

## ROBIN BURGESS

### CONTACT INFORMATION

LSE Department of Economics  
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[http://econ.lse.ac.uk/staff/rburgess/index\\_own.html](http://econ.lse.ac.uk/staff/rburgess/index_own.html)

### PERSONAL

Marital Status: Married to Bronwen Burgess  
Children: Isla Macbeth Burgess (August 03, 2005), Romilly Belle Burgess (May 14, 2009)  
Citizenship: UK

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

#### POSITIONS

|                |                                                                                                                                    |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2007 – present | Professor of Economics, Department of Economics, LSE                                                                               |
| 2008 – present | Founder and Director, International Growth Centre, LSE                                                                             |
| 2004 – 2007    | Reader in Economics, Department of Economics, LSE                                                                                  |
| 1999 – present | Director, Economic Organization and Public Policy Programme, STICERD, LSE                                                          |
| 2005           | Visiting Associate Professor, Department of Economics, University of California, Berkeley, Fall Semester                           |
| 2003           | Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Harvard University and National Bureau for Economic Research, Fall Semester |
| 2002           | Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, University College London, Fall Semester                                    |
| 2001           | Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, MIT, Fall Semester                                                          |
| 2000 – 2004    | Lecturer in Economics, Department of Economics, LSE                                                                                |
| 1998 – 1999    | Lecturer in Development Economics, Development Studies Institute and Department of Economics, LSE                                  |
| 1991 – 1995    | Consultant Economist, Chief Economists Office, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development                                    |
| 1989 – 1991    | Consultant Economist, World Development Report and Research Department, World Bank                                                 |

#### AFFILIATIONS

|                |                                                                                                                                        |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2006 – present | Program Director, CEPR Development Economics Program                                                                                   |
| 2009 – present | Board Member, Bureau for Research in the Economic Analysis of Development (BREAD), Senior Fellow 2005-2008, Junior Affiliate 2002-2005 |
| 2004 – present | Faculty Research Fellow, Economics of Education and Labor Studies Programs, National Bureau for Economic Research (NBER)               |
| 2002 – present | Founder and Director, Microeconomics of Growth Research Network (with Chang-Tai Hsieh)                                                 |
| 2001 – present | Member, Initiative for Policy Dialogue (IPD)                                                                                           |
| 2001 – present | Fellow, European Development Research Network (EUDN)                                                                                   |

### FIELDS OF INTEREST

Development Economics, Public Economics, Political Economy, Labor Economics, Environmental Economics

## **EDUCATION**

D.Phil. Economics, Oxford University, 1998

M.Sc. Economics, LSE, 1988

B.Sc. (Hons) Biological Sciences, Edinburgh University, *Summa Cum Laude*, 1985

## **PUBLISHED/FORTHCOMING PAPERS**

“The Political Economy of Deforestation in the Tropics” (with Matthew Hansen, Benjamin Olken, Peter Potapov and Stefanie Sieber) *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 127 (4), 2012.

“Can Openness Mitigate the Effects of Weather Shocks? Evidence from India's Famine Era” (with Dave Donaldson) *American Economic Review*, 100(2), 2010.

“The Intention to Participate in Adolescent Training Programs: Evidence from Uganda” (with Oriana Bandiera, Markus Goldstein, Selim Gulesci, Imran Rasul, Munshi Sulaiman) *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 8(2-3), 2010.

“The Unequal Effects of Liberalization: Evidence from Dismantling the License Raj in India” (with Philippe Aghion, Stephen Redding and Fabrizio Zilibotti). *American Economic Review*, 98(4), 2008.

“Do Rural Banks Matter? Evidence from the Indian Social Banking Experiment” (with Rohini Pande). *American Economic Review*, 95(3), 2005.

“Entry Liberalization and Inequality in Industrial Performance” (with Philippe Aghion, Stephen Redding and Fabrizio Zilibotti). *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 3(2-3), 2005.

“Banking for the Poor: Evidence from India” (with Rohini Pande and Grace Wong). *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 3(2-3), 2005.

“Can Labor Regulation Hinder Economic Performance? Evidence from India” (with Timothy Besley). *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 119(1), 2004.

