Pedro Oliboni
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February 8th, 2026

NBER Innovation Research Boot Camp
1050 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Kevin Bryan, Ina Ganguli, and Kyle Myers,

I study public economics and innovation from a macroeconomic perspective. I am primarily interested in non-marginal questions about how policy affects innovation, such as what would happen if the US government drastically reduced its participation in science funding. At the Innovation Research Boot Camp I want to test my ideas and contribute to this most important conversation that is the economics of innovation.

You may contact Professor Chang-Tai Hsieh (chsieh@chicagobooth.edu) as my recommender.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Pedro Oliboni

Pedro Adami Oliboni

Contact Information

Department of Economics
The University of Chicago

Email: poliboni@uchicago.edu

Education

The University of Chicago — Chicago, IL
Ph.D., Economics — 2023 –

Bocconi University — Milan, Italy
M.Sc. Economic and Social Sciences, Final Grade 110 *cum laude*/110, — 2020 – 2022

The College of Wooster — Wooster, OH
B.A. Mathematics and Philosophy, *summa cum laude* — 2016 – 2020
Minor in Economics

University of Oxford, Hertford College — Oxford, UK
Exchange program in Mathematics and Philosophy — Spring 2019

Teaching Experience

Theory of Income II (Macro II, PhD sequence) — UChicago
TA to Prof. Golosov — Winter 2026

Price Theory I (Micro I, PhD sequence) — UChicago
TA and co-course coordinator to Prof. Murphy — Fall 2025
TA to Profs. Murphy and Mulligan — Fall 2024

Works in Progress

Political Economy of Occupational Licensing

Occupational Licensing in The US States (dataset)
with Matthew Geiling, Quentin Maret, and Christopher Sweet

Research Papers

The Impact of Research Grants on Publications and Patents Across Disciplines
with Jérôme Adda and Marco Ottaviani
Presented at 2023 Science of Science Funding NBER Summer Institute

Assessing Pandemic Risks from Emerging Infectious Diseases and High Containment Laboratory Leaks: A Country Level Spatial Network SIR Model Analysis
with Ross Tieman and Simeon Campos
Risk Analysis, 2025.

Normative Implications of Reductionism about Personal Identity
Aperto Animo, vol. 1, December 2020

Honors, Scholarships, and Fellowships

Industrial Organization Grant, *Kenneth C. Griffin Applied Economics Incubator*	2025
Best Paper, *Risk Analysis*, for "Assessing Pandemic Risks"	2025
Bradley Fellowship, *Stigler Center PhD Dissertation Award, Booth School of Business*	2025
Lee Prize, *highest score on Price Theory (Micro) Core Exam, University of Chicago*	2024
Lee Prize, *highest score on Theory of Income (Macro) Core Exam, University of Chicago*	2024
Global Priorities Fellowship, *Forethought Foundation*	2021, 2022
Melissa Schultz Research Prize, *Undergraduate Thesis, The College of Wooster*	2020
Phi Beta Kappa, *as junior*	2019
John F. Miller Prize in Philosophy, *top philosophy graduating student, The College of Wooster*	2020

Presentations

International Conference on the Science of Science and Innovation	2024 – 2025
NBER Summer Institute (Science of Science Funding), Society for Decision Making Under Deep Uncertainty	2022 – 2023
Cambridge Conference on Catastrophic Risk	2021 – 2022

Languages

Brazilian Portuguese (*native*), English (*fluent*), Italian (*intermediate*), Spanish (*intermediate*)

Research Experience

University of Oxford (Global Priorities Institute)	Oxford, UK
Predoctoral Research Fellow in Economics	2022 – 2023
Harvard Business School	Remote
Research Assistant to Marco Tabellini	2022
Bocconi University	Milan, IT
IGIER Visiting Student mentored by Marco Ottaviani and Simone Cerreia-Vioglio	2021 – 2022
Research Assistant to Fernando Vega-Redondo	Summer 2021
Alliance to Feed the Earth in Disasters (ALLFED)	Remote
Research Volunteer on Financial Products to Increase Resilience	Summer 2021

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Name: Pedro Adami Oliboni
Student ID: 12413565

Degrees Awarded

Degree: Master of Arts
Confer Date: 12/13/2024
M.A. in Economics

Academic Program History

Program: Social Sciences Division
Start Quarter: Autumn 2023
Current Status: Active in Program
Ph.D. in Economics

