

Lauren Raymer Heller, Ph.D.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Department of Economics
Berry College
P.O. Box 495024
Mount Berry, GA 30149-5024

Phone: (706) 290-2688
Fax: (706) 238-7854
Email: lheller@berry.edu

CONCENTRATION International Health Economics, Applied Microeconometrics

EDUCATION

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, North Carolina

- Ph.D., Economics; May, 2010

Capital University, Columbus, Ohio

- B.A., Economics, Summa Cum Laude; May, 2005
- Minors in Mathematics, Spanish, and History

CURRENT POSITION

Berry College, Mount Berry, Georgia

Associate Professor of Economics (Tenured), Campbell School of Business

Fall 2016 - Present

Assistant Professor of Economics, Campbell School of Business

Fall 2010 - Fall 2016

- Areas of teaching specialty include introductory economics courses (both honors and regular sections) as well as upper-level courses in microeconomic theory, health economics, economic development, and the history of economic thought.

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Journal Articles and Book Chapters

"Unconventional Wisdom: Estimating the Economic Impact of the Republican and Democratic National Political Conventions." (with Victor Matheson, College of the Holy Cross and Frank Stephenson, Berry College). *Papers in Regional Science*, forthcoming.

"Fracking and Labor Market Conditions: A Comparison of Pennsylvania and New York Border Counties" (with Kelly Hastings and E. Frank Stephenson – Berry College). *Eastern Economic Journal*, 2017.

"Is Human Trafficking the Dark Side of Economic Freedom?" (with Robert A. Lawson and Ryan H. Murphy, Southern Methodist University and Claudia R. Williamson, Mississippi State University). *Defence and Peace Economics*, 2016.

"A Classroom Property Title Experiment," with E. Frank Stephenson. *Journal of Economics and Finance Education* 15(1), 2016.

"Development and Income Inequality: A New Specification of the Kuznets Hypothesis," with Katherine Theyson. *Journal of Developing Areas*, 49(3), 2015.

"Economic Freedom, Homeownership, and State Labor Market Conditions," with E. Frank Stephenson. *Journal of Entrepreneurship and Public Policy* 4(2), 2015.

"The Influence of Physical Activity on Cigarette Smoking Among Adolescents: Evidence From Add Health," with Mir M. Ali and Aliaksandr Amialchuk. *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* 17(5), 2015.

"Primary Voting Systems and Economic Freedom: An Analysis of U.S. States," with Peter T. Calcagno. *Journal of Public Finance and Public Choice*, XXXII(1-3), 2014.

**PUBLICATIONS
(CONTINUED)**

"Paging Dr. Hibbert: What *The Simpsons* Can Teach Us About Health Economics." In *Homer Economicus: The Simpsons and Economics*. Edited by Joshua Hall. Stanford University Press. May, 2014.

"Economic Freedom and Labor Market Conditions: Evidence from The States," with E. Frank Stephenson. *Contemporary Economic Policy*, 32(1), 2014.

Shortened synopsis of article also appearing in *Regulation* 36(3): Fall, 2013.

"Do Slums Matter? Location and Early Childhood Preventive Care Choices Among Urban Residents of Bangladesh." *Social Science & Medicine* 94, pp. 43-55, 2013.

"For Compassion or Money? The Factors Influencing the Funding of Micro Loans," with Kayla Badding. *Journal of Socio-Economics*: 41(6), 2012.

"Using India and China to Interest American Students in Economics," with Nimish Adhia. *Education About Asia*: 17(3), 2012.

"Social Cohesion and Its Relationship to Endogenous Institutional Formation and Economic Growth." *Journal of Private Enterprise*: 25(1), 2009.

Also appearing in *Economic Freedom: Causes and Consequences*, Joshua Hall and Robert Lawson (eds.). New York: Nova Science, 2011.

"Do Gas Stations Raise the Price of Gasoline on the Weekend or Holidays?" with Robert Lawson and Joshua Hall. *Atlantic Economic Journal* (Anthology Section): 35(1), March 2007.

