

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

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NAME: Rachel Heath

eRA COMMONS USER NAME (credential, e.g., agency login):

POSITION TITLE: Professor

EDUCATION/TRAINING (*Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable. Add/delete rows as necessary.*)

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE (if applicable)	Completion Date MM/YYYY	FIELD OF STUDY
Duke University	BS	05/2005	Economics
Yale University	PhD	10/2011	Economics
The World Bank	Postdoctoral	2011-2012	Development Economics

A. Personal Statement

I am a Professor of Economics at the University of Washington.

Recent Scientific Accomplishments: My research has focused on the expansion of steady wage work, particularly for females, in developing countries. One strand of this research examines the effect that these jobs have on demographic outcomes such as education, marriage, and gender relations within the household. For instance, work with Mushfiq Mobarak (Yale) argues that the garment industry raised girls’ schooling, while another paper points out that work opportunities can increase domestic violence. This fits in the CSDE priority area of Wellbeing of Families and Households. Another area of focus examines the different ways workers access these jobs (e.g. through their social networks), the role of women’s empowerment in their labor force decisions, and how migrants limited information affects their choice of workplace (which fits under CSDE priority area of Migration and Settlement).

I have mentored 21 doctoral students to completion of degrees and 18 obtained research or related career positions. I am currently mentoring 14 pre-doctoral students. I teach labor economics and population economics and these courses have proved useful for CSDE certificate students and trainees. My research program, courses, and experience with data intensive projects are well suited towards providing support to the data science training program for researchers in demographic and population health programs.

B. Positions and Honors

Positions and Employment

Professor of Economics, University of Washington; September 2024 –
Associate Professor of Economics, University of Washington; Sept 2018 – Sept 2024
Assistant Professor of Economics, University of Washington; Sept 2011 – Sept 2018
Postdoctoral Researcher, Development Research Group (DECRG), World Bank; July 2011 – August 2012

Honors

Yale University Dissertation Fellowship (Fall 2010)
Ryoichi Sasakawa Young Leader's Fellowship, Yale University (2008-2009)
Summer Fellowship, Yale University (2005 – 2009)

University Fellowship, Yale University (2005 – 2009)
Economics Growth Center Prize, Yale University (2005 – 2009)
Graduation with Departmental High Honors, Duke University Economics Department (2005)
Phi Beta Kappa (2004)
Robertson Scholarship to Duke University (2001-2005)

C. Contribution to Science

A. The effects of Jobs on women in developing countries

Globalization is creating jobs for women in developing countries. I study how these jobs affect women, both in positive ways (increased education and delayed marriage and childbearing), and potential negative ways as well (domestic violence). These papers fit the CSDE priority area of Wellbeing of Families and Households.

- a. Heath, Rachel and A. Mushfiq Mobarak. 2015. "Manufacturing Growth and the Lives of Bangladeshi Women" *Journal of Development Economics*. 115: 1–15.
- b. Heath, Rachel. 2014. "Women's Access to Labor Market Opportunities, Control of Household Resources, and Domestic Violence." *World Development*. 57: 32-46.

B. Determinants of women's empowerment and labor market outcomes

Women are typically disadvantaged in developing countries, facing conditions such as high rates of domestic violence and limited ability to have a say in household decisions. I study both the factors that empower women, and take a step back and ask how we should measure empowerment to begin with. These papers fit the CSDE priority area of Wellbeing of Families and Households.

- a. Nix, Emily, Elisa Gamberoni, and Rachel Heath. "Bridging the Gender Gap: Identifying What is Holding Self-Employed Women Back in Ghana, Rwanda, Tanzania, and the Republic of Congo", *World Bank Economic Review*, 2016.
- b. "The Effect of Early Cohabitation on Maternal and Child Outcomes: Evidence from India" with Amaloyal Chari, Annemie Maertens, and Freeha Fatima, the *Journal of Development Economics*.
- c. *Fertility at Work: Children and Women's Labor Market Outcomes in Urban Ghana*, the *Journal of Development Economics*.
- d. "Intrahousehold Bargaining, Female Autonomy, and Labor Supply: Theory and Evidence from India" with Xu Tan. *The Journal of the European Economics Association*. 2020.
- e. Angelucci, Manuel, Rachel Heath, and Eva Noble. 2023. "Graduation Programs Targeting Women: Evidence from the Democratic Republic of Congo." *Journal of Development Economics*, 164: 103146.
- f. Angelucci, Manuela, and Rachel Heath. 2020. "Women Empowerment Programs and Intimate Partner Violence". In *AEA Papers and Proceedings* (Vol. 110, pp. 610-14).

C. How labor markets in export industries work in developing countries

Labor markets in large, manufacturing industries differ in several key ways from other labor markets in developing countries, but little is known about how labor markets in these industries operate. I have focused on the role of social networks in hiring, and also how migrants make decisions of where to work when there is limited information about working conditions upon beginning work. The second paper fits the CSDE priority area of Migration and Settlement.

- a. "Why Do Firms Hire Using Referrals? Evidence from Bangladeshi Garment Factories" the *Journal of Political Economy*, 2018.
- b. "Migrants, Information, and Working Conditions in Bangladeshi Garment Factories" with Tyler McCormick, *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, 2024.
- c. Bossavie, Laurent, Yoonyoung Cho, and Rachel Heath. 2023. "The Effects of International Scrutiny on Manufacturing Workers: Evidence from the Rana Plaza Collapse in Bangladesh", *Journal of Development Economics*, 163: 103107.

D. Research Support

Ongoing & Completed Research Support

International Growth Centre (with Laura Boudreau; 2024; ~\$40,000 GBP)

Private Enterprise Development in Low Income Countries (PEDL) (with Laura Boudreau; 2023; \$39,968 GBP)

Social Science Research Council and the AEA Committee on the Status of Women in the Economics

Profession Women in Economics and Mathematics Research Consortium (with Melissa Knox; 2023; \$173,269 USD)

International Growth Centre (with Laura Boudreau; 2023; ~\$71,000 USD)

University of Washington Royalty Research Fund (with Emma Riley; 2022; \$40,000 USD)

Women's Economic Empowerment and Digital Finance (WEE-DiFine) Fund (with Emma Riley; 2022; \$50,000 USD)

Centre for Studies in Demography and Ecology (with Emma Riley; 2022; \$15,000 USD)

IPA Financial Inclusion Initiative (with Emma Riley; 2022; \$35,000)

J-PAL Gender and Economic Agency Initiative (with Laura Boudreau; 2020; ~\$50,000 USD)

Private Enterprise Development in Low Income Countries (PEDL) (with Laura Boudreau; 2020; ~\$17,000 USD)

G²LM|LIC special call for research on COVID-19 (with Md. Shakil Ahmed, Laura Boudreau, Imran Matin; 2020; ~\$34,500 USD)

UW Population Health Initiative COVID-19 Rapid Response (with Tyler McCormick; 2020; ~\$17,000 USD)

Gender, Growth and Labor Markets in Low Income Countries (G²LM|LIC) (with Laura Boudreau and Narayan Das; 2020; ~\$426,000 USD)

Diversity and Inclusion Seed Grant (with Christina Tapia; 2017)

International Growth Centre Small Project Facility Grant (2016)

University of Washington Center for the Study of Demography and Ecology seed grant (2013)