

Akila Weerapana

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WORK EXPERIENCE

Office of Institutional Research Faculty Associate	July 2018 – present
Pforzheimer Learning and Teaching Center, Wellesley College Faculty Director	July 2014 to June 2018
Department of Economics, Wellesley College Professor	Aug. 2023-to date
Associate Professor	July 2006-July 2023
Assistant Professor	Aug. 1999-June 2006
<i>Courses Taught: Principles of Macroeconomics, International Finance, Monetary Theory and Policy, Intermediate Macroeconomic Analysis, Mathematics for Economics, Advanced Macroeconomics</i>	
Department of Economics, Stanford University Instructor	1997-1999
<i>Courses Taught: Intermediate Macroeconomic Analysis, Ph.D. Mathematics Review</i>	
Research Assistant	1995-1999
Teaching Assistant	1996-1999
The World Bank, Washington, D.C. Summer Intern	June–September 1995

EDUCATION

Stanford University, Stanford, CA	September 1994 – August 1999
Dissertation: “Conducting Monetary Policy in Large Open Economies”: Advisor: John B. Taylor	
Ph.D. in Economics	<i>awarded August 1999</i>
A.M. in Economics	<i>awarded September 1997</i>
Oberlin College, Oberlin, OH	August 1990 - May 1994
B.A., <i>Highest Honors, Phi Beta Kappa</i>	
Majors: Economics and Computer Science	
Honors Thesis: "Testing for Speculation in Foreign Exchange Markets"	

PUBLISHED WORK

1. “The external validity of regression-discontinuity evaluations of college remediation (with Lucy Cordes and Patrick McEwan).
Forthcoming at *Education Finance and Policy*
2. “Women’s colleges and economics major choice: Evidence from Wellesley College applicants”
(with Kristin Butcher and Patrick McEwan)
Forthcoming at *Feminist Economics*

3. "Making the (letter) grade: The incentive effects of mandatory pass/fail courses" (with Patrick McEwan and Kristin Butcher) *Education Finance and Policy* (2023): 1-24.
4. Economics
 - 10th Edition (John Taylor and Akila Weerapana) Flatworld 2023.
 - 9th Edition (John Taylor and Akila Weerapana) Flatworld 2020.
 - 8th Edition (John Taylor and Akila Weerapana) Flatworld 2017.
 - 7th Edition (John Taylor and Akila Weerapana) Cengage, 2011.
 - Global Financial Crisis Edition (John Taylor and Akila Weerapana) Cengage 2009.
 - Economics: 6th Edition (John Taylor and Akila Weerapana) Houghton Mifflin, 2008.
5. "A fully integrated undergraduate introductory biology and chemistry course with a community-based focus II: Assessment of course effectiveness" (with Sarah Pociask, Pamela Taylor, Mala Radhakrishnan, Elizabeth Oakes, Adam Matthews & Donald Elmore) (2021).. *Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Education*. 49. 10.1002/bmb.21555 (2021)
6. "Grade sensitivity and the economics major at a women's college" (with Patrick McEwan & Sheridan Rogers), *Papers and Proceedings of the American Economics Association* May 2021
7. "Bridging the Gap Between Undergraduate and Graduate Macroeconomics" (with Seth Neumuller & Casey Rothschild) in The Macro Pedagogy Debate: Teaching DSGE to Undergraduates Symposium, *The Journal of Economic Education*, 49:3, 242-251, 2018
8. "Striving to Involve Undergraduates in Economic Research at Wellesley College" (with Kristin Butcher), *The Journal of Economic Education*, 48:4. 2017
9. "The Effects of an Anti-Grade Inflation Policy at Wellesley College" (with Kristin Butcher and Patrick McEwan) *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 28(3) pp. 189-204. 2014
10. "The Impact of AIDS-Related News on Exchange Rates in South Africa (w/ Kyle Kauffman) *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, 54(2): pp 349-68 (2006).
11. "An Economic Model of Terrorism" (w/ Brock Blomberg & Gregory Hess) *Conflict Management and Peace Science*, 21(1): pp. 17-28. (2004).
12. "Economic Conditions and Terrorism" (w/ Brock Blomberg & Gregory Hess) *European Journal of Political Economy*, 20(2): pp. 463-478. (2004)
13. "The Impact of Voter Initiatives on Economic Activity" (w/ Brock Blomberg & Gregory Hess) *European Journal of Political Economy*, 20(1): pp. 207-226. (2004)
14. "Intermediate Macroeconomics without the IS-LM Model" *Journal of Economic Education* Vol. 34(3) Summer 2003.
15. "Relief for Poor Countries" (w/ David Lindauer) *Society* Vol. 39(3), March/April 2002.

