

Mahesh Karra

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Current Appointments and Affiliations

2025 - Present	Associate Professor of Population and Family Health
2025 - Present	Director, Program on Women's Empowerment Research (POWER)
2025 - Present	Secretariat, Africa POWER Consortium
2026 - Present	Faculty Member, Columbia Population Research Center
2026 - Present	Faculty Member, Center for Achieving Resilience in Climate and Health (C-ARCH)
2023 - Present	Co-Editor, Studies in Family Planning
2024 - Present	Invited Researcher, Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)

Past Appointments and Affiliations

2024 - 2025	Associate Professor of Global Development Policy (with tenure), Pardee School of Global Studies, Boston University
2017 - 2025	Associate Director, Human Capital Initiative (HCI), BU Global Development Policy Center
2020 - 2025	Director, Program on Women's Empowerment Research (POWER)
2023 - 2025	Secretariat, Africa POWER Consortium
2024 - 2025	Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellow, University of Göttingen
2017 - 2024	Assistant Professor of Global Development Policy, Pardee School of Global Studies
2018 - 2021	Junior Faculty Fellow, Rafik B. Hariri Institute for Computing, Boston University
2017 - 2022	Visiting Scientist, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health
2020 - 2022	Sabbatical Laureate, Max Planck Institute of Demographic Research

Education

2012 - 2017	Harvard University Sc.D. Global Health Economics
2010 - 2011	Barcelona School of Economics M.Sc. Economics
2005 - 2008	McGill University B.A. Economics, Hispanic Studies (Joint Honours)

Work Experience and External Service

2016 - Present	Research Associate / Principal Investigator, Innovations for Poverty Action, Malawi
2024 - Present	Consultant, Guttmacher Institute
2023 - Present	Consultant, MaxMind
2021 - 2022	Senior Research Adviser, Howard Delafield International
2013 - 2015, 2020	Short Term Consultant, The World Bank
2018 - 2019	Consultant, ideas42
2017	Consultant, Population Council
2017	Consultant, Demographic Dividend, Population Reference Bureau / Packard Foundation

2015 - 2016	Member , National Academies of Sciences Working Group, Recent Trends in Fertility in Sub-Saharan Africa
2015 - 2016	Member , World Health Organization Technical Working Group, Financing Family Planning
2014 - 2016	Consultant , <i>The World Health Organization</i>
2011 - 2012	Population Policy Analyst , <i>Population Reference Bureau</i>
2009 - 2010	Economic Analyst/Social Scientist , <i>The Futures Group International</i>

Teaching Experience

Columbia University:

2026 **P8617**, Research Design and Data Collection (with A. Greenleaf)

Boston University:

2023 - 2024 **IR295**, Quantitative Methods for Global Policy
 2018 - 2022 **IR500/480/680**, Political Economy of Human Development
 2018 - 2024 **IR602**, Quantitative Analysis for International Affairs
 2017 - 2022 **IR603**, Economics for Global Policy
 2018 **IR700**, Topics in International Health and Development
 2020 **EC522**, Development Strategy

Previous Teaching Experience:

2013 - 2014 **Teaching Fellow, Global Health Economics: Harvard College, Professor Guenther Fink**
 2011 - 2012 **Private Tutor: Georgetown University, George Washington University**
 2008 - 2009 **Upper and Middle School Teacher: Lake Ridge Academy**

Graduate School Research Experience

2012 - 2017 **Graduate Affiliate, Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies**
 2013 - 2017 **Graduate Affiliate, Harvard Institute for Quantitative Social Science (IQSS)**
 2013 - 2014 **Research Assistant, Harvard Kennedy School WAPP Program**
 2013 - 2014 **Research Assistant, Harvard Business School, Professor Nava Ashraf**

Peer-Reviewed Publications

2026 Anukriti, S.*, C. Herrera Almanza*, S. Hossain**, and **M. Karra***. “Son Preference, Intergenerational Household Dynamics, and Women’s Mental Health in India.” IZA Discussion Paper No. 18653. *Journal of Development Economics*. DOI: 10.1016/j.jdeveco.2026.103867.

2026 Abdel Ghany, J., A. A. Nur, K. L. D. MacQuarrie, J. K. Wilde, E. A. Sully, **M. Karra**, U. Gazeley, B. M. John, and L. Montana. “In the wake of USAID cuts, we can create a Demographic and Health Survey Program founded on more equitable data infrastructure and stronger research integrity.” *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. DOI: 10.1073/pnas.2513242123.

2026 **Karra, M.*** and D. Canning*. *Hormonal Contraception and Hemoglobin Levels in Urban Malawi: A Longitudinal Analysis. Reproductive Health*. DOI: 10.1186/s12978-026-02268-2.

2026 Anukriti, S.*, C. Herrera Almanza*, and **M. Karra***. “Bring A Friend: Leveraging Financial and Peer Support to Improve Women’s Reproductive Agency in India.” *Journal of Development Economics*. DOI: 10.1016/j.jdeveco.2025.103706. World Bank Policy Research Paper 10107. IZA Discussion Paper No. 15381.

2025 **Karra, M.** and K. Zhang**. “User-Centered Approaches to Contraceptive Counseling: Experimental Evidence from Urban Malawi.” *Journal of Development Economics*. DOI: 10.1016/j.jdeveco.2025.103690.

2025 **Karra, M.**, M. Hernandez, C. Brennan**, and M. McConnell. “Supply-Side Innovations to Increase Equitable Access to Digital Financial Services: Experimental Evidence from Mozambique.” *Journal of Development Studies*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00220388.2025.2555199>.

2025 **Karra, M.*** and S. RamaRao*. “Big Data and AI in Sexual and Reproductive Health: A Comment.”

