

Benjamin Elsner

Contact Information

University College Dublin
School of Economics
Newman Building
Belfield, Dublin 4
Ireland

Phone (office): +353 1 716 8505
Phone (mobile): +353 896 116112
E-mail: elsner@iza.org
Webpage: www.benjaminelsner.com
Updated: January 2020

Fields of Interest

Labor Economics, Public Economics, International Economics, Microeconometrics

Current positions

Assistant Professor with tenure, University College Dublin, School of Economics Since 2018
Deputy Program Director Migration, IZA, Bonn, Germany, Since 2014

Past positions

Senior Research Associate, IZA, Bonn, Germany 2014-2017
Research Associate, IZA, Bonn, Germany 2012-2014

Education

PhD in Economics, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland, 2008-2012
Visiting PhD Student, Bocconi University, Milan, Italy, Spring 2011
M.A. (Diplom), Economics, with Honors, University of Regensburg, Germany, 2003-2008
Visiting Student, University of Łódź, Poland, 2005-2006

Publications

- 8) **Taking the Skill bias out of Global Migration** (joint with Costanza Biavaschi, Michał Burzyński and Joël Machado)
Journal of Development Economics, forthcoming.
- 7) **Tax Refunds and Income Manipulation: Evidence from the EITC** (joint with Florian Buhlmann and Andreas Peichl)
International Tax and Public Finance, 2018, 25(6), 1490-1518.
- 6) **Migrant Networks and the Spread of Information** (joint with Gaia Narciso and Jacco Thijssen)
Oxford Bulletin of Economics & Statistics, 2018, 80(3), 659-688.
- 5) **Rank, Sex, Drugs, and Crime** (joint with Ingo Isphording)
Journal of Human Resources, 2018, 53(2), 356-381.
- 4) **A Big Fish in a Small Pond: Ability Rank and Human Capital Investment** (joint with Ingo Isphording)
Journal of Labor Economics, 2017, 787-828.
- 3) **Does Emigration Increase the Wages of Non-emigrants in Sending Countries?**
IZA World of Labor, 2015.

2) **Emigration and Wages: The EU Enlargement Experiment**,
Journal of International Economics, 2014, 91(1), 154-163.

1) **Does Emigration Benefit the Stayers? Evidence from EU Enlargement**,
Journal of Population Economics, 2013, 26(2), 531-553.

Working Papers

- 1) **Let's be Selective about Migrant Self-selection** (joint with Costanza Biavaschi)
- 2) **Poor Voters, Taxation and the Size of the Welfare State** (joint with Arnaud Chevalier, Andreas Lichter and Nico Pestel) *submitted*
- 3) **Achievement Rank Affects Performance and Major Choices in College** (joint with Ingo Isphording and Ulf Zölitz) *revise & re-submit at Economic Journal*
- 4) **The Limits of Natural Variation: the Distributional Treatment Problem in the Estimation of Peer Effects** (joint with Ingo Isphording)
- 5) **The Cognitive Meltdown: Radiation and Human Capital after Early Childhood** (joint with Florian Wozny) *submitted*

Books edited

Editor of **Foundations of Migration Economics**, a book in honor of the IZA Prize in Labor Economics to George Borjas and Barry Chiswick.
Oxford University Press, 2018.

Book Chapters

- 2) **The Economic Effects of Migration**,
in: Brancaccio, T., Y. Deli, I. Pastine and C. Whelan, "Economics in Action: Topics and Resources", McGraw Hill, 2019.
- 1) **10 Years After: EU Enlargement, Closed Borders, and Migration to Germany** (joint with Klaus F. Zimmermann),
in: Kahanec, M., and Zimmermann, K.F., "Migration and the Great Recession: Adjustments in the Labour Market of an Enlarged European Community", Edward Elgar, 2014.

Grants

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| Irish Research Council | 2019 |
| Government of Ireland Postgraduate Scholarship
(EUR 72,000; Co-PI: Emanuele Albarosa) | |
| German Ministry of Education (BMBF) | 2017 |
| Research grant for a project on the determinants of college dropout
(EUR 170,000; w. Ingo Isphording, Florian Wozny, Ulf Zölitz) | |
| IRCHSS Government of Ireland Postgraduate Scholarship (EUR 16,000) | 2011-2012 |

