Jessica LaVoice

Department of Economics
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Employment

Assistant Professor of Economics, Bowdoin College, July 2020 - Current

Education

Ph.D. in Economics, University of Pittsburgh, 2020
M.A. in Economics, University of Pittsburgh, 2015
M.A. in Economics, Duke University, 2014
B.S. in Economics and Mathematics, Worcester State University, 2011

Research Interests

Primary Fields: Public Economics, Urban Economics, Economic History

Publications

"The Long-Run Implications of Slum Clearance: A Neighborhood Analysis" *Journal of Public Economics* 236 (2024): 105153.

"Racial Disparities in Debt Collection" with Domonkos Vamossy *Journal of Banking & Finance* 164 (2024): 107208.

"The HOLC Maps: How Race and Poverty Influenced Real Estate Professionals' Evaluation of Lending Risk in the 1930s" with Price Fishback, Allison Shertzer, and Randall P. Walsh. *The Journal of Economic History* 83.4 (2023): 1019-1056.

"Matching Pell Grants: Implications for College Debt and Parental Transfers" with Patricia Beeson, Daniele Coen-Pirani and Marla Ripoll. *American Economic Association Papers & Proceedings* 113 (2023): 524-529. (non-peer reviewed short paper)

"The Effect of "Failed" Community Mental Health Centers on Non-White Mortality" with Mallory Avery. *Health Economics* 32.6 (2023): 1362-1393.

"Essays about Race, Discrimination, and Inequality" *The Journal of Economic History* 81.2 (2021): 577–614. (non-peer reviewed dissertation summary)

Working Papers

"The Effect of Targeted Substance Use Treatment Programs on Infant Health" with Emma Bomfim (former Bowdoin undergraduate student; Revisions requested at Economic Inquiry)

"The Short and Long Run Effects of Black Strikebreakers on Racial Inequalities" with Ethan Schmick (Revisions requested at Explorations in Economic History)

Works in Progress

"Racial Factors in the Allocation of Interstate Highways, 1950–1980" with Jeffrey Lin

"Race for HOLC Loans, 1933-1940" with Price Fishback, Thomas Storrs, and Randall P. Walsh

"Hedonic Housing Index during the Great Depression" with Price Fishback and Trevor M. Kollmann

Teaching Experience

Bowdoin College

Principles of Microeconomics
Economic Statistics
Econometrics
Urban Economics
Thesis Advisor: Emma Bomfim (2022-23)
Thesis Reader: Gavin Shilling (2020-21), John Hood (2021-22), Katherine Fosburgh (2021-22), Isabel Krogh (2021-22), Levi McAtee (2021-22), Lucas Johnson (2022-23), Sarah Greenberg (2023-24), Athalia Esty (2025-26), Brando Izquierdo (2025-26), Chase Lenk (2025-46), Florence Millet (2025-26)

University of Pittsburgh

Introduction to Public Economics
Introduction to Macroeconomics
Introduction to Microeconomics (Teaching Assistant)
Honors College Research Fellowship Mentor

Relevant Positions Held

Research Assistant to Prof. Patricia Beeson, 2019
Research Assistant to Prof. Randall P. Walsh and Prof. Allison Shertzer, 2018
Research Assistant to Prof. Stefania Albanesi, Summer 2017
Graduate Student Assistant to AERE Summer Conference Organizing Committee, 2017
Research Assistant, National Longitudinal Survey Technical Review Committee, 2013

Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

Allan Nevins Prize Finalist, Economic History Association, 2020
Economics Graduate Student Teaching Award, University of Pittsburgh, 2018
Exploratory Travel and Data Grant, Economic History Association, 2018
Outstanding Presenter Award, GradExpo, University of Pittsburgh, 2018
Social Sciences Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh, 2017
Arts and Sciences Graduate Summer Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh, 2016
Arts and Sciences Graduate Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh, 2014
Duke University Economics Master's Scholar, 2012-2013
Worcester State University Presidential Scholar, 2007-2011

Conference and Seminar Presentations

2026 Maine Economic Conference, Liberal Arts College Public and Labor Conference, Colby College

2025 Liberal Arts College Public and Labor Virtual Seminar Series, Liberal Arts College Public and Labor Conference (Co-organizer and Discussant)

2024 Eastern Economic Association*, Understanding the History of Redlining Workshop at the University of Pittsburgh, Social Science History Association*

2023 Maine Economics Conference, Southern Economic Association, Economic History Association Annual Meeting*

Note: On maternity leave in 2023

2022 Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, University of Maine, University of Central Oklahoma, Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Conference, Economic History Association Annual Meeting (Session Chair)

2021 Resilience Through History Economic History Conference at Yale University, University of Michigan, NBER Development of the American Economy Spring Meetings, Virtual Economic History Seminar Series, Sam Houston State University, Southern Economic Association Conference, Yale University, Wharton Real Estate Mini-Workshop on Neighborhoods, Bates Racial Justice and Housing Inequity Round-table, Liberal Arts Colleges Public/Labor Conference

2020 Southern Economic Association Conference, Economic History Association Dissertation Session, Bates College, Bowdoin College, Bucknell University, Colby College, Grinnell College, Marquette University, Trinity University, University of Richmond

2019 Neighborhoods, Externalities and Inequalities Workshop at Copenhagen Business School, North American Meetings of the Regional Science Association, George Washington University Student Research Conference in Economics, Pitt Center for Research Computing Advancing Research Poster Session

2018 NBER Summer Institute Development of the American Economy (Poster Session), North American Meetings of the Regional Science Association, University of Michigan's H2D2 Conference (Poster Session), AERUS Midwest Graduate Student Summit, University of Pittsburgh Arts and Science GradExpo

* Indicates I attended the conference but a coauthor presented our work

Professional Activities

Membership: American Economic Association, Economic History Association

Referee: Regional Science and Urban Economics (x2), Historical Methods: A Journal of Quantitative and Interdisciplinary History, Economic Inquiry, Journal of Human Resources, The Journal of Economic History (x3), Real Estate Economics, American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, Buildings & Cities, Journal of Urban Affairs, Social Forces (x2), Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, American Economic Review, Social Science History, Economics and Human Biology, Review of Economics and Statistics, Land Economics