

JESSE LASTUNEN

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EDUCATION

- 2015–20 **PARDEE RAND GRADUATE SCHOOL**
Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Policy Analysis
Analytical Concentrations in Economics and Quantitative Methods
Dissertation: “Technological Change and the Skill Premium: 21st Century Evidence“
- 2014–15 **UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO**
Doctoral Student, Fulbright Scholar in Public Policy (Political Economy and Statistics)
- 2013–14 **BARCELONA GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS**
Master’s Degree in Specialized Economic Analysis (Int’l Trade, Finance and Development)
- 2012–13 **UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE**
Master of Philosophy (M.Phil.) in Technology Policy • Graduated *with Distinction*
- 2011–12 **MASDAR INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY** IN COLLABORATION WITH MIT
Graduate Student in Engineering Systems and Management • *Certificate of Excellence*
- 2009–11 **TAMPERE UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY & UNIVERSITY OF TAMPERE**
Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) in Industrial Engineering and Management • *Distinction*
Undergraduate Student in International Relations
- Other Courses in R programming, data visualization and quantitative research methods (2015–2020) • WIDER Online Scientific Presentation Workshop (2021) • WIDER Writing Effective Research Papers Workshop (2021) • CUNY Stone Center Workshop on ‘*Socio-Economic Inequalities*’ (2018) • Design Workshop on ‘*Federal R&D Evaluation*’ (2017) • NES-HCEO Summer School on ‘*Socio-Economic Inequality*’ (2017) • INET Complexity Economics Workshop (2016)

EXPERIENCE

- 2020–present **UNU-WIDER, THE UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY WORLD INSTITUTE FOR DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS RESEARCH** HELSINKI, FINLAND
Research Associate • Collaborative research addressing policy challenges in developing countries, tax-benefit microsimulation modelling, training and capacity building
- 2015–2020 **RAND CORPORATION** SANTA MONICA, CALIFORNIA, UNITED STATES
Assistant Policy Researcher • Policy-oriented, interdisciplinary research for public sector clients
- 2017–18 (7 months) **INTERNET ASSOCIATION** WASHINGTON D.C., UNITED STATES
Internet Economy Research Fellow • Research on the economic impact of autonomous vehicles
- 2016 (6 months) **OECD, DIRECTORATE FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION** PARIS, FRANCE
External Consultant • Research on the welfare gains of digital innovations for vulnerable groups
- 2014–15 (6 months) **TECHNOPOLIS GROUP** TALLINN, ESTONIA
Consultant • Policy evaluation, data collection and analysis, funding proposals
- 2013 (6 months) **PROJECT POLICY LTD** CAMBRIDGE, UNITED KINGDOM
Policy Researcher • Compiling, manipulating and analysing public socioeconomic data
- 2012 (9 months) **BGATOR LTD** TAMPERE, FINLAND
Consultant • Ramping up international R&D projects, funding proposals, market research
- 2011 (3 months) **CERN, THE EUROPEAN ORGANIZATION FOR NUCLEAR RESEARCH** GENEVA, SWITZERLAND
Researcher • Technology and market research, project funding, industry-science relations