- Studies in Family Planning* 56 (2): 317–31. <https://doi.org/10.1111/sifp.70005>.
- 2025 Boydell, V.*, F. Obare*, and **M. Karra***. “Navigating Change in the Family Planning and Reproductive Health Landscape.” *Studies in Family Planning* 56 (1): 5–7. <https://doi.org/10.1111/sifp.70002>.
- 2025 Vincent, S.**, S. Anukriti, C. Herrera Almanza, and **M. Karra*****. “Contraceptive Concordance.” *Studies in Family Planning* Special Issue on Rethinking Family Planning Measurement. <https://doi.org/10.1111/sifp.70018>.
- 2024 **Karra, M.** “Supply-Side Versus Demand-Side Unmet Need: Implications for Family Planning Programs’: A Comment.” *Population and Development Review*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/padr.12701>.
- 2024 **Karra, M.*** and J. Wilde*. “Economic Foundations of Contraceptive Transitions: Theories and a Review of the Evidence.” IZA Discussion Paper No. 15889. *Population and Development Review*, Special Issue on Contraceptive Transition Theories. <https://doi.org/10.1111/padr.12690>.
- 2024 Liddie, J.M., M.A. Bind, **M. Karra**, and E.M. Sunderland. “County-level associations between drinking water PFAS contamination and COVID-19 mortality in the United States.” *Journal of Exposure Science and Environmental Epidemiology*. DOI: 10.1038/s41370-024-00723-5.
- 2024 Maggio, D.**, **M. Karra**, and D. Canning. “Family Planning and Children’s Human Capital: Experimental Evidence from Urban Malawi.” *Demography*, p. 11581796. <https://doi.org/10.1215/00703370-11581796>.
- 2024 Canning, D.* and **M. Karra***. “Unwanted Family Planning including Unwanted Sterilization: Prevalence Estimates for India.” *Studies in Family Planning*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/sifp.12274>.
- 2024 Meng, S., N. Halim, **M. Karra**, and P. Mozumder. “Understanding Household Evacuation Preferences during the COVID-19 Pandemic in Puerto Rico.” *Safety Science* 171: 106405. DOI: 10.1016/j.ssci.2023.106405.
- 2024 **Karra, M.*** and D. Canning*. “Adjusting Injectable Contraceptive Use for Months Since the Last Injection.” *Studies in Family Planning* 55 (1): 71–77. DOI: 10.1111/sifp.12256.
- 2023 Canning, D.* and **M. Karra***. “Unwanted Family Planning: Prevalence Estimates for 56 Countries.” *Studies in Family Planning*, Special Issue on Measurement and Indicators in Family Planning and Reproductive Health. DOI: 10.1111/sifp.12230.
- 2023 Cheng, Z.**, **M. Karra**, M. Guo**, V. Patel, and D. Canning. “Exploring the Relationship Between Anemia and Postpartum Depression: Evidence from Malawi.” *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* 20(4): 3178. DOI: 10.3390/ijerph20043178.
- 2022 **Karra, M.**, D. Maggio**, M. Guo**, B. Ngwira, and D. Canning. “The Causal Effect of a Family Planning Intervention on Women’s Contraceptive Use and Birth Spacing.” *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 119 (22): e2200279119. <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2200279119>.
- 2022 **Karra, M.** “Measurement of Unmet Need for Contraception: A Counterfactual Approach.” *Studies in Family Planning* 53 (4): 657–680. DOI: 10.1111/sifp.12216.
- 2022 Anukriti, S.*, C. Herrera Almanza*, **M. Karra***, and R. Valdebenito**. “Convincing the Mummy-ji: Improving Mother-in-Law Approval of Family Planning in India.” *AEA Papers and Proceedings* 112 (May): 568–72. <https://doi.org/10.1257/pandp.20221122>.
- 2021 **Karra, M.** and K. Zhang**. “User-Centered Counseling and Male Involvement in Contraceptive Decision-Making: Protocol for a Randomized Controlled Trial.” *JMIR Research Protocols* 10(4): e24884. DOI: 10.2196/24884.
- 2021 de Silva, R., S. Huber-Krum, A. Samarasekera, **M. Karra**, E. Pearson, H. Senanayake, D. Canning, and I. Shah. “Provider perspectives in implementing the Postpartum Intrauterine Device Initiative in Sri Lanka: A qualitative study.” *BMJ Sexual and Reproductive Health*. DOI: 10.1136/bmjshr-2020-200876.
- 2020 Anukriti, S.*, C. Herrera Almanza*, P. K. Pathak*, and **M. Karra***. “Curse of the Mummy-ji: The Influence of Mothers-in-law on Women in India.” *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*. 102(5): 1328–1351. DOI: 10.1111/ajae.12114.
- Media Coverage:** BBC, CNN News18, Live Mint, ThePrint, IndiaSpend, NEU News, Ideas for India
- 2020 **Karra, M.**, D. Canning. “The Effect of Improved Access to Family Planning in Postpartum Women: Protocol for a Randomized Controlled Trial.” *JMIR Research Protocols* 9(8): e16697. DOI: 10.2196/16697.
- 2020 **Karra, M.**, D. Canning, and R. Sato. “Adding Measurement Error to Location Data to Protect Subject Confidentiality While Allowing for Consistent Estimation of Exposure Effects.” *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series C (Applied Statistics)*. 69(5): 1251–1268. DOI:10.1111/rssc.12439.
- 2020 **Karra, M.** and E. Sandoe**. “A Polling Experiment on Public Opinion on the Future Expansion of Medicare and Medicaid.” *Health Services Research*. 55(4): 578–586. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1475-6773.13295>.
- 2020 Pearson, E., L. Senderowicz, E. Pradhan, J. Francis, P. Muyangizi, I. Shah, D. Canning, **M. Karra**, N. Ulenga, T. Baernighausen. “Effect of a Postpartum Family Planning Intervention on Postpartum Interuterine Device Counseling and Choice: Evidence from a Cluster-Randomized Trial in Tanzania.” *BMC Women’s Health*. 20(1): 102. DOI:10.1186/s12905-020-00956-0.
- 2020 Miller, R.* and **M. Karra***. “Birth Spacing and Child Health Trajectories.” *Population and Development*

- Review*. 46(2): 347-371. DOI: 10.1111/padr.12335.
- 2019 **Karra, M.**, E. Pearson, E. Pradhan, R. de Silva, A. Samarasekera, D. Canning, I. Shah, D. Weerasekera, H. Senanayake. "The Effect of a Postpartum IUD Intervention on Counselling and Choice: Evidence from a Cluster-Randomized Stepped-Wedge Trial in Sri Lanka." *Trials*. 20(1): 407. DOI: 10.1186/s13063-019-3473-6.
- 2019 **Karra, M.**, and G. Fink. "Long Run Height and Education Implications of Early Life Growth Faltering: A Synthetic Panel Analysis of 425 Birth Cohorts in 21 Low- and Middle-Income Countries." *BMC Public Health*. 19(1): 876. DOI: 10.1186/s12889-019-7203-5.
- 2019 Goyal, N.**, **M. Karra**, and D. Canning. "Early-Life Exposure to Ambient Fine Particulate Air Pollution and Infant Mortality: Pooled Evidence from 43 Low- and Middle-Income Countries." *International Journal of Epidemiology*. 48(4): 1125-1141. DOI: 10.1093/ije/dyz090.
- 2019 Sripad, P*, **M. Karra***, C. Warren, and M. Hindin. "Assessing the role of women's autonomy and acceptability of intimate partner violence in maternal health-care utilization in 63 low- and middle-income countries." *International Journal of Epidemiology*. 48(5): 1580-1592. DOI: 10.1093/ije/dyy299/5309028.
- 2018 **Karra, M.**, E. Pearson, D. Canning, I. Shah, R. de Silva, and A. Samarasekera. "Ethnolinguistic Concordance and the Receipt of Postpartum IUD (PPIUD) Counseling Services in Sri Lanka." *International Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health*. 44(4): 133-145. DOI: 10.1363/44e6918.
- 2018 Haber, N., E.R. Smith, K. Andrews, R. Audy, W. Bell, A.T. Brennan, A. Breskin, J. Kane, **M. Karra**, E. McClure, E. Moscoe, E.A. Suarez. "Causal language and strength of inference in academic and media articles shared in social media (CLAIMS): A systematic review." *PLOS One*. 13(5): e0196346. DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0196346.
- 2018 Finlay, J., Y. Efevbera, J. Ndikubagenzi, **M. Karra**, D. Canning. "Reframing the Measurement of Women's Work in the Sub-Saharan African Context." *Work, Employment and Society*. 33(3): 518-528. DOI: 10.1177/0950017018774245.
- 2017 **Karra, M.**, D. Canning, S. Foster, I. Shah, H. Senanayake, U.D.P. Ratnasiri. "Location and Content of Counselling and Acceptance of Postpartum IUD in Sri Lanka." *Reproductive Health*. 14(1): 42. DOI: 10.1186/s12978-017-0304-7.
- 2017 **Karra, M.**, S.V. Subramanian, and G. Fink. "Height among Healthy Children in Low- and Middle-Income Countries: An Assessment." *The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*. 105(1): 121-126. DOI: 10.3945/ajcn.116.136705.
- 2017 **Karra, M.***, D. Canning*, and J. Wilde*. "The Effect of Fertility Decline on Economic Growth in Africa: A Macrosimulation Model." *Population and Development Review*. 43(S1): 237-263. DOI: 10.1111/padr.12009.
- Top Downloaded Article, Population and Development Review, 2017-2018*
- 2016 **Karra, M.**, D. Canning, J. Hu, M. Ali, C. Lissner. "Community-Based Financing of Family Planning in Developing Countries: A Systematic Review." *Studies in Family Planning*. 47(4): 325-339. DOI: 10.1111/sifp.12000.
- 2016 Canning, D., I. Shah, E. Pearson, E. Pradhan, **M. Karra**, L. Senderowicz, T. Baernighausen, D. Spiegelman, A. Langer. "Institutionalizing postpartum intrauterine device services in Sri Lanka, Tanzania, and Nepal: Study protocol for a cluster-randomized stepped wedge trial." *BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth*. 16: 362-373. DOI: 10.1186/s12884-016-1160-0.
- 2016 **Karra, M.**, G. Fink, and D. Canning. "Facility Distance and Child Mortality: A Multi-Country Study of Health Facility Access, Service Utilization, and Child Health Outcomes." *International Journal of Epidemiology*. 46(3): 817-826. DOI:10.1093/ije/dyw062.
- * Denotes joint first authorship / equal authorship.
 ** Denotes student author.
 *** Denotes senior author.

Book Chapters

- 2026 Herrera Almanza, C.* and **M. Karra***. *Determinants of Family Planning Access and Use in Lower-Income Countries*. In: *The Oxford Handbook of the Economics of Fertility and Reproductive Health*, Oxford University Press.
- 2024 Gausman J., K. Barker, **M. Karra**, and A. Langer. "Sexual and Reproductive Health." In: *The Handbook of Health Behavior Change*. 6th ed. Springer Publishing Company.
- 2015 "Economic Effects of the Demographic Dividend" (with D. Canning, J. Wilde, D. L. Newhouse, P. Eloundou-Enyegue, Y. Cho, B. Tien, D. Robalino, and C. Wolff), in *Africa's Demographic Transition: Dividend or Disaster?* Eds. Canning, D., S. Raja, and A. S. Yazbeck, Africa Development Forum Series.

