

Laura A. Paul

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Appointments and Professional Experience

- 2019- Present **Postdoctoral Researcher**
Mentors: Kent D. Messer and Leah Palm-Forster.
- Department of Applied Economics and Statistics, University of Delaware
Center for Experimental and Applied Economics, University of Delaware
Water in the Changing Coastal Environment of Delaware (Project WiCCED)
Center for Behavioral & Experimental Agri-Environmental Research (CBEAR)
- Fellow**, US Department of Agricultural Economic Research Service
- 2013- 2018 **Research Assistant**, Agricultural and Resource Economics, UC Davis
Bundling Index Insurance and Drought-Tolerant Maize in Tanzania
Health Savings Behavior in Burkina Faso: A Framed Field Experiment
- 2012- 2013 **Research Assistant**, Nicholas School of the Environment, Duke University.
Water, Health and Climate Change in the Ethiopian Rift Valley

Education

- 2019 **Ph.D. and M.S.** (2017), Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of California, Davis
Research Fields: development economics, econometrics
Dissertation committee: Michael Carter and Travis Lybbert, co-chairs, Aaron Smith
- 2013 **M.A.**, Economics, Duke University Graduate School, Durham, North Carolina
Thesis committee: Marc Bellemare and Charles Becker
- 2011 **A.B.**, Economics, Kenyon College, Gambier, Ohio

Research

Weigel, C., **L.A. Paul**, P.J. Ferarro, K.D. Messer. 2020. "Challenges in Recruiting U.S. Farmers for Policy-Relevant Economic Field Experiments" *Applied Economics Policy and Perspective* Volume 43, Issue 2. [Full Text]

Under Review:

Parsons, G., **L.A. Paul**, K.D. Messer. "Demand for an Environmental Public Good in the Time of COVID-19: A Statewide Water Quality Referendum." Revise and resubmit at the *Journal of Benefit Cost Analysis*.

Paul, L.A. "Conditional and Unconditional Yield Gains from Drought-Tolerant Maize and the Economic Implications for Farmers in Southern and Eastern Africa." Revise and resubmit at the *European Review of Agricultural Economics*.

Paul, L.A., M. Kecinski, K.D. Messer, and O. Savchenko "Nudge or Sludge? An Experimental Game Illustrating How Misunderstood Scientific Information about Water Can Change Consumer Behavior." Revise and resubmit at *Applied Economics Teaching Resources*.

Li, T, **L.A. Paul**, Messer, H. Kaiser "Its All Relative: Consistent Marginal Effects in WTP and WTA Framing in Experimental Auctions" Under review at the *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*.

Working Papers

Boucher, S., M.R. Carter, T.J. Lybbert, J.G. Malacarne, P. Marenza, and **L.A. Paul**. “Achieving Development Impact with Complementary Stress-resistant Seed and Financial Technologies: Evidence from Randomized Control Trials in Mozambique and Tanzania”

Tiedeman, K., A. Ghosh, **L.A. Paul**, and R.J. Hijmans. “Mapping Maize area in Tanzania: a Comparison of MODIS, Landsat 8, Sentinel-1 and -2, and Planet Satellite Data”

Paul, L.A., C. McGranaghan, P. Divena, A.R. Siders, L. Palm-Forster, and K.D. Messer. “Lessons from the Conservation Literature and their Application to Coastal Residential Property Buyout”

Paul, L.A., K. Wetzel, and J. Davis. “Residential and Individual Behaviors: Interventions and Adoption of Practices to Improve Local Water Quality”

S. Wallander, **L.A. Paul**, R. Iovanna, P. Ferarro, and K.D. Messer. “Conservation Reserve Program Enrollment Behavior: Effects of Defaults, Anchoring, and Information Nudges on Farmer Decisions”

Paul, L.A., C. McGranaghan, P. Divena, A.R. Siders, L. Palm-Forster, and K.D. Messer. “Experimental Evidence on Efficiency of Coastal Residential Property Buyout Mechanisms”

Paul, L.A., L. Palm-Forster, K.D. Messer. “Experimental Evidence on Undergraduate Recruitment: Lessons from Creating a Subject Pool Registry”

Ferraro, P, T. Malone, B. McFadden, K.D. Messer, **L.A. Paul**. “Politicization of [Covid-19] Risky Behaviors: Are Americans Inconsistent when Taking Politicized Risks?”

Grants and Awards

2021-2023	National Science Foundation, Human-Environment and Geographical Sciences Program (HEGS) Roles of Best Management Practice Persistence in Agricultural Landscape Evolution: A Data-Driven Investigation, Co-PI (PI: Jing Gao, University of Delaware), \$234,769. 2021-2023.
2020-2021	Chesapeake Bay Trust, Individual and Homeowner Behavior Change for Improved Water Quality, \$20,000
2018	Gifford Foundation Research Award, University of California, Davis
2017	Henry A. Jastro Research Award, University of California Davis
2017	Gifford Foundation Research Award, University of California, Davis
2013	Provost’s First Year Fellowship, University of California, Davis

Selected Presentations

“Lessons from behavioral economics inform farmland conservation policy” Agricultural and Applied Economics Association 2021 Annual Meeting, Austin TX

“The effects of defaults and anchoring in the Conservation Reserve Program enrollment process: results from a framed field experiment” Agricultural and Applied Economics Association 2021 Annual Meeting, Austin TX

“Political preference and COVID-19 risk taking.” Agricultural and Applied Economics Association 2021 Annual Meeting, Austin TX

“The Impact of Expiration Dates Labels on Hedonic Markets for Perishable Products)” European Association of Agricultural Economists 16th Congress 2021, Prague, Czech Republic

“Experimental Evidence on Undergraduate Recruitment: Lessons from Creating a Subject Pool Registry” Northeast Agricultural Resource Economics Association 2021 Annual Meeting

“Lessons from behavioral economics inform farmland conservation policy” University of Delaware College of Agricultural and Natural Resources 2020 Research Symposium

“What Does DT Maize Do? Evaluating the On-Farm Yield Performance of Drought-Tolerant Maize in Southern Africa Using High Resolution Rainfall Data” 2019 USAID, Washington, D.C.