PUBLICATIONS

- Hakizimana, N., Karangwa, J., **Lastunen, J.**, Mshabinama, A., Murasi, I., Niyigena, L., Noble, M. & Wright, G., *Tax-Benefit Microsimulation Model in Rwanda*, WIDER Working Paper, forthcoming, Helsinki: UNU-WIDER, 2022.
- Lastunen, J.**, Rattenhuber, P., Adu-Ababio, K., Gasior, K., Jara, X.H., Jouste, M., McLennan, D., Nichelatti, E., Oliveira, R.C., Pirttilä, J., Richiardi, M. & Wright, G., *The Mitigating Role of Tax and Benefit Rescue Packages for Poverty and Inequality in Africa amid the COVID-19 Pandemic*, WIDER Working Paper 2021/148, Helsinki: UNU-WIDER, 2021.
- Waiswa, R., **Lastunen, J.**, Wright, G., Noble, M., Okello Ayo, J., Isingoma, N.M., Kaidu, T., Kavuma, S., Arinaitwe, I., Mwesigye, M., Asiimwe, W. & Rattenhuber, P., *An Assessment of Presumptive Tax in Uganda*, WIDER Working Paper 2021/163; *New Directions for Presumptive Tax in Uganda*, WIDER Policy Brief 2021/8, Helsinki: UNU-WIDER, 2021.
- Lastunen, J.**, Wright, G., Noble, M., Waiswa, R., Okello Ayo, J. & Isingoma, N.M., *Distributional Effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic in Uganda*, WIDER Policy Brief 2021/5, Helsinki: UNU-WIDER, 2021.
- Oliveira, R.C., **Lastunen, J.**, Nichelatti, E. & Rattenhuber, P. *Imputation Methods for Adjusting SOUTHMOD Input Data to Income Losses Due to the COVID-19 Crisis*. WIDER Technical Note 2021/19, Helsinki: UNU-WIDER, 2021.
- Lastunen, J.**, *Deriving Shocks to Household Consumption Expenditures from the Associated Income Shocks Resulting From COVID-19*. WIDER Technical Note 2021/16. Helsinki: UNU-WIDER, 2021.
- Gasior, K., Barnes, H., Jouste, M., **Lastunen, J.**, McLennan, D., Noble, M., Oliveira, R.C., Rattenhuber, P. & Wright, G., *Full-Year Adjustment for Modelling COVID-19 Policies in SOUTHMOD Tax-Benefit Microsimulation Models*. WIDER Technical Note 2021/18, Helsinki: UNU-WIDER, 2021.
- Lastunen, J.** & Richiardi, M., *Forecasting Recovery from COVID-19 Using Financial Data: An Application to Viet Nam*, WIDER Working Paper 84, Helsinki: UNU-WIDER, 2021.
- Lastunen, J.**, *Technological Change and the Skill Premium: 21st Century Evidence*, doctoral dissertation, Pardee RAND Graduate School, 2020. Published by the RAND Corporation (RGSDA1167-1), 2021.
- Andrew, M., Marler, T. & **Lastunen, J.**, Acheson-Field, H. & Popper, S., *An Analysis of Education and Training Programs in Advanced Manufacturing Using Robotics*, RAND Corporation, 2020.
- Miller, B., Metz, D., Smith, T.D. & **Lastunen, J.**, *Selecting and Evaluating Case Studies of the Economic Benefits of Research and Services at the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health: Case Studies on Personal Dust Monitors for Coal Miners, Improved Ambulance Design, and Amputation Surveillance*, RAND Corporation, 2020.
- Lastunen, J.**, *Scenarios of the Role of Autonomous Vehicles in Society: Estimating the Net Impact on Professional Driving Jobs*, research report and invited talk, Internet Association, 2018.
- Gehlhaus Carew, D., Martin, N., Blumenthal, M., Armour, P. & **Lastunen, J.**, *The Potential Economic Value of Unlicensed Spectrum in the 5.9 GHz Frequency Band: Insights for Future Spectrum Allocation Policy*, RAND Corporation, 2018.
- Miller, B., Metz, D., Smith, T.D., Landree, E., **Lastunen, J.** & Nelson, C., *Understanding the Economic Benefit Associated with Research and Services at the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health: An Approach and Three Case Studies*, RAND Health Quarterly, 2018, 8(1).
- Chen, J., Kumar, K.B., **Lastunen, J.**, Nataraj, S., Nowak, S. & Carter, P., *Modeling Outcomes Based on Inequality in Labor Earnings: Model Overview and Policy Experiments*, internal report describing a general equilibrium model on the U.S. labour market, RAND Corporation, 2017.
- Miller, B., Camm, F., Blumenthal, M., **Lastunen, J.** & Miller, K.W., *Inching Toward Reform: Trump's Deregulation and Its Implementation*, RAND Corporation, 2017.
- Silbergliitt, R., **Lastunen, J.**, Lauuland, A., Watson, M. & Eusebi, C.A., *Wearable Technologies for Law Enforcement: Multi-functional Vest System Options*, RAND Corporation, Justice Policy Program, National Institute of Justice, 2017.
- Melin, G., Zuijdam, F., Good, B., Angelis, J., Enberg, J., Fikkers, D.J., Puukka, J., Swenning, A., Kosk, K., **Lastunen, J.** & Zege, S., *Towards a Future Proof System for Higher Education and Research in Finland*, Publications of the Ministry of Education and Culture, Finland, 2015.

