

BENJAMIN SCHWAB
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Department of Agricultural Economics ,
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Education

- 2011 UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
PhD in Agricultural and Applied Economics
- 2009 UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
MA in Agricultural and Applied Economics
- 2004 RUTGERS UNIVERSITY RUTGERS COLLEGE GENERAL HONORS PROGRAM
BA in Economics and Middle Eastern Studies , Summa cum Laude

Current Position

- 2020- Associate Professor, Department of Agricultural Economics Kansas State University

Previous Positions

- 2014-2020 Assistant Professor, Department of Agricultural Economics Kansas State University
- 2014 Associate Research Fellow; Poverty, Health, Nutrition Division, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
- 2011-2013 Postdoctoral Fellow, Poverty, Health, Nutrition Division, IFPRI

Research Interests

Development Economics, Health Economics, Agriculture & Nutrition, Cannabis Policy

Published Journal Articles

- Peterman, A., **Schwab, B.**, Roy, S., Hidrobo, M., & D. Gilligan. (2021) "Measuring women's decision-making: Indicator choice and survey design experiments from cash and food transfer evaluations in Ecuador, Uganda and Yemen", Forthcoming, *World Development* [also published as IFPRI Discussion Paper 01453]
- Namingit, S., Blankenau, W. & **B. Schwab.** (2020) "Sick and Tell: A field experiment analyzing the effects of an illness-related employment gap on the callback rate." *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization* (in-press)
- Ebert, K., Hoch, B., Taylor, H., & **B. Schwab.** (2020). "From the ground up: A look at Kansas' first year of industrial hemp production." *Western Economics Forum*, 18(2), December.

- Schwab, B.**, Janzen, S., Magnan, N., & W. Thompson. (2020) "swindex: Constructing a summary index using the standardized inverse covariance weighted average of indicators." *Stata Journal*. 20(4):952–964.
- Kang, M., **Schwab, B.**, & J. Yu. (2020) "Gender differences in the relationship between land ownership and managerial rights: Implications for intrahousehold farm labor allocation." *World Development*. 125 (January)
- Schwab, B.** (2020) "In the form of bread? A randomized comparison of cash and food transfers in Yemen." *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*. 102(1): 91-113
- Schwab, B.** (2019) "Comparing the productive effects of cash and food transfers in a crisis setting: Evidence from a randomized experiment in Yemen." *Journal of Development Studies*. 55:sup1, 29-54
- Schwab, B.**, A. Wartenberg and V. Butsic. (2019) "Characteristics of farms applying for cannabis cultivation permits." *California Agriculture*. 73(3): 128-135.
- Schwab, B.** & R. Armah (2019) "Can food safety shortfalls disrupt 'Ag for Nutrition' gains? Evidence from Eid al Adha" *Food Policy*. 83(C): 170-179. (IPUMS Best Published Research in Global Health Award)
- Butsic, V., **Schwab, B.**, Baumann, M., & J. Brenner. (2017). "Inside the Emerald Triangle: Modeling the placement and size of cannabis production in Humboldt County, CA USA." *Ecological Economics*. 142: 70-80.
- Hoel, J., **Schwab, B.** & J. Hoddinott. (2016). "Self-control fatigue, cognitive function, and the expression of time preference: Experimental results from Ethiopia." *Journal of Economic Psychology*. 52: 136-146.
- Cowan, B. & **B. Schwab**. (2016). "Employer sponsored health insurance and the gender wage gap." *Journal of Health Economics*. 45(1): 103-114.
- Brandt, J., Butsic, V., **Schwab, B.**, Radloff, V. & T. Kuemmerle (2015). "The relative effectiveness of protected areas, a logging ban, and sacred areas for old-growth forest protection in southwest China." *Biological Conservation*. 181: 1-8.
- Heathers, J., Hoel, J., Wegerif, S., **Schwab, B.**, Ledlie, N., Abay, K., & J. Hoddinott (2014). "Smartphone Platform Survey-Scale Heart Rate Collection: a Performance Evaluation in Ethiopia." *Proceedings of Wireless Health 2014*, October.
- Cowan, B. & **B. Schwab**. (2011). "The Incidence of the healthcare costs of smoking." *Journal of Health Economics* 30(5): 1094-1102.