“Less Rain, More Gain: DT Maize and Hurdles to its Adoption.” 2018 UC Davis Agricultural and Resource Economics Department Seminar

“Rain on the Parade: Hurdles to Adoption of Maize with Weather-Contingent Advantages.” Agricultural and Applied Economics Association 2018 Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.

“Drought-Tolerant Maize Response to Precipitation.” Agricultural and Applied Economics Association 2017 Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.

“Drought-Tolerant Maize Response to Precipitation.” UC Davis Gifford Seminar

“Subjective Price Expectations and Production Decisions: Rice Price Volatility in Madagascar.” Agricultural and Applied Economics Association 2013 Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.

Selected Outreach and Media

2021	Coordinator , Center for Behavioral and Experimental Agri-Environmental Research Seminar Series
2020	Op-Ed, The News Journal , “Despite COVID-19 Challenges, Delawareans Still Want to Invest in Cleaner Water”
2018	Conference Coordinator , “Partnerships to Scale Insured Drought-Tolerant Maize Seeds in Tanzania” Stakeholder Meeting, Arusha, Tanzania
2018	Basis Innovation Lab for Assets and Market Access Spotlight , “Partnerships to Scale Insured Drought-Tolerant Maize Seeds in Tanzania.” https://basis.ucdavis.edu/people/laura-paul .
2017	Workshop Coordinator , “Protecting Farmers Against Weather Risk: Satellite Based Index Insurance with Drought-Tolerant Maize” Stakeholder Meeting, Arusha, Tanzania
2016	CGAP Working Paper , “Resilience and Health Shocks: The potential of health savings accounts and health loans.” http://www.cgiar.org/publications/resilience-and-health-shocks

Teaching and Mentoring

Experience:

2021	Guest Lecturer , “Experimental Economics Applications in Development Research,” for Experimental Economics (APEC 820, graduate), Applied Economics and Statistics, University of Delaware
	Guest Lecturer , “Ethics in Experimental Economics,” for Experimental Economics (APEC 811, graduate), Applied Economics and Statistics, University of Delaware
	Guest Lecturer , “Development Economics,” for Experimental Economics (undergraduate), Economics, Kenyon College
2019	Guest Lecturer , “Experiments in Development Economics,” for Experimental Economics (APEC 820, graduate), Applied Economics and Statistics, University of Delaware
2017	Instructor of Record , Intermediate Microeconomics, Students: 62, Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of California, Davis
	Teaching Assistant , Intermediate Microeconomics, Students: 57, Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of California, Davis
	UndocuAlly Certificate , AB-540 and Undocumented Center, Univ. of California, Davis
	Teaching Certificate , Scholarly Teaching Strategies to Maximize Student Learning, Center for Educational Effectiveness, University of California, Davis
2012- 2013	Graduate Program Assistant , Benjamin N. Duke Merit Scholars, Duke University
2011- 2013	Graduate Program Assistant , Angier B. Duke Merit Scholars, Duke University
2009- 2011	Assistant Teacher , French Department, Kenyon College

Students:

Polina Divena: Masters Thesis Committee, Applied Economics and Statistics, University of Delaware

Tatum Casey, Brian Kennedy, and Karen Dong: Project WiCCED 2020 Summer Undergraduate Program

Allison Harten: Project WiCCED 2019 Academic Year Undergraduate Program

Academic Service

Reviewer:

American Journal of Agricultural Economics (5), Agricultural and Resource Economics Review (2), Journal of Development Studies (2), Applied Economics and Policy Perspectives (1), Journal of Environmental Economics and Management (1), Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics (1), Journal of Environmental Management (1), Demographic Research (1)

2021 NAREA Annual Meeting, 2020 AAEA Annual Meeting; 2018 Pacific Conference in Development Economics (Abstract Reviewer)

Other Service

2017- 2018 Graduate Student Associate Instructor Mentor
 2013- 2017 Coordinator, ARE Graduate Professional Development, University of California, Davis
 2013- 2014 Representative, Graduate Student Council, University of California, Davis
 2011- 2013 Member, Duke University Economic Masters Council
 2011- 2012 Representative, Duke University Graduate Student Council
 2012- 2013 Representative, Duke University Annual Fund Executive Committee
 2011- 2012 Representative, Kenyon College Alumni Council

Languages and Skills

French (intermediate), Stata, R, Matlab, L^AT_EX

References

Kent D. Messer

S. Hallock du Pont Professor,
 Department of Applied
 Economics and Statistics

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Leah H. Palm-Forster

Associate Professor of Applied
 Economics, Department of
 Applied Economics and
 Statistics

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Paul J. Ferraro

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 Professor of Human Behavior
 and Public Policy

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