Replication Datasets

- 2026 Anukriti, S.*, C. Herrera Almanza*, S. Hossain**, and **M. Karra***. “Replication Data for ‘Son Preference, Intergenerational Household Dynamics, and Women’s Mental Health in India.’” <https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/KEM>. Harvard Dataverse, V1.
- 2026 **Karra, M.** and D. Canning. “Replication Data for ‘Hormonal Contraception and Hemoglobin Levels in Urban Malawi: A Longitudinal Analysis.’” <https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/6QOCSY>, Harvard Dataverse, V1.
- 2026 **Karra, M.** “Replication Data for ‘Measurement of Unmet Need for Contraception: A Counterfactual Approach.’” <https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/TPESIQ>, Harvard Dataverse, V1.
- 2025 **Karra, M.**, S. Anukriti, and C. Herrera Almanza. “Replication Data for ‘Bring A Friend: Leveraging Financial and Peer Support to Improve Women’s Reproductive Agency in India.’” <https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/3FTCI>. Harvard Dataverse, V1.
- 2025 **Karra, M.** and K. Zhang. “Replication Data for ‘User-Centered Approaches to Contraceptive Counseling: Experimental Evidence from Urban Malawi’”, <https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/ZD2B9E>, Harvard Dataverse, V1.
- 2025 **Karra, M.**, M. Hernandez, C. Brennan, and M. McConnell. “Replication Data for ‘Supply-Side Innovations to Increase Equitable Access to Digital Financial Services: Experimental Evidence from Mozambique’”, <https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/LXRBOU>, Harvard Dataverse, V1.
- 2025 **Karra, M.**, S. Vincent, S. Anukriti, and C. Herrera-Almanza. “Replication Data for ‘Contraceptive Concordance’”, <https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/JKCTFR>, Harvard Dataverse, V1.
- 2025 **Karra, M.** and D. Canning. “Replication Data for ‘Unwanted Family Planning including Unwanted Sterilization: Prevalence Estimates for India’”, <https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/S62HJC>, Harvard Dataverse, V1.
- 2025 **Karra, M.** and D. Canning. “Replication Data for: ‘Adjusting Injectable Contraceptive Use for Months Since the Last Injection’”, <https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/8KRLKC>, Harvard Dataverse, V3.
- 2022 **Karra, M.** and D. Canning. “Replication Data for: ‘The causal effect of a family planning intervention on women’s contraceptive use and birth spacing.’” <https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/KNNYZN>. Harvard Dataverse, V1.
- 2022 Anukriti, S., C. Herrera-Almanza, **M. Karra**, and R. Valdebenito. “Data and Code for: ‘Convincing the Mummy-ji: Improving Mother-in-Law Approval of Family Planning in India.’” Nashville, TN: American Economic Association. Ann Arbor, MI: Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research. <https://doi.org/10.3886/E169141V1>.
- 2022 **Karra, M.**, D. Canning, and R. Sato. “Replication Data for: ‘Adding measurement error to location data to protect subject confidentiality while allowing for consistent estimation of exposure effects.’” <https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/VHBLVA>. Harvard Dataverse, V1.
- 2022 **Karra, M.**, S. Anukriti, C. Herrera Almanza, and P. K. Pathak. “Replication Data for: ‘Curse of the Mummy-ji: The Influence of Mothers-in-Law on Women in India.’” <https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/XLYVU3>. Harvard Dataverse, V1.

Working Papers / In Progress

- 2026 Fitzpatrick, A. A. Sameere, X. Liu, M. Dieci, and **M. Karra**. *The Causal Impact of Integrated Community Health Outreaches on Family Planning and Economic Outcomes in Rural Uganda: Study Protocol for a Parallel, Non-Blinded, Cluster-Randomized Controlled Trial* (Submitted, *JMIR Research Protocols*).
- 2026 Adesina, A., A. Kalamar, E. Weissman, **M. Karra**, E. Pearson, and E. Sully. *Returns on investment in family planning across 54 low- and middle-income countries: A demographic and economic modeling study* (Submitted, *Lancet Global Health*).
- 2026 **Karra, M.**, S. Vincent**, and D. Canning. *Family Planning and Sexual Well-Being: Experimental Evidence from Urban Malawi*.
- 2026 **Karra, M.**, M. Montas**, and S. Vincent**. *Family Planning and Unintended Pregnancy: Experimental Evidence from Urban Malawi*.
- 2026 Farid, S. et al. *Family planning data and measurement in the era of changing global development architecture* (Revise and Resubmit, *Studies in Family Planning*).
- 2026 **Karra, M.**, B. Bellows, P. Chopra, L. Montana, I. Speizer, E. Sully, K. Holt, J. Gausman, C. Rothschild,

- 2026 K. MacQuarrie, C. Cardona, C. Karp, S. Anukriti, C. Herrera Almanza, and S. Vincent.** *Experimentally Testing New Measures of Preference-Behavior Alignment in Family Planning: A Mixed-Methods Study*. **Karra, M.**, J. Wilde, D. Canning, and S. Vincent**. *Autonomy, Agency, and Empowerment in Family Planning and Reproductive Health: Theory and Evidence*.
- 2026 Pechar, S.**, D. Maggio, and **M. Karra**. *Family Planning and the Dynamics of Fertility Preferences: Experimental Evidence from Urban Malawi*. Submitted, *Population and Development Review*.
- 2026 Montas, M.**, S. Vincent**, and **M. Karra**. *The Causal Effects of Counseling Quality: Experimental Evidence from Urban Malawi*.
- 2025 **Karra, M.** *Revisiting Supply-Side Versus Demand-Side Unmet Need: A Global Analysis* (Submitted, *Population and Development Review*).
- 2025 **Karra, M.**, M. Del Bono, W. Cunningham, S. Gupta, and J. Wilde. *Liberian Women Count: Evidence from a Macrosimulation of the Gender Dividend* (World Bank Policy Research Paper 10425.).
- 2024 **Karra, M.**, D. Maggio**, and D. Canning. *Family Planning, Women's Employment, and Household Labor Supply* (Working paper, Submitted, *Journal of Health Economics*).
- 2024 Cardona, C., K. Zhang, P. Anglewicz, and **M. Karra**. *Attribute-Method Contraceptive Concordance: Cross-Sectional and Panel Evidence from Urban Malawi*. (In progress).
- 2024 Cardona, C., E. Gummerson, **M. Karra**, and P. Anglewicz. *Does Contraceptive Use Facilitate Women's Economic Empowerment? Evidence from the Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Nigeria, and Burkina Faso*. (In progress).
- 2023 Wilde, J. and **M. Karra**. *Twenty-Five Years of the Demographic Dividend: A Critical Reflection and Beyond*. (Manuscript draft in preparation for the *Population and Development Review* 50th Anniversary Special Issue).
- 2023 Wilde, J. and **M. Karra**. *Savings and the Demographic Dividend* (Working paper.).
- 2023 **Karra, M.*** and S. Mako*. *Exploring the Effect of the Iraq War on Women's Health Care Seeking Behavior and Well-Being* (Manuscript draft in preparation for submission to *Social Science and Medicine*).
- 2022 Liu, Y.**, L. Were. and **M. Karra**. *A Comparison of Traditional Chinese Medicine and Western Medicine in the Management of Chronic Conditions in China* (In progress).
- 2022 Radin, M.**, **M. Karra**, S. Mapila, N. Madise, and B. Wong. *A cost-benefit analysis of a post-partum family planning intervention in Malawi* (Working paper. In preparation for submission.).
- 2020 Canning, D., **M. Karra**, R. Dayalu, M. Guo**, and D.E. Bloom. *The association between age, COVID-19 symptoms, and social distancing behavior in the United States* (MedRxiv working paper, revise and resubmit at *PLOS One*).
- * Authors listed alphabetically / equal authorship.
 ** Denotes student / post-doctoral fellow author.

