Heitor S. Pellegrina

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2024–present	University of Notre Dame, Patrick J. O'Malley III and Christine A. O'Malley Assistant Professor
2024–2025	Georgetown University's McDonough School of Business, Visiting Professor
2023–2024	University of Notre Dame, Assistant Professor
2017–2023	New York University Abu Dhabi, Assistant Professor

AFFILIATIONS

2023–present	Kellogg Institute for International Studies, Notre Dame
2023–present	Building Inclusive Growth (BIG) Lab, Notre Dame

EDUCATION

PhD	Economics, Brown University, RI, USA, 2017 **Committee**: Jonathan Eaton, Andrew Foster, Matthew Turner and Jesse Shapiro
MSc	Economics, University of São Paulo, Brazil, 2011 **Committee**: Marcos Rangel, Gabriel Madeira and Ricardo Madeira
BSc	Economics, University of São Paulo, Brazil, 2009

RESEARCH AREAS

Trade, Development, and the Environment

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

2025 "Migration, Specialization, and Trade: Evidence from Brazil's March to the West" with Sebastian Sotelo. ***Journal of Political Economy***. Vol 133, December 2025, Pages 3993–4049. [link]

2024 "Trade, Technology Adoption, and Inequality in Distorted Economies" with Farid Farrokhi and Ahmad Lashkaripour. ***Journal of International Economics***. Vol 150, July 2024, 103922. [link]

2023 "Trade, Technology, and Agricultural Productivity" with Farid Farrokhi. ***Journal of Political Economy***. Vol 131, September 2023, Pages 2509-2555. [link]

2023 "Irrigation and the Spatial Pattern of Local Development in India" with David Blakeslee, Aadityia Dar, Ram Fishman, Samreen Malik, and Karan Singh. ***Journal of Development Economics***. Vol 161, March 2023, 102997. [link]

2022 "Trade, farmers' heterogeneity, and agricultural productivity: Evidence from Colombia" with Margarita Gáfaro. ***Journal of International Economics***. Vol 137, July 2022, 103598. [link]

2022 "From bilateral trade to centralized markets: A search model for commodity exchanges in Africa" with Yaw Nyarko. ***Journal of Development Economics***. Vol 157, June 2022, 102867. [link]

2022 "Trade, productivity, and the spatial organization of agriculture: Evidence from Brazil". ***Journal of Development Economics***. Vol 156, May 2022, 102816. [link]

2016 "Patterns and Processes of Pasture to Crop Conversion in Brazil: Evidence from Mato Grosso State" with Avery S. Cohn, Juliana Gil, Thomas Berger, and Chantal Toledo. ***Land Use Policy***. Vol 55, September 2016, Pages 108-120. [link]

2015 "The Impact of a Decade of Agricultural Change on Urban Economic Growth in Mato Grosso, Brazil" with Peter Richards, Stephanie Spera, and Leah Vanwey. ***PLoS one*** April 2015, e0122510. [link]

WORKING PAPERS

2025 "Diet, Economic Development, and Climate Change" with Lucas Correa and Jordan Norris - ***Conditionally Accepted at Economic Journal***

2025 "Deforestation: A Global and Dynamic Perspective" with Farid Farrokhi, Elliot Kang, and Sebastian Sotelo

2025 "Farm Size Distribution, Weather Shocks, and Agricultural Productivity" with Julian Artega, Margarita Gáfaro, Ana María Ibanez, and Nicolas de Roux

2025 "Public R&D meets Economic Development: Embrapa and Brazil's Agricultural Revolution" with Ariel Akerman, Jacob Moscona, and Karthik Sastry

WORK IN PROGRESS

• "On Commodity Booms and Industrialization: Brazil before WWI" with Andrei Laskievic, Brock Rowberry, and Sebastian Sotelo

• "Of Boom and Ghost Towns: Early City Formation in the California Gold Rush" with Matthias Hoelzlein

• "Scaling Up Agricultural Insurance" with Jeremy Majerovitz - ***Project Accepted for the Journal of Monetary Economics — Carnegie-Rochester-NYU***