“Towards a Microeconomics of Growth” (with Anthony Venables) in *Accelerating Development: Annual Bank Conference in Development Economics*, Oxford University Press, 2004.

“Halving Global Poverty” (with Timothy Besley). *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 17(3), 2003,

“The Political Economy of Government Responsiveness: Theory and Evidence from India” (with Timothy Besley). *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 117(4), 2002.

“Mass Media and Political Accountability” (with Timothy Besley and Andrea Prat) in Islam, R. (ed) *The Right to Tell: Institutions and the Media*, World Bank, 2002.

“Political Agency, Government Responsiveness and the Role of the Media” (with Timothy Besley). *European Economic Review*, 45(4-6), 2001.

“Land Reform, Poverty and Growth: Evidence from India” (with Timothy Besley). *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 105(2), 2000.

“Value-Added Tax Options for India” (with Stephen Howes and Nicholas Stern). *International Tax and Public Finance*, 2(1), 1995.

“The Behaviour of State Firms in Eastern Europe, Pre- Privatization” (with Philippe Aghion and Olivier Blanchard). *European Economic Review*, 38(6), 1994.

“Taxation and Development” (with Nicholas Stern). *Journal of Economic Literature*, 31(2), 1993.

## **WORKING PAPERS**

“The Value of Democracy: Evidence from Road Building in Kenya” (with Remi Jedwab, Edward Miguel, Gerard Padro i Miquel, and Ameet Morjaria)

“The Unequal Effects of Weather: Evidence from Mortality in India” (with Olivier Deschenes, Dave Donaldson and Michael Greenstone)

“Can Basic Entrepreneurship Transform the Economic Lives of the Poor?” (with Oriana Bandiera, Narayan Das, Selim Gulesci, Imran Rasul, Munshi Sulaiman)

“Can Trade Openness Reduce Real Income Volatility? Evidence from India’s Famine Era” (with Dave Donaldson)

“Empowering Adolescent Girls: Evidence from a Randomized Control Trial in Uganda” (with Oriana Bandiera, Niklas Buehren, Robin Burgess, Markus Goldstein, Selim Gulesci, Imran Rasul and Munshi Sulaiman)

“Mao’s Legacy: Access to Land and Hunger in Modern China”

## **RESEARCH IN PROGRESS**

“What Makes Bureaucrats Effective? Evidence from the Indian Administrative Service” (with Marianne Bertrand and Arunish Chawla)

“The Economic Costs of Political Discord: Evidence from the Indo-Pakistani Border” (with Dave Donaldson and Stephen Redding)

“Cities, Firms and Growth in India” (with Chang-Tai Hsieh and Enrico Moretti)

## **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

### **JOURNALS and ASSOCIATIONS**

2009 – 2013                      Member, European Economic Association Council  
2004 – 2009                      Associate Editor, *Economic Journal*

### **PUBLIC SERVICE**

2007 – 2008                      Co-organizer, Africa Development Group, World Bank  
2005 – 2008                      Chair, Advisory Board on Microeconomics of Growth, World Bank  
2002 – 2006                      Elected Research Affiliate Representative, Executive Committee, Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR)  
1991 – 1993                      Advisor on Indirect Tax Reform to Finance Minister Manmohan Singh, Ministry of Finance, Government of India (with Nicholas Stern)

### **CONFERENCES**

2012 (September)                Co-organizer, IGC Growth Week Conference  
2012 (July)                        Co-organizer, IGC South Asia Growth Conference, Dhaka, Bangladesh  
2012 (June)                        Co-organizer, CEPR Development Economics Conference, Bocconi  
2011 (September)                Co-organizer, IGC Growth Week Conference  
2011 (September)                Co-organizer, BREAD/CEPR Conference on Development Economics, Paris  
2010 (December)                Co-organizer, Growth in Bihar Conference, Patna, India 2010  
2010 (September)                Co-organizer, IGC Growth Week Conference  
2010 (July)                        Scientific Committee, China Summer Institute, Beijing, China  
2009 (December)                Co-organizer, Growth in Bihar Conference, Patna, India  
2009 (October)                    Co-organizer, BREAD/CEPR Conference on Development Economics, LSE  
2009 (September)                Co-organizer, IGC Growth Week Conference

