

# Naveen Sunder

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## FIELDS OF INTEREST

Health Economics · Development Economics · Economics of Education

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## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

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| <b>Associate Professor of Economics</b> , Bentley University                    | 2026–Present |
| <b>Assistant Professor of Economics</b> , Bentley University                    | 2020–2026    |
| <b>Associate Member</b> , REAL Centre, University of Cambridge (UK)             | 2020–Present |
| <b>Postdoctoral Research Fellow</b> , Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health | 2019–2020    |

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## EDUCATION

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|--------------------------------------------------------|------|
| <b>Ph.D. in Economics</b> , Cornell University         | 2019 |
| <b>M.A. in Economics</b> , Delhi School of Economics   | 2010 |
| <b>B.A. (Hons.) in Economics</b> , University of Delhi | 2008 |

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## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- [22] Does Greater Flexibility of Online Labor Markets Encourage Female Labor Force Participation? (with Rakesh Banerjee, Tushar Bharati, Adnan Fakir, and Yiwei Qian). *Labor Economics* (2025).
- [21] Mind the Knowledge Gap: Exploring Geographic Patterns in Economics of Education Publications (with Savannah Adkins). *Southern Economic Journal* (2025).
- [20] Obesity–Education Gradient among Women: Evidence from Two African Countries (with Averi Chakrabarti). *Journal of Development Effectiveness* (2025).
- [19] Crime and Human Capital in India (with Smriti Sharma). *World Development* (2025).
- [18] Parents’ Access to Schools and Intergenerational Human Capital: Evidence from India. *Journal of Human Resources* (conditionally accepted, 2025).
- [17] Improving Child Learning through Community–School Partnerships (with Ricardo Sabates, Deepak Kumar, Suman Bhattacharjea, and Wilima Wadhwa). *Labor Economics* (2024).
- [16] Education and Mental Health: Average and Distributional Effects in the Long Run (with Yanan Li). *Labor Economics* (2024).
- [15] Health Insurance and Infant Mortality: Evidence from India (with Anaka Aiyar). *Health Economics* (2024).
- [14] Impact of Reactive Community-Based Malaria Testing and Response on Malaria Prevalence in Tanzania (with Wei Chang, Jessica Cohen, and others). *Infectious Diseases of Poverty* (2023).
- [13] What You Learnt in the Second Grade Matters: A Comparative Study on Cognitive Skill Formation in Madagascar and Senegal (with Heidi Kaila and David Sahn). *Journal of African Economies* (2023).
- [12] Women’s Education and Diet Diversity (with Soumya Gupta and Prabhu Pingali). *PLOS One* (2023).
- [11] Education and Mental Health in Africa: Evidence from Zimbabwe (with Fjolla Kondirolli). *Health Economics* (2022).
- [10] Understanding the Accuracy of Teachers’ Perceptions of Low-Achieving Learners in India (with Pratik Wadmare, Mansi Nanda, Ricardo Sabates, and Wilima Wadhwa). *International Journal of Educational Research* (2022).
- [9] COVID-19 Vaccine Preferences in India (with Prateek Bansal, Alok Raj, and Dharendra Shukla). *Vaccine* (2022).
- [8] Here Comes the Rain Again: Productivity Shocks, Educational Investments, and Child Work (with Christophe Nordman and Smriti Sharma). *Economic Development and Cultural Change* (2022).

- [7] Land Inequality and the Provision of Public Works (with Yanan Li). *Journal of Development Studies* (2022).
- [6] What Doesn't Kill Her Will Make Her Depressed (with Yanan Li). *Economics and Human Biology* (2021).
- [5] Gender Imbalances in Indian Diets (with Soumya Gupta and Prabhu Pingali). *Food and Nutrition Bulletin* (2020).
- [4] Market Access, Production Diversity, and Diet Diversity: Evidence from India (with Soumya Gupta and Prabhu Pingali). *Food and Nutrition Bulletin* (2020).
- [3] Marriage Age, Social Status, and Intergenerational Effects in Uganda. *Demography* (2019).
- [2] Arriving at a Decision: A Semi-Parametric Approach to Institutional Birth Choice in India (with Prateek Bansal and Ricardo Daziano). *Journal of Choice Modelling* (2019).
- [1] Transitioning toward Nutrition-Sensitive Food Systems in Developing Countries (with Prabhu Pingali). *Annual Review of Resource Economics* (2017).

