

MARIA FIGUEROA-ARMIJOS

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CURRENT POSITION

Senior Fellow
Schar School of Policy and Government
George Mason University

Adjunct Professorial Lecturer,
Kogod School of Business
& School of International Service (SIS)
American University

Professorial Lecturer,
Economics
Busch School of Business and Economics
The Catholic University of America

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Entrepreneurship and Economic Development, Entrepreneurship Policy
Regional Innovation, Entrepreneurial Finance and Crowdfunding, Corporate Social Responsibility

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Public Policy, University of Missouri-Columbia, 2013

Dissertation: Three essays on entrepreneurship and alternative economic development policies

M.Sc. Applied Economics, University of Missouri-Columbia, 2009

Thesis: Adapting to Climate Change in the Bolivian Highlands
Minor: International Development

B.Sc. (Honors) Sustainable Development, EARTH University, Costa Rica, 2004

Thesis: Description and analysis of the transformation of the horticulture supply system in the supermarket sector of Costa Rica
Entrepreneurial project: ENFICORO, Farm to Table sustainably and locally raised pork

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Professor of Practice, Economics, College of Business and Economics, Lehigh University, 2013-15
Graduate Research Assistant, Community Policy Analysis Center, University of Missouri, 2009-13
Research Assistant, USDA-Rural Development Division Missouri project, 2008-09
Graduate Research Assistant, SANREM CRSP, USAID project, 2006-09
Assistant Professor, Agricultural Economics, Technical University of Machala, Ecuador, 2005-06
Research Assistant, Entrepreneurial Projects Program, EARTH University, Costa Rica, 2002-04

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Director, Office of Fellowship Advising, Lehigh University, 2013-2015
Chief, Solid Waste Mgmt Division (300+employees), Municipality of Machala, Ecuador, 2005-06
Intern for Latin American Business, Kalsec Inc., Kalamazoo, MI, 2003

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- Maria Figueroa-Armijos** & Corinne Valdivia. (2016). Sustainable innovation in the Bolivian Highlands: Building upon native social institutions and natural resources to cope with climate and market variability. *Innovation and Development*, Forthcoming (Dec).
- Maria Figueroa-Armijos** & Thomas G. Johnson. (2016). Entrepreneurship policy and economic growth, solution or delusion? Evidence from a state initiative. *Small Business Economics*, 47(4), 1033-1047. DOI: <http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11187-016-9750-9>
- Maria Figueroa-Armijos** & Thomas G. Johnson. (2013). Entrepreneurship in rural America across typologies, gender and motivation. *Journal of Developmental Entrepreneurship*, 18(2). DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1142/S1084946713500143>
- Maria Figueroa-Armijos**, Brian Dabson, & Thomas G. Johnson. (2012). Rural entrepreneurship in a time of recession. *Entrepreneurship Research Journal*, 2(1). DOI: [10.2202/2157-5665.1044](http://dx.doi.org/10.2202/2157-5665.1044)
- Attracted regional media attention (interviews): KOMU-TV News 08/09/2012, KBIA 91.3 FM radio 08/01/2012, KCUR 89.3 FM radio 08/14/2012, and Columbia Daily Tribune newspaper 08/04/2012. Also cited in other popular media and blogs.
- Maria Figueroa-Armijos**, Irene Alvarado & James French. (2005). Description and analysis of the transformation of the horticulture supply system in the supermarket sector of Costa Rica," *Tierra Tropical: Sostenibilidad, Ambiente y Sociedad*, 1(1).

BOOK CHAPTERS

- Maria Figueroa-Armijos** & Corinne Valdivia. (2012). Market access and resilience in the Bolivian Highlands (In Spanish). In Elizabeth Jimenez (Ed.), *Adaptation and Climate Change in the Bolivian Highlands*. La Paz, Bolivia: CIDES-UMSA.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

- Maria Figueroa-Armijos**, Thomas G. Johnson, & John P. Berns. Institutions and the Financing of Entrepreneurial Ventures: The Role of Entrepreneurship Policy and Public Start-Up Capital. 2nd round Revise and Resubmit.
- Maria Figueroa-Armijos** & Corinne Valdivia. Entrepreneurship as a livelihood strategy among Latinos in new settlement communities in the U.S. Revise and Resubmit.
- John P. Berns, **Maria Figueroa-Armijos**, Serge P. da Motta Veiga, & Timothy Dunne. The dynamics of online social crowdfunding: Drivers and outcomes of entrepreneurial success. Under Review.