"Testing the Alchian-Allen Theorem: A Study of Consumer Behavior in the Gasoline Market," with Robert Lawson. *Economics Bulletin*: 35(4), 2006.

Published Reports

Contributing staff, *2006 Bangladesh Urban Health Survey*. National Institute of Population Research and Training (NIPORT), MEASURE Evaluation, International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh (ICDDR,B), and Associates for Community and Population Research (ACPR). Dhaka, Bangladesh and Chapel Hill, NC, USA: 2008.

**WORKING PAPERS
AND ARTICLES
UNDER REVIEW**

"Voter ID Laws and Voter Turnout: An Analysis of U.S. States" (with Jocelyne Miller and Frank Stephenson, Berry College). Under review at the *Atlantic Economic Journal*.

"Hot or Cold in Cleveland? An Expanded Look at the Effects of Political Conventions on Local Economies" (with Frank Stephenson, Berry College).

"Do Announcements Trump Action? The Effects of Immigration Ban Announcements on H1B Visa Applications and International Postsecondary Enrollment" (with Jamie Sharpe, Berry College).

**FELLOWSHIPS
AND AWARDS**

Outstanding Mentor Award, Berry College Campbell School of Business 2017

Faculty "First Year Advocate" Award, Berry College 2015

Eleana M. Garrett Award for Meritorious Advising and Caring, Berry College 2013

Student Government Association Faculty Member of the Year, Berry College 2013

Faculty Summer Research Grant, Berry College 2012

Humane Studies Fellowship, Institute for Humane Studies 2007 - 2010

Predoctoral Traineeship, Carolina Population Center 2008 - 2009

Future Faculty Fellowship, UNC Chapel Hill Summer 2007

Collegiate Fellowship, Capital University 2001 - 2005

**PREVIOUS
ACADEMIC
EXPERIENCE**

- University of North Carolina**, Chapel Hill, North Carolina
Research Assistant - MEASURE Evaluation, Carolina Population Center
Spring 2008 -
Spring 2010
- Dr. Peter Lance and Dr. Gustavo Angeles
- Instructor*
Summer 2009,
Fall 2007
- Taught independent courses in Intermediate Microeconomic Theory and Financial Markets for the department of economics.
- Research Assistant*
Summer 2009,
Fall 2005 -
Spring 2006
- Dr. John Akin, Dr. Helen Tauchen, and Dr. Alfred Field
- Teaching Assistant* - *Introductory Economics*
Fall 2006 -
Spring 2007
- Dr. Michael Salemi and Dr. Rita Balaban
- Capital University**, Columbus, Ohio
Research Assistant
Fall 2002 -
Spring 2005
- Dr. Robert Lawson

**RECENT
CONFERENCE
PRESENTATIONS
AND INVITED
LECTURES**

- “Voter ID Laws and Voter Turnout,” with Jocelyne Miller and E. Frank Stephenson. Presented at the Annual Meetings of the Southern Economic Association in Washington, DC. November, 2016.
- Invited Lecturer for Berry College’s Inaugural *FacChats* Speaker Series. “Free to Traffic? The Relationship between Open Markets and Human Trafficking.” October 27, 2016.
- “Free to Publish? The Relationship between Tenure and Academic Freedom.” Presented at the Annual Meetings of the Association of Private Enterprise Education conference. Las Vegas, Nevada. April, 2016.
- “Unconventional Wisdom? Estimating the Economic Impacts of National Political Conventions,” with E. Frank Stephenson. Presented at the Annual Meetings of the Southern Economic Association in New Orleans, Louisiana. November, 2015.
- “A Classroom Property Title Experiment” with E. Frank Stephenson. Presented at the Annual Meetings of the American Economic Association in Boston, Massachusetts. January, 2015.
- “Voter ID Laws and Voter Turnout: Evidence from Georgia” with E. Frank Stephenson. Presented at the Annual Meetings of the Southern Economic Association in Atlanta, Georgia. November, 2014.
- The following papers were presented at the Annual Meetings of the Association of Private Enterprise Education. Las Vegas, Nevada. April, 2014.
- “Homeownership, Economic Freedom, and Labor Market Conditions” and “A Classroom Property Rights Exercise,” with E. Frank Stephenson.
 - “Economic Freedom and Human Trafficking,” with Robert Lawson, Claudia Williamson, and Ryan Murphy.
- “The Effects of the New York Hydrofracking Moratorium on Labor Market Conditions in New York and Pennsylvania Border Counties” with Kelly Hastings and E. Frank Stephenson. Presented at the Annual Meetings of the Southern Economic Association in Tampa, Florida. November, 2013.
- “Economic Freedom and Labor Market Conditions: Evidence from the States” with E. Frank Stephenson. Invited lecture at the Manuel H. Johnson Center for Political Economy Faculty Research Workshop. Troy University in Troy, Alabama. September, 2013.