Honors and Awards

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| Best Paper Award Spring Meeting of Young Economists | 2018 |
| Novartis Prize Best paper in health economics, IEA conference | 2018 |
| Best Paper Prize Warsaw International Economic Meeting | 2016 |
| Labour Economics Excellence in Refereeing Award | 2015 |
| FEEM Award ("Young Economist Award") European Economic Association, | 2010 |
| Strategic Innovation Fund PhD Scholarship | 2008-2011 |
| Award for the best M.A. thesis in economics at the University of Regensburg | 2008 |
| Haniel Foundation "Go East" scholarship for studies abroad | 2005 |
| Erasmus scholarship for studies abroad | 2005-2006 |

Invited Seminars**2019**

Scheduled: U Groningen, Graduate Institute Geneva, U St. Andrews, EBRD

2019

Bicocca, Queen's University Belfast, ESRI, VU Amsterdam, U Vilnius, U Potsdam

2018

UCD Geary Institute, Trinity College Dublin, CERGE-EI Prague, Masaryk University Brno, Paris School of Economics, University of Trier, LISER

2017

University College Dublin, PSE, OECD, University of Freiburg, RWI Essen, IOS Regensburg, U Regensburg

2016

SOFI Stockholm, Maastricht University, U Mannheim (public lecture), U Cologne, U Colorado Denver, U Leicester, U Oxford, U Duisburg-Essen, U Kent, U Bayreuth, U Bonn

2015

University of Mainz, IAB Nuremberg, Modul University Vienna, WU Vienna, Concordia University, University of Mannheim, University of Regensburg, U Dusseldorf

2014

DIAL Paris, NIW Hannover, University of Hamburg, Temple University, George Washington University, University of Dusseldorf (DICE), University of Heidelberg, University of Freiburg, IRES-UC Louvain

2013

University College Dublin, University of Southern Denmark, IOS Regensburg, University of Münster

2012

University of Edinburgh, LMU Munich, IZA Bonn, University of Stirling

2011

University College Dublin, NUI Maynooth, SSE Riga, Bocconi, Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei (Milan), Institute for East European Studies (Regensburg)

2010

Trinity College Dublin

Conference Presentations**2019**

Workshop on Mobility and Migration (Bank of Italy, Rome)

2018

Irish Economic Association

2017

IZA Annual Migration Meeting (Bonn), IZA Workshop on the Environment and Labor Markets, EALE (St. Gallen), IZA Workshop on the Economics of Education

2016

SOLE Meetings (Seattle), EALE (Ghent), RGS/RWI Workshop on the Economics of Migration (Essen), IZA Workshop on the Economics of Education, ZEW Workshop on Migration (Mannheim)

2015

IZA Workshop "Inequality: Causes and Consequences" (Bonn), SOLE/EALE World Congress (Mon-

treal), Workshop Health.Skills.Education (Essen), IZA/Worldbank Conference on Employment and Development (Bonn), EEA Meeting (Mannheim), Verein für Socialpolitik (Münster), Workshop "Immigration in OECD Countries" (Paris)

2014

FERDI Workshop "International Labor Mobility and Inequality across Nations" (Clermont-Ferrand), RES Annual Conference (Manchester), SOLE (Arlington, VA), Annual Migration Meeting (Bonn), EALE (Ljubljana)

2013

RES Annual Conference (RHUL, London), NORFACE migration conference (UCL, London), EALE (Torino), IZA/SOLE Transatlantic Meeting (Munich), ESPE (Aarhus), Worldbank Migration Conference (Ifrane, Morocco), ETSG (Birmingham), CEMIR workshop on migration (Munich), IZA/ASE Workshop "EU Enlargement and the Labor Markets" (Bucharest), OECD workshop "Immigration in OECD Countries" (Paris)

2012

RES PhD Meeting (London), Irish Economic Association (Dublin), EEA Meetings (Málaga), ESEM (Málaga), German Economic Association (Göttingen), IZA/CEU Workshop on EU Enlargement and the Labor Markets (Budapest), Immigration in OECD Countries (Paris)

2011

Mainz Workshop in Labor Economics (Mainz), NORFACE Conference "Migration: Economic Change, Social Challenge" (London), German Economic Association (Frankfurt), Irish Society of New Economists (Dublin), 2nd TEMPO Conference on International Migration (Vienna), SAE (Málaga)

2010

EEA Meetings (Glasgow), Irish Society of New Economists (Dublin), RGS Doctoral Conference (Bochum), Irish Economic Association (Belfast)

2009

Irish Society of New Economists (Limerick)