WORKING MANUSCRIPTS

- A mission drift in microfinance? The role of gender and location in social crowdfunding. Target: *Journal of Business Ethics*.
- What drives environmental entrepreneurship? The role of informal institutions in the sustainable regional economy. Target: *Journal of Business Venturing*.

WORK IN PROGRESS

Regional innovation in the shared economy. Target: *Strategic Entrepreneurship Journal*.

The transgenerational entrepreneurship effect. Target: *Academy of Management Journal*.

Draining entrepreneurs: How national institutional frameworks deter entrepreneurial success.

Target: *World Development*.

RESEARCH REPORTS

Maria Figueroa-Armijos and Thomas G. Johnson, & Judith I. Stallmann. (2012, Feb 28). International Comparative Rural Policy Studies (ICRPS) Summer Institute 2004-2011 Participants Survey Report. Rural Policy Research Institute (RUPRI), University of Missouri.

Thomas G. Johnson, Brian Dabson, Kathleen Miller, **Maria Figueroa-Armijos**, Pamela Kelrick, & Shri Gautam. (2011, Jan 25). Transportation, Economic Development and Quality of Life in Rural America. Project report, University of Missouri.

Dennis Robinson, Thomas G. Johnson, Julio E. Mendoza, **Maria Figueroa-Armijos**, & Neus Vila-Brunet. (2010, February 5). Applying recognized economic measures to Department of Homeland Security Critical/Key Infrastructure Sectors. Project Report, University of Missouri.

POLICY BRIEFS

Maria Figueroa-Armijos, Brian Dabson, & Thomas G. Johnson. (2013, Jan). Rural entrepreneurship in a time of recession. Institute of Public Policy, University of Missouri.

Brian Dabson, Thomas G. Johnson, Andrew Wesemann, **Maria Figueroa-Armijos**, & Judith I. Stallmann. Assessing the impact of Missouri's Tax Credits. (2013, January). Submission to the Missouri Tax Credit Review Commission, Institute of Public Policy, University of Missouri.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

John P. Berns, **Maria Figueroa-Armijos**, Serge P. da Motta Veiga, and Timothy Dunne. (2016). Crowdfunding from the heart? Unraveling the drivers and outcomes of globally crowdfunded entrepreneurship. Annual Meeting of the *North American Regional Science Council (NARSC) and Regional Science Association International (RSAI)*, Minneapolis, MN.

Maria Figueroa-Armijos. (2015). What drives environmental entrepreneurship? The role of informal institutions in the sustainable regional economy," Annual Meeting of the *North American Regional Science Council (NARSC) and Regional Science Association International (RSAI)*, Portland, OR.

Maria Figueroa-Armijos, Thomas G. Johnson, & John P. Berns. (2015). Institutions and the Financing of Entrepreneurial Ventures: The Role of Entrepreneurship Policy and Public Start-Up Capital," *Academy of Management Conference*, Vancouver, BC, Canada.

John P. Berns, Timothy Dunne, **Maria Figueroa-Armijos**, & Serge P. da Motta Veiga. (2015). Funding from the head or the heart: An examination of entrepreneurial crowdfunding lending. *Academy of Management Conference*, Vancouver, BC, Canada.

