

## ROBIN BURGESS

### CONTACT INFORMATION

LSE Department of Economics  
Houghton Street,  
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### PERSONAL

Marital Status: Married to Bronwen Burgess  
Children: Isla Macbeth Burgess (August 03, 2005), Romilly Belle Burgess (May 14, 2009)  
Citizenship: UK

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

#### POSITIONS

2007 – present	Professor of Economics, Department of Economics, LSE
2008 – present	Founder and Director, International Growth Centre, LSE
2004 – 2007	Reader in Economics, Department of Economics, LSE
1999 – present	Director, Economic Organization and Public Policy Programme, STICERD, LSE
2015	Visiting Professor, Department of Economics and Stanford Center for International Development, Stanford University, Summer
2005	Visiting Associate Professor, Department of Economics, University of California, Berkeley, Fall Semester
2003	Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Harvard University and National Bureau for Economic Research, Fall Semester
2002	Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, University College London, Fall Semester
2001	Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, MIT, Fall Semester
2000 – 2004	Lecturer in Economics, Department of Economics, LSE
1998 – 1999	Lecturer in Development Economics, Development Studies Institute and Department of Economics, LSE
1991 – 1995	Consultant Economist, Chief Economists Office, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
1989 – 1991	Consultant Economist, World Development Report and Research Department, World Bank

#### AFFILIATIONS

2016 – present	Fellow of the British Academy
2013 – present	Board Member, Center for Effective Global Action (CEGA), UC Berkeley
2006 – present	Program Director, CEPR Development Economics Program
2009 – present	Board Member, Bureau for Research in the Economic Analysis of Development (BREAD), Senior Fellow 2005-2008, Junior Affiliate 2002-2005
2004 – 2010	Faculty Research Fellow, Economics of Education and Labor Studies Programs, National Bureau for Economic Research (NBER)
2002 – 2009	Founder and Director, Microeconomics of Growth Research Network (with Chang-Tai Hsieh)
2001 – present	Member, Initiative for Policy Dialogue (IPD)
2001 – present	Fellow, European Development Research Network (EUDN)

## **FIELDS OF INTEREST**

Development Economics, Public Economics, Political Economy, Labor Economics, Environmental and Energy Economics

## **EDUCATION**

Ph.D. Economics, Oxford University, 1998

M.Sc. Economics, LSE, 1988

B.Sc. (Hons) Biological Sciences, Edinburgh University, *Summa Cum Laude*, 1985

## **PUBLISHED/FORTHCOMING PAPERS**

“Labor Markets and Poverty in Village Economies” (with Oriana Bandiera, Narayan Das, Selim Gulesci, Imran Rasul, Munshi Sulaiman) forthcoming *Quarterly Journal of Economics*.

“The Value of Democracy: Evidence from Road Building in Kenya” (with Remi Jedwab, Edward Miguel, Gerard Padro i Miquel, and Ameet Morjaria) *American Economic Review* 105(6): 2015.

“War and Deforestation in Sierra Leone”, (with Edward Miguel and Charlotte Stanton) *Environmental Research Letters*, 10, 2015.

“The Political Economy of Deforestation in the Tropics” (with Matthew Hansen, Benjamin Olken, Peter Potapov and Stefanie Sieber) *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 127 (4), 2012.

“Can Openness Mitigate the Effects of Weather Shocks? Evidence from India's Famine Era” (with Dave Donaldson) *American Economic Review*, 100(2), 2010.

“The Intention to Participate in Adolescent Training Programs: Evidence from Uganda” (with Oriana Bandiera, Markus Goldstein, Selim Gulesci, Imran Rasul, Munshi Sulaiman) *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 8(2-3), 2010.

“The Unequal Effects of Liberalization: Evidence from Dismantling the License Raj in India” (with Philippe Aghion, Stephen Redding and Fabrizio Zilibotti). *American Economic Review*, 98(4), 2008.

“Do Rural Banks Matter? Evidence from the Indian Social Banking Experiment” (with Rohini Pande). *American Economic Review*, 95(3), 2005.

“Entry Liberalization and Inequality in Industrial Performance” (with Philippe Aghion, Stephen Redding and Fabrizio Zilibotti). *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 3(2-3), 2005.

“Banking for the Poor: Evidence from India” (with Rohini Pande and Grace Wong). *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 3(2-3), 2005.

“Can Labor Regulation Hinder Economic Performance? Evidence from India” (with Timothy Besley). *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 119(1), 2004.