Media Appearances

Deutsche Welle (internet; 22/01/2013); Wall Street Journal (internet; 08/05/2013); Spiegel online (internet; 08/05/2013); Rzeczpospolita (internet; 28/05/2013); Phoenix (tv; 2x: 28/05/2013, 04/07/2013); MDR jump (radio; 01/05/2014); BBC Capital (internet; 03/07/2018); Boston Globe (internet; 14/04/2018), Bloomberg Opinion (4/9/2018)

Refereeing

American Economic Review, Review of Economic Studies, Journal of Human Resources (4x), Journal of International Economics (2x), Journal of Labor Economics (3x), Journal of the European Economic Association (3x), Management Science, Review of Economics & Statistics, Canadian Journal of Economics, European Economic Review (2x), Industrial and Labor Relations Review, Journal of Applied Econometrics, Journal of Econometrics, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization (2x), Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control, Journal of Economic Geography, Journal of Population Economics (3x), Labour Economics (3x), Regional Science and Urban Economics (3x), Scandinavian Journal of Economics, Economics of Education Review (2x), Economic Policy, Journal of Regional Science, Review of Development Economics, Review of Income and Wealth, Review of International Economics, China Economic Review, Economic Systems, Empirical Economics (2x), German Economic Review (3x), International Journal of Manpower, International Migration Review, IZA Journal of Development and Migration, IZA Journal of European Labor Studies, IZA Journal of Labor Economics, IZA Journal of Migration, IZA World of Labor (3x), Journal of Common Market Studies, Journal of Development Studies, Oxford Development Studies, Scottish Journal of Political Economy

PhD examinations	CERGE-EI, Prague (reader)	2018
Grant Reviews	GLM-LIC project (IZA and DFID, 2x), OeNB Jubiläumsfonds (Austrian National Bank), Czech Science Foundation	
Editorships	Managing Editor (in substitution), IZA Journal of Labor Economics,	Feb 2013-June 2013
Selection Committees	DIAL conference "Barriers to Development" 2015, Annual Conference of the German Economic Association (2017, 2020)	
<hr/>		
Teaching Qualification	Professional Certificate in University Teaching & Learning, UCD	2019
Teaching Experience	University College Dublin	
	Public Economics (B.Sc, lecture)	2019-
	Econometrics (Ph.D course)	2018-
	Introduction to Econometrics (B.Sc, lecture)	2018
	Economics Research Workshop (B.Sc, lecture)	2018-
	Central Bank of Ireland	
	Introduction to Causal Inference (1-day course)	2018, 2019
	New Developments in Causal Inference (1-day course)	2018, 2019
	University of Luxembourg	
	Economics of Migration (PhD Course)	2017
	European Business School, Wiesbaden	
	Introductory Econometrics (PhD, lecture and lab)	2014-
	European Labour Markets (lecture)	2014-2017
	Trinity College Dublin	
	Teaching Assistant, Microeconomics (M.Sc)	2009-2012
	University of Regensburg	
	Economics of Migration (B.Sc, M.Sc)	2018
	Teaching Assistant, Macroeconomics, Microeconomics (B.Sc)	2006-2008
<hr/>		
Conferences organized	Annual Migration Meeting (scheduled; co-organizer), Dublin/Ireland	2019
	Annual Migration Meeting (co-organizer), Cambridge, MA	2018
	Irish Postgraduate and Early Career Economics Conference (co-organizer), Dublin/Ireland	2018
	Annual Migration Meeting (AM ² ; co-organizer), Bonn/Germany	2017
	Annual Migration Meeting (AM ² ; sole organizer), Bonn/Germany	2016
	Annual Migration Meeting (AM ² ; co-organizer), Dakar/Senegal	2015
	Irish Society of New Economists (ISNE), Dublin/Ireland	2010
Academic Service	Seminar Organizer , IZA,	2013-2017
	PhD Student Seminar Organizer , Trinity College Dublin	2010-2012

PhD Class Representative, Trinity College Dublin

2009-2010

Supervision

PhD: Emanuele Albarosa (UCD, 2018-), Diego Zambiasi (UCD, 2018-), Mohsin Javed (UCD, 2019-), Michele Gubello (UCD, 2019-), Stefano Ceolotto (TCD, co-advisor, 2019-)

M.Sc: Christoph Deuster (U Bonn, 2013), Anusha De (UCD, 2019), Rafan Alfrayyan (UCD, 2019)

Skills

Software: Stata, MatLab, R, MS-Office, \LaTeX

Languages: German (native), English (fluent), French , Polish (very good), Italian, Czech, Russian (basic)

Professional Memberships

American Economic Association, European Economic Association, German Economic Association

Other

Citizenship: German

Family status: married, 1 child (born 2017)