- Maria Figueroa-Armijos.** (2014). Sustaining regional innovation: Start-up and expansion capital in family businesses. *Southern Regional Science Association (SRSA) Conference*, San Antonio, TX.
- Maria Figueroa-Armijos & Thomas G. Johnson.** (2013). The additionality of public start-up capital on U.S. entrepreneurial performance,” Annual Meeting of the *North American Regional Science Council (NARSC) and Regional Science Association International (RSAI)*, Atlanta, GA.
- Maria Figueroa-Armijos, Corinne B. Valdivia, & Katherine Higgins.** (2013). Latino entrepreneurship in three new settlement communities in the Midwest: A comparative study. *Southern Regional Science Association (SRSA) Conference*, Washington DC, April 2013 and *Cambio de Colores Conference*, St Louis, MO.
- Maria Figueroa-Armijos & Thomas G. Johnson.** (2012). Optimizing public spending in an age of scarcity: Tax credit policy and economic development in Missouri. *Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM) Conference*, Baltimore, MD.
- Maria Figueroa-Armijos.** (2012). Toward a sustainable economy: A system dynamics model of entrepreneurship and regional wealth. *Academy of Management Conference*, Boston, MA.
- Maria Figueroa-Armijos.** (2012). The effect of US renewable energy policy on regional entrepreneurial outcomes and economic growth. *International Symposium on Society and Resource Management*, Edmonton, AB, Canada.
- Maria Figueroa-Armijos, Brian Dabson, & Thomas G. Johnson.** (2011). Rural entrepreneurship in a time of recession. Annual Meeting of the *North American Regional Science Council (NARSC) and Regional Science Association International (RSAI)*, Miami, FL.
- Maria Figueroa-Armijos, Thomas G. Johnson, & Brian Dabson.** (2011). Entrepreneurship policy and tax credits: Does it matter for Kansas counties. *Rural Wealth Creation and Livelihoods Conference*, Washington, DC.
- Maria Figueroa-Armijos & Thomas G. Johnson.** (2011). Women entrepreneurship in rural America: Necessity and opportunity from a three rural typology comparison. *7th Mason Entrepreneurship Research Conference (MERC)*, Washington, DC.
- Maria Figueroa-Armijos.** (2011). Necessity and opportunity entrepreneurship in America: A study on gender, rurality, and unemployment. *50th Southern Regional Science Association (SRSA) Conference*, New Orleans, LA.
- Maria Figueroa-Armijos, Thomas G. Johnson, & Brian Dabson.** (2010). The effect of entrepreneurship policy on economic growth: Network Kansas. Annual Meeting of the *North American Regional Science Council (NARSC) and Regional Science Association International (RSAI)*, Denver, CO.
- Maria Figueroa-Armijos & Corinne B. Valdivia.** (2008). Strategies to develop market access that contribute to resilience in the Bolivian Highlands, Case study: PMCA and BAP for Chuño and Tunta. *American Agricultural Economics Association (AAEA) Annual Meeting*, Orlando, FL.

Irene Alvarado & **Maria Figueroa-Armijos**. (2004). Education and its effect in the development of the entrepreneurial profile in youth from agricultural sectors: Case study,” VII *International Entrepreneurship Conference*, Entrepreneurship Center, Escuela Superior de Economía y Negocios (ESEN), El Salvador.

INVITED TALKS

USDA Economic Research Service, USA 2016

ULB - Solvay Brussels School of Economics and Management, Belgium 2016

KU Leuven - Research Center for Globalization, Innovation, and Competition, Belgium 2016

School of Business, George Mason University, USA 2015

Sawyer School of Business, Suffolk University, USA 2013

School of Public Affairs, City University of New York Baruch College, USA 2013

POSTERS

Judith I. Stallmann, **Maria Figueroa-Armijos**, Thomas G. Johnson, & Brent S. Steel. (2012). International Comparative Rural Policy Studies. *North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture/National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) Division of Community and Education (DOCE) Joint Meeting*, River Falls, WI.

Maria Figueroa-Armijos & Corinne B. Valdivia. (2012). Adapting to climate and market variability: The case of native potatoes in Bolivia, “*Adapting to Climate Change: Gaining the Advantage*” Conference, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO.

Maria Figueroa-Armijos & Corinne B. Valdivia. (2008). Strategies to develop market access that contribute to resilience in the Bolivian Highlands, Case study: PMCA and BAP for Chuño and Tunta. *Sustainable Agriculture and Natural Resources Management- Collaborative Research Support Program (SANREM-CRSP) Annual Meeting*, Los Baños, Philippines.

ACADEMIC RECOGNITIONS & AWARDS

ADVANCE NSF Small Grant for Interdisciplinary Collaboration and Leadership, 2014

Eugene Mercy, Jr. President’s Fund for Faculty Development, Lehigh University, 2013

Doctoral Consortium, USASBE, San Francisco, CA, 2013

Entrepreneurship Doctoral Consortium, Academy of Management, Boston, MA, 2012

Fellow, Preparing Future Faculty, Graduate School, University of Missouri, 2012

Ecuador’s Representative, Third Hemispheric Forum for Young Leaders in Agricultural Entrepreneurship, Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) and University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 2010

Full Scholarship. Endowment Peter Gilmore & EARTH University Endowment, 2001-04

Award for Outstanding Professional Performance. EARTH University, Costa Rica, 2002

TRAVEL AWARDS

Dr. John D. Bies International Travel Scholarship, MU Graduate School, 2012

USDA Economic Research Service and Ford Foundation, 2011

McQuinn Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership, 2011

Division of Applied Social Sciences, University of Missouri, 2009

World Agricultural Forum, 2009
John Cook School of Business, St. Louis University, 2009
McQuinn Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership, University of Missouri, 2009
International Comparative Rural Policy Studies Consortium, 2008
Escuela Superior de Economía y Negocios (ESEN), El Salvador, 2004
Central American Association for the Indigenous and Rural Coordination of Agriculture and Forestry (ACICAFOC), Costa Rica, 2002