External Education

College of Wooster
Wooster, Ohio
Bachelor of Arts 2020

Bocconi University
Milan, Italy
Master of Science 2022

Beginning of Graduate Record

Autumn 2023

Course		Description	Attempted	Earned	Grade
ECON	30100	Price Theory I	100	100	B+
ECON	31000	Empirical Analysis I	100	100	A
ECON	33000	Theory of Income I	100	100	A

Winter 2024

Course		Description	Attempted	Earned	Grade
ECON	30200	Price Theory II	100	100	A
ECON	31100	Empirical Analysis II	100	100	A
ECON	33100	The Theory of Income II	100	100	A

Spring 2024

Course		Description	Attempted	Earned	Grade
ECON	30300	Price Theory III	100	100	A
ECON	31200	Empirical Analysis III	100	100	A
ECON	33200	The Theory of Income III	100	100	B+

Graduate

Autumn 2024

Course		Description	Attempted	Earned	Grade
ECON	31740	Optimization-Conscious Econometrics	100	100	A
ECON	35101	International Macroeconomics and Trade	100	100	B+
ECON	36200	Public Sector Economics	100	0	I
ECON	40101	Advanced Industrial Organization I	100	100	B
ECON	57000	Workshop in Macro and International Economics	100	100	P

Winter 2025

Course		Description	Attempted	Earned	Grade
ECON	33530	Firm Dynamics and Economic Growth	100	100	A
ECON	33550	Spatial Economics	100	100	A-
ECON	36330	New Developments in Public Finance	100	100	A

Spring 2025

Course		Description	Attempted	Earned	Grade
ECON	33540	Macroeconomics with Heterogeneous Households	100	100	A
ECON	34460	Topics in Public and Labor Economics	100	100	A
ECON	38001	Applied Macroeconomics: Micro Data for Macro Models	100	100	A
ECON	57000	Workshop in Macro and International Economics	100	0	
ECON	60600	Working Group: Capital Theory	0	0	
ECON	60900	Working Group: Applied Macroeconomic Theory	0	0	

Autumn 2025

Course		Description	Attempted	Earned	Grade
ECON	49700	Research Seminar	100	0	
ECON	63100	Macro Reading Group	0	0	
ECON	70000	Advanced Study: Economics	200	0	

End of Graduate

UNOFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT

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February 8th, 2026

Research Agenda

In the Boot Camp, I am excited to contribute my particular point of view—grounded in price theory and public choice—to the important conversation of the economics of innovation. And I expect to benefit tremendously from feedback from both peers and senior researchers interested in this important topic.

My main project, "Political Economy of Occupational Licensing", studies whether the current regime of occupational licensing in the US—where about one third of US workers require a license for their job—has costs that exceed its benefits. Licensing imposes barriers to entry, and for each occupation and state, I measure how much these barriers affect workers and households of different income levels by changing wages, prices, employment, and quality. Once I quantify the consequences of licensing, I will estimate a model of political competition between interest groups to explain why licensing regulation varies so much across states. Until now, the macroeconomic understanding of licensing has been bottlenecked by lack of data on licensing restrictions. I am making progress on this problem by leading a team of computer science students in developing the first comprehensive task-based dataset of occupational licensing policy across the US states— "Occupational Licensing in The US States." Combining my quantified theory of occupational licensing and this novel task-level licensing data, I will study how licensing regulation affects automation from AI by measuring whether licensing blocks or distorts automation and thus innovation.

Moving from occupations to industries, with Daria Matviienk (Stanford GSB) I am studying how innovation interacts with regulatory capture— "Political Economy of Innovation and Concentration." Daria and I ask how lobbying—which often results in subsidies to the lobbying firm and barriers to competitors—affects the incentives that firms have for innovation: is lobbying a substitute or complement to innovation? To answer this question, we are developing a structural model of lobbying and innovation and building a new dataset connecting firms to lobbying activity.

In the future, I will continue to research how the state influences innovation, for the better or for the worse. My aim is to discover high-level, "constitutional", policy changes to increase innovation. In one early-stage project, I quantify whether nonprofits, such as industry associations, help firms internalize the information externalities of R&D. In another early-stage project, I want to understand the consequences of the large role of government in funding science and innovation. Thinking non-marginally, I want to know whether government funding crowds out private funding in the aggregate, and whether the government affects the direction of innovation in desirable ways.