

BRIAN DILLON

Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics & Management
Cornell University
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2018-present Assistant Professor of Development Economics and Applied Econometrics
Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics and Mgmt., Cornell University
- 2013-2018 Assistant Professor of Public Policy & Adjunct Assistant Professor of Economics
Evans School of Public Policy and Governance, University of Washington
- 2011-2013 Giorgio Ruffolo Post-doctoral Fellow in Sustainability Science
Harvard Kennedy School
- 2011-2013 Post-doctoral Research Fellow
Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics and Mgmt., Cornell University

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Economics	Cornell University	2011
M.A. Economics	Cornell University	2009
M.Phil. Economics	University of Cambridge	2005
B.S. Mathematics, <i>magna cum laude</i>	Loyola University Chicago	2000
B.A. Philosophy, <i>magna cum laude</i>	Loyola University Chicago	2000

PUBLISHED AND FORTHCOMING

- Dillon, Brian (2020). "Selling Crops Early to Pay for School: A Large-Scale Natural Experiment in Malawi" *Journal of Human Resources* 0617-08899R1. Published ahead of print January 14, 2020.
- Dillon, Brian, Joachim De Weerd and Ted O'Donoghue (2020). "Paying More for Less: Why Don't Households in Tanzania Take Advantage of Bulk Discounts?" *World Bank Economic Review*. First published online, 10 Jan 2020. <https://doi.org/10.1093/wber/lhz020>
- Dillon, Brian, Peter Brummund and Germano Mwabu (2019). "Asymmetric Non-Separation and Rural Labor Markets" *Journal of Development Economics* (139): 78-96.
- Dillon, Brian and Alessandra Voena (2018). "Widows' Land Rights and Agricultural Investment" *Journal of Development Economics* (135): 449-460.

Christian, Paul and Brian Dillon (2018). “Growing and Learning When Consumption is Seasonal: Long-Term Evidence from Tanzania” *Demography* (2018) 55: 1091-1118.

Weld, Galen, Trevor Perrier, Jenny Aker, Joshua Blumenstock, Brian Dillon, Adalbertus Kamanzi, Editha Kokushubira, Jennifer Webster, and Richard Anderson (2018). “eKichabi: Information Access through Basic Mobile Phones in Rural Tanzania” CHI 2018 conference proceedings.

Dillon, Brian and Chelsey Dambro (2017). “How Competitive are Crop Markets in sub-Saharan Africa?” *American Journal of Agricultural Economics* 99(5): 1344-1361.

Dillon, Brian and Chris B. Barrett (2017). “Agricultural factor markets in Sub-Saharan Africa: an updated view with formal tests for market failure.” *Food Policy* 67: 64-77.

Dillon, Brian and Chris B. Barrett (2016). “Global Oil Prices and Local Food Prices: Evidence from East Africa” *American Journal of Agricultural Economics* 98(1): 154-171.
[Honorable Mention, Outstanding Article in *AJAE*]

Dillon, Brian (2012). “Using Mobile Phones to Collect Panel Data in Developing Countries” *Journal of International Development* 24(4): 518-527.

WORKING PAPERS

Aker, Jenny, Brian Dillon, and Jamilah Welch (2021). “Demand, Supply and Long-Term Adoption: Evidence from a Storage Technology in West Africa.”

Dillon, Brian, Jenny Aker, and Joshua Blumenstock (2021). “How Important is the Yellow Pages? Experimental Evidence from Tanzania.”

Rakotonarivo, O. Sarobidy, Andrew Bell, Brian Dillon, A. Bradley Duthie, Adams Kipchumba, Ranaivo Andriarilala Rasolofoson, Julie Razafimanahaka, Nils Bunnefeld (2021). “Experimental evidence on the impact of payments and property rights on forest user decisions.”

Dillon, Brian and Travis J. Lybbert (2020). “The Gambler’s Fallacy Prevails in Lottery Play.”

Dillon, Brian (2017). “Private Information and Dynamic Risk.”

Dillon, Brian (2016). “Measuring Subjective Probability Distributions” Revise and resubmit, *Quantitative Economics*.

OTHER WRITING

“Evidence Insight: A Mobile Phone Directory Connects Farmers and Enterprises in Tanzania” (2019). Policy Brief for the USAID Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Markets, Risk, and Resilience.

