Sarah A. Bainn Nelson Hall, 2801 Founders Drive · Raleigh, NC 27607
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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Driven Economics student with experience in using R, Matlab and Stata. Interested in Health Economics. Creative and analytical mind-set with problem solving skills using innovative solutions. Effective verbal communicator with ability to work well in high stress environments and consistently meet project deadlines. Excellent work ethic with ability to work remotely.

EDUCATION

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY **May 2026**
Doctor of Philosophy in Economics Raleigh, NC

- GPA 3.68/4.0
- Relevant Coursework: Econometrics, Microeconometrics

BAYLOR UNIVERSITY **May 2021**
Master of Science in Economics Waco, TX

- GPA 3.74/4.0
- Relevant Coursework: Data Science, Econometrics and Computational Statistics

UNIVERSITY OF GHANA **May 2018**
Bachelor of Arts in Economics Accra, Ghana

- GPA 3.75/4.0
- Minor: Linguistics
- Relevant Coursework: Econometrics, Applied Statistics, Applied Mathematics

RESEARCH

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY

The Effect of the Affordable Care Act on Disability Employment, Paper for Research Methods Course **Spring 2024**
Advisor: Adriana Corredor-Waldron

Using data from the American Community Survey (ACS) and a Staggered Difference-in-Difference (SDID) research design, I find that the Affordable Care Act led to a 4.1 percentage point(pp) increase in average employment rate for individuals with disabilities in expansion states as opposed to those in non-expansion states. This finding indicates that the ACA had a positive and significant impact on employment within the disabled population, suggesting that the Affordable Care Act served as an employment incentive for individuals with disabilities. Employing the two-way fixed effects method, I observe a 1.2pp decrease in the average disability employment rate attributable to the ACA. This starkly contrasts with the results derived from the staggered Difference-in-Differences (DID) design and suggests endogeneity bias in the TWFE estimates.

Free Trade and Property Crime Rates in the U.S., Research Paper for International Trade Course **December 2022**

I analyze the effects of trade-related job losses on property crime rates using state level data from the Federal Reserve of Economic Data (FRED), Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) and the Department of Labor. I identify individuals who have lost their jobs due to trade using the Trade Adjustment Assistance program. Employing the two-way fixed effects and Arellano-Bond GMM methodologies, I find small positive, but statistically insignificant effects.

BAYLOR UNIVERSITY **May 2021**

The effect of the ACA Medicaid Expansions on Mortality: Evidence from State Border Counties, Master's Thesis

This thesis examines the effects of the 2010 Affordable Care Act (ACA) Medicaid Reform on adult mortality at the county level. This thesis uses a difference-in-difference (DiD) causal inference research design to study the impacts of the ACA Medicaid expansion on adult mortality rates and the spillover effects potentially caused by it. The research design shows no statistically significant results for the impact of the expansion on adult mortality. An event study was implemented as a robustness check.

UNIVERSITY OF GHANA **May 2018**

A Cost Benefit Analysis of Building a Pineapple Juice Factory in Ekumfi, Central region, Undergraduate Thesis

This thesis undertakes a cost benefit analysis of building a pineapple juice factory in Ekumfi, a community in the

Central Region of Ghana. I find that the benefits far outweigh the cost of building the factory and would immensely help with the development of the region.

EXPERIENCE

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY **2021-Present**

Independent Instructor

- Taught EC 201 to 45 students
- Graded and provided feedback on the assignments

Head Teaching Assistant

- Led 3 Recitations for EC 205 for 105 students
- Collaborated with supervisor to mentor and train new 6 teaching assistants for EC 205
- Graded and provided feedback on the assignments

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, CHIEF EVALUATION OFFICE **Summer 2023**

Data Analytics Fellow

- Collaborated with the research team at the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP) to identify registered medical provider deserts.
- Analyzed data using R to identify counties in the U.S with medical provider deserts.

BAYLOR UNIVERSITY **2019 - 2021**

Graduate Academic Mentor (Kokernot Hall)

- Partnered with Academic Support and Residence Faculty to organize educational events for 174 residents
- Organized study sessions to help students prepare for quizzes

Graduate Assistant

- Created weekly newsletters using MailChimp for the Human Relations/Management Department
- Created supplemental materials to help students gain an understanding in Macroeconomics
- Collaborated with supervisor and research assistants to clean and analyze data for research

UNIVERSITY OF GHANA **2018 - 2019**

Teaching Assistant

- Organized Economics and Statistics tutorials for over 200 students
- Coordinated the instructor's events, delivered materials and collected data for research
- Graded the assignments of over 200 students in a timely and efficient manner

PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS **Summer 2017**

Assurance Intern

- Collaborated with a staff of 6 to complete audit processes
- Conducted a risk analysis to determine the viability of a merge between 2 companies
- Reconciled bank statements with payments in general account ledger totaling $100,000 using Microsoft Excel
- Created presentations on the merits and demerits of the internship program