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|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2009 (July)     | Scientific Committee, China Summer Institute, Tianjin, China                                                        |
| 2008 (October)  | Co-organizer, CEPR Development Economics Conference                                                                 |
| 2008 (July)     | Scientific Committee, China Summer Institute, Beijing, China                                                        |
| 2008 (March)    | Co-organizer, Polarization and Conflict Conference, LSE                                                             |
| 2007 (December) | Co-organizer, Growth in Brazil Conference, Rio de Janeiro                                                           |
| 2007 (October)  | Co-organizer, BREAD/CEPR Conference on Development Economics, LSE                                                   |
| 2007 (June)     | Co-organizer, Microeconomics of Growth Conference, World Bank                                                       |
| 2007 (March)    | Co-organizer, CEPR/Swedish Development Economics Network Conference on Development Economics                        |
| 2006 (December) | Co-organizer, Growth in India Conference, Delhi                                                                     |
| 2006 (November) | Co-organizer, CEPR/EUDN Development Economics Conference, Paris                                                     |
| 2006 (May)      | Co-organizer, Freedom in Development Conference, LSE                                                                |
| 2006 (May)      | Co-organizer, Microeconomics of Growth Conference, World Bank                                                       |
| 2006 (April)    | Scientific Committee, BREAD/CEPR/EBRD Conference on Institutional Development, Market Integration and Growth, Tokyo |
| 2005 (November) | Co-organizer, Growth in China Conference, Beijing                                                                   |
| 2005 (June)     | Scientific Committee, CEPR/BREAD Conference on Institutions, Development and Transition, Istanbul                   |
| 2004 – 2006     | Program Committee, European Economic Association Annual Meeting                                                     |
| 2004 – 2006     | Program Committee, Royal Economic Society Annual Meeting                                                            |
| 2004 (December) | Co-organizer, Economics of Industrial Development Conference, LSE                                                   |
| 2004 (May)      | Co-organizer, Economics of Industrial Development Conference, World Bank                                            |
| 2003 (November) | Co-organizer, Economics of Industrial Development Conference, LSE                                                   |

#### REFEREE

Journal of Applied Econometrics, American Economic Review, Department for International Development, Journal of Development Economics, Review of Development Economics, Journal of Development Studies, Ecological Economics, Econometrica, Economic Development and Cultural Change, Environmental and Resource Economics, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, International Monetary Fund, Journal of Economic Literature, Economic Journal, Economics of Planning, Economics of Transition, Economic and Social Research Council, Journal of the European Economic Association, European Economic Review, Journal of Human Resources, International Tax and Public Finance, Labor Economics, Journal of Labor Economics, Leverhulme Foundation, MacArthur Foundation, MIT Press, National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, Nuffield Foundation, Oxford University Press, Journal of Political Economy, Princeton University Press, Journal of Public Economics, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Rand Journal of Economics, Review of Economic Studies, Review of Economics and Statistics, Rockefeller Foundation, World Bank

#### RESEARCH GRANTS

|             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2009 – 2012 | Department for International Development “Grant to Establish International Growth Centre” (with Timothy Besley, Paul Collier, Stefan Dercon, Chang-Tai Hsieh and Gobind Nankani)                                                           |
| 2007 – 2010 | Economic and Social Research Council “Infrastructure and Development: Evidence from India and East Africa”                                                                                                                                 |
| 2007 – 2011 | Department for International Development “Institutions, Growth and Poverty” Research Grant (with Timothy Besley, Paul Collier and Stefan Dercon)                                                                                           |
| 2006 – 2008 | STICERD, LSE: “Railways, Famines and Banks: Evidence from Indian Districts, 1871-2001” Faculty Research Grant (with David Donaldson)                                                                                                       |
| 2004 – 2007 | Expert Group on Development Issues, Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs: “Confronting Global Poverty: The Role of Institutions, Expanding Opportunities and Market Liberalization” Research Grant (with Timothy Besley and Dave Donaldson) |

