

MELISSA DELL

Contact Information

Department of Economics
Harvard University
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Employment

Assistant Professor, Harvard University, Department of Economics: July 2014 – present

Past employment

Junior Fellow, Harvard Society of Fellows: July 2012 – June 2014

Affiliations

Faculty Research Fellow, National Bureau of Economic Research
Global Scholar, Canadian Institute for Advanced Research

Education

PhD Economics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 2012
MPhil Economics, Oxford University, with Distinction, 2007
AB Economics, Harvard University, *summa cum laude*, 2005

Awards

2014	Named by the IMF as one of 25 economists under the age of 45 shaping thought about the global economy
2014	<i>American Economic Review</i> : Excellence in Refereeing Award
2013	<i>Journal of the European Economic Association</i> : Excellence in Refereeing Award
2012	Review of Economic Studies Tour
2007	National Science Foundation, Graduate Research Fellowship
2005	Rhodes Scholarship
2005	John Williams Prize – Best Undergraduate Harvard Student in Economics
2005	Seymour Harris Prize – Best Undergraduate Harvard Thesis in Economics
2004	Harry S. Truman Scholarship

Publications

“Trafficking Networks and the Mexican Drug War” *American Economic Review*, forthcoming.

“What Do We Learn from the Weather? The New Climate-Economy Literature” (with Ben Jones and Ben Olken). *Journal of Economic Literature*, 52(3), September 2014, pp. 740-798.

“Temperature Shocks and Economic Growth: Evidence from the Last Half Century” (with Ben Jones and Ben Olken). *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics*, 4(3), July 2012, pp. 66-95.

“The Persistent Effects of Peru’s Mining *Mita*.” *Econometrica* 78(6), 2010: pp. 1863–1903. Translated and reprinted in *Apnutes* 68, 2011: pp. 209-263.

“Productivity Differences Between and Within Countries” (with Daron Acemoglu). *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics* 2(1), January 2010: pp. 169–188.

“Temperature and Income: Reconciling New Cross-Sectional and Panel Estimates” (with Ben Jones and Ben Olken). *American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings* 99 (2), May 2009: pp. 198-204.

Working Papers

“State Capacity, Local Governance, and Economic Development in Vietnam.” (with Nathaniel Lane and Pablo Querubin)

“Insurgency and Long-Run Development: Lessons from the Mexican Revolution.”

“The Long Run Effects of Agricultural Productivity Shocks: Irrigation and Structural Change in Mexico.” (with Pablo Querubin)

Work in Progress

“Japanese Colonialism, Industrial Know-How, and the East Asian Growth Miracle in Long-Run Perspective.” (with Sahar Parsa)

“Carrots versus Sticks in Counterinsurgency Policy: Evidence from the Vietnam War.” (with Pablo Querubin)

“The Dutch Cultivation System and Long-Run Development in Java.” (with Ben Olken)

“The Persistent Effects of U.S. Intervention in Southeast Asia.” (with Pablo Querubin)

“Trading Colonialism and Southeast Asia's Long Economic Decline.” (with Leander Heldring and James Robinson)

“Land Reform, Inequality, and the 20th Century Evolution of the Taiwanese Economy.” (with Sahar Parsa)

“Trade Policy and the 20th Century Divergence between Latin America and East Asia.” (with Sahar Parsa and Pablo Querubin)

Professional Activities

Associate Editor for the *Journal of the European Economic Association*.

Referee for *American Economic Review*, *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics*, *American Economic Journal: Policy*, *American Political Science Review*, *Econometrica*, *The Economics of Transition*, *Environment and Development Economics*, *European Economic Review*, *Journal of Development Economics*, *Journal of Economic Growth*, *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*, *Journal of the European Economic Association*, *Journal of Political Economy*, *Journal of Public Economics*, *Journal of Regional Science*, *Oxford Development Studies*, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, *Revista de Historia Económica*, *Science*, *Nature*, *Nature Climate Change*

Presentations

2015: Banco de Mexico, Canadian Institute for Advanced Research, Harvard, MIT, Pompeu Fabra, Vanderbilt, Warwick

2014: Berkeley, CEU – Budapest, Duke, INET conference on networks in development (Cambridge, UK), IPEA (Rio de Janeiro), Munich Workshop on the Long Shadow of History, NBER Development Economics Summer Institute (discussant), NBER Political Economy Meetings (discussant), Paris School of Economics, Overcoming Inequality in Diverse Societies Conference (Rio de Janeiro), Namur, Notre Dame, Toulouse, Tufts, University of Chicago (Mexican Studies Seminar), University of Chile, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

2013: AL CAPONE (UCLA), American Economic Association Meetings (discussant), Boston University, Brown University, Chicago Harris School of Public Policy, George Washington, Houston, London School of Economics, Mannheim, Minneapolis Fed, NBER Development of the American Economy Meeting, NBER Economic Growth Meeting, NBER Crime Meeting (discussant), NBER Political Economy Spring Meeting (discussant), NBER Political Economy Summer Meeting (discussant), Organization of American States, Pompeu Fabra (Political Economy of Conflict and Development Conference), Princeton (Historical Development of Modern Institutions Conference), University of California San Diego (USMEX Conference), University of California Santa Barbara, University College London, University of Essex, University of Frankfurt, University of Zurich, Wharton, World Bank, Yale

2012: Bocconi University, Brown University Networks conference, Canadian Institute for Advanced Research, Chicago Booth School of Business, CIDE, Colegio de Mexico, Columbia, George Mason, Harvard, ITAM, IIES Climate and the Economy Conference (discussant), NBER Political Economy Meeting, Princeton, Research Group on Political Institutions and Economic Policy (discussant), Stanford, Stanford Institute of Theoretical Economics, UCLA, University of British Columbia, University of Chicago, University of Colorado, University of Leicester, University of Maryland, University of Michigan, US Customs and Border Patrol, World Bank, Yale

2011: Harvard, Inter-American Development Bank, Stanford Conference on Violence, Drugs and Governance, University of California San Diego

2010: Columbia University New Frontiers in Latin American History Conference, NBER Summer Institute (discussant)

2009: City University of Hong Kong, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Stanford Institute of Theoretical Economics, University of Warwick

2006: World Bank/IZA Conference on Labor and Development