

TAKA AKI MASAKI

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EMPLOYMENT

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

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

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

ARTICLES

Forthcoming, 2017 “The Political Economy of Aid Allocation in Africa: Evidence from Zambia.” *African Studies Review*

2017 “Moving Forward with Time Series Analysis.” (With Peter Enns, Nathan Kelly and Patrick Wohlfarth). *Research and Politics* 4(4): 1-7.

2017 “Lagged Explanatory Variables and the Estimation of Causal Effects.” (With Thomas B. Pepinsky and Marc F. Bellemare). *Journal of Politics* 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). *Research and Politics* 3(2): 1-13.

2016 “*Coups d’État* and Foreign Aid.” *World Development* 79: 51-68.

BOOK CHAPTERS

- 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).

WORKING PAPERS

- “The Impact of Intergovernmental Transfers on Local Revenue Generation in Africa: Evidence from Tanzania.” *Revise and Resubmit at World Development*.
- “When Do Performance Assessments Influence Policy Behavior? Micro-Evidence from the *2014 Reform Efforts Survey*” (With Brad Parks). *Revise and Resubmit at The Review of International Organizations*
- “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
- “Electoral Incentives and Subnational Aid Allocation: Evidence from World Bank Projects in Africa” (With Matthew DiLorenzo)

POLICY PUBLICATIONS

- 2017 “Beyond the Tyranny of Averages: Development Progress from the Bottom Up.” (With Samantha Custer, Matthew DiLorenzo, Tanya Sethi, Jessica Wells). AidData.
- 2016 “When is Governance Data ‘Good Enough’?” (With Tanya Sethi and Samantha Custer). AidData.
- 2016 “Evaluation Study: Danish Development Cooperation from a Partner Country Perspective.” (With Tanya Sethi, Rebecca Latourell, Samantha Custer, and Brad Parks). DANIDA and AidData.
- 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.
- 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.
- 2016 “Governance Data: Who Uses It and Why?” (With Samantha Custer, Zachary Rice, Tanya Sethi, Rebecca Latourell, and Brad Parks). AidData.
- 2015 “Listening to Leaders: Which Development Partners Do They Prefer and Why?” (With Samantha Custer, Zachary Rice, Rebecca Latourell, and Brad Parks). AidData.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

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

“The Political Economy of Tax Compliance: Micro-level Evidence from Sub-Saharan Africa”

“Regional Inequality and Political Violence in Africa”

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

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 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

Comparative Politics

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| • Comparative Politics | • Political Economy of Economic Development |
| • International Development Policy | • International Political Economy |
| • Comparative Democratization | • African Politics |

Political Methodology

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

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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

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. Flournoy 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. Flournoy 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

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

Computer Skills: R, STATA, MATLAB, Python, ArcGIS, Quantum GIS, L^AT_EX

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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*, *Economic Systems*

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

REFERENCES

Nicolas van de Walle (Chair)
Maxwell M. Upson Professor of Government
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