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#### WORKING PAPERS

- [1] Foreign Aid and Child Health in Sub-Saharan Africa (with Akshay Ramana). *Revise and Resubmit, Nature Communications*.
- [2] Medical Advancements and Later-Life Mortality (with Jason Fletcher and Hamid Noghanibehambari).
- [3] Kindergarten Peer Effects (with Yanan Li and Nidhiya Menon).
- [4] The Grammar of Inequality: How Gendered Language Shapes Gender Norms (with Raine Spearman).
- [5] Low-Tech, High-Impact: Remote Support for Children's Learning (with Deepak Kumar and Rukmini Banerjee).
- [6] Toxic Tradeoffs: Ambient Air Quality and Mental Health in Africa (with Chon-Kit Ao).

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#### WORKS IN PROGRESS

- [1] Negative Spillovers of Health Nudges (with Chon-Kit Ao, Somdeep Chatterjee, and Chien-Yu Lai).
- [2] Impact of Affirmative Action Policies on Education in India.

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#### CONFERENCES AND INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- 2025** Southern Economic Association; Indian Institute of Management, Kolkata; Interdisciplinary Research Ethics and Norms Conference, Baylor University
- 2024** American Economic Association Annual Meeting (organized session); Department Seminar, Indian Institute of Management, Kolkata
- 2023** APPAM Conference, Washington DC (organized session); IAAE Conference, Oslo; Association for Education Finance and Policy, Washington DC; Professional Development Lecture Series, University of Delhi; International Workshop of Applied Economics of Education, Catanzaro, Italy
- 2022** Workshop on Public Policies: Education and Health, Barcelona; Eastern Economic Association
- 2021** Essen Economics of Mental Health Conference; American Society of Health Economics; Essen Health Conference; Population Association of America; Society of Operations Management
- 2020** Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health (seminar); Essen Economics of Mental Health Workshop; Tufts Food and Nutrition Symposium; Eastern Economic Association, Boston; Central Square Foundation, Delhi; Madras School of Economics
- 2019** American Economic Association Annual Meeting; APPAM Conference, Washington DC; PAL Network Conference, Kathmandu; Asian Workshop on Econometrics and Health Economics, Hokkaido
- 2018** CSAE Conference, Oxford; IZA World Labor Conference; APPAM Conference; Southern Economic Association

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#### TEACHING

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| <b>Bentley University</b>                                                                                                                                               | 2020–Present |
| Intermediate Microeconomics (standard, honors, and asynchronous); Development Economics (standard and honors); Research in Development Economics (honors; co-developed) |              |
| <b>Cornell University</b>                                                                                                                                               | 2014–2019    |
| Introductory Microeconomics; Introductory Macroeconomics; Intermediate Microeconomics                                                                                   |              |
| <i>Online Teaching Certifications:</i> Fundamentals of Online Teaching (Online Learning Consortium); Designing Your Own Online Course (Quality Matters)                 |              |

## GRANTS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

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- Business Dean Faculty Excellence Award, Bentley University (2026)
- Center for Health and Business (CHB) Seed Grant (2025)
- Bentley Health Thought Leadership Network Seed Grant (2024)
- Bentley Faculty Development (FAC) Grant (2021, 2024, 2025)
- Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI) Project Funding; ASHEcon Diversity Scholarship (2021)
- Einaudi Center International Research Travel Grant (2018)
- International Association of Applied Econometrics Travel Grant (2016, 2018)
- Cornell Population Center Conference and Travel Grants (2015–2016)
- Cornell Graduate School Research Travel Grant (2016)
- Cornell Labor Economics Small Grant (2013)
- Ernst Liu Family Outstanding Teaching Award, Cornell University (2015)
- Sage Fellowship, Cornell University (2013–2018)