- “Ethnic Diversity and Civil War in Africa” (2018). Blog post for CEAGA, published February 14, 2018.
- “Agricultural Markets in ‘Rising’ Africa” (2017). With Lorenzo Casaburi and Tristan Reed. Invited blog post for *Vox Dev*, published November 20, 2017.
- “An Updated View of African Factor Markets” (2017). With Chris Barrett. In *Agriculture in Africa: Telling Facts from Myths*, edited by Luc Christiaensen and Lionel Demery.
- “Selling Crops Early to Pay For School: A Large-Scale Natural Experiment in Malawi” (2017). Policy Brief, African Development Bank.
- “Labor Markets in East Africa” (2016). With Peter Brummund and Germano Mwabu. GLM-LIC Program of the IZA, Policy Brief 7.
- “Do Households in Malawi Use Labor Efficiently?” (2016). With Peter Brummund and Joshua Merfeld. GLM-LIC Program of the IZA, Policy Brief 8.
- “Farmer Demand for Fertilizer in Sub-Saharan Africa: Theory, Evidence, and Policy” (2016). With Sarah Coffey. Background paper for the Agricultural Policy team at the Gates Foundation.

RESEARCH FUNDING

- 2020 “Extreme Poverty – Building Evidence for Effective Action” (\$1.9 million)
 Co-I (Cornell PI: John Hoddinott)
 Consortium Lead: Oxford Policy Management
 UK Department for International Development
- “Harnessing the Power of Electronic Fiscal Devices to Increase VAT Revenue” (£65,000)
 Principal Investigator w/ Twivwe Siwale (IGC)
 International Growth Center
- “Scoping and Pilot Work: Harnessing the Power of Electronic Fiscal Devices to Increase VAT Revenue” (£16,746)
 Principal Investigator w/ Twivwe Siwale (IGC)
 International Growth Center – Small Grants Program
- 2019 “Network expansion and firm growth in Tanzania” (\$8,500)
 Principal Investigator
 Cornell Institute for the Social Sciences
- 2018 “The Emergence of a Market for Storage Solutions: Addressing Demand and Supply Constraints” (\$400,000)
 Co-PI with Jenny Aker (Tufts)
 Agricultural Technology Adoption Initiative

- 2017 “Deepening Business Networks in Africa” (\$100,000)
Principal Investigator
Amazon Catalyst
- 2016 “Remote Tracking of Grain Flows” (\$5,000)
Principal Investigator
Development Impact Lab, Explore Grant
- 2015 “Cowpeas, Credit and Storage: How do Marketing and Liquidity Constraints Affect Farmers in Niger?” (\$49,916)
Co-Investigator (PI: Jenny Aker, Tufts)
Agricultural Technology Adoption Initiative
- 2015 “Farmer Learning and Trader Competitiveness: Program and Policy Implications” (\$75,712)
Principal Investigator
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
- 2014 “Labor Markets and Household Enterprises: Evidence from New Nationally Representative Surveys in Five African Countries” (€253,400)
Principal Investigator (Co-Is: Peter Brummund and Germano Mwabu)
Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA) GLM-LIC
- 2014 “Communication, Search, and Mobile Phones: A Telephone Directory Intervention in Tanzania” (\$124,900)
Principal Investigator (Co-Is: Jenny Aker, Joshua Blumenstock, and Adalbertus Kamanzi)
USAID BASIS
- 2013 “Agriculture in Africa: Telling Facts from Myths” (\$40,000)
Participating researcher (PI: Luc Christiaensen)
World Bank and African Development Bank
- 2012 “Oil Prices and African Food Security” (\$192,000)
Co-Recipient (PI: Chris Barrett)
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
- 2009 “Subjective Expectations, Information, and Competitiveness in East African Agricultural Output Markets” (\$42,000)
Co-Investigator (PI: Chris Barrett)
NSF Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Selected Faculty Mentor, Ruth Park, Cornell Merrill Presidential Scholar 2021
Professor of the Year, Evans School Student Organization, 2017-2018
Honorable Mention, AAEA Outstanding *AJAE* Article Award, 2016
Nominated for University of Washington Distinguished Teaching Award, 2014-2015