**CONFERENCE
PRESENTATIONS
AND INVITED
LECTURES
(CONTINUED)**

“Development and Income Inequality: A New Specification of the Kuznets Hypothesis,” with Katherine Theyson. Presented at the Annual Meetings of the Southern Economic Association in New Orleans, Louisiana. November, 2012.

“Exercise and Addictive Behavior: Does Exercise Reduce Smoking and Drug Use among Adolescents?” with Mir Ali and Aliaksandr Amialchuk. Presented at the Biennial Conference of the American Society of Health Economists (ASHE), University of Minnesota, June, 2012.

The following three papers were presented at the Annual Meetings of the Association of Private Enterprise Education. Las Vegas, Nevada. April, 2012.

- “Using the India and China Story to Motivate the Study of Economics,” with Nimish Adhia.
- “Government Size and Unemployment Across U.S. States,” with E. Frank Stephenson.
- “Primary Voting Systems and Economic Freedom: An Analysis of U.S. States,” with Peter T. Calcagno.

“For Compassion or Money? The Factors Influencing the Funding of Micro Loans” with Kayla Badding. Presented at the Annual Meetings of the Southern Economic Association in Washington, DC. November, 2011.

“Paging Dr. Hibbert: What ‘The Simpsons’ Can Teach Us About Health Economics.” Presented at the Annual Meetings of the Association of Private Enterprise Education. Nassau, Bahamas. April, 2011.

“The Impact of Facility Placement on Migration, Fertility, and Early Childhood Health Choices in Urban Bangladesh.” Presented at the Annual Meetings of the Eastern Economic Association in New York, New York. February, 2011.

“Location, Fertility, and Early Childhood Health Choices in Urban Bangladesh: Does Facility Placement Matter?” Presented at the Annual Meetings of the Southern Economic Association in Atlanta, Georgia. November, 2010.

“The Relationship between Location and Preventive Care Choice among Urban Residents of Bangladesh”. Presented at the Biennial Conference of the American Society of Health Economists (ASHE), Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. July, 2010.

“Reinterpreting the Relationship between Social Cohesion, Institutions, and Economic Growth”. Presented at the 2009 Annual Meetings of the Midwest Economics Association.

“Social Cohesion, Institutions, and Economic Growth”. Presented at the 2008 Annual Conference of the Association for Private Enterprise Education.

“The Impact of the TRIPS Agreement on the Research and Development Practices of Pharmaceutical Firms in India”. Presented at the 2007 Annual Appalachian Spring Conference in World History and Economics.

**SELECTED
PROFESSIONAL
ACTIVITIES &
SERVICE**

Professional Activities and Service at Berry College

Honors Program Interim Co-Director, AY 2017-2018

Faculty Assembly Secretary, AY 2016-2017

Acting Department Chair, Berry College Economics Department, Spring 2015.

Faculty Advisor to Berry College Undergraduate Business and Economic Research (UBER) Journal, 2013 – Present.

Faculty Advisor for Omicron Delta Epsilon Economics Honor Society, Eta Chapter. 2012-Present.

Faculty Liaison for Berry College Women’s Basketball Team, January, 2011 – Present.

**SELECTED
PROFESSIONAL
ACTIVITIES &
SERVICE
(CONTINUED)**

Berry College Student Government Advisor (Elected by student representatives from all campus organizations). 2011 – 2012.