“Towards a Microeconomics of Growth” (with Anthony Venables) in *Accelerating Development: Annual Bank Conference in Development Economics*, Oxford University Press, 2004.

“Halving Global Poverty” (with Timothy Besley). *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 17(3), 2003,

“The Political Economy of Government Responsiveness: Theory and Evidence from India” (with Timothy Besley). *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 117(4), 2002.

“Mass Media and Political Accountability” (with Timothy Besley and Andrea Prat) in Islam, R. (ed) *The Right to Tell: Institutions and the Media*, World Bank, 2002.

“Political Agency, Government Responsiveness and the Role of the Media” (with Timothy Besley). *European Economic Review*, 45(4-6), 2001.

“Land Reform, Poverty and Growth: Evidence from India” (with Timothy Besley). *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 105(2), 2000.

“Value-Added Tax Options for India” (with Stephen Howes and Nicholas Stern). *International Tax and Public Finance*, 2(1), 1995.

“The Behaviour of State Firms in Eastern Europe, Pre- Privatization” (with Philippe Aghion and Olivier Blanchard). *European Economic Review*, 38(6), 1994.

“Taxation and Development” (with Nicholas Stern). *Journal of Economic Literature*, 31(2), 1993.

## **WORKING PAPERS**

“The Power of the State: National Borders and the Deforestation of the Amazon” (with Francisco Costa and Ben Olken)

“Railroads and the Demise of Famine in Colonial India” (with Dave Donaldson)

“The Unequal Effects of Weather and Climate Change: Evidence from Mortality in India” (with Olivier Deschenes, Dave Donaldson and Michael Greenstone)

“The Determinants and Consequences of Bureaucrat Effectiveness: Evidence from the Indian Administrative Service” (with Marianne Bertrand, Arunish Chawla and Guo Xu)

“Women’s Empowerment in Action: Evidence from a Randomized Control Trial in Africa” (with Oriana Bandiera, Niklas Buehren, Markus Goldstein, Selim Gulesci, Imran Rasul and Munshi Sulaiman)

“Social Connections and the Delivery of Development Programs” (with Oriana Bandiera, Erika Deseranno, Ricardo Morel, Imran Rasul and Munshi Sulaiman)

“Mao’s Legacy: Access to Land and Hunger in Modern China”

## **RESEARCH IN PROGRESS**

“The Economic Costs of Political Discord: Evidence from the Indo-Pak Border” (with Dave Donaldson and Stephen Redding)

“The Economics of Fires: Evidence from Indonesia” (with Ben Olken)

“Cities and Growth in India” (with Chang-Tai Hsieh and Enrico Moretti)

“Consumer Surplus from Electricity Use at the Bottom of the Energy Ladder” (with Michael Greenstone, Anant Sudarshan and Nick Ryan)

“Lighting up Bihar: The Effects of Access to Grid Electricity in a Poor State in India (joint with Michael Greenstone, Nick Ryan and Anant Sudarshan)

“Can Microfinance Change the Lives of the Rural Poor?: Evidence from Uganda” (joint with Oriana Bandiera, Erika Deseranno, Imran Rasul and Munshi Sulaiman)

## STUDENTS

2016	Jonathan Colmer (Department of Economics, University of Virginia) Shiyu Bo (Department of Economics, Jinan University)
2015	Ameet Morjaria (Managerial Economics and Decision Sciences Department, Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University) Erika Deserrano (Managerial Economics and Decision Sciences, Kellogg, Northwestern University) Pedro Souza (Department of Economics, PUC Rio) Samuel Marden (Department of Economics, Sussex University) Jason Garred (Department of Economics, Ottawa University) Yi Fan (Department of Real Estate, National University of Singapore)
2013	Ben Faber (Department of Economics, UC Berkeley) Francisco Costa (Graduate School of Economics, Getulio Vargas Foundation) Ann Brockmeyer (Young Professionals Program, World Bank)
2012	Luke Miner (New Economic School, Moscow) Remi Jedwab (Department of Economics, George Washington University) Oliver Vanden-Eynde (Department of Economics, Paris School of Economics and Post-Doc, Princeton University)
2011	Selim Gulesci (Department of Economics, Bocconi University) Stefanie Sieber (Young Professionals Program, World Bank)
2010	Sónia Gonçalves (Department of Management, Kings College London)
2009	Dave Donaldson (Department of Economics, MIT) Juan Pablo Rud (Department of Economics, Royal Holloway)
2008	Roberto Bonfatti (Department of Economics, University of Oxford) Ralph Ossa (Booth School of Business, University of Chicago)
2006	Irma Clots (Department of Economics, Carlos III)
2005	Matthieu Chemin (Department of Economics, University of Quebec) Pataporn Sukontamarn (Department of Economics, Adelaide University)
2004	Berta Esteve-Volart (Department of Economics, York University, Canada) Grace Wong (Wharton School of Business, University of Pennsylvania)
2002	Imran Rasul (Graduate School of Business, University of Chicago)
2001	Marta Reynal-Querol (Department of Economics, Pompeu Fabra)