OTHER WRITINGS

2025 VoxDev Lit - Foreign Direct Investment

2025 VoxDev Lit - Trade and Development

2025 VoxDev Lit - Deforestation

INVITED TALKS & CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2026 LSE, IDB, University of Michigan, SUNY Buffalo, UC Riverside, Harvard/MIT Environmental Economics, INSPER, PUC-RIO, EPGE, VSCE (Virtual Seminar on Climate Economics), Boston College, University of Stavanger

2025 EESP/FGV (São Paulo), Stanford's School of Sustainability, DePaul University, University of Oklahoma, SED (Copenhagen), NC State University, NBER-SI (ITI), Rochester, University of Tennessee, Wisconsin AAE, Berkeley ARE

2024 Universitat Pompeu Fabra, FREIT-EIIT (Purdue), Georgetown, Devils and Wolves International Economics, University of Copenhagen, CU Boulder, IDB-RES, AEA, Purdue Agricultural Economics, University of Cambridge, Bristol, Essex, FED St. Louis Macro-Trade workshop, Midwest Economics Association, ICABR

2023 IMF, Southern Economic Association, PKU/PHBS Sargent Institute Macro-Finance Workshop (Schenzhen), John Hopkins SAIS, Hitotsubashi-Gakushuin (Tokyo), NYU New York, Indiana University, World Bank DEC, Southern Methodist University, UC Davis ARE, University of Notre Dame, University of Delaware, University of Kentucky, SEA 2023, SAET (Paris), NYU Abu Dhabi

2022 Georgetown, RIDGE, EIIT-FREIT (UCSD), University of Delaware, EESP/FGV (São Paulo), UEA (Washington DC), University of Virginia, University of Michigan, CAF, Econometric Society Winter Meeting, NYU Abu Dhabi, TIGN-IADB, Barcelona Summer Forum, 15th International Conference on Migration and Development (Lisbon)

2021 AEA, NBER Risk in Agricultural Supply Chain, SED, UEA (Copenhagen), LACEA, European Economics Association (EEA)

2020 NBER Agricultural Markets and Trade Policy, Aarhus University, ETOS-FREIT, NEUDC, SBE 2021

2019 World Bank iEconnect Conference (Morocco), Banco de la Republica (Bogota), NYU Trade Jamboree (NYC), EESP/FGV (São Paulo), UFABC (São Paulo), INSPER (São Paulo), UEA (Amsterdam), IADB (Washington), Purdue

2018 TIGN-LACEA (Lima), NYU Abu Dhabi, UEA (New York)

pre-2017 LACEA (Buenos Aires), EESP-FGV (São Paulo), EPGE-FGV (Rio de Janeiro), INSPER (São Paulo), UC Santa Cruz, UCSD-GPS, NYU Abu Dhabi, Georgetown Qatar, New Faces of International Trade (PSU), Trade and Development (PSU), NEUDC (MIT Sloan), Development Bank of Latin America - CAF (Buenos Aires), FREIT (U Michigan), RIDGE (Montevideo), Trade Seminar (PSU), NARSC (Portland), EconCon (UPenn), Conoco-Phillips Trade Lunch (Brown), NEUDC (Brown), NEUDC (BU), Institute of Applied and Economic Research (Brasília)

GRANTS

2025 ISLA — University of Notre Dame — Small Research Grant — USD 3,000
2025 ISLA — University of Notre Dame — International Conference Grant — USD 1,500
2024 BIG Lab — University of Notre Dame — "Trade and Development Workshop" — USD 1,500
2024 ISLA — University of Notre Dame — "Trade and Development Workshop" — USD 3,500
2024 Kellogg Institute Grant — University of Notre Dame — "Trade and Development Workshop" — USD 3,000
2022 STEG Small Research Grant "Deforestation: A Global and Dynamic Perspective" with Farid Farrokhi, Elliot Kang, and Sebastian Sotelo — £ 23,100