Articles Under Review

- Schwab, B.** & V. Butsic. "Green Acres: Cannabis agriculture, formalization and rural land values in Northern California" *Revise and Resubmit, American Journal of Agricultural Economics*
- Hodjo, M., Kere, M., Milougo, V., Srivastava, A. & **B. Schwab**. "Demand for Agriculture Mechanization in the Hauts-Bassins Region (HBR) in Burkina Faso", *Under Review, Journal of Agribusiness*

Book Chapters

- "The role of the Tigray Pilot Social Cash Transfer programme and its evaluation in the evolution of the Tigray Social Protection Policy", in Davis, B., Handa, S., Hypher, N., Rossi, N. W., Winters, P., & Yablonski, J. (Eds.). (2016). *From evidence to action: the story of cash transfers and impact evaluation in sub Saharan Africa*. Oxford University Press: pp. 168-196 (W/ Pearson, R. Afaw. S. & 19 others)

Book and Media Reviews

- Schwab, B.** (2020). "Media Review: What happens when a state grows way too much weed?" *American Journal of Agricultural Economics* 102(3): 1050-1052

Working Papers/In progress

- “What doctors recommend marijuana? Evidence from three states” (with D. Alexander and D. Slusky)
- “The transition to regulated cannabis in Northern California” (w/ V. Butsic)
- “The Impact of farm training on efficiency of small scale farms in Armenia” (with W. Embaye, Shanoyan, A. and J. Bergtold)
- “Who Has the Time? The Gendered Division of Agricultural Labor and Demand for Mechanized Services in Ethiopia” (with M. Hodjo)
- “Much ado about modalities: Multicountry experiments on the effects of cash and food transfers on consumption patterns” (with D. Giligan, M. Hidrobo, J. Hoddinott and S. Roy)
- “Nutrition, education and development: the case of vitamin D milk”
- “The rhythm of the rains: seasonal effects on child health in The Gambia” (with O. Gajigo)
- “Maternal fasting during Ramadan and child health: evidence from 40 countries”
- “Endogenous epidemics and long run economic development”
- “Land distribution and long term inequality: a unified growth model approach”

Reports

- 2020 **Schwab, B.**, Leatherman, J. & B. Yao. (2020). “Evaluation of the Kansas Healthy Food Initiative (KHFI)”, Submitted to The Food Trust and the Kansas Healthy Food Initiative
- 2017 **Schwab, B.**, and V. Butsic. “Estimating the Impact of Cannabis Production on Rural Land Prices in Humboldt County, CA.” Gen. Tech. Rep. PSW-GTR-258. Albany, CA: US Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station: 395-402.
- 2017 Hodjo, M., **Schwab, B.**, and Kere, M. “Baseline Survey report of the Appropriate Scale Mechanization Consortium: Burkina Faso” Sustainable Intensification Innovation Lab
- 2013 **Schwab, B.**, Margolies, A. & J. Hoddinott. Impact Evaluation of Cash and Food Transfers for the Seasonal Emergency Safety Net in Hajjah and Ibb Governorates, Yemen: Endline Report
- 2012 **Schwab, B.**, Peterman, A., Moreira, V., Margolies, A. & J. Hoddinott. Impact Evaluation of Cash and Food Transfers for the Seasonal Emergency Safety Net in Hajjah and Ibb Governorates, Yemen: Baseline Report
- 2012 **Schwab, B.**, Berhane, G., Devereux, S., Hoddinott, J., Tegebu, F., Roelen, K., & A.S. Taffesse. Evaluation of the Social Cash Transfers Pilot Programme, Tigray Region, Ethiopia: Baseline Report
- 2012 **Schwab, B.**, Berhane, G., Devereux, S., Hoddinott, J., Tegebu, F., Roelen, K., & A.S. Taffesse. Evaluation of the Social Cash Transfers Pilot Programme, Tigray Region, Ethiopia: Inception Report

Teaching Experience

- Instructor Global Agricultural Development (AGEC615); Kansas State University; 2014-2020, Fall.
- Instructor Principles of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness (AGEC120); Kansas State University; 2015-2020, Fall.