Professor of the Year, Evans School Student Organization, 2013-2014
 Giorgio Ruffolo Post-doctoral Fellow in Sustainability Science, HKS, 2011-2013
 Chester O. McCorkle Fellowship, Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, 2010
 Buttrick-Crippen Fellowship, Knight Institute for Writing, Cornell University, 2008
 Ernest Liu Outstanding Teaching Award, Department of Economics, Cornell University, 2008
 Gates Scholarship, University of Cambridge, 2003-2005
 Joseph Zajdel Award for Excellence in Mathematics, Loyola University Chicago, 2000

PRESENTATIONS AND SEMINARS

- 2021 Midwest Development Economics Conference
- 2020 U of Illinois; Northeast Universities Development Conference; Wageningen (postponed); KU Leuven (postponed); U of Georgia (postponed)
- 2019 Northeast Universities Development Conference
- 2018 ASSA Annual Conference; Cornell Dyson School; University of British Columbia; UC San Diego; UC Davis; Cornell Institute for African Development
- 2017 Pacific Development Conference; International Food Policy Research Institute; Midwest Development Economics Conference; Annual World Bank Conference on Africa; AAEA Annual Meeting; Northeast Universities Development Conference; Montana State University
- 2016 KU Leuven, Belgium; Michigan State University; Pacific Development Conference; IZA GLM-LIC Conference in Oxford; CEGA R² Research Retreat; BASIS/USAID at George Washington University; Northeast Universities Development Conference; World Bank DIME seminar
- 2015 ASSA Annual Conference; University of Alabama; 2nd International Conference on Global Food Security at Cornell; 1st IZA/DFID GLM-LIC Research Conference on New Research on Labor Markets in Low-Income Countries at the World Bank; WGAPE at U. of Arizona
- 2014 Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation; World Bank Annual Bank Conference on Africa (Paris); Center for Global Development; Oxford Center for the Study of African Economies Annual Conference; IMF/OCP Conference “Food Price Volatility: Causes and Consequences” (Rabat)
- 2013 International Agricultural Trade Research Consortium Annual Meeting; University of Washington Evans School, Department of Economics, and Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology; World Bank Land and Poverty Conference (DC); University of Illinois; University of Minnesota; Williams College; University of Notre Dame
- 2012 Northeast Universities Development Conference; Cornell University; Oxford Center for the Study of African Economies Annual Conference; Harvard Development Lunch
- 2011 Northeast Universities Development Conference; AAEA Annual Meeting; Econometric Society Summer Meetings

COURSES TAUGHT

Cornell University: Microeconomics of International Development (PhD)
 Applied Econometrics (MS)
 Development Economics (MS)
 Doing Business in the Developing World (Undergraduate)

Economics of Developing Countries (Undergraduate)

U. of Washington: Economics for Policy Analysis and Management (MPA)
Quantitative Analysis II (Applied Econometrics) (MPA)
Food and Agricultural Policy in Developing Countries (MPA)
Advanced Microeconomics for Policy Analysis (PhD)
Deep Dive Capstone Seminar (MPA)

STUDENT SUPERVISION AND EXAMINATION

Graduate Fields at Cornell

Applied Economics, 2018-present
Regional Science, 2020-present

Master's Level

Lauren Asprooth UW MPA 2017, Supervised independent study for Degree Project
Keyu Chen Cornell MA Asian Studies 2020, Thesis committee member
Molly Doruska Cornell Dyson MS-PhD, Thesis committee chair
Emily Gerth-Guyette UW MPA 2014, Supervised independent study for Degree Project
Audrey Royston UW MPA 2016, Supervised independent study for Degree Project
Jessica Rudder UW MPA 2015, Supervised independent study for Degree Project
Xuan Zou Cornell MS Regional Science 2020, Thesis committee member
Peizan Sheng Cornell MS Applied Economics 2022, Thesis committee chair

