

TOMMASO PORZIO

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Columbia Business School, Economics Division
Kravis Hall, 665 W 130th St, Office 533
NY 10027, New York, USA

sites.google.com/view/tommaso-porzio

tommaso.porzio@columbia.edu

EMPLOYMENT

Columbia Business School, Economics Division

2025 – Daniel W. Stanton Associate Professor of Business (*with tenure*)
2024–2025 Daniel W. Stanton Associate Professor of Business (*without tenure*)
2023–2024 Associate Professor (*without tenure*)
2019–2023 Assistant Professor

Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis

2023–2024 Senior Research Economist, Research Division

University of California San Diego, Economics Department

2016–2019 Assistant Professor

AFFILIATIONS AND EDITORIAL POSITIONS

2025 – Research Associate (DEV), *National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER)*
2021 – 2025 Faculty Research Fellow (DEV), *National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER)*
2021 – Associate Editor, *Journal of the European Economic Association (JEEA)*
2022 – Affiliate, *Bureau for Research and Economic Analysis of Development (BREAD)*
2025 – Research Affiliate, *International Growth Center (IGC)*
2017 – Research Affiliate, *Center for Economic and Policy Research (CEPR)*
2018 – Research Affiliate, *Yale Research Initiative on Innovation and Scale (Y-RISE)*
2019 – Faculty Affiliate, *Columbia Center for Development Economics and Policy*

EDUCATION

2011–2016 MA, MPhil, PhD in Economics, Yale University. *Distinction.*
2009–2012 MSc in Economics, Bocconi University, Milan (Italy). *Cum laude.*
2006–2009 BSc in Economics, Bocconi University, Milan (Italy). *Cum laude.*

RESEARCH FIELDS

Macroeconomics, Economic Development, and Growth

PUBLICATIONS

“Life-Cycle Wage Growth Across Countries” (with David Lagakos, Benjamin Moll, Nancy Qian, and Todd Schoellman).

Journal of Political Economy, 2018

“Life-Cycle Human Capital Accumulation Across Countries: Lessons from U.S. Immigrants” (with David Lagakos, Benjamin Moll, Nancy Qian, and Todd Schoellman).

Journal of Human Capital, 2018, special issue honoring Gary Becker

“Achieving Scale Collectively” (with Vittorio Bassi, Raffela Muoio, Esau Tugume, and Ritwika Sen).

Econometrica, 2022

“The Human Side of Structural Transformation” (with Federico Rossi and Gabriella Santangelo).

American Economic Review, 2022

WORKING PAPERS

“Cross-Country Differences in the Optimal Allocation of Talent and Technology”

R&R at Econometrica

“Self-Employment within the Firm” (with Vittorio Bassi, Jung H. Lee, Alessandra Peter, Ritwika Sen and Esau Tugume)

R&R at American Economic Review

“Labor Misallocation across Firms and Regions” (with Sebastian Heise)

R&R at Review of Economic Studies

“Economic Development According to Chandler” (with Nik Engbom, Hannes Malmberg, Federico Rossi, Todd Schoellman)

“Transforming Institutions: Labor Reallocation and Wage Growth in a Reunified Germany” (with Wolfgang Dauth, Sebastian Findeisen, and Tim Lee)

“Jobs in the Smog: Firm Location and Workers’ Exposure to Pollution in African Cities” (with Vittorio Bassi, Matt Kahn, Nancy Lozano Gracia, and Jeanne Sorin)

“Startups in Africa” (with Emauele Colonnelli, Mario Cruz, Mariana Lopez, Chun Zhao)

“Measuring Valuation of Liquidity with Penalized Withdrawals” (with David Coyne and Itzik Fadlon)

“Aggregate Fertility and Households Savings: A General Equilibrium Analysis using Micro Data” (with Abhijit Banerjee, Xin Meng, and Nancy Qian)

WORK IN PROGRESS

“Improving the Measurement of Productivity Dispersion and Misallocation in Developing Countries” (with Vittorio Bassi, Monica Morlacco, and Esau Tugume)

“The Human (Capital) Side of Climate Change: A Micro to Macro Analysis” (with Jonathan Colmer and Federico Rossi)

TEACHING

2025–present	Global Economic Environment (EMBA), Columbia Econ and Business School
2025–present	Markets and the Economy (EMBA), Columbia Econ and Business School
2022–present	Macro-Development (2st year PhD), Columbia Econ and Business School
2020–present	Global Economic Environment (MBA), Columbia Business School
2017	Macro-Development (2st year PhD), UCSD
2016-2019	Macroeconomics (1st year PhD), UCSD

VISITING POSITIONS

September 2024	CEMFI
October 2021	Becker Friedman Institute for Economics at the University of Chicago
Fall 2019	Opportunity and Inclusive Growth Institute of the Minneapolis Fed
Summer 2018	Einaudi Institute for Economics and Finance (EIEF)

