

GARIMA SHARMA

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Academic Positions

July 2024 – Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Northwestern University
2023 – 2024 Postdoctoral Fellow, Princeton University Industrial Relations Section

Education

2017 – 2023 Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Ph.D. in Economics
“Essays on Labor Markets in Developing Countries”
2011 – 2015 Stanford University, BA in Economics with Honors and Distinction

Affiliations

2023 – Research Affiliate, IZA Institute of Labor Economics
2024 – Invited Researcher, J-PAL South Asia

Fellowships, Grants, and Awards

2025 Weiss Fund for Research in Development Economics
2024 J-PAL SPI Initiative (with Esther Duflo and Abhijit Banerjee)
2023 Weiss Fund (with Shreya Tandon)
2021 Jerry Hausman Graduate Dissertation Fellowship
2019-2021 (x4) George & Obie Shultz Fund Grant
2018, 2019 Weiss Fund for Research in Development Economics
2017, 2018 MIT Economics Graduate Fellowship
2015 Firestone Medal for Excellence in Undergraduate Research
2015 Michelle Zimbalist Rosaldo Prize in the Social Sciences
(best B.A. or M.A. thesis on gender)

Working Papers

“Collusion Among Employers in India” Revise and Resubmit at *American Economic Review*

“The Effects of Mandated Maternity Leave on Labor Market Outcomes in India” (with Pulak Ghosh, Stephanie Hao, Lisa Ho, and Shreya Tandon)

“Monopsony and Gender.”

Published and Accepted Papers

“Collective Bargaining for Women: How Unions Can Create Female-Friendly Jobs” (with Viola Corradini and Lorenzo Lagos). *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, August 2025.

“Are Some Firms Better for Women’s Careers?” (with Shreya Tandon, Lisa Ho, Pulak Ghosh, and Stephanie Hao). *AEA Papers and Proceedings*, May 2025.

“Long-term Effects of the Targeting the Ultra-Poor Program” (with Abhijit Banerjee and Esther Duflo). *American Economic Review: Insights*, December 2021.

“Depression and Loneliness Among the Elderly Poor” (with Abhijit Banerjee, Esther Duflo, Erin Grela, Madeline McKelway, Frank Schilbach, and Girija Vaidyanathan). *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, Vol. 3, No.2, Spring 2023.

“Impacts of Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and Cash Transfers on Depression and Impairment of the Elderly Living Alone: A Randomized Controlled Trial in India” (with Abhijit Banerjee, Esther Duflo, Erin Grela, Madeline McKelway, Frank Schilbach, and Girija Vaidyanathan). *Annals of Internal Medicine*, April 2023.

“Female Labor Force Participation.” (with Rachel Heath (editor), Arielle Bernhardt, Girija Borker, Anne Fitzpatrick, Anthony Keats, Madeline McKelway, Andreas Menzel, Teresa Molina VoxDevLit 11 (1), 1-43.

Selected Work in Progress

Increasing Women’s Participation in Non-traditional Industries: Evidence from the Auto Sector (with Achyuta Adhvaryu, Riccardo Di Cato, and Anant Nyshadham)

The Impact of AI on Developing Country Labor Markets (and opportunities) (with Lindsey Raymond)

Understanding and Increasing Labor Market Formality in India (with Vaidehi Parameswaran)

Seminars and Conferences

2026

ASSA Annual Meeting, MIT, University of Chicago, HBS,

- NBER Industrial Organization Spring Program Meeting, UC Berkeley, NBER Labor Studies Spring Program Meeting, NBER Public Finance Spring Program Meeting, UW Milwaukee
- 2025 ASSA Annual Meeting, London School of Economics, Duke University, UC Berkeley, Princeton Macro-Development Conference, Barcelona Summer Forum Industrial Organization Workshop, CREST (IO seminar), CEPR-Bank of Italy Labor Market Policies and Institutions Workshop, CEPR Development Economics Workshop, Yale EGC/IGC Firms in Developing Countries Workshop, Good Business Forum 2025, Columbia University, BREAD/NBER Development Economics Fall Program Meeting
- 2024 Princeton University, Stanford University, University of Houston, Yale University, NYU, University of Michigan, Northwestern University (IO seminar), World Bank, BSE Summer Forum Development Workshop, Cowles Conference on Labor and Public Economics, NBER Summer Institute Labor Studies, SITE Labor, Global Minimum Wages Conference at Princeton University, Good Business Forum at UC San Diego's School of Global Policy and Strategy
- 2023 Bank of Italy, BSE Summer Forum, Development Rookiefest, EIEF Junior Conference on Applied Microeconomics, IAB, SITE Gender, Columbia Junior Macro/Micro Labor Conference, McGill University, UCLA, UC San Diego, University of Southern California
- 2022 NBER Summer Institute Labor Studies, Society of Labor Economists Annual Meeting
- 2021 PEGNet/DIE The Role of Social Protection in Cushioning the Effects of Pandemics
- 2020 New Directions in Graduation Research Conference

Professional Activities

Refereeing: *American Economic Review, AEJ: Applied, AEJ: Policy, American Economic Review: Insights, Econometrica, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of the European Economic Association, Journal of Economic Literature, Journal of Political Economy, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Economics and Statistics, Review of Economic Studies, Science Advances*

Reviewer: *National Science Foundation, Weiss Asset Management Foundation*

Teaching

2025 onwards – Econ 425-3 Firms in Developing Countries

(Ph.D. Elective, Northwestern), Teaching evaluated 5.89/6.0, 5.6/6.0

2023 –

Econ 14.662 Labor Economics II (Ph.D. Elective, MIT),
Teaching evaluated 6.8/7.0

Updated Winter 2026