Policy Briefs, Technical Reports, Blog Posts, Op-Eds, and Media

- 2026 Herrera Almanza, C.*, S. Anukriti*, S. Hossain**, and **M. Karra.*** "How preference for sons affects women's mental health in rural India." University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign ACES Newsletter. 24 Aug 2026.
- 2026 Anukriti, S.*, C. Herrera Almanza*, and **M. Karra.*** "Peer support boosts reproductive agency where vouchers fall short." *VoxDev*. 21 Apr 2026.
- 2024 **Karra, M.** *PNAS Front Matter Expert Interview on "Fertility Transitions in Low- and Middle-Income Countries: The Role of Preferences"* with Carolyn Wilke. 16 Oct 2024.
- 2024 Herrera Almanza, C., **M. Karra**, and A. Paola Paredes. *Community-Based Family Planning Distribution through PLAFAM in Venezuela: A Scoping Assessment*. Maxmind Technical Report.
- 2023 **Karra, M.** *Nature*. Expert Interview on "Diminishing benefits of urban living for children and adolescents' growth and development" with Lauren Young. *Scientific American*. 31 Mar 2023.
- 2023 Arbuzova, A.**, T. Getahun, A. A. Malik, and **M. Karra**. *Gendered Differences in Mobility and the Demand for Transport in Ethiopia*. International Growth Centre (IGC) Policy Brief.
- 2023 Arbuzova, A.**, T. Getahun, A. A. Malik, and **M. Karra**. *Need a Ride? Understanding Gender Differences in the Demand for Travel in Urban Ethiopia*. International Growth Centre (IGC) Blog Post.
- 2023 **Karra, M.** *Around the Halls: Maternal and Child Health: Developments and Setbacks in 2022*. BU Human Capital Initiative Blog Post.
- 2022 Maggio, D.**, **M. Karra**, and D. Canning. *Access to Family Planning Services Improves Child Growth Patterns and Cognitive Development Findings from the Malawi Family Planning Study (MFPS)*. BU Global Development Policy Center Brief.
- 2022 **Karra, M.**, L. Aquino**, A. Arbuzova**, and Y. Kurt**. *Around the Halls: Human Capital Initiative*

Summer 2022 Fieldwork. BU Human Capital Initiative Blog Post.

2022 **Karra, M.** *Around the Halls: The State of Human Capital Development After Two Years of COVID-19, Maternal and Child Health.* BU Human Capital Initiative Blog Post.

2021 **Karra, M.,** D. Canning, D. Maggio**, M. Guo**, and B. Ngwira. *Increased Access to Postpartum Family Planning Services Encourages Modern Contraceptive Use and Healthy Birth Spacing: Findings from the Malawi Family Planning Study (MFPS).* BU Global Development Center Policy Brief.

2021 Maggio, D.**., **M. Karra,** D. Canning, M. Guo**, and B. Ngwira. *Increased Access to Postpartum Family Planning Services Encourages Modern Contraceptive Use and Healthy Inter-Birth Intervals.* Economics That Really Matters Blog Post.

2021 **Karra, M.** and K. Zhang**. *Understanding Women's Preferences for and Use of Family Planning in Urban Malawi.* BU Global Development Center Policy Brief.

2021 **Karra, M.** "Devising Ways to Measure Unmet Need in Family Planning: A Thought Experiment." *BU Global Development Policy Center.* Blog Post. 2 August 2021. <https://www.bu.edu/gdp/2021/08/02/devising-ways-to-measure-unmet-need-in-family-planning-a-thought-experiment>.

2021 Zhang, K.** and **M. Karra.** "Tailored couples counseling helps Malawian women choose contraceptives." BU Rafik B. Hariri Institute. Blog Post. 25 May 2021. <https://www.bu.edu/hic/2021/05/25/tailored-couples-counseling-helps-malawian-women-choose-contraceptives>.

2021 **Karra, M.** "Prioritising maternal and child health in the COVID-19 era." *Open Access Government.* Blog Post. 14 April 2021. <https://www.openaccessgovernment.org/maternal-and-child-health-2/108570>.

2021 Radin, M. and **M. Karra.** *A Cost-Benefit Analysis of Postpartum Family Planning Counseling in Malawi.*

2019 Kohler, H. P. and **M. Karra.** *The Benefits and Costs of Scaling up Family Planning in Africa.* Copenhagen, Denmark: Copenhagen Consensus Center Policy Brief.

Media Coverage: *The Economist* (November 2019)

2013 Belohlav, K. and **M. Karra.** *Household Decisionmaking and Contraceptive Use in Zambia.* Washington, DC: PopPov Network Policy Brief, Population Reference Bureau.

2012 **Karra, M.** and M. Lee. *The Economics of Reproductive Health in Accra, Ghana.* Washington, DC: PopPov Network Policy Brief, Population Reference Bureau.

2012 **Karra, M.** and J. Gribble. *Costs of Induced Abortion and Cost-Effectiveness of Universal Access to Modern Contraceptives in Uganda.* Washington, DC: PopPov Network Policy Brief, Population Reference Bureau.

2012 **Karra, M.** and M. Lee. *The Effects of an Economic Crisis on Contraceptive Use.* Washington, DC: PopPov Network Policy Brief, Population Reference Bureau.

2012 **Karra, M.** and M. Lee. *Human Capital Consequences of Teenage Childbearing in South Africa.* Washington, DC: PopPov Network Policy Brief, Population Reference Bureau.

2010 Foreit, K., **M. Karra,** and T. Pandit-Rajani. *Disentangling the Effects of Poverty and Place of Residence for Strategic Planning.* Washington, DC: Futures Group, Health Policy Initiative, Task Order 1.

2010 **Karra, M.,** S. Sharma, and M. Vargas. *Fostering Public-Private Partnerships to Reduce Health Inequities in Peru.* Washington, DC: Futures Group, Health Policy Initiative, Task Order 1.

2009 Sharma, S. and **M. Karra.** *Effective Policy Approaches to Address Inequities in Health: Examples from Jordan and Egypt.* IUSSP Health Equity Conference Paper, November 2–4.

Ongoing Research

2026 Liddie, J., X. Hu, and **M. Karra.** *The Causal Impact of US State-Level Regulations on Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substance Concentrations in Community Water Systems.*

2026 **Karra, M.** and S. Vincent.** *Decomposing the Mechanisms of Integrated Family Planning Interventions: Evidence from a Randomized Controlled Trial in Malawi.*

2026 **Karra, M.** and S. Vincent.** *Pooling Experimental Evidence to Evaluate the Causal Impact of Family Planning Interventions on Fertility, Reproductive Health, and Well-Being.*

2025 Vincent, S.**., C. Herrera Almanza, N. Sawadogo, R. Babaekpa, E. Anahata, H. Ceyrac, P. Phillips-Howard, J. Rubli, and **M. Karra.** *A Landscape Assessment of the Menstrual Health and Hygiene Management Environment in Urban Burkina Faso: Findings from a Mixed-Methods Analysis.*

2024 Fitzpatrick, A. A. Sameere, X. Liu, M. Dieci, and **M. Karra.** *Testing Community-Led Outreach Clinics to Improve Health in Rural Areas in Uganda.*

2024 Marshall, J., D. Groves, N. Osalador, and **M. Karra.** *A National-Scale Field Experiment on Radio Messaging and Family Planning in Nigeria.*

2023 Anglewicz, P., S. Ahmed, C. Cardona, C. Karp, C. Herrera Almanza, and **M. Karra.** *Randomised Controlled Trials of Marie Stopes International's Public Service Strengthening (PSS) and Outreach in Northern Nigeria and DRC.*

2022	Karra, M. , A. Malik, A. Arbuzova**, and T. Getahun. <i>Gendered Differences in Mobility and the Demand for Transport: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Urban Ethiopia</i> .
2021	Ahumada Paras, A.*, M. Fiszbein*, N. Guida-Johnson*, and M. Karra* . <i>Poverty, Human Capital, and Unemployment</i> .
2020	Karra, M. , Y. Kurt**, and K. Zhang**. <i>User-Centered Counseling and Male Involvement in Contraceptive Decision-Making: Long-Term Evidence from a Field Experiment in Urban Malawi</i> . Karra, M. , L. Aquino**, T. Gautier**, and D. Mookherjee. "Can I get that in writing?" <i>Lessons from a Contracting Field Experiment in Urban Malawi</i> .
2018	Anukriti, S.*, C. Herrera-Almanza*, and M. Karra* . <i>The causal impact of social networks on young women's reproductive health, fertility, and well-being: Evidence from a field experiment in rural India</i> .
2017	Karra, M. , H. Leslie, M. Kruk, and D. Canning. <i>Assessing the Relationship between Service Provision Quality, Family Planning Use, and Fertility Intentions in Malawi</i> .
2014	Shah, I., D. Canning, T. Baernighausen, et al. <i>Studying the impact and performance of institutionalizing immediate postpartum IUD services as a routine part of antenatal counselling and delivery room services in Sri Lanka, Tanzania, and Nepal</i> .