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SKILLS AND MEMBERSHIPS

- Proprietary Software: R, Stata, Python, LaTeX, Matlab
- Languages: English – native proficiency, French – basic proficiency
- Citizenship - Ghana
- Research in Color Communication Strategist – created content for social media pages
- Sadie Collective Member, The Black Economists Network Member
- Economics Society Member, 2017-2018 - created marketing publications for group members
- Graduate Business Association - Represented the MS Economics students and their interests
- Graduate Undergraduate Mentorship Program - mentored undergraduate students in their academic pursuits

List of completed PhD Courses

ECG 765: Math Methods for Economics
ECG 751: Econometric Methods
ECG 704: Macroeconomics I
ECG 701: Microeconomics I
ECG 753: Microeconometrics
ECG 705: Macroeconomics II
ECG 702: Microeconomics II
ECG 748: Theory of International Trade
ECG 730: Labor Economics
ECG 715: Environmental & Resource Economics
ECG 708: Advanced Microeconomics Theory
ECON 881: Labor Economics II
ECG 895: Doctoral Dissertation Research
ECG 790: Research Methods in Economics

Sarah Ayensuah Bainn

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March 6, 2024

Professor Jetson Leder-Luis

Professor Sebastian Tello-Trillo

National Bureau of Economic Research

1050 Massachusetts Avenue

Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Professor Jetson Leder-Luis & Professor Sebastian Tello-Trillo,

I am writing to express my interest in participating in the Mentoring Program on Aging and Health Economics Research that my advisor, Adriana Corredor-Waldron shared with me. As a third year Economics PhD student at North Carolina State University, I am very interested in Health Economics, specifically, maternal and infant health. I am excited about the prospect of learning from esteemed mentors who can provide me with valuable insights and skills to enhance my academic career.

Throughout my studies, I have developed a passion for addressing the disparities and structural barriers surrounding access to and delivery of healthcare. Currently, my research focuses on the disparities prevalent in maternal healthcare within the United States as well as the impact of health insurance access on employment outcomes among the disabled population. Additionally, I am intrigued by the implications of state reproductive health laws on maternal and infant health outcomes. I believe that participation in this workshop will not only deepen my understanding of healthcare access and delivery disparities but also expose me to new topics and data crucial for attaining my goal as an accomplished researcher in Health Economics.

I am dedicated to continuously learning and eagerly anticipate the opportunity to learn from seasoned researchers in the field. I would appreciate the opportunity to discuss my experience further with you. I can be reached by telephone at (254) 214-0676 or by email at sabainn@ncsu.edu. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sarah Ayensuah Bainn

Personal Statement

I am from Ghana and arrived in the US in 2019 to pursue my graduate studies in Economics. Following my undergraduate studies, I spent a year as a teaching assistant to Dr. Monica Lambom Quayefio and Dr. Nkechi Owoo, esteemed researchers in Health Economics with a specific focus on maternal and infant healthcare in developing countries. It was during this period that my passion for Health Economics, particularly maternal and infant healthcare took root, and my move to the US further solidified this interest.

Throughout my studies, I discovered that maternal healthcare accessibility and delivery challenges were prevalent not only in developing nations but also in developed countries like the US. Currently, my research focuses on issues related to maternal health in the US as well as the impact of health insurance access on employment outcomes among the disabled population. Additionally, I am intrigued by the implications of state reproductive health laws on maternal and infant health outcomes. I see this mentoring workshop as an excellent opportunity to broaden my understanding of unfamiliar topics, advance my research in Health Economics, and acquaint myself with previously unknown data sources.

I am currently a 3rd year PhD student at North Carolina State University. My long-term career goal is to be a prolific researcher on issues pertaining to maternal and infant healthcare in the US. The Economics department in North Carolina State University boasts exceptional economists renowned for their outstanding research. However, Dr. Adriana Corredor-Waldron, my advisor, is the only Health Economist in the department. I consider myself fortunate to have her guidance and mentorship as I navigate my path towards becoming a Health Economist. Attending this workshop would not only complement my efforts to excel in research but also enhance the invaluable advice and support I receive from my advisor.

For my third-year paper, I am working on examining the impact of the Affordable Care Act on disability employment. I implement a Staggered Difference-in-Difference framework to investigate the impact of the ACA on the employment and labor force participation decisions of individuals living with disabilities. Engaging in this workshop offers me the opportunity to discuss this paper with both mentors and peers, seeking valuable feedback to refine my work and potentially secure publication.

In conclusion, I view attending this mentoring workshop as a pivotal investment in my professional development. It presents a valuable opportunity to augment my skills and knowledge while connecting with mentors and peers who share a mutual enthusiasm for advancing healthcare through economics.