OTHER WORK

Media and blogs	<p>Lastunen, J., Rattenhuber, B. & Oliveira, R.C., <i>The Pandemic and Africa's Social Safety Net</i>, Project Syndicate, 2021.</p> <p>Oliveira, R.C., Rattenhuber, B. & Lastunen, J., <i>Efforts to Protect the Poor During COVID: How Five African Countries Fared</i>, The Conversation, 2021.</p> <p>Remes, M., <i>Pandemia paljasti aukot turvaverkoissa</i>, an interview in Kehitys-Utveckling, a quarterly magazine produced by the Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs, no. 4/2021.</p> <p>Rattenhuber, B., Oliveira, R.C. & Lastunen, J., <i>Working Together to Better Understand How COVID-19 Affects Poverty and Inequality</i>, WIDERAngle, UNU-WIDER, 2021.</p> <p>Lastunen, J. & Rattenhuber, B., <i>Studying COVID-19 Through the Lens of Microsimulation: The Role of Tax and Benefit Policies in Alleviating Poverty and Inequality</i>, WIDERAngle, UNU-WIDER, 2020.</p> <p>Lastunen, J., <i>Politiikan tutkimuksen tulisi tarjota välineitä päättäjille</i>, Vieraskynä (op-ed), Helsingin Sanomat, 2014.</p>
Short-term consulting	<p>Czech Rep. Technology Agency, evaluation methodology for an R&D funding program, 2013.</p> <p>Microsoft Research Ltd, business implications of changes in European privacy policy, 2013</p>
Research assistance	<p>NCHRP, <i>Advancing Automated and Connected Vehicles: Policy and Planning Strategies for State and Local Transportation Agencies</i>, Research Report 845, The National Academy of Sciences, 2017.</p> <p>OECD, <i>Making Innovation Benefit All: Policies for Inclusive Growth</i>, 2017.</p>
Teaching and mentoring	<p>UNU-WIDER, <i>PhD Fellowship Programme, Mentor for Kivamivi Gomado, 2022 (forthcoming)</i>, and <i>Abdoul-Akim Wandaogo</i>, 2021.</p> <p>Pardee RAND Graduate School, <i>Teaching Assistant, Operations Research I</i>, 2017.</p>
Selected seminars	<p>6th Zurich Conference on Public Finance in Developing Countries (Dec 2021) • 8th World Congress of the International Microsimulation Association (Dec 2021) • International Centre for Economic Analysis Inequality conference (Nov 2021) • UNU-WIDER Development Conference (Sep 2021) • 'Assessing Presumptive Tax Policy in Uganda' online seminar (Aug 2021) • Microsimulation training workshops for participants in Rwanda (Aug 2021) and Vietnam (Jan 2021) • Development Studies Association's 'Unsettling Development' conference (July 2021) • 9th Meeting of the Society for the Study of Economic Inequality (July 2021) • Annual Conference of the East Asian Social Policy Research Network and the Foundation for International Studies on Social Security (July 2021) • 6th Joint Nordic Development Research Conference (June 2021) • Institute for Employment Research online seminar (May 2021) • UNU-WIDER online conference on 'Development challenges in Africa in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic' (Feb 2021) • African Tax Research Network's Webinar Series (Nov 2020) • International Conferences of the System Dynamics Society (2017 and 2014)</p>

HONORS & AWARDS

Dissertation support	<p>Emil Aaltonen Foundation Scholarship (2019)</p> <p>Anne and James Rothenberg Dissertation Award (2018)</p> <p>Alfred Kordelin Foundation Scholarship (2017)</p> <p>American Scandinavian Foundation Scholarship (2016)</p> <p>Finnish Foundation for Economic Education Scholarship (2015)</p> <p>Yrjö Jahnsson Foundation Scholarship (2014)</p>
Other academic scholarships	<p>Fulbright Scholarship, University of Chicago (2013)</p> <p>British Council Scholarship, University of Cambridge (2012)</p>
Academic honours	<p>Distinction, ranked first in class of 33 students, University of Cambridge (2013)</p> <p>Certificate of Excellence for Outstanding Academic Performance, Masdar Institute (2012)</p>