Ph.D. Level

Jordan Banks UW School of Public Health, PhD Committee Grad. School Rep.
Sylvia Blom Cornell Dyson, PhD Committee member
Rebecca Brander UW Dept. of Epidemiology, PhD Committee Grad. School Rep.
Pasita Chaijaroen UW Economics, PhD Committee member, completed 2016
Tarana Chauhan Cornell Dyson, PhD Committee member
Sam Henly UW Economics, PhD Committee Grad. School Rep.
Hui Mai UW Economics, PhD Committee Grad. School Rep., completed 2015
Natasha Jha Cornell Dyson, PhD Committee member
Elodie Marlet UW Economics, PhD Committee member
Jennifer Meredith UW Economics, PhD Committee Grad. School Rep.
Joshua Merfeld UW Evans School, PhD Committee member, completed 2018
Sarah Paisner UW Evans School, PhD Committee member, completed 2020
Sungchul Park UW Health Services, PhD Committee Grad. School Rep., completed 2018
Sergio Puerto Cornell Dyson, PhD Committee member
Jessica Rudder UC Davis, PhD Committee member (external)
Laine Rutledge UW Economics, PhD Committee member, completed 2017
Andres Sanchez UW Economics, PhD Committee member, completed 2019
Vanisha Sharma Cornell Dyson, PhD Committee member
Dana Smith Cornell Dyson, PhD Committee member

External Examiner
Mark Treurniet

Wageningen University and Research, PhD external examiner, 2020

REVIEWING AND EDITING

Co-editor, *Journal of African Economies*, 2020-

Referee: *Agribusiness, Agricultural Economics, Agricultural and Resource Economics Review, American Economic Review, American Journal of Agricultural Economics, Econometrica, Economic Development and Cultural Change, Economic Journal, European Review of Agricultural Economics, Feminist Economics, Food Policy, Journal of African Economies, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Journal of the European Economic Association, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of International Development, Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics, PLoS ONE, Review of Development Economics, Review of Economics and Statistics, World Development*

Reviewer: IZA, National Science Foundation, UK Department for International Development, US-Israel Bi-national Science Foundation, USAID Development Innovation Ventures, World Bank, CG Standing Panel on Impact Assessment, Cambridge University Press

CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

Working Group in African Political Economy, Conference Co-organizer:

University of Washington, Fall 2014

Brown University, Spring 2015

Arizona State University, Fall 2015

NYU Abu Dhabi, Winter 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019

World Bank/George Washington University, Spring 2016

Stanford University, Fall 2016

UC Berkeley, Spring 2017

University of British Columbia, Fall 2017

UCLA, Spring 2018

University of Cape Town, Summer 2019

Addis Ababa University (remote), Summer 2020

Northwest Development Workshop 2016, Co-organizer and host

AAEA Annual Meeting, Abstract reviewer for International Section (2014-2018)

ASSA Annual Meeting, Session organizer, 2015 and 2018

Northeast Universities Development Conference (NEUDC), review committee, 2018, 2019, 2020

Association for Mentoring and Inclusion in Economics, conference review committee, 2021

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND LEADERSHIP

Working Group in African Political Economy (WGAPE)

Co-organizer, 2014-2020

Co-recipient of WGAPE Training Grant, 2016, \$175,000, Hewlett Foundation\

Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, Member, 2012-present

American Economic Association, Member, 2012-present

Center for Effective Global Action, Faculty Affiliate, 2014-present

International Association of Agricultural Economists, Member, 2017-present

Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab

Agricultural Technology Adoption Initiative, Invited Researcher, 2017-present

DigiFi Africa, DigiFi Africa, Invited Researcher, 2019-present

King Climate Action Initiative, Invited Researcher, 2020-present

Cornell Atkinson Center for Sustainability, Faculty Fellow, 2019-present

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- 2020-2021 Dyson School Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
Co-organizer, Development Economics Research Seminar
PhD Admissions Review, International and Development Economics
- 2019-2020 Dyson School Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
Co-organizer, Development Economics Research Seminar
Organizer, Development Economics Reading Group
PhD Admissions Review, International and Development Economics
- 2018-2019 Dyson School Placement Committee
Dyson School Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
PhD Admissions Review, International and Development Economics
- 2017-2018 Co-coordinator, Joint Seminar in Development Economics
Evans School Faculty Search Committee
Evans School Diversity Committee
- 2016-2017 Co-coordinator, Joint Seminar in Development Economics
Evans School International Development Certificate Committee
Evans School Faculty Council
- 2015-2016 Co-coordinator, Joint Seminar in Development Economics
Evans School Undergraduate Program Committee
Evans School Faculty Council
- 2014-2015 Co-coordinator, Joint Seminar in Development Economics
Evans School Undergraduate Program Committee
- 2013-2014 Co-founder and Co-coordinator, Joint Seminar in Development Economics
Evans School Admissions Committee
Evans School Research Symposium Judge

LANGUAGES

English (native); Swahili (basic); Spanish (basic)