- Instructor Causal Inference Using Experimental and Non-Experimental Methods: Applications in Applied Microeconomics. Makerere University; 2018, Summer.
- TA Agricultural and Economic Development in Africa. (AAE477). University of Wisconsin, Spring.

Conference and Invited Seminar Presentations

- 2020 The Food Trust/Kansas Health Foundation
- 2019 Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting (Atlanta); University of Wisconsin Agricultural and Applied Economics Department (Madison); UNICEF/IPC-IG Social Protection Webinar (UNICEF-Lebanon); Kansas State University Agricultural Economics Department (Manhattan, KS); Economics and Management of Risk in Agriculture and Natural Resources (SCC-76) Annual Meeting
- 2018 Northeastern Universities Development Conference (NEUDC) (Ithaca, NY); International Conference on Agricultural Economics (ICAE) (Vancouver, Canada); UNICEF Workshop on Social Protection Programmes in Humanitarian Settings (Florence, Italy); Midwest International Economic Development Conference (MIEDC) (Minneapolis, MN)
- 2017 Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting (Chicago); Kansas University Economics Department (Lawrence); Midwest International Economic Development Conference (MIEDC Madison); Conference on Study of African Economies (CSAE Oxford); Pacific Development Conference (PACDEV Riverside)
- 2016 Missouri Valley Economics Association Annual Meeting (St. Louis); University of California Coast Redwood Forest Symposium (Humboldt, CA); Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting (Boston);
- 2015 Midwest International Economic Development Conference (Madison)
- 2014 Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting (Minneapolis); Midwest International Economic Development Conference (Minneapolis);
- 2013 Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting (Washington DC); World Bank Health Impact Evidence & Action to Save Lives in Nigeria, (Uyo, Nigeria); Kansas State University Agricultural Economics Department; Kansas University Economics Department (Lawrence);
- 2012 American Society of Health Economics 4th biennial conference (Minneapolis); European Conference on Health Economics (Zurich); Humboldt University Departmental Seminar in Geography (Berlin)
- 2011 American Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting (Pittsburgh); Cornell PAM; Harvard School of Public Health; IFPRI; International Health Economics Association 8th World Congress (Toronto); Mathematica; University of Colorado-Denver; Tufts University Fletcher School; Yale School of Public Health
- 2010 Wisconsin Economics Association, (Stevens Point, WI); Middle East and North Africa Health Policy Forum, World Bank (Amman); Global Health Symposium, University of Wisconsin (Madison)
- 2009 Guanajuato Workshop for Young Economists, University of Guanajuato

