

NARA FRANCOISE MONKAM

Curriculum Vitae

November 2007

Fiscal Research Center	3833 Peachtree Road NE
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Economics, expected graduation: Spring 2008

Georgia State University, Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, Atlanta, GA

Dissertation Title: “The Money-Moving Syndrome and the Effectiveness of Foreign Aid”

M.A. in Economics, June 2002

Facultés Universitaires Notre-Dame de la Paix (University of Namur), Namur, Belgium

B.S. in Economics, June 2000

Facultés Universitaires Notre-Dame de la Paix (University of Namur), Namur, Belgium

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Public Finance, Development Economics, Applied Econometrics

EMPLOYMENT

Research Associate, Fiscal Research Center, Georgia State University; Andrew Young School of Policy Studies (August 2006-Present)

- Write policy reports on state and local fiscal and economic policy and prepare Fiscal Notes for the Georgia State Legislature.
- Conduct research on tax policy and reform, education finance, and economic development, among other issues.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant for Dr. Klara Peter, Department of Economics, Georgia State University (Fall 2005-Fall 2006)

- “Applied Statistics and Econometrics” for M.A. in Economics, AYSPS: graded problem sets and exams, introduced students to STATA software
- “Macroeconomics” for undergraduate: Guest lecturer, graded problems sets and exams

Research Assistant, International Studies Program, Georgia State University; Andrew Young School of Policy Studies (Fall 2003-Fall 2005)

- Assisted in research of “the assignment of expenditure responsibilities to different levels of government” project. Determined which of the central or local governments should be in charge of specific programs
- Assessed the degree of corruption in the public sector of 77 countries by examining variables such as the level of privatization, the existence of a Supreme Audit Institution, and the transparency in government accounts
- Analyzed the impact fiscal reforms in developed and developing countries
- Assisted with data analysis and data collection regarding issues in Public Finance

Intern, Georgia African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) Commission (February 2007-Present)

- Research and assist in organizing meetings and seminars between countries in Sub-Saharan Africa and American companies interested in doing business in a variety of industry sectors.

Research Assistant, Department of Economics, University of Namur, Belgium (1999-2002)

- Participated in the project “Widening of the European Union: Case Study of Turkey”. Analyzed comparative advantages and gravity model to evaluate the impact of Turkey’s admission into the European Union.
- Collected and analyzed various data using different statistical packages
- Designed and encoded data relating to the allocation of land between women in Burkina Faso (Africa). Compiled dependent variables that influence land allocation and ran econometric regressions. Regarding women in need, assessed to what extent customary mechanisms of access to land evolve as land becomes scarce

Intern, Gerlin Namur, Credit Insurance Company, Namur Belgium (Summer 2001)

- Analyzed balance sheets, income and cash flow statements of various companies. Determined companies’ eligibility for insurance coverage based on their financial performance. Contacted clients to gather missing documents concerning their insurance coverage

PUBLICATIONS

An Analysis of the Financing of Higher Education in Georgia, Fiscal Research Center Report No. 142 (February 2007)

Subnational Value-Added Taxes: Options for Georgia (with Laura Wheeler), Fiscal Research Center Report No. 166 (September 2007); reprinted in *State Tax Notes* (forthcoming).

WORK IN PROGRESS

“Analyzing the Inception of a Need-Based Student Aid Program for Georgia’s Public Colleges and Universities” (with Dana Rickman)

RESEARCH SKILLS

Computer Skills: STATA, SAS, Eviews, Microsoft Office, Mathematica, EMS professional.

Languages: French (Native), Spanish (Intermediate)

AWARDS, HONORS, and ACTIVITIES

- The George Malanos Scholarship in Economics, given to the Ph.D. student selected by the faculty as best exemplifying a commitment to the exchange of ideas and the creation of a community of scholars (April 2007)
- Georgia State University Staff Scholarship Award (Spring and Fall 2007)
- Service Award for outstanding service as president of the department of Economics Graduate Student Association, Georgia State University (April 2006)
- Phi Beta Delta Honor Society (Spring 2004)
- Recipient of Outstanding Graduate Student in Economics Award, University of Namur, Namur, Belgium (June 2000, 2001 and 2002)
- President of the Economics Department Graduate Student Association, Georgia State University (fall 2005-fall 2006)
- Treasurer of the Graduate Student Council of Georgia State University (Fall 2006- present)
- Volunteer at Fresh Start for Women Inc., a non-profit organization whose mission is to reduce the effects of domestic violence and sexual assault among women. Prepare and present Money Management/Credit Bylaws seminars aiming at helping abused women achieve financial independence (Feb 2007-present).
- Received a scholarship to participate in the 2007 CRS/NCAN College Leaders Program on HIV & AIDS in Chicago on July 26-29, 2007. This program offers an opportunity to learn about the AIDS pandemic, and how to best educate others on our campus through a series of campus-wide HIV & AIDS activities leading up to World AIDS Day, December 1st.

REFERENCES

Jorge Martinez-Vazquez (Dissertation Committee Chair)
Director of the International Studies Program/Professor of Economics
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