CONFERENCE & SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

2025-2026: UBC; Duke; Macro-Dev Conference at Boston University; Macro-Dev Conference at Minneapolis Fed; Finance-Dev Conference at Chicago Booth; Cambridge University; UCL; LSE; Bocconi, EUI, EIEF; Micro to Macro Conference in New Orleans

2024-2025: NBER SI Growth; Cornell; Konstanz Macro-Labor Workshop; Hong Kong University; National University in Singapore; CEMFI; Keio University; EEA-ESEM; IMF; UCLA Macro-Dev Conference; Ridge Towards Sustainable Growth (Keynote Speaker); PEDL/ BII conference on Flexible Finance for Development; NOVA; Bank of Portugal; St Louis Fed; CSAE Conference at Oxford; Princeton Conference on Macro-Development; SED (Copenhagen); Science Po Urban Workshop; World Bank; IGC Workshop in Kampala

2023-2024: Northwestern University Kellogg/Econ; Warwick University; NBER Dev; NBER EFG; UCLA; UPF-CREI; World Bank; IMF; Universitat Autònoma Barcelona; Zurich University Inequality Conference; Princeton Conference on Macro-Development; Rice University Conference on Firms and Growth; Loughborough University; Iowa University; Hitotsubashi University; Applied Macro Conference (ASU); SED(Barcelona); Swiss Macro Workshop; Columbia Private Equity Conference

2022-2023: Stanford University; Yale University; University of Minnesota; University of Wisconsin-Madison; University of Notre Dame; Sciences Po University; University of Toulouse; Paris School of Economics; Shanghai University; Human Capital Conference at St. Louis Fed; London Business School Junior Growth Conference; Hebrew University of Jerusalem; Reichman University; STEG Annual Conference 2023 at LSE; SED (Cartagena); Richmond Fed; University of Mannheim; Goethe University;

2021-2022: University of Chicago Econ/Booth; Brown University; UCL; Berkeley University Econ/Haas; New York University Econ/Stern; University of Pittsburgh; Stanford Institute for Theoretical Economics (SITE); Virginia Commonwealth University; BREAD/NBER Dev Junior; Banque de France; Bank of Lithuania; Dartmouth Macro Conference; University of Bristol; University of Virginia; University of Nottingham; Penn State University; Bocconi University; IIES; Carlos III; CEMFI; SED (Madison)

2020-2021: STEG/CEPR Workshops (Themes 1 and 2); VMACS; CEPR Annual Macro and Growth Meeting; Boston College; Edinburgh University; Columbia University; FCDO (UK Department of International Development); Royal Holloway, U. Of London; Pompeu Fabra University; Princeton University; Clemson University; National University Singapore; Singapore Management University; SED (Minneapolis); Barcelona GSE Summer Forum; World Bank (Macro-Trade Group); NBER SI (HF);

2019-2020: Stanford Institute for Theoretical Economics (SITE); Minneapolis Fed; University of Copenhagen; Queen's University; EPED Conference in Boston; Oxford University; IGC-Stanford Conference on Firms, Trade, and Development; NBER Dev; London School of Economics; Y-RISE Growth Conference; NBER SI (EFEG)

2018-2019: University of Pennsylvania; Columbia Business School (Week Visitor); University of California Berkeley; University of British Columbia (twice); University of Zurich; University of Oslo; Penn State University; Advances in Macroeconomics: Growth, Misallocation and Factor Shares (at Arizona State University); University of Copenhagen; University of California San Diego; SED (St.Louis); Cambridge University; Queen's Mary University; St Louis Advances in Research (STLAR) conference; NBER Growth; Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Pizzanomics Junior Conference on Macroeconomics (Rome); Cowles Summer Conference in Macroeconomics; Barcelona GSE Summer Forum (EGF)

2017-2018: UCLA Mini Macro Conference, Washington University in St. Louis Mini Macro-Development Conference, CEPR Annual Macro and Growth Meeting, California Macro Conference at Claremont McKenna College, University of California San Diego, Mannheim University, University of Southern California, University of California Los Angeles; Johns Hopkins University SAIS; University of California Riverside; SED (Mexico City); Workshop in Macro-Development at Cornell Campus in NYC; Barcelona GSE Summer Forum; NBER Summer Institute Macro Perspectives; Ente Einaudi Institute (EIEF)

2016-2017: SED (Toulouse), Stanford University, Arizona State University (CASEE Visitor), Columbia University, NY FRB (Macro and Monetary Studies), NBER Development, University of California San Diego, IEA World Congress (Mexico), RIDGE (Mexico City)

Job Market: Carnegie Mellon University (Tepper), University of Wisconsin Madison, Princeton University, University of California San Diego, Institute for International Economic Studies, Bocconi University, Georgetown University, Boston University, University of Toronto, McGill University