Fieldwork

2021 - Present	Ethiopia Women's Transport Study , Addis Ababa, Ethiopia Collaboration with EconInsight Center for Development Research, Ethiopia Ministry of Transport, Addis Ababa City Roads Authority, International Growth Centre (IGC).
2016 - Present	Malawi Family Planning Study , Lilongwe, Malawi Collaboration with Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA), Malawi Reproductive Health Directorate (RHD) and Population Services International (PSI Malawi).
2019 - Present	Malawi Behavioral Biases Study , Lilongwe, Malawi Collaboration with Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA) Malawi, Malawi Reproductive Health Directorate (RHD) and Population Services International (PSI Malawi).
2019 - 2025	Malawi Print Shop Study , Lilongwe, Malawi Collaboration with Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA) Malawi, Malawi Stationery Association.
2018 - 2020, 2022 - Present	Jaunpur Social Networks Study , Jaunpur MIL-DIL Study , Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh, India Collaboration with World Bank, University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign.
2014 - 2020	Immediate Postpartum IUD (PPIUD) Study , Sri Lanka, Nepal Collaboration with Sri Lanka College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (SLCOG) in Sri Lanka and Center for Research on Environment Health and Population Activities (CREHPA) in Nepal.
2018 - 2020	Willows Reproductive Health Study , Turkey, Pakistan, Tanzania, Ghana
2013 - 2015	Burundi Family Planning Study , Bujumbura, Burundi Collaboration with Health Systems and Development Consult (HSD Consult), Burundi Ministry of Health (MOH), National Program of Reproductive Health (PNSR), and Population Services International (PSI Burundi).

Individual Grants, Fellowships, Honors

2026 - 2027	Columbia University Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) MOOC Grant (USD \$12,500)
2024 - 2025	Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellowship (sabbatical funding), Göttingen, Germany
2020 - 2022	Max Planck Sabbatical Award Laureate (EUR €150,000)
2017 - 2018	Boston University Blended Learning Challenge (BLC) Teaching Fellowship (USD \$5,000)
2015	Clarence James and Sarah Bradley Gamble Endowment Scholarship (\$5,000)
2015	Uwe Brinkmann Memorial Travel Fellowship (USD \$2,500)
2015, 2016	Harvard Center for African Studies Summer Grant (USD \$5,000 x 2)
2014 - 2015	Dillon Family Fellowship (USD \$10,000)
2014	Institute for Quantitative Social Science (IQSS) Research Grant (USD \$3,000)
2013, 2014	Harvard Center for African Studies J-Term Grant (USD \$4,000 x 2)
2013 - 2014	Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies Seed Grant (USD \$10,000)
2013	Michael von Clemm Traveling Fellowship, Bujumbura, Burundi (USD \$1,500)
2012 - 2014	John F. and Virginia B. Taplin Fellowship (Tuition, 2 years)

Funded Research

2026 - 2027	Provost's Teaching and Learning Innovation Grant, Quantitative Methods for Public Health and Public Policy Role: Principal Investigator, Course Instructor Funder: Columbia University Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) Amount: USD \$12,500 (direct costs only)
2026 - 2027	Columbia Population Research Center (CPRC) Seed Grant Role: Principal Investigator Funder: Columbia Population Research Center (CPRC) Amount: USD \$12,344 (direct costs only)
2025 - 2026	Testing New Measures of Preference-Behavior Alignment in Family Planning and Reproductive Health Decision-Making Role: Principal Investigator Funders: HCI Incubation Award USD \$13,700
2025 - 2027	Testing Community-Led Outreach Clinics to Improve Health in Rural Areas Role: Co-Principal Investigator Funders: J-PAL Gender and Economic Agency (GEA) Initiative Prime Award to IPA Uganda: USD \$240,000 Funders: The Weiss Fund for Research in Development Economics Prime Award to BU: USD \$81,378
2023 - 2027	Randomised Controlled Trials of Marie Stopes International's Public Service Strengthening (PSS) and Outreach in Northern Nigeria and DRC Role: Co-Principal Investigator Funders: MaxMind and Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF) Prime Award: USD \$3,900,000, Sub-Award to BU: USD \$87,521.90, Sub-Award to Columbia: USD \$14,999
2023 - 2027	The Africa POWER Consortium Role: Principal Investigator Funder: The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation Amount: USD \$1,000,000 (2023 - 2025), \$1,400,000 (2025 - 2027)
2023 - Present	BU & Scope 3 Emissions: Measuring Water Consumption Levels Role: Co-Principal Investigator Funder: BU Campus Climate Lab Amount: USD \$4,250 (Summer 2023), \$2,376 (Fall 2023)
2022 - 2023	Gendered Differences in Mobility and the Demand for Transport: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Urban Ethiopia Role: Principal Investigator Funder: International Growth Centre (IGC) Amount: GBP £18,400 Funder: BU Initiative on Cities (IOC) Amount: USD \$9,100 Funder: Pardee School Faculty Research Grant Amount: USD \$9,225
2021 - 2025	Networks and Global Health: Longer-Term Evidence of Women's Social Networks, Reproductive Health, and Well-Being in Rural India Role: Co-Principal Investigator Funder: World Bank Amount: USD \$100,000 (2021 - 2023), USD \$100,000 (2023 - 2025)
2021 - 2022	Understanding Low-Income Traps: The Long-term Effects of Poverty on Human Capital and Development Role: Co-Principal Investigator Funder: BU Global Development Policy Center Amount: USD \$15,000
2020 - 2022	The Impact of Gendered Transport on Women's Empowerment, Mobility, and Market Access: Evidence from a Field Experiment Role: Principal Investigator

	Funder: Max Planck Institute of Demographic Research (MPIDR) Amount: EUR €150,000 Networks and Global Health: Experimental Evidence of Women's Social Networks, Reproductive Health, and Well-Being in Rural India
2020 - 2022	Role: Principal Investigator Funder: BU Global Programs and BU Foundation-India (BUFI) Amount: USD \$29,500
2020 - 2023	The Program on Women's Empowerment Research (POWER) Role: Principal Investigator Funder: The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation Amount: USD \$500,000
2019 - 2020	"Can I get that in writing?" Lessons from a Contracting Field Experiment in Urban Malawi Role: Principal Investigator Funder: BU Hariri Institute of Computing Amount: USD \$29,912
2018 - 2020	Women's Decision-Making and Empowerment in Reproductive Health: Experimental Evidence from Malawi and India Role: Principal Investigator Funder: The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation Amount: USD \$100,000
2017 - 2019	The Impact of a Comprehensive Family Planning Intervention in Malawi: Evidence from a Randomized Controlled Trial Role: Co-Principal Investigator Funder: The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation Amount: USD \$275,000
2017 - 2019	Examining the impact of social networks on young women's reproductive health, fertility, and well-being: Evidence from a field experiment in rural India Role: Co-Principal Investigator Funder: Northeastern University Tier-1 Grant Amount: USD \$47,280
2014 - 2017	The Impact of Family Planning Interventions in Africa: Evidence from Two Randomized Trials Role: Co-Investigator Funder: The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation Amount: USD \$675,000

Other Funding

2018 - 2024	Boston University Human Capital Initiative Role: Associate Director Funder: Boston University Global Development Policy Center Amount: USD \$150,000 (2018-2019), \$175,000 (2019-2021), \$100,000 (2021-2022), \$75,000 (2022-2023), \$130,000 (2023-2024)
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Conference Presentations

2026	Population Association of America Annual Meeting 2026, <i>St. Louis, MO</i> EDEG German Development Economics Conference, <i>Kiel, Germany</i> 2026 American Society of Health Economists (ASHEcon) Annual Meeting, <i>Minneapolis, MN</i> Southern Economic Association (SEA) 96th Annual Meeting, <i>Houston, TX</i>
2025	Population Association of America Annual Meeting 2025, <i>Washington, DC</i> 16th World Congress of the International Health Economics Association, <i>Bali, Indonesia</i> 2025 IUSSP International Population Conference (IPC2025), <i>Brisbane, Australia</i> 2025 International Conference on Family Planning, <i>Bogota, Colombia</i> CSAE Conference 2025, <i>Oxford, UK</i>
2024	Population Association of America Annual Meeting 2024, <i>Columbus, OH</i> 9th UAPS African Population Conference, <i>Lilongwe, Malawi</i> African Transport Research Conference 2024, <i>Cape Town, South Africa</i>