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (not mentioned elsewhere)

Entrepreneurship Early-Career Development Consortium, Academy of Management, Vancouver, BC, August 2015
European Union Policies and Institutions one-week Seminar, Brussels, Belgium, 2011
International Comparative Rural Policy Studies (ICRPS) two-week Summer Institute, University of the Highlands and Islands, Inverness, Scotland, 2009
World Agricultural Forum, St Louis, MO, 2009
20th Gateway Entrepreneurship Research Conference, John Cook School of Business, St. Louis University, St. Louis, MO, 2009
Entrepreneurship: Where theory and practice meet Conference, McQuinn Center for Entrepreneurship, St Louis, MO, 2008
International Comparative Rural Policy Studies (ICRPS) two-week Summer Institute, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO, 2008
Washington International Renewable Energy Conference (WIREC), Washington DC, 2008
“Central America towards Río + 10: Promoting Central American civil society participation in the World Summit for Sustainable Development, Johannesburg 2000” Workshop, Central American Association for the Indigenous and Rural Coordination of Agriculture and Forestry (ACICAFOC), Costa Rica, 2002

COURSES TAUGHT

ULB- Solvay Brussels School of Economics and Management, Belgium
Business and Economics Ethics/Social Entrepreneurship (Masters in Ethics)

- Spring 2017 (100 students), Teaching effectiveness /7

American University

Kogod School of Business

MGMT 201: Global Corporate Citizenship

- Spring 2016 (34 students), Teaching effectiveness 6.5 /7
- Fall 2015 (35 students, two sections), Teaching effectiveness 6.5/7

School of International Service

SISG 764: International Economics

- Summer 2016 (23 students), Teaching effectiveness /7

The Catholic University of America, Busch School of Business and Economics

ECO 102: Microeconomics

- Spring 2016 (4 students), Teaching effectiveness 7/7
- Fall 2015 (6 students), Teaching effectiveness 7/7

ECO 101: Macroeconomics

- Spring 2016 (29 students), Teaching effectiveness 6.8/7
- Fall 2015 (3 students), Teaching effectiveness 6.7/7

Lehigh University, College of Business and Economics

ECO 311: Environmental Economics

- Spring 2015 (28 students), Teaching effectiveness 4.7/5
- Spring 2014 (28 students), Teaching effectiveness 4.1/5

ECO 1: Principles of Economics

- Spring 2015 (198 students, taught in auditorium), Teaching effectiveness 4.5/5
- Fall 2014 (217 students, 2 sections), Teaching effectiveness 4.6/5
- Spring 2014 (202 students, taught in auditorium), Teaching effectiveness 4.3/5
- Fall 2013 (82 students, taught in auditorium), Teaching effectiveness 4.5/5

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Lehigh:

Panelist, Climate Engineering Symposium

Panelist, "Our Dynamic Planet" with Dr. Kathy Sullivan, NOAA Under-Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and former NASA astronaut

Panelist, Community Climate Dialogue, Lehigh Valley Alliance for Sustainable Communities

Panelist, Geoengineering Solutions to Climate Change

Committee Member CBE, Williams Essay Contest

MU and EARTH:

Graduate Professional Council, University of Missouri 2008-09

Engineers without Borders, University of Missouri 2008-09

Student Council, EARTH University 2003-04

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Ad Hoc reviewer *Economic Development Quarterly, Sustainability, Entrepreneurship Research Journal*

Ad Hoc reviewer 2012 International Family Business Research Academy Annual Conference

Volunteer reviewer 2012-2016 Academy of Management (AOM) Conference, ENT Division

Session Chair 2016 APPAM Regional Student Conference; 2015 AoM; 2013-2014 SRSA Conference; 2013 NARSC; 2012 ISSRM

Discussant 2015 AOM Conference, ENT Division; 2010-2016 NARSC

December, 2016

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Member, Academy of Management (AOM), Entrepreneurship Division (ENT)

Member, North American Regional Science Council (NARSC) & Regional Science Association
International (RSAI)

Founding Scholar, Entrepreneurship Research Society (ERS)

LANGUAGES

English (Fluent), Spanish (Native), Portuguese (Beginner)

REFERENCES

Available upon request.