Development Economics Research Fellow (Tobin Fellow)

Faculty sponsor: Rohini Pande

Who We Are:
Yale University's [Economic Growth Center](#) and the [Whitney and Betty MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies](#) draws upon economics, political science, and related fields to conduct cutting-edge research to understand how policy can promote inclusive, accountable economies and societies. Our core research focuses on gender as it relates to labor economics and broader economic empowerment; political economy and governance; and environmental economics. We also aim to build a culture of evidence and increase data literacy in the public sector, strengthening leaders' ability to identify and implement evidence-informed policies. Throughout the research life cycle, we engage closely with policy counterparts to ensure we address questions of immediate relevance, and we regularly communicate data-driven insights with policy counterparts and the general public

The Role:
Professor Pande is looking to hire multiple highly skilled and motivated pre-doctoral research fellows to work as part of her research team. The position will involve assistance with all stages of empirical research in international development.

The studies typically explore evidence-driven, policy-relevant research questions related to inclusion in India and Nepal. Studies are varied in both question and method, with current work including research exploring how communicating flood warnings to specific gatekeepers in vulnerable communities can improve mitigation measures; how closing information asymmetries among bureaucrats and politicians affects service delivery; informing Nepal's political transition to federalism; and exploring and reducing the gender gap in access to mobile technology, financial services, and economic opportunities.

Fellows are exposed to cutting-edge topics and research methods in this area. This position is data heavy, and the selected candidate will be expected to analyze survey data, administrative data, and intervention monitoring data. Fellows join in weekly lab meetings and benefit from opportunities to work with Professor Pande and academic economists at Yale and other universities. The position is offered for one year (hiring on a rolling basis for a start date between January or summer 2021, depending on applicant availability), with a strong preference for a second year renewal. Please visit the [Tobin Center](#) for more information on the Fellowship. We encourage applicants from diverse backgrounds, particularly women, people of color and other marginalized communities which have historically been underrepresented in the field of economics.

Responsibilities for this position include:
- Cleaning and managing large datasets;
- Conducting statistical analyses of data using Stata;
- Preparing literature reviews, background research, and other draft content for grant proposals and academic papers;
- Drafting project reports, research protocols, and other project documents;
- Working with field research teams, including travel to study sites (South Asia, multiple sites) if and when Covid-19 restrictions are lifted.

Requisite Skills and Qualifications:
- Strong quantitative background: This could include Bachelor's or Master's degree in Economics, Data Science, International Development, or other degrees with substantial quantitative coursework
- Strong computer skills including programming in Stata and/or R
- Strong academic record and interest in pursuing a PhD in economics
- Strong interest in public policy and economic development research, with a focus on India
- Excellent communication skills, both oral and written
- Ability to work independently
- Willingness to travel to South Asia, including rural areas

Prior experience as a research assistant in Economics or a related field is preferred. Applications will be accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis.

How to Apply:
If you are interested in this position, please fill out our Screening Questionnaire; you will be asked to upload a single PDF containing your CV, cover letter, writing sample, coding sample, and academic transcripts. Label your file "Last name, First name – Tobin Fellow". Additionally, fill out the Tobin Fellow common application.

To view other open positions, visit the MacMillan Center's Employment Opportunities page.