 2005; ESSLE-IZA (2004, 2005 and 2009); EUI-Economics Alumni Conference (2013); Matching-in-Practice Workshop (2017); SERC Annual Conference (2010-2013); SOLE Annual Conference (2009, 2010 and 2014); UEA Annual Conference (2011, 2012, 2015, 2017, 2019 and 2020).*

Speaker in seminars (selected): *Bocconi University (Milan); Brown University (Providence, RI); Catholic University of Milan; 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); 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 York; Tinbergen Institute (Amsterdam), VATT (Helsinki), Warwick University.*

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. Heblich).

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. Heblich).

Referee and Professional Activities

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

Regional Science and Urban Economics, Editorial Board, 2018-onwards.

Journal of Urban Economics, Editorial Board, 2016-onwards.

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

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

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

Scientific Committee, ESPE Annual Conference, 2017; University of Strathclyde (Glasgow).

Programme Committee, UEA Annual Meetings, 2019 (Amsterdam), 2020 (London; cancelled), 2021 (virtual).

Programme Committee, EEA Annual Meetings, 2019 (Manchester) and 2020 (virtual)

Selected Services to the Profession, Policy Advice and Expert Witness

Discussant, roundtable on ‘School Autonomy, Accountability and Leadership’, Centre for Market Reforms in Education (CMRE), London; August, 2016.

Discussant, roundtable on ‘Multi Academy Trusts (MATs): Survey Evidence’, Reform (think-tank), London; July 2016.

Keynote speaker, conference on ‘Academies: 15 Years On’, Education Policy Institute and Kings’ College, London; July 2016.

Discussant, Meeting on School Choice and Admission Patterns, Department for Education (DfE), London; February 2016.

Keynote speaker, Conference on ‘School Choice, Opportunity and Equity’, Centre for Market Reforms in Education (CMRE), London; January 2016.

Expert Peer Review Panel, 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-September 2016.

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

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.*

Other information

Language skills: Italian (native), English (fluent), French (intermediate), Spanish (basic).

Hobbies and interests: track cycling; yoga; travelling.