## RESEARCH GRANTS

2014 – 2017	Economic and Social Research Council “Basic Entrepreneurship: A Means for Transforming the Lives of the Poor?”
2013 – 2017	Department for International Development “International Growth Centre Phase II Grant” (with Timothy Besley, Paul Collier, Anthony Venables, Chang-Tai Hsieh)
2009 – 2013	Department for International Development “Grant to Establish International Growth Centre” (with Timothy Besley, Paul Collier, Stefan Dercon, Chang-Tai Hsieh and Gobind Nankani)
2007 – 2010	Economic and Social Research Council “Infrastructure and Development: Evidence from India and East Africa”
2007 – 2011	Department for International Development “Institutions, Growth and Poverty” Research Grant (with Timothy Besley, Paul Collier and Stefan Dercon)
2006 – 2008	STICERD, LSE: “Railways, Famines and Banks: Evidence from Indian Districts, 1871-2001” Faculty Research Grant (with David Donaldson)
2004 – 2007	Expert Group on Development Issues, Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs: “Confronting Global Poverty: The Role of Institutions,

	Expanding Opportunities and Market Liberalization” Research Grant (with Timothy Besley and Dave Donaldson)
2003 – 2008	World Bank Research Department: “Microeconomics of Growth Network” Conference Grant (with Chang-Tai Hsieh and John Sutton)
2003 – 2006	Nuffield Foundation: “Comparing Advantages of Non-Government Organisations Versus the State: The Case of Primary Education in Bangladesh” Research Grant
2002 – 2005	Department for International Development: “Growth and Poverty in India” Research Grant (with Timothy Besley and Berta Esteve-Volart)
2000 – 2002	World Bank Social Protection Division: “Benchmarking Government Social Safety Net Spending” Research Grant (with Timothy Besley and Imran Rasul)
1999 – 2001	STICERD, LSE: “Financial Deepening, Growth and Welfare: Evidence from the Indian States 1958-2000” Faculty Research Grant

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

### JOURNALS and ASSOCIATIONS

2009 – 2013	Member, European Economic Association Council
2004 – 2009	Associate Editor, <i>Economic Journal</i>

### PUBLIC SERVICE

2007 – 2008	Co-organizer, Africa Development Group, World Bank
2005 – 2008	Chair, Advisory Board on Microeconomics of Growth, World Bank
2002 – 2006	Elected Research Affiliate Representative, Executive Committee, Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR)
1991 – 1993	Advisor on Indirect Tax Reform to Finance Minister Manmohan Singh, Ministry of Finance, Government of India (with Nicholas Stern)

### CONFERENCES

2014 (September)	Co-organizer, IGC Growth Week Conference
2014 (September)	Co-organizer, BREAD/CEPR Conference on Development Economics, LSE
2014 (June)	Co-organizer, CEPR Development Economics Conference, Stockholm
2013 (September)	Co-organizer, IGC Growth Week Conference
2012 (September)	Co-organizer, IGC Growth Week Conference
2012 (July)	Co-organizer, IGC South Asia Growth Conference, Dhaka, Bangladesh
2012 (June)	Co-organizer, CEPR Development Economics Conference, Bocconi
2011 (September)	Co-organizer, IGC Growth Week Conference
2011 (September)	Co-organizer, BREAD/CEPR Conference on Development Economics, Paris
2010 (December)	Co-organizer, Growth in Bihar Conference, Patna, India 2010
2010 (September)	Co-organizer, IGC Growth Week Conference
2010 (July)	Scientific Committee, China Summer Institute, Beijing, China
2009 (December)	Co-organizer, Growth in Bihar Conference, Patna, India
2009 (October)	Co-organizer, BREAD/CEPR Conference on Development Economics, LSE
2009 (September)	Co-organizer, IGC Growth Week Conference
2009 (July)	Scientific Committee, China Summer Institute, Tianjin, China
2008 (October)	Co-organizer, CEPR Development Economics Conference
2008 (July)	Scientific Committee, China Summer Institute, Beijing, China
2008 (March)	Co-organizer, Polarization and Conflict Conference, LSE
2007 (December)	Co-organizer, Growth in Brazil Conference, Rio de Janeiro
2007 (October)	Co-organizer, BREAD/CEPR Conference on Development Economics, LSE
2007 (June)	Co-organizer, Microeconomics of Growth Conference, World Bank