Professional Activities and Service to External Organizations

Institute for Humane Studies Adjunct Program Officer (Mentor for 4-5 Economics Ph.D. students interested in pursuing a career in academia), 2014-Present.

Faculty speaker for the “Social Justice & Fairness” seminar for the Institute for Humane Studies. April 1, 2017. Troy University.

Keynote Speaker for “Good Intentions or Good Results?” seminar on economic development for the Foundation for Economic Education. February, 19, 2016. Georgia State University Perimeter College, Decatur Campus.

Faculty Reviewer for the Institute for Humane Studies PhD Scholarships and Humane Studies Fellowship Programs, 2014-2016.

Member of U.S. Young Scholars Delegation to Taiwan (Taipei and Tainan, Taiwan), September 2012.

Research advisor, University of North Carolina Summer Pre-Graduate Research Experience (SPGRE) Program, Summer 2008.

Lecturer, quantitative methods. GRE preparatory class for undergraduate interns traditionally underrepresented in the social sciences at the Carolina Population Center, 2008 – 2009.

Referee for *Applied Economics*, *Labour Economics*, *Social Science & Medicine*, the *Journal of Private Enterprise*, *Education About Asia*, the *Journal of Developing Areas*, the *Southern Journal of Entrepreneurship*, the *Journal of Third World Studies*, the *Journal of Economics and Finance Education* and the *Review of Behavioral Finance*.

**RESEARCH &
HONORS THESIS
SUPERVISION**

External Dissertation Committee Member

Maria (Sorokina) Tackett, West Virginia University, 2015-2016

Named Berry Research Scholarship Supervision

Jocelyne Miller, Richards Scholar, 2016-2018

Kayli Wilson, Synovus Scholar, 2013-2014

Kayla Badding, Kirbo Scholar, 2010-2011

Honors Thesis Director or Co-Director

Matthew Hinson, “Essays on Market Competition: An Analysis of Atypical Markets” 2016.

Kelly Hastings, “The Effects of the New York Hydrofracking Moratorium on Labor Market Conditions in New York and Pennsylvania Border Counties,” 2013.

Honors Thesis Committee Member

Clay Collins, “Analyses of the Impact of Lower Division College Football,” 2016.

Rachel Palmer, “The Great Depression in Georgia: The Response of Urban Georgia, Rural Georgia, and the Berry College Community,” 2016.

Meagan Endozo, “How Representative is State Environmental Policy of Public Will? A Content Analysis and Comparative Study of Georgia, Florida and Louisiana,” 2015.

Amy Funk, “Contextual Memory: As it Relates to Eyewitness Memory,” 2014.

Sara Walcott, “Soccer and Economics: The Effects of Attendance and Yellow Cards,” 2012.

Jonathan Surls, “PGA Tour Golfers’ Labor Supply,” 2012.

**COMMITTEE
SERVICE**

College-Wide Committees

Academic Council, 2015-Present

Honors Committee, 2013-Present

First Year Experience Advisory Committee, 2014-Present

Berry College Council on Student Scholarship.

Member, 2012-2016

Chair-Elect, AY 2013-2014

Chair, AY 2014-2015

Ad Hoc Committee on Faculty Evaluations, 2014-2015

Faculty-Staff Campaign Committee, 2013-2014

Interdisciplinary Studies Committee, 2012-2014

Berry College Leadership Fellows Selection Committee, 2010-2011

Campbell School of Business Faculty Committees

Dean Search Committee, AY 2015-2016

Tenure Track Faculty Search Committees, AY 2013-2014, AY 2014-2015, AY 2015-2016

Visiting Faculty Search Committees, AY 2011-2012, AY 2012-2013, AY 2013-2014, AY 2014-2015

Undergraduate Policy Committee, 2010-2013

**RELEVANT
QUALIFICATIONS
& SKILLS**

Proficiency in STATA, LaTeX, Fortran, and all Microsoft Office products. Experience with EViews, Maple, Mathematica, Matlab, and other programs.

**PROFESSIONAL
AFFILIATIONS**

American Economic Association

Southern Economic Association

American Society of Health Economists

Association of Private Enterprise Education