

# TAKA AKI MASAKI

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## EMPLOYMENT

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**Senior Research Analyst**, AidData at the College of William & Mary, Williamsburg, VA, February 2017-present

**Postdoctoral Fellow and Research Analyst**, AidData at the College of William & Mary, Williamsburg, VA, February 2015-January 2017

**Consultant**, United Nations University World Institute for Development Economics Research (on a research project “The Economics and Politics of Taxation and Social Protection”), July 2015-August 2016

## EDUCATION

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**Cornell University**, Department of Government, Ithaca, NY

Ph.D. in Political Science, May 2015

Dissertation: *The Political Economy of Development Finance*

Committee: Nicolas van de Walle, Thomas Pepinsky, Peter Enns, and Christopher Way

Major Field: Comparative Politics

Minor Field: Political Methodology (*High Pass*)

**Georgetown University**, Department of Government, Washington, DC

Master of Arts in Conflict Resolution, May 2010

**Soka University of America**, Aliso Viejo, CA

Bachelor of Arts (*Magna Cum Laude*), Liberal Arts, May 2008

Concentration: International Studies

## ADDITIONAL TRAINING

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**AidData**, GIS Analysis, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA, June-July 2014

## ARTICLES

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| Forthcoming, 2017 | “The Political Economy of Aid Allocation in Africa: Evidence from Zambia.” <i>African Studies Review</i>   |
| 2017              | “Lagged Explanatory Variables and the Estimation of Causal Effects.” (With Thomas B. Pepinsky and Marc F. Bellemare). <i>Journal of Politics</i> 79(3).  |
| 2016              | “Don’t Jettison the General Error Correction Model Just Yet: A Practical Guide to Avoiding Spurious Regression with the GECM.” (With Peter Enns, Nathan Kelly and Patrick Wohlfarth). <i>Research and Politics</i> 3(2): 1-13. |
| 2016              | “ <i>Coups d’État</i> and Foreign Aid.” <i>World Development</i> 79: 51-68.  |

## BOOK CHAPTERS

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- 2017 “Allocation”. In *The SAGE Encyclopedia of Political Behavior* (London: SAGE Publications).
- 2015 “The Impact of Democracy on Economic Growth in Sub-Saharan Africa, 1982-2012.” (With Nicolas van de Walle). In *The Oxford Handbook of Africa and Economics* (Oxford: Oxford University Press).

## POLICY PUBLICATIONS

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- 2016 “The Use and Utility of US Government Approaches to Country Ownership: New Insights from Partner Countries.” (With Sarah Rose, Jared Kalow, and Brad Parks). Center for Global Development. <http://www.cgdev.org/sites/default/files/use-and-utility-of-USG-approaches-to-country-ownership.pdf>.
- 2016 “When is Governance Data ‘Good Enough’?” (With Tanya Sethi and Samantha Custer). AidData. <http://aiddata.org/when-is-governance-data-good-enough>.
- 2016 “Evaluation Study: Danish Development Cooperation from a Partner Country Perspective.” (With Tanya Sethi, Rebecca Latourell, Samantha Custer, and Brad Parks). DANIDA and AidData. [http://um.dk/en/danida-en/results/eval/Eval\\_reports/evaluation-studies/publicationdisplaypage/?publicationID=2F761CCC-A6E7-40E7-840F-9DF173E5180C](http://um.dk/en/danida-en/results/eval/Eval_reports/evaluation-studies/publicationdisplaypage/?publicationID=2F761CCC-A6E7-40E7-840F-9DF173E5180C).
- 2016 “German Aid from a Partner Perspective: Experience-Based Perceptions from AidData’s 2014 Reform Efforts Survey.” (With Brad Parks, Stefan Leiderer, and Jörg Faust). German Institute for Development Evaluation and AidData. <https://www.deval.org/de/evaluierungsberichte.html>.
- 2016 “Governance Data: Who Uses It and Why?” (With Samantha Custer, Zachary Rice, Tanya Sethi, Rebecca Latourell, and Brad Parks). AidData. <http://aiddata.org/governance-data-report>.
- 2015 “Listening to Leaders: Which Development Partners Do They Prefer and Why?” (With Samantha Custer, Zachary Rice, Rebecca Latourell, and Brad Parks). AidData. <http://aiddata.org/listening-to-leaders>.