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|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2003 – 2008 | World Bank Research Department: “Microeconomics of Growth Network” Conference Grant (with Chang-Tai Hsieh and John Sutton)                               |
| 2003 – 2006 | Nuffield Foundation: “Comparing Advantages of Non-Government Organisations Versus the State: The Case of Primary Education in Bangladesh” Research Grant |
| 2002 – 2005 | Department for International Development: “Growth and Poverty in India” Research Grant (with Timothy Besley and Berta Esteve-Volart)                     |
| 2000 – 2002 | World Bank Social Protection Division: “Benchmarking Government Social Safety Net Spending” Research Grant (with Timothy Besley and Imran Rasul)         |
| 1999 – 2001 | STICERD, LSE: “Financial Deepening, Growth and Welfare: Evidence from the Indian States 1958-2000” Faculty Research Grant                                |

## **STUDENTS**

|      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2012 | Luke Miner (New Economic School, Moscow)<br>Remi Jedwab (Department of Economics, George Washington University)<br>Oliver Vanden-Eynde (Department of Economics, Paris School of Economics and Post-Doc, Princeton University) |
| 2011 | Selim Gulesci (Department of Economics, Bocconi University)                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 2010 | Sónia Gonçalves (Department of Management, Kings College London)                                                                                                                                                               |
| 2009 | Dave Donaldson (Department of Economics, MIT)<br>Juan Pablo Rud (Department of Economics, Royal Holloway)                                                                                                                      |
| 2008 | Roberto Bonfatti (Department of Economics, University of Oxford)<br>Ralph Ossa (Booth School of Business, University of Chicago)                                                                                               |
| 2006 | Irma Clots (Department of Economics, Carlos III)                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 2005 | Matthieu Chemin (Department of Economics, University of Quebec)<br>Pataporn Sukontamarn (Department of Economics, Adelaide University)                                                                                         |
| 2004 | Berta Esteve-Volart (Department of Economics, York University, Canada)<br>Grace Wong (Wharton School of Business, University of Pennsylvania)                                                                                  |
| 2002 | Imran Rasul (Graduate School of Business, University of Chicago)                                                                                                                                                               |
| 2001 | Marta Reynal-Querol (Department of Economics, Pompeu Fabra)                                                                                                                                                                    |

## **SEMINAR AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

American Social Science Association Meetings, Bangalore Annual Bank Conference on Development Economics, Beijing University, Beijing University Conference on Land Reform, Beijing Conference on Pro-Poor Growth, Bellagio Conference on Social Dynamics and the Microeconomics of Poverty, Bonn, Brazilian Ministry of Land Reform Conference, Brown, Bureau of Research on Economic Development Conference, Caltech, UC-Berkeley, UC-Davis, UCLA, UC-San Diego, Canadian Institute of Advanced Research Institutions, Organizations and Growth Meeting, Cambridge, CEPR Dynamic Aspects of Policy Reform Conference, CEPR Conference on Gender Inequalities, CEPR Conference on the Economic Analysis of Political Institutions, CEPR Public Policy Symposium, CEPR Conference on International Trade, CEPR Transition Meets Development Conference, Chicago, Columbia, Cornell, Da Nang University, Delhi School of Economics, Delhi Pro-Poor Growth Conference, Department for International Development, University of East Anglia, Essex, European Economic Association Meetings, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Hanoi National University, Harvard, Harvard Political Institutions and Economic Policies Conference, Heidelberg, IFPRI/IDB Conference on Disaster Mitigation, IMF, Indian National Sample Survey Organization, Indian Ministry of Finance, Indian Ministry of Rural Development, Indian Statistical Institute, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Studies, Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, LSE, LSE Economics of Industrial Development Conference, MacArthur Inequality and Economic Performance Network, Michigan, MIT, NBER Summer Institute, NBER Globalization and Poverty Conference, New York University, Northeast Universities Development Consortium Conference, Nottingham, Oxford, Paris School of Economics, University of Pennsylvania, Annual Meetings of the Public Choice Society, Princeton, Pompeu

Fabra, Rand, Southampton, Stanford, Stockholm Institute of International Studies, Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Toulouse, UBC Conference on Indian Economic Reforms, UCL, UNDP Vietnam Office, World Bank, World Development Report Meeting on the Role of Media in Development, Yale, Yale Conference on Political Economy of Development, Yale Globalization Conference