

# JESSE LASTUNEN

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## EDUCATION

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- 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**

## EXPERIENCE

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- June 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
- Short-term consulting **Czech Republic Technology Agency**, evaluation methodology for an R&D funding program (2013)  
**Microsoft Research Ltd**, business implications of changes in European privacy policy (2013)

## PUBLICATIONS

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**Lastunen, J.** & Richiardi, M., *Forecasting Recovery from COVID-19 Using Financial Data: An Application to Viet Nam*, WIDER Working Paper 84, 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.

Silberglitt, R., **Lastunen, J.**, Lauland, 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.

Research assistance      **NCHRP**, *Advancing Automated and Connected Vehicles: Policy and Planning Strategies for State and Local Transportation Agencies*, Research Report 845, The National Academy of Sciences, 2017.

**OECD**, *Making Innovation Benefit All: Policies for Inclusive Growth*, 2017.

Popular articles      **Lastunen, J.** & Rattenhuber, B., *Studying COVID-19 Through the Lens of Microsimulation: The Role of Tax and Benefit Policies in Alleviating Poverty and Inequality*, WIDERAngle, UNU-WIDER, 2020.

**Lastunen, J.**, *Politiikan tutkimuksen tulisi tarjota välineitä päättäjille*, Vieraskynä (op-ed), Helsingin Sanomat, 2014.

## HONORS & AWARDS

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Dissertation support      **Emil Aaltonen Foundation Scholarship** (2019)  
**Anne and James Rothenberg Dissertation Award** (2018)  
**Alfred Kordelin Foundation Scholarship** (2017)  
**American Scandinavian Foundation Scholarship** (2016)  
**Finnish Foundation for Economic Education Scholarship** (2015)  
**Yrjö Jahnsson Foundation Scholarship** (2014)

Other academic scholarships      **Fulbright Scholarship, University of Chicago** (2013)  
**British Council Scholarship, University of Cambridge** (2012)

Academic honours      **Distinction, ranked first in class of 33 students, University of Cambridge** (2013)  
**Certificate of Excellence for Outstanding Academic Performance, Masdar Institute** (2012)