Before 2016: Ente Einaudi Institute (EIEF), NBER Summer Institute (Income Distribution and Macroeconomics), Conference on Economic Growth and Development (University of Washington St. Louis/St. Louis Federal Reserve Bank), NEUDC (Boston University), NEUDC (Harvard), NEUDC (Dartmouth), SED (Toronto), CEPR Annual Symposium on Development Economics (Stockholm University)

SELECTED DISCUSSIONS

“The Global Distribution of College Graduate Quality“ by Martellini, Schoellma, Sockin discussed at *NBER Summer Institute Economic Growth (2022)*

“Consumption Cities vs. Production Cities: New Considerations and Evidence“ by Jedwab, Haslop, and Ianchovichina discussed at *8th International Annual Workshop of New Structural Economics*

“Concrete Thinking About Development“ by Beirne and Kirchberger discussed at *NBER Summer Institute Economic Growth Group (2021)*

“Bringing Data to the Model: Quantitative Implications of an Equilibrium Diffusion Model“ by Brooks, Donovan, and Johnson discussed at *Y-RISE Macro Growth and Welfare Conference*

“Skill-Biased Structural Change“ by Buera, Kaboski, Rogerson, and Vizcaino discussed at *CEPR Annual Macro-Growth Meeting*

“Location as An Asset“ by Bilal and Rossi-Hansberg discussed at *9th Annual CHCS Employment Conference at the Atlanta Fed*

“Labor Market Flows and Development“ by Donovan, Lu and Schoellman discussed at *NBER Summer Institute Economic Growth Small Group (2018)*

“Barriers to Entry and Regional Economic Growth in China “ by Brandt, Kambourov and Storesletten discussed at *NBER China Workshop (2018)*

“Of Cities and Slums“ by Monge-Naranjo, Gomes Ferreira and Pereira discussed at *NBER Economic Growth Small Group (2018)*

“An Assignment Model of Knowledge Diffusion and Income Inequality“ by Luttmer discussed at *NBER Micro and Macro Perspectives of the Aggregate Labor Market (2016)*

GRANTS (PI OR CO-PI)

2025	PEDL Grant: Organizing Talent and Scaling in African Startups (£40,000); joint with Emanuele Colonnelli and Virginia Minni;
2025	IGC Grant: Fostering the Transition from Small to Large Scale Production in Uganda (£ 19,170.50); joint with Vittorio Bassi and Esau Tugume
2023	PEDL MRG: Improving the Measurement of Productivity Dispersion and Misallocation in Developing Countries (£ 242,317)
2023	IGC Grant: “The Human (Capital) Side of Climate Change: A Micro to Macro Perspective” (£ 40,000)
2022	IGC Grant: Misallocation or Mis-measurement? Collecting New Panel Data to Improve Production Function Estimation (£ 49,836)
2021	STEG LRG: Understanding the Role of Informal Firms’ Clusters for Productivity and Growth. (£ 99,608)
2021	STEG SRG: Unpacking Economic Development: Evidence from Cohort- and Region-Level Data (£ 18,773)
2021	UKRI Grant: Recovery from the Covid-19 Shock and the Informal Labour Market in Urban Uganda (£ 19,749)
2020	IGC Grant: Covid-19 and the Value of Relationships in Informal Economies (£ 15,000)
2020	IGC Grant: Understanding Productivity Dispersion (£ 50,000)
2019	CEGA: Achieving Scale Collectively (\$ 30,408)
2018	PEDL ERG: Understanding Productivity Dispersion (£ 25,070)
2017	IGC Grant: Firm-level Technology Adoption and Investment in Training (£ 19,370)

REFEREEING ACTIVITY

American Economic Review; American Economic Review: Insight; Econometrica; Quarterly Journal of Economics; Review of Economic Studies; Journal of Political Economy; AEJ: Macro; JPE: Macro; AEJ: Policy; Journal of the European Economic Association; Economic Journal; Theoretical Economics; International Economic Review; Journal of Urban Economics; Journal of Monetary Economics; Journal of Development Economics; Journal of Human Resources; Macroeconomic Dynamics; Journal of Mathematical Economics; Economic Development and Cultural Change; Journal of Economic Growth; Economics Letters; Review of Economic Dynamics; American Journal of Agricultural Economics; Journal of Policy Analysis and Management; Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control; PEDL Major Research Grants; NSF Grants; ERC Grants; STEG Grants;

PUBLIC AND DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Organizer, Virtual Macro Seminar (VMACS) Junior 2020
Organizer, Columbia Micro to Macro Labor Conference 2019-2023

Program Committee, Annual Congress of European Economic Association: 2020-2022
Program Committee, Annual Congress of Econometrics Society: 2020-2022
Program Committee, North American Summer Meeting of Econometrics Society: 2023
Program Committee, Society for Economic Dynamics Conference: 2017-2021, 2024

Junior faculty recruiting committee member, Columbia Business School, 2019-2023

Junior faculty recruiting committee member, UCSD, 2017-2018

OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES

None

PERSONAL

Born in Milan, Italy on January 20th, 1988. Italian Citizen, US Permanent Resident.