2007 (March)	Co-organizer, CEPR/Swedish Development Economics Network Conference on Development Economics
2006 (December)	Co-organizer, Growth in India Conference, Delhi
2006 (November)	Co-organizer, CEPR/EUDN Development Economics Conference, Paris
2006 (May)	Co-organizer, Freedom in Development Conference, LSE
2006 (May)	Co-organizer, Microeconomics of Growth Conference, World Bank
2006 (April)	Scientific Committee, BREAD/CEPR/EBRD Conference on Institutional Development, Market Integration and Growth, Tokyo
2005 (November)	Co-organizer, Growth in China Conference, Beijing
2005 (June)	Scientific Committee, CEPR/BREAD Conference on Institutions, Development and Transition, Istanbul
2004 – 2006	Program Committee, European Economic Association Annual Meeting
2004 – 2006	Program Committee, Royal Economic Society Annual Meeting
2004 (December)	Co-organizer, Economics of Industrial Development Conference, LSE
2004 (May)	Co-organizer, Economics of Industrial Development Conference, World Bank
2003 (November)	Co-organizer, Economics of Industrial Development Conference, LSE

## REFeree

Journal of Applied Econometrics, American Economic Review, Department for International Development, Journal of Development Economics, Review of Development Economics, Journal of Development Studies, Ecological Economics, Econometrica, Economic Development and Cultural Change, Environmental and Resource Economics, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, International Monetary Fund, Journal of Economic Literature, Economic Journal, Economics of Planning, Economics of Transition, Economic and Social Research Council, Journal of the European Economic Association, European Economic Review, Journal of Human Resources, International Tax and Public Finance, Labor Economics, Journal of Labor Economics, Leverhulme Foundation, MacArthur Foundation, MIT Press, National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, Nuffield Foundation, Oxford University Press, Journal of Political Economy, Princeton University Press, Journal of Public Economics, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Rand Journal of Economics, Review of Economic Studies, Review of Economics and Statistics, Rockefeller Foundation, World Bank

## SEMINAR AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

American Social Science Association Meetings, Bangalore Annual Bank Conference on Development Economics, Beijing University, Beijing University Conference on Land Reform, Beijing Conference on Pro-Poor Growth, Bellagio Conference on Social Dynamics and the Microeconomics of Poverty, Bonn, Brazilian Ministry of Land Reform Conference, Brown, Bureau of Research on Economic Development Conference, Caltech, UC-Berkeley, UC-Davis, UCLA, UC-San Diego, Canadian Institute of Advanced Research Institutions, Organizations and Growth Meeting, Cambridge, CEPR Dynamic Aspects of Policy Reform Conference, CEPR Conference on Gender Inequalities, CEPR Conference on the Economic Analysis of Political Institutions, CEPR Public Policy Symposium, CEPR Conference on International Trade, CEPR Transition Meets Development Conference, Chicago, Columbia, Cornell, Da Nang University, Delhi School of Economics, Delhi Pro-Poor Growth Conference, Department for International Development, University of East Anglia, Essex, European Economic Association Meetings, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Hanoi National University, Harvard, Harvard Political Institutions and Economic Policies Conference, Heidelberg, IFPRI/IDB Conference on Disaster Mitigation, IMF, Indian National Sample Survey Organization, Indian Ministry of Finance, Indian Ministry of Rural Development, Indian Statistical Institute, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Studies, Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, LSE, LSE Economics of Industrial Development Conference, MacArthur Inequality and Economic Performance Network, Michigan, MIT, NBER Summer Institute, NBER Globalization and Poverty Conference, New York University, Northeast Universities Development Consortium Conference, Nottingham, Oxford, Paris School of Economics, University of Pennsylvania, Annual Meetings of the Public Choice Society, Princeton, Pompeu

Fabra, Rand, Southampton, Stanford, Stockholm Institute of International Studies, Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Toulouse, UBC Conference on Indian Economic Reforms, UCL, UNDP Vietnam Office, World Bank, World Development Report Meeting on the Role of Media in Development, Yale, Yale Conference on Political Economy of Development, Yale Globalization Conference