## SERVICE

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| <b>Departmental Service</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Bentley University |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair, Scholarly Activity Committee (3 years); Member (2020–Present)</li> <li>• Member, Tenure-Track Faculty Search Committees (3 searches; 2020–2025)</li> <li>• Co-organized Economics Department Research Seminar Series (2026)</li> <li>• Drafted Department Research and Impact Statement for accreditation and merit review</li> <li>• Faculty Advisor, Omicron Delta Epsilon Economics Honors Society (2023–2025)</li> <li>• Library Liaison, Department of Economics (2020–Present)</li> </ul>     |                    |
| <b>University Service</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Bentley University |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Member, Board of Trustees Academic Affairs Committee (2023–Present)</li> <li>• Member, Salary and Benefits Committee (2025–Present)</li> <li>• Member, Bentley Learning and Teaching Council; co-organized session, BLTC Annual Learning and Teaching Colloquium (2025)</li> <li>• Faculty Advisor, South Asian Students Association (2025–Present)</li> <li>• Faculty Mentor, Falcon’s Nest Pitch Competition (2023–2025)</li> <li>• Faculty Marshal, Commencement Ceremony (2022, 2023, 2025)</li> </ul> |                    |
| <b>Professional Service</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                    |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair/Organizer, Conference Sessions: American Economic Association (2024); APPAM (2023); IAAE (2023); Population Association of America (2022); Association for Education Finance and Policy (2021)</li> <li>• Abstract Reviewer, Association for Education Finance and Policy (2025)</li> <li>• Referee, CARTA Grant Proposal (Consortium for Advanced Research Training in Africa) (2023)</li> </ul>                                                                                                    |                    |

## REFEREEING

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American Journal of Health Economics; Applied Economics; Applied Economics Letters; BMJ Open; Bulletin of Economic Research; Economic Modelling; Economics Bulletin; Economics and Human Biology; Economics Letters; Economics of Education Review; Education Economics; Global Food Security; Health Economics; International Journal of Educational Research; Journal of Policy Analysis and Management; Journal of Public Economics; *Lancet*

(South-East Asia); PLOS One; Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences; Review of Economics of the Household; Scientific Reports; Social Science & Medicine; SSM–Population Health; World Development

MENTORING

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**Undergraduate Research Mentoring** Bentley University, 2020–Present

- Mentored eleven undergraduate research assistants through the Valente Center RA Program on projects in health, development, and education economics; former mentees have enrolled in graduate programs at Northwestern, NYU, Johns Hopkins, Georgetown, and the University of Chicago.
- Supervised three Honors capstone students; one capstone evolved into a co-authored paper currently at *Revise and Resubmit* at *Nature Communications*.

**Graduate and Post-Doctoral Mentoring**

- Co-authored with and mentored junior researchers at the University of Sussex and University of Cambridge (UK); collaborations produced multiple publications in *Health Economics* and *Labor Economics*.
- Providing feedback on research design and grant proposals for African PhD students through the Partnership for Economic Policy (PEP) Network (2026); mentored participants in a CARTA Graduate Grant Writing Workshop (2023).

OTHER EMPLOYMENT

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|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Graduate Research Assistant</b> , Tata-Cornell Institute, Cornell University | 2016–2019 |
| <b>Research Associate</b> , Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)                   | 2011–2013 |
| <b>Research Associate</b> , Indian School of Business, Hyderabad                | 2010–2011 |
| <b>Research Intern</b> , with Prof. Jean Drèze (Allahabad University)           | 2008      |