## WORKING PAPERS

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- “The Impact of Intergovernmental Transfers on Local Revenue Generation in Africa: Evidence from Tanzania.” UNU-WIDER Working Paper 2016/113. United Nations University.
- “Aid Management, Trust, and Development Policy Influence: New Evidence from a Survey of Public Sector Officials in Low- and Middle-Income Countries” (With Brad Parks, Jörg Faust, and Stefan Leiderer). Under Review
- “When Do Performance Assessments Influence Policy Behavior? Micro-Evidence from the 2014 Reform Efforts Survey” (With Brad Parks)

## WORKS IN PROGRESS

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“Intergovernmental Transfers and Public Service Provision: Evidence from Tanzania”

“Democracy, Nontax Revenue, and Growth in Africa”

“Does Democracy Make the Poor Even Poorer? Micro-level Evidence from Sub-Saharan Africa”

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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- Cornell Institute for African Development, Seminar Series, 2014 and 2017
- American Political Science Association, 2015 and 2016
- Southern Political Science Association, 2014 and 2015
- Midwest Political Science Association, 2013, 2014, and 2015
- AidData Policy Student Symposium, 2014
- European Consortium for Political Research Joint Workshop, 2013

## PROSPECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

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### *Comparative Politics*

- Comparative Politics
- International Development Policy
- Comparative Democratization
- Political Economy of Economic Development
- International Political Economy
- African Politics

### *Political Methodology*

- Statistics for Political Science
- Time Series Analysis
- Introduction to Game Theory
- Causal Inference
- Maximum Likelihood Estimation
- Introduction to Geographical Information Systems

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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**Cornell University**, Ithaca, NY

*Teaching Assistant*

- Government 1313: Introduction to Comparative Politics (Spring 2014)
- Government 6019: Introductory Probability & Applied Statistics (Fall 2013)
- Government 6029: Advanced Regression Analysis (Spring 2013)
- Government 4281: Government, the Economy and Public Policy (Fall 2012)
- Government 3443: Southeast Asian Politics (Spring 2012)
- Government 3262: Authoritarianism (Fall 2011)

## FELLOWSHIPS/HONORS/CONTRACTS/AWARDS

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**The World Bank**, Independent Evaluation Group, Washington, D.C.

*Research Contract*, April-December 2017

”An Evaluation of World Bank Group Support to Health Services”

**The World Bank**, Development Economics Group, Washington, D.C.

*Research Contract*, February-June 2016

“Analyzing Micro-level Survey Data to Understand the Policy Influence of the World Bank”

**United Nations University World Institute for Development Economics Research**, Helsinki,

Finland

*Honorarium*, 2015-2016

“Fiscal Transfers, Local Tax Revenues, and Public Service Provision: Evidence from Tanzania”

**Cornell University**, Ithaca, NY

*Houston I. Flourney Graduate Fellowship* (with Peter K. Enns), 2014-2015

“Developing a Stata Command to Estimate the General Error Correction Model with Appropriate Pretests”

**Cornell University**, Ithaca, NY

*Einaudi International Research Travel Grant*, August 2013

**Cornell University**, Ithaca, NY

*Houston I. Flourney Graduate Fellowship* (with Peter K. Enns), 2012-2013

“Time Series Analysis and Spurious Regression: An Error Correction”

**Cornell University**, Ithaca, NY

*Sage Fellowship*, 2010-2011

**Soka University of America**, Aliso Viejo, CA

*Makiguchi Memorial Scholarship*, May 2008

- The Makiguchi Memorial Scholarship is awarded each year to the top 10 academic students of each graduating class

**Soka University of America**, Aliso Viejo, CA

*Soka Academic Merit Scholarship*, August 2006-May 2007

- The Soka Merit Scholarship is awarded each year to the top five academic students of each undergraduate class

## SKILLS

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**Languages:** Japanese (native), Chinese (limited), French (elementary)

**Computer Skills:** R, STATA, MATLAB, Python, ArcGIS, Quantum GIS, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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Referee, *American Journal of Political Science*, *World Development*, *African Studies Review*, *Journal of Peace Research*, *International Interactions*, *Regional Studies*, *Scandinavian Journal of Economics*, *BMJ Global Health*

Member, American Political Science Association, Midwest Political Science Association, Southern Political Science Association

## REFERENCES

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Nicolas van de Walle (Chair)  
Maxwell M. Upson Professor of Government  
Department of Government  
Cornell University  
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Ithaca, NY 14853  
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