AWARDS

2024 Teaching Award - Economic Growth (UG), University of Notre Dame

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Referee

Journal of Public Economics, Review of Economic Studies, Regional Science and Urban Economics, AEJ Macro, American Economic Review, International Economic Review, Econometrica, Economic Journal, Canadian Journal of Economics, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Journal of Political Economy, American Journal of Agricultural Economics, Journal of Monetary Economics, IMF Economics Review, Journal of International Economics, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Urban Economics, Journal of Economic Growth, World Bank Economic Review, World Development, EconomiA, Revista Brasileira de Economia, Applied Economic Perspective and Policy, Applied Economics, Agronomy, Sustainability, International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, Agribusiness, PLOS One, Economic Theory, Journal of European Economics Association

Grant Reviews & Committees

2026 Committee - Midwest International Economic Development Conference
2025 Grant review - Structural Transformation and Economic Growth (STEG)
2024 Grant review - Structural Transformation and Economic Growth (STEG)
2023 Committee - Student paper prize - UEA
2019-2023 Grant review - Africa House - NYU

Advising/Mentoring with placement

FVG/EESP: Lucas Correa-Dias (current), Andrei Laskievic (Ph.D. University of Michigan)

University of Notre Dame: Xinyi Li (current)

NYU Abu Dhabi: Shivangi Bishnoi (M.S. Columbia University), 2022, Abdul Kareem (MBA Western University + Best Capstone in Economics) 2021, Sudaraka Ariyaratne (Ph.D. Rice University) 2021, Yuliya Borodina (Ph.D. Berkeley ARE + Best Capstone in Economics) 2020, Karolina Wilczynska (M.S. Science Po + Women in Economics Scholarship from the ECB) 2019, Andres Felipe Fajardo Ramirez (Ph.D. LSE) 2018, Rafal Cierlika (M.S. University of Amsterdam) 2018

Other services

- Co-organizer of the International Economics seminar at the University of Notre Dame - 2025
- Co-organizer of the Development Lunch at the University of Notre Dame - 2025
- Econometric Society - African Summer School Lectures in Abidjan - 2025
- Co-organizer of the Trade and Development workshop at University of Notre Dame - 2024
- Co-organizer of the DevLab seminars at NYU Abu Dhabi - 2021-2023
- Co-organizer of the conference "The End of Globalization" at NYU Abu Dhabi - 2022

TEACHING

2025 Economic Growth (UG), University of Notre Dame
2025 Quantitative International Economics (PhD), University of Notre Dame

2025	Economic Development II (PhD), University of Notre Dame
2023	Economic Growth (UG), University of Notre Dame
2021-2022	Economic Policy and Environmental Economics (UG), NYU Abu Dhabi
2017-2020	International Economics (UG), NYU Abu Dhabi
2017-2019	Statistics for the Social Science (UG), NYU Abu Dhabi
2016	Industrial Organization (PhD), Brown, TA

DISCUSSIONS

2025	Yale — Cowles International Trade — "Trade Policy and Food Security with Climate and Geopolitical Risk" — Crews, Nath, Schmitz and Stewart
2025	PSU — New Faces of International Trade - "Revitalize or Relocate: Optimal Place-based Transfers for Local Recessions" — O'Connor
2025	Notre Dame — Kellogg Institute - "Globalization of Marriage and Trade" — Dziadula and Paniagua
2024	Purdue — EIIT — "The Global Allocative Efficiency of Deforestation" — Mishra
2024	World Bank — JIE Workshop — "Complements or Substitutes? Labor Market Effects of Foreign Inputs in Developing Countries" — Bonilla, Munoz-Morales and Zarate
2022	NYUAD — Trade Workshop — "On the Geographic Implications of Carbon Taxes" - Conte, Desmet and Rossi-Hansberg
2019	Urban Economics Association — "Regional Convergence at the County Level: The Role of Commuters" - Krause and Kripfganz
2018	Urban Economics Association — "How do transportation and communication costs shape the spatial organization of firms?" - Gokan, Kichko and Thisse

CITIZENSHIP

US and Brazilian

Updated January 2026