2023	Digital Technologies and Sustainable Development Workshop, <i>Oxford, UK</i> Population Association of America Annual Meeting 2023, <i>New Orleans, LA</i> 15th World Congress of the International Health Economics Association, <i>Cape Town, South Africa</i> 2023 American Society of Health Economists (ASHEcon) Annual Meeting, <i>St. Louis, MO</i> 20th Midwest International Economic Development Conference, <i>Houston, TX</i> 16th AFD-World Bank International Conference on Migration and Development, <i>Boston MA</i>
2022	Population Association of America Annual Meeting 2022, <i>Atlanta, GA</i> 2022 Conference on Behavioral Economics and Development, Stanford University, <i>Stanford CA</i> Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual Conference, <i>Chicago, IL (virtual)</i> Eastern Economic Association (EEA) Annual Conference, <i>Jamaica</i> CSAE Conference 2022, <i>Oxford, UK (virtual)</i> 2022 American Society of Health Economists (ASHEcon) Annual Meeting (Presenter, Session Chair, Discussant), <i>Austin, TX</i> 3rd Brazilian Meeting on Family and Gender Economics, <i>Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (virtual)</i> 2022 International Conference on Family Planning, <i>Pattaya City, Thailand</i>
2021	Population Association of America Annual Meeting 2021, <i>St. Louis, MO (virtual)</i> 14th World Congress of the International Health Economics Association, <i>Boston, MA (virtual)</i> Northeast Universities Development Consortium Conference 2021, <i>Boston, MA (virtual)</i> 2021 IUSSP International Population Conference (IPC2021), <i>Hyderabad, India (virtual)</i> 91st Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting, <i>Houston, TX (virtual)</i> 16th Annual Himalayan Policy Research Conference (<i>virtual</i>) Global Digital Health Forum 2021 (<i>virtual</i>)
2020	2nd Population, Poverty and Inequality Research Conference, <i>Paris, France (virtual)</i> Population Association of America Annual Meeting 2020, <i>Washington, DC (virtual)</i> Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual Conference, <i>Chicago, IL (virtual)</i> Eastern Economic Association (EEA) Annual Conference, <i>Boston, MA (virtual)</i>
2019	15th Annual Conference on Economic Growth and Development, <i>New Delhi, India</i> 8th UAPS African Population Conference, <i>Kampala, Uganda</i> IUSSP Population, Poverty and Inequality Research Conference, <i>Ann Arbor, MI</i> 13th World Congress of the International Health Economics Association, <i>Basel, Switzerland</i> Population Association of America Annual Meeting 2019 (Presenter and Session Chair), <i>Austin, TX</i>
2018	International Conference on Family Planning (Presenter and Workshop Lead), <i>Kigali, Rwanda</i> Population Association of America Annual Meeting 2018, <i>Denver, CO</i> 5th International Conference on Nutrition & Growth, <i>Paris, France</i> Global Food+ Symposium, Tufts University, <i>Boston, MA</i>
2017	13th Annual Conference on Economic Growth and Development, <i>New Delhi, India</i> 3rd Science Congress of the Ethiopian Academy of Sciences, <i>Addis Ababa, Ethiopia</i> XXVIII IUSSP International Population Conference, <i>Cape Town, South Africa</i> 12th World Congress of the International Health Economics Association, <i>Boston, MA</i> Population Association of America Annual Meeting 2017, <i>Chicago, IL</i>
2016	Malawi Conference on Population and Development, <i>Lilongwe, Malawi</i> European Population Conference 2016, <i>Mainz, Germany</i> Population Association of America Annual Meeting 2016, <i>Washington, DC</i> International Conference on Family Planning, <i>Bali, Indonesia</i>
2015	Northeast Universities Development Consortium Conference 2015, <i>Providence, RI</i> Ninth Annual PopPov Conference, <i>Addis Ababa, Ethiopia</i> Population Association of America Annual Meeting 2015, <i>San Diego, CA</i>
2014	Population Association of America Annual Meeting 2014, <i>Boston, MA</i>
2013	Northeast Universities Development Consortium Conference 2013, <i>Cambridge, MA</i> Harvard Latin American Relations Conference, <i>Cambridge, MA</i>
2012	Sixth Annual PopPov Conference, <i>Accra, Ghana</i>

Workshops, Meetings, and Invited Seminars

2026	Department of Economics, CUNY Hunter College (Invited), <i>New York, NY</i> Nuffield College Seminar Series, Oxford University (Invited), <i>Oxford, UK</i> Africa POWER Consortium Partner Retreat (Chair, Lead Organizer), <i>Nairobi, Kenya</i> ESE-RGHI-GHE Workshop, Erasmus School of Economics, <i>Rotterdam, Netherlands</i>
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	Dickinson College Central Pennsylvania Consortium Economics Workshop (Invited), <i>Carlisle, PA</i>
	Columbia Population Research Center Seminar (Invited), <i>New York, NY</i>
	Global Health Economics Working Group Seminar (virtual)
2025	10th MODS-UNFPA Global Symposium on Low Fertility and Aging, <i>Seoul, South Korea</i>
	Africa POWER Consortium Partner Retreat (Chair, Lead Organizer), <i>Addis Ababa, Ethiopia</i>
	Max Planck Institute of Demographic Research Seminar (Invited), <i>Rostock, Germany</i>
	Florida International University, Department of Global Health Seminar (Virtual, Invited), <i>Boston, MA</i>
	Center for Research in Economics and Statistics (CREST) Seminar (Invited), <i>Paris, France</i>
	German Federal Institute for Population Research Seminar (Invited), <i>Wiesbaden, Germany</i>
	Heidelberg Global Health Seminar (Invited), <i>Heidelberg, Germany</i>
	Columbia Mailman School of Public Health Seminar (Invited), <i>New York, NY</i>
	Hong Kong University School of Public Health Seminar (Invited), <i>Hong Kong</i>
	FP2030 PME Working Group Meeting (Invited), <i>Washington, DC</i>
	Future of Family Planning Convening (Invited), <i>Washington, DC</i>
	PAA Fertility Goals Pre-Conference Workshop (Invited), <i>Washington, DC</i>
	UNFPA State of the World Population Report Launch Panel (Invited) <i>Norwegian Embassy, Washington, DC</i>
2024	Roundtable Panelist, "Towards Demographic Dividends in Africa: Action and Investments", <i>London, UK</i>
	University of Göttingen CeMIS Winter Colloquium (Invited), <i>Göttingen, Germany</i>
	IUSSP Family Planning Measurement Expert Meeting (Invited), <i>Mombasa, Kenya</i>
	Africa POWER Consortium - Partner Institution Retreat (Chair and Lead Organizer), <i>Lilongwe, Malawi</i>
	Demand-Side Family Planning Measurement Workshop (Lead Organizer), <i>Boston, MA</i>
	Walter Rodney Seminar, BU Africa Studies Center (Invited), <i>Boston, MA</i>
	Munich Center for Health Economics and Policy (M-CHEP) Seminar (Invited), <i>Munich, Germany</i>
	Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute Seminar (Invited), <i>Basel, Switzerland</i>
	Alexander von Humboldt Foundation Network Meeting (Invited), <i>Erlangen, Germany</i>
	Emory Rollins School of Public Health Seminar (Invited), <i>Atlanta, GA</i>
	Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health Seminar (Invited), <i>Boston, MA</i>
	Brown University School of Public Health Seminar (Invited), <i>Boston, MA</i>
	University of California, Riverside Seminar (Virtual, Invited), <i>Boston, MA</i>
	University of Colorado, Boulder Seminar (Virtual, Invited), <i>Boston, MA</i>
	University of Pennsylvania Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology Seminar (Virtual), <i>Boston, MA</i>
	University of California, San Francisco ANSIRH Seminar (Virtual, Invited), <i>Boston, MA</i>
	University of Oxford, Department of Social Policy and Intervention (Virtual, Invited), <i>Boston, MA</i>
2023	UTSW Peter O'Donnell Jr. School of Public Health Seminar, (Virtual, Invited), <i>Boston, MA</i>
	University of Wisconsin-Madison, Center for Demography and Ecology (Invited), <i>Madison, WI</i>
	Donald J. Bogue Demography Workshop at the University of Chicago (Invited), <i>Chicago, IL</i>
	USAID Population and Reproductive Health Seminar (Invited), <i>Washington, DC</i>
	BU Human Capital Initiative (HCI) Research Symposium, <i>Boston, MA</i>
	BU CAS Open House Guest Lecture, <i>Boston, MA</i>
	IUSSP Webinar: New Directions and Frameworks for Family Planning Measurement (virtual)
	Pardee Center Graduate Summer Fellows Mentoring Session, <i>Boston, MA</i>
	BU School of Public Health Global Health Seminar, <i>Boston, MA</i>
2022	Population Reference Bureau Demography Talk Seminar (Keynote), <i>Washington, DC</i>
	Max Planck Society Sabbatical Laureate Speaker Series (Keynote), <i>Berlin, Germany</i>
2021	Nanyang Technological University Economics Department Seminar (Invited), <i>Singapore (virtual)</i>
	International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) Research Seminar, <i>Boston, MA (virtual)</i>
	CSIS Congressional Foresight Series, Demographics and Security, <i>Boston, MA (virtual)</i>
	BosMUNXX Conference, <i>Boston, MA (virtual)</i>
	Rhodes College Guest Lecture, INTS222: Global Health Politics, <i>Boston, MA (virtual)</i>
	Guest Lecture, Epsilon Consulting and Development, <i>Boston, MA (virtual)</i>
	Health Economics Seminar, Erasmus University Rotterdam (Invited), <i>Rotterdam, Netherlands (virtual)</i>
	Rising Powers Initiative Panel, "Demographic Trends and the Making of a Superpower", <i>Boston, MA (virtual)</i>
2020	Pardee School of Global Studies Book Event, "Interpreting Politics", <i>Boston, MA (virtual)</i>
	Perspectives from India: Gender Equity in Women's Health Webinar, <i>Boston, MA (virtual)</i>
	Equity in Family Planning Strategic Planning Guide Meeting, <i>Boston, MA (virtual)</i>
	IUSSP Panel Meeting, "Couples and Reproductive Health", <i>Boston, MA (virtual)</i>
	IUSSP Panel Meeting, "Contraceptive Transition Theories", <i>Boston, MA (virtual)</i>