OTHER WORK

1. “Women’s colleges and economics major choice: Evidence from Wellesley College applicants” (with Kristin Butcher and Patrick McEwan)
VoxEU Column Aug. 2023
2. Faculty Presenter for Wondrium’s *Great Courses* “Introduction to Macroeconomics”: a series of 24 video lectures (2023)

AWARDS AND HONORS

Faculty Service Award, Wellesley College Alumnae Association 2009

The Anna and Samuel Pinanski Teaching Prize: Wellesley College 2002

Wellesley College Faculty Research Awards

National Science Foundation Award for Integration of Research and Education

Mildred McAfee Horton Faculty Research Awards

John M. Olin Foundation Dissertation Fellowship, Stanford Center for Economic Policy Research.

Outstanding Teaching Assistant Awards, Department of Economics, Stanford University.

Spring '95-'96 Winter '97-'97 Spring '96-'97

Stanford University Graduate Fellowship, Department of Economics, Stanford University.

Phi Beta Kappa (junior election), Oberlin College

The Joel Dean Prize in Economics, Oberlin College

The Gene Chapin Prize, Ohio University

(awarded for the Best Undergraduate Thesis in a statewide competition in Ohio)

COLLEGE AND DEPARTMENT SERVICE

Faculty Director, Pforzheimer Learning and Teaching Center 2014-2018

Faculty Liaison, Office of Institutional Research 2018-to date

Faculty Director, Mellon Evidence-Based Teaching Initiatives Grant (4 year, \$800,000)

President, Wellesley Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa 2005-2009

Chair of the Ruhlman Conference Organizing Committee 2010-2013

Steering Committee for Accreditation

Inclusive Excellence Working Group

Elected Committees of Academic Council

Board of Appeals (Chair), Grievance Committee, Advisory Committee to the Committee on Faculty

Appointments (co-chair), Agenda Committee

Appointed Committees of Academic Council

Committee on Lectures and Cultural Events, Educational Research and Development, Faculty

Benefits Committee

Ad-hoc Committees and Other Committees

Slater Center Board of Advisors, Fulbright Search Committee, Albright Institute Selection

Committee Tsunami Relief Committee, Ruhlman Committee, Albright Faculty Advisory Committee

Search Committees: *Associate Provost & Academic Director of Diversity and Inclusion (twice); General Counsel; Presidential Search Committee (one of three faculty elected members); Associate Provost & Executive Director for Career Education; Assistant Provost and Head of Office of Institutional Research (twice); First Year Dean; Associate Editor Wellesley Magazine; Director of Slater International Center; Faculty Information Administrator*

AFFILIATIONS & PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Member (1 of 6) of the Writing Group developing National Content Standards in Economics for teaching Economics in high schools.

Member, American Economic Association

Former Member, Board of Trustees, Center for American Progress, Washington, D.C.

Editorial Work:

Conflict Management and Peace Science, Taylor and Francis, Economic Inquiry, Journal of Money, Credit & Banking, Journal of Applied Economics, Journal of Economic Education, Economic Journal, Eastern Economic Journal, Environment and Development Economics, Sri Lankan Economic Journal, W.W. Norton, Houghton-Mifflin, Addison Wesley Longman, Aplia.