Funded Research, Grants, Awards & Fellowships

External Funding

- 2020-2022 Co-PI, California Bureau of Cannabis Control, "The effect of local cannabis regulation on property prices", 270,269 (Responsible: \$20,000)
- 2020 PI, The Food Trust, "Impact Analysis of the Kansas Healthy Food Initiative", \$45,000
- 2019-2021 Co-lead PI (w/ Yu, J.), USAID Feed the Future Postharvest Loss Reduction Innovation Lab, Agricultural Economics Component (Phase II). \$431,257
- 2019-2020 Co-PI, National Institute of Food and Agriculture Multistate Project (S1084), "Industrial Hemp Production, Processing, and Marketing in the US." \$104,000 (Responsible: \$35,000)
- 2018 Co-PI, USAID Postharvest Loss Reduction Innovation Lab, "Demand for Hermetic Storage Bags in Ghana." \$7,000.
- 2017 PI, USDA Foreign Agricultural Service/Millennium Challenge Corporation, "Synthesizing Lessons from the Deep Dive Bucket Reports." \$7,401
- 2015-2020 Co-PI, USAID Feed the Future Sustainable Intensification Innovation Lab "Adoption of Sustainable Intensification in Dual-Purpose Millet - Leguminous Crops - Livestock Systems to Improve Food and Nutritional Security and Natural Resources Management for Rural Small Holder Farmers in Senegal", \$998,000 (Responsible: 2,200)
- 2015-2020 Co-PI, Appropriate Scale Mechanization Consortium (ASMC) of the USAID Feed the Future Sustainable Intensification Innovation Lab ; \$5,000,000 (Responsible: \$121,724)
- 2014-2015 PI, USDA Foreign Agricultural Service/Millennium Challenge Corporation, "Deep dive analysis of the Armenia Water-to-Market Training Program". \$139,818
- 2012-13 Co-PI, International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie), "Expanding lessons from a randomized impact evaluation of cash and food transfers."
- 2011-14 Co-Investigator, UNICEF, Evaluation of the social cash transfers pilot programme in Tigray, Ethiopia
- 2011-13 Co-Investigator, World Food Programme (WFP), Randomized Evaluation of Cash, Food and Vouchers (Yemen country leader)

Awards and Honors

- 2020 IPUMS Research Award: Best Published Research in Global Health for "Can food safety shortfalls disrupt 'Ag for Nutrition' gains?"
- 2017 Co-recipient, Innovative Teaching Award, Association of Public Land-Grant Universities (APLU)
- 2010 Robert Wood Johnson Dissertation Grant, RWJ Foundation Health & Society Scholars Program
- 2010 Honorable Mention, Best Paper Award; MENA Health Policy Forum (World Bank)
- 2009 Pass with Distinction: Major Preliminary Exam; Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics
- 2006-11 National Institute for Mental Health (NIMH) Traineeship in Health Economics

- 2005-06 Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship (FLAS) for Arabic in Yemen and the University of Wisconsin
- 2004 Sidney Simon Award, best undergraduate economics thesis, Rutgers University
- 2003 Bear Stearns and Co. Merit Scholarship for most outstanding Junior economics student at Rutgers University (co-winner)

Advising and Service

Graduate Advising

Major Professor

PhD: Agricultural Economics: Five students (four completed)

MS: Agricultural Economics: One student (one completed)

Advisee Awards

2019 Agricultural & Applied Economics Association (AAEA) Outstanding Master's Thesis (Hanna Ruder)

2017 University Distinguished Professors Graduate Student Award (Weldensie Embaye)

Committee Member

PhD: Agricultural Economics: Three Students (two completed); Economics: Four students (three completed)

MS: Agricultural Economics: Two Students (one completed)

Undergraduate Advising

Advise 25 to 30 undergraduate students per year

Advisee honors: Marshall Scholarship; McNair Scholar; Truman Scholar finalist

Professional Service

Referee: *American Journal of Agricultural Economics; Applied Economics Perspectives and Policy; Ecological Economics; Economic Inquiry; Economics and Human Biology; Food Policy; Health Economics; International Journal of Health Economics and Management; Journal of African Economies; Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics; Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics; Journal of Development Economics; Nature Sustainability; PLOS ONE; Public Health; World Bank Economic Review; World Development; Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting (Boston; Chicago)*

Reviewer: 3ie: International Initiative for Impact Evaluation grants; Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting Topic leader (Development Economics), Washington DC 2013; Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting (2014-2018); GCFSI Food System Innovation grant; Kansas Health Economics Conference co-organizer (2020).

Committee Service at Kansas State University

- Search Committees: Agricultural Economics. Assistant/Associate Professor in Risk Management; USAID Feed the Future Sustainable Intensification Innovation Lab, Associate Director.
- Diversity Committee