2019	PardeeWorks Careers in International Development Panel (Moderator), <i>Boston, MA</i> Labor Productivity and Fertility – Using the Canning-Karra-Wilde Model Workshop (Invited), <i>Kampala, Uganda</i> BU Questrom School of Business Executive MBA Lecture, <i>Boston, MA</i> Willows Reproductive Health Speaker Series, Harvard School of Public Health, <i>Boston, MA</i> BU Institute for Economic Development Seminar, <i>Boston, MA</i> JSNS Delhi School of Economics Works-in-Progress Seminar, <i>New Delhi, India</i> Malawi Ministry of Health (MOH) and Reproductive Health Dissemination Seminar (Invited), <i>Lilongwe, Malawi</i> International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) Research Seminar (Invited), <i>Lilongwe, Malawi</i> World Bank Brown Bag Seminar, <i>Lilongwe, Malawi</i> BU Undergraduate Economics Association Seminar, <i>Boston, MA</i> “Social Statistics and Population Dynamics” Seminar Series (Invited), McGill University, <i>Montreal, Quebec</i>
2018	Willows Reproductive Health Speaker Series, Harvard School of Public Health, <i>Boston, MA</i> Boston University UROP Research Workshop, <i>Boston, MA</i> ideas42 Invited Speaker Series, <i>New York, NY</i> PRB Expert Consultation: The Four Dividends, <i>Washington, DC</i> Pardee School 7th Annual Student Conference on Advancing Human Progress, <i>Boston, MA</i> Willows Reproductive Health Speaker Series, Harvard School of Public Health, <i>Boston, MA</i>
2017	Pardee Graduate Council Simulation - Improving International Access to Healthcare, <i>Boston, MA</i> Second Annual Population Health Science Research Workshop (PHS2017), <i>Boston, MA</i> Workshop on the Demographic Dividend in DRC (Invited), <i>Kinshasa, DRC</i>
2016	PRB-CREFAT Workshop - Modeling the Demographic Dividend (Invited), <i>Washington, DC</i>
2015	WHO Technical Meeting, Financing Family Planning, <i>Boston, MA</i> National Academy of Sciences Workshop on Recent Trends in Fertility in Sub-Saharan Africa, <i>Washington, DC</i> WHO Technical Meeting, Financing Family Planning, <i>Geneva, Switzerland</i> WHO Technical Meeting, Financing Family Planning, <i>Washington, DC</i> UNC CSPro Data Entry and CAPI Workshop, <i>Chapel Hill, NC</i>

Referee Activities

Academic Journals:

European Journal of Health Economics
Journal of Development Economics
World Development
Studies in Family Planning
The Lancet
Social Science and Medicine
Population Horizons
Economics of Transition
PLOS One
Trials
BMJ Open
Reproductive Health
International Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health
Population Health Metrics
Population Studies
Population and Development Review
Implementation Science
Science Advances
Demography
Journal of Adolescent Health
Journal of Economic Growth
Economic Development and Cultural Change

Grants:

UKRI Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)

Professional Affiliations

American Economic Association (AEA)
European Association for Population Studies (EAPS)
American Political Science Association (APSA)
American Society of Health Economists (ASHEcon)
The Econometric Society
International Health Economics Association (iHEA)
Population Association of America (PAA)
Population and Poverty (PopPov) Research Network
International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP)
Junior Fellow, Society of Family Planning (SFP)
Union for African Population Studies (UAPS)
American Society for Nutrition (ASN)
American Institute for Sri Lankan Studies (AISLS)

Professional Activities

External Service:

2025 - Present	Board of Trustees Member , <i>Population Reference Bureau</i>
2025 - Present	Member , <i>FP2030 Performance Monitoring and Evidence Working Group</i>
2025 - Present	Nominee , <i>IUSSP Council</i>
2023 - Present	Co-Editor , <i>Studies in Family Planning</i>
2024 - 2025	Early Career Researcher Mentor , Union for African Population Studies (UAPS)
2024 - 2025	Co-Chair, Scientific Subcommittee , International Conference on Family Planning (ICFP)
2024 - 2025	Mentor , Association for Mentoring and Inclusion in Economics (AMIE)
2024 - 2025	Co-Chair , International Conference on Family Planning (ICFP) Scientific Subcommittee
2021	Member , Editor Search Committee, <i>Population and Development Review</i>
2020 - 2022	Member , Editorial Committee, <i>Studies in Family Planning</i>
2020 - 2021	Member , Editorial Advisory Committee, <i>International Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health</i>

Service to Columbia University:

2025 - Present	Founding Secretariat , <i>Africa POWER Consortium</i>
2025 - Present	Member , MPH Admissions Committee
2025 - Present	Member , Class Speaker Committee

Service to Boston University:

2024 - 2025	Founding Secretariat , <i>Africa POWER Consortium</i>
2017 - 2024	Co-Chair , Pardee Research Seminar Series
2018 - 2025	Member , Pardee School General Education Committee
2020 - 2025	Member , Pardee School Academic Council
2018 - 2024	Member , <i>Pardee Periodical</i> Faculty Advisory Board
2018 - 2019	Member , Pardee School Faculty Search Committee
2019 - 2024	Member , BU UROP Faculty Advisory Committee
2019 - 2021	Member , BU University Council
2019 - 2025	Member , Pardee School M.A. Program Assessment Review Committee
2019 - 2025	Member , Pardee School MGP Curriculum Reform Committee

2022 - 2025	Member , Assessing Advising Subcommittee, BU Office of the Provost
2022 - 2024	Member , BU Africa Studies Center Internship Program Committee
2017 - 2022	Spanish Language Examiner , Pardee School
2017 - 2024	M.A. Admissions Review , Pardee School
2019 - 2020, 2022	Faculty Mentor , Pardee Graduate Council
2019 - 2021	Faculty Mentor , Sigma Xi Undergraduate Research Honor Society

Doctoral Committees:

2017 - 2018	Zahra Akbari , <i>University of South Florida</i>
2020 - 2024	Dan Maggio , <i>Cornell University</i> First Placement: Assistant Professor of Economics, Rutgers University
2020 - 2022	Thomas Gautier , <i>Boston University</i> First Placement: Postdoctoral Fellow, Kiel Institute for the World Economy
2018 - 2022	Thomas Pearson , <i>Boston University</i> First Placement: Assistant Professor of Economics, Maxwell School, Syracuse University
2018 - 2022	Kexin Zhang , <i>Boston University</i> First Placement: Assistant Professor of Economics, Renmin University of China
2021 - 2023	Yunus Kurt , <i>Boston University</i> First Placement: Associate, Analysis Group
2022 - 2024	Rocio Valdebenito <i>University of Illinois Urbana Champaign</i> First Placement: Assistant Professor, Universidad Alberto Hurtado
2021 - 2025	Anastasiia Arbuzova , <i>Boston University</i> First Placement: Postdoctoral Fellow, Stockholm School of Economics and Assistant Professor of Economics, Kiel Institute for the World Economy
2021 - 2026	Laura Aquino , <i>Boston University</i> First Placement: Associate, Analysis Group
2023 - 2026	Shahadat Hossain , <i>University of Illinois Urbana Champaign</i> First Placement: TBD
2024 - 2027	Xufeng Liu , <i>Ohio State University</i> First Placement: TBD

Undergraduate Thesis Committees:

2018	Terrens Muradzikwa , <i>Harvard College</i> Recipient of Rhodes Scholarship, Thomas T. Hoopes Prize for outstanding undergraduate thesis
2019	Carolyn Hoffman Recipient of CAS Honors Research Travel Award, UROP Travel Award (Fall 2018)
2020	Yuchen Liu Second Mentor at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health (Fall 2021)
2022	Hannah Patterson
2023	Charlotte Greenhill Recipient of the Pardee School Undergraduate Academic Excellence Award

Master's Thesis / Capstone Committees:

2018	Xiaoyun Luo Xiao Sun
2019	Federico Pisani (Chair) Kuo Wang (Chair) Yue Wu Temur Hannan Salah Uddin Molly Joyce
2020	Amelia Dangerfield Sean Marquis Mary Rezk (Chair)
2022	Mariana Cabrera Figueroa Sultan Alqahtani

	Madison Dudley
2023	Greta Pais Marden Nanon (Chair) Recipient of the Carol A. Chandler Citizenship Award
	Samuel Banker (J.D. / M.A.) (Chair)
	Lysbet Jones
2025	Lucas Blaqui�re
2026	Maia Chareonsuphiphat
	Gabriela Gutierrez
	Charlaine Roberto
	Mavis Warner

Undergraduate Research Advisor or Mentor:

2017 - 2019	Shreyans Kothari Recipient of UROP Award (Summer 2018, Fall 2018)
	Anamika Sinha Recipient of UROP Award (Summer 2018, Fall 2018)
2017 - 2021	Prachi Aneja Recipient of UROP Award (Spring 2019, Summer 2019, Fall 2019)
2018	Xiao Chen
2019 - 2021	Sarah Safi Recipient of UROP Travel Award (Summer 2019, Fall 2019, Spring 2020, Fall 2020)
	Avantika Tandon Recipient of UROP Travel Award (Summer 2019, Fall 2019, Spring 2020, Fall 2020)
	Madison Calvert Recipient of FLAS Scholarship (Spring 2020)
2020	Lexie van Waes
	Maneesha Khalae
	Jackson Moore-Otto
2022 - 2023	Vishal Venkatesh
	Alexa Andanar
	Maceey Niksch
	Wentao Chen
	Ananya Agarwal Recipient of UROP Travel Award (Summer 2023, Fall 2023, Spring 2024), CISS Social Sciences Internship (2024)
	Zheyuan Lin
2023 - 2025	Malvika Dey Recipient of CISS Social Sciences Internship (2024)

Graduate Research Advisor or Mentor (Masters):

2017	Sarah Dymecki
	Dina Wyler
	Sarah Ritterspach
	Jacob Howe
	Xinyi Min
	Kuo Wang
	Zach Crawford
	Federico Pisani Recipient of GDP Center "Summer in the Field" Travel Award (Summer 2018)
2018	Amelia Dangerfield Recipient of GDP Center "Summer in the Field" Travel Award (Summer 2019)
	Leah Eyob
	Mary Rezk Recipient of Pardee School Graduate Travel Grant (Fall 2019)
	Dan Maggio (M.A. Economics)
	Dixita Gupta (M.A. Economics) Recipient of Manuel Abdala Research Grant (Summer 2019)

2019	Sakshi Goel (M.A. Economics) Recipient of Manuel Abdala Research Grant (Summer 2019)
	Maria Santarelli Ashini Patel Charles (CJ) Ray Samantha Miller Hyun Soo Suh (M.A. Economics) Recipient of Manuel Abdala Research Grant (Summer 2020)
	Tanya Mishra (M.A. Economics) Recipient of Manuel Abdala Research Grant (Summer 2020)
2020	Nikhil Kumar (M.A. Economics) Kareena Satia (M.A. Economics) Manav Sinha (M.A. Economics) Danielle Aron (M.A. Economics) José Ramos Morales (M.A. Economics) Jonathan Shaheen (M.A. Economics) Jeremy Schneider (M.A. Economics) Anastasia Demidova Swareena Jones (M.A. Economics) Supriya Ukey (M.A. Economics) Trevor Bergqvist (M.A. Economics)
	Christina Meyer (Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health)
	Lisette Martinez (Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health)
2021	Vidhu Priya Mukundan Selin Yanik Koc Atibhi Sharma
	Greta Pais Marden Nanon Recipient of the Carol A. Chandler Citizenship Award
	Laura Gormley Recipient of Pardee School Graduate Academic Excellence Award
2022	Angel Guzman Luke Detore
	Amaury Heintz Samuel Banker (J.D. / M.A.) Rachel Hull Recipient of BU Campus Climate Lab Research Grant
	Victoria Bien-Aime Manpreet Singh Recipient of BU Campus Climate Lab Research Grant
2023	Yijing Wu Jingwei Zhao Lydia Barski Emily Johnson
	Seynedhee Avenie Recipient of GDP Center “Summer in the Field” Travel Award (Summer 2024)
	Samantha Devin
2024	Lucas Blaquièrre (University of Goettingen)
2025	Rezwana Habib
2026	

Graduate Research Advisor or Mentor (Doctoral):

2017	Fatima Aqeel (Economics, BU)
2018	Kexin Zhang (Economics, BU) Recipient of Manuel Abdala Research Grant (Summer 2019)
	Recipient of Hariri Institute Graduate Student Fellowship (Fall 2019)
	Thomas Pearson (Economics, BU) Recipient of Manuel Abdala Research Grant (Summer 2019)
	Thomas Gautier (Economics, BU) Recipient of Manuel Abdala Research Grant (Summer 2019, Summer 2020)

2020	Dan Maggio (Applied Economics, Cornell University)
2022	Anastasiia Arbuzova (Economics, BU) Recipient of IGC Graduate Student Fellowship (2022 - 2023) Manuel Abdala Research Grant (Summer 2023, Summer 2024) Recipient of GDP Center “Summer in the Field” Travel Award (Summer 2023, Summer 2024) Yunus Kurt (Economics, BU) Recipient of Manuel Abdala Research Grant (Summer 2022) Laura Aquino Arriaga (Economics, BU) Recipient of Manuel Abdala Research Grant (Summer 2022, Summer 2023, Summer 2024) Recipient of GDP Center “Summer in the Field” Travel Award (Summer 2023, Summer 2024) Patrick Baxter (Economics and Public Policy, George Mason University)
2023	Tanya Rajan (Economics, University of Chicago) Shahadat Hossain (Agricultural and Consumer Economics, University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign)
2024	Annif’ Akem Fiennasah (Economic Policy Analysis, Université de Dschang) John Hassett (Economics, BU) Recipient of Manuel Abdala Research Grant (Summer 2024) Stefanie Pechar (Economics, Technical University of Munich) Marie Montas (Population Health Sciences, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health)
2025	Xufeng Liu (Agricultural and Development Economics, Ohio State University)
2026	Pawandeep Kaur (Development Economics, University of Goettingen) Lucas Blaquiére (Health Economics, Technical University of Munich)

Post-Doctoral Fellow Supervisor:

2024 - Present **Sarah Vincent, POWER Post-Doctoral Fellow (Aix Marseilles School of Economics)**

Other Research Supervisor:

2024 - 2025 **Naomi Frim-Abrams, Program on Women’s Empowerment Research**

Other Service to the Field:

2025 - Present Tenure and Promotion Letter Writer (multiple)

Programming and Technical Skills

Programming Languages: Java, C++, HTML, CSS, JavaScript
Mathematics and Statistical Software: Maple, Matlab, Mathematica, DataLyser, Stata, SAS, SPSS, R
Other Skills: Microsoft Office suite, $\text{\LaTeX}$ and applications ($\text{\LaTeX}$, $\text{\LyX}$), CSPro, ArcGIS, QGIS, CommCare, Atlas.ti, NVivo, SurveyCTO, ODK, Survey Solutions, Adobe suite (Photoshop, Dreamweaver, Fireworks)

Languages

English, Spanish, French, Telugu, Hindi, Arabic

Personal

Citizenship

United States
Overseas Citizen of India (OCI)