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Education

Economist, University of Chile, Santiago, Chile
M.A., University of California, Los Angeles
Ph.D., Economics, University of California, Los Angeles
Post Doctoral Fellow, Yale University

Current Positions

Full Professor, Department of Economics, University of Chile.
Director. Centre for Social Conflict and Cohesion Studies. (www.coes.cl)

Previous Positions

Executive Director. The World Bank
Social Policy Advisor. UNDP.
Vice President CODELCO
Director, Department of Economics. University of Chile.
Research Assistant, UCLA and RAND Corporation.

Participation in other public activities

Member Presidential Advisory Council for Education, Chile.
Member Presidential Council for Education, Chile.
Member Presidential Council for Equity, Chile.
President. Chilean Economic Association.

Consulting Activities

IDB, World Bank, UNDP, OECD.
Ministry of Labor Chile.
Female National Service (SERNAM).
Ministry of Planning and Education Chile.

Fields

Research and Teaching: Labor Economics, Poverty, Inequality, Economics of Education and Program Evaluation.

Academic Honors And Awards

Best undergraduate teacher, Universidad de Chile.
Best researcher, Universidad de Chile.
FONDECYT, FONDAP Chile.
Best Student Graduated, University of Chile.
University of California, Los Angeles Fellowship
Beca Presidente de la República, Mideplan
Rockefeller Grant.
Fullbright Fellowship.

References

Janet Currie. Professor, Princeton University.
James Heckman. Professor. The University of Chicago (Nobel Prize)
Duncan Thomas, Professor Duke University.
Arnold Harberger, Professor University of California, Los Angeles.
Patricio Meller, Professor Universidad de Chile.
Francois Bourguignon, Paris School of Economics.
Jere Behrman. University of Pennsylvania.

Enrique Ganuza, former Chief Economist, UNDP, Latin America and the Caribbean; former Resident Coordinator, Chile
Andrés Velasco. Dean School of Public Policy, LSE.

Publications

Academic Journal: International

“Labor Market Returns to Student Loans for University: Evidence from Chile” Co- authors A. Bucarey and P. Muñoz. Forthcoming *Journal of Labor Economics*.

“Harsh Parenting during Early Childhood and Child Development” Co-authors M. Berthelon, D. Kruger and M. Palma. Forthcoming. *Economics and Human Biology*.

The effect of the Integration of Students with Special Educational Needs: Evidence from Chile. Co-authored with Miguel Brante and Sebastián Espinoza. Forthcoming. *International Journal of Educational Development*

“The Effect of Artistic Activities on the Development of Cognitive and Socio-emotional skills: The Case of a Youth Orchestra in a Developing Country” Co-Authors Pablo Egana del Sol and Juan Pablo Valenzuela. Forthcoming. *International Journal of Educational Development*.

“Inequality, social capital and labour market outcomes in Chile: Do network size and contact prestige predict employment, income and status attainment? Co-Authors J. Diaz, G. Otero and N. Suárez. *Social Networks*. Volume 58, July 2019, Pages 59-77

“Sexual Orientation and Participation in the Labor Force: Evidence from Chile and Uruguay” Co-Authors C. Brown and L. Schmidt. *Feminist Economics*. Volume 25, 2019 - [Issue 2](#)

“Revisiting the distributional impacts of water subsidy policy in Chile: A historical analysis from 1998-2015” Co.authors A. Gomez-Lobo and M. Palma. *Water Policy*. Water Policy 20 (2018) 1208–1226.

‘Neighbourhood effects’ on children's educational achievement in Chile: The effects of inequality and polarization. *Environment and Planning A*, 49(11), 2595-2618. Co-authors Otero, G., Carranza, R. (2017)

Dante Contreras, Paulina Sepúlveda; Effect of Lengthening the School Day on Mother's Labor Supply, *The World Bank Economic Review*, Volume 31, Issue 3, 1 October 2017, Pages 747–766, <https://doi.org/10.1093/wber/lhw003>.

Dante Contreras & Esteban Puentes (2016) Inequality of Opportunities at Early Ages: Evidence from Chile, *The Journal of Development Studies* 53:10, 1748-1764, DOI: [10.1080/00220388.2016.1262025](https://doi.org/10.1080/00220388.2016.1262025)

“Bullying, Identity and School Performance: Evidence from Chile”. Co-Authors G. Elacqua, M. Martinez, A- Miranda. *International Journal of Educational Development*, Volume 51, November 2016, Pages 147-162.

“Income Inequality or Performance Gap? A Multilevel Study of School Violence in 52 Countries”. Co authors: G. Elacqua, M. Martinez, A- Miranda. *Journal of Adolescent Health*. Volume 57: Number 5: November 2015.

“Self-Employment and queues for wage work: Evidence from Chile”. Co-authors: Roberto Gillmore and Esteban Puentes. *Journal of International Development*. Vol 29, issue 4, May 2017, pages 473-499.

“Determinants of early child development in Chile: Health, cognitive and demographic factors”. Co-author Stephanie González. *International Journal of Educational Development*. Volume 40, January 2015, Pages 217–230

“Improving the Measurement of the Relationship between Opportunities and Income: Evidence from longitudinal Data from Chile”. Co-authors Osvaldo Larrañaga, Esteban Puentes and Tomás Rau. *Development Policy Review*, 2014, 32 (2): 219-237.

“Tournament Incentives for Teachers: Evidence from a Scaled-Up Intervention in Chile”. Co-author Tomás Rau. *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, Vol. 61, No. 1 (October 2012), pp. 219-246

“Impact Evaluation of Chile Solidario: Lessons and Policy Recommendations” *Journal of Latin American Studies*. Co authors: Osvaldo Larrañaga and Jaime Ruiz-Tagle (May 2012)

“The evolution of opportunities for children in Chile 1990-2006” *CEPAL Review* (April, 2012, Nº 106). Co authors: Osvaldo Larrañaga, Esteban Puentes and Tomás Rau.

“The Effectiveness of Private School Franchises in Chile’s National Voucher Program”. *School Effectiveness and School Improvement*. Co authors: Gregory Elacqua, Humberto Santos and Felipe Salazar. Vol. 22, No. 3, September 2011, 237–263

“Child labor and schooling in Bolivia: Who’s falling behind?” The roles of domestic work, gender and ethnicity. *World Development*. April, 2011 (Vol. 39, No. 4) Co-authors: Diana Kruger and Daniela Zapata.

“Decomposing wage inequality in formal labor markets in Latin America: A decade of changes”. Co-author Sebastian Gallegos. April 2011, Nº 103) *CEPAL Review*

“When the schools are the ones that chose: the effects of screening in Chile”. Co-authors Paulina Sepulveda and Sebastian Bustos. *Social Science Quarterly*. Volume 91, December 2010

“The determinants of labour force participation and employment in Chile”, *Applied Economics*, Contreras, D., de Mello, L. and Puentes, E. (2010) First published on: 21 September 2010

“Cultural Factors and female participation in Chile” Co autor, Gonzalo Plaza. *Feminist Economics*, May 2010

“The Effectiveness of Franchises and Independent Private Schools in Chile’s National Voucher System” May 2008 *Education Next*. Co authors: Gregory Elacqua and Felipe Salazar.

“Poverty Dynamic in Chile” C. Neilson, D. Contreras, R. Cooper and J. Hermann. *Journal of Latin American Studies*. May, 2008

“Crecimiento pro pobre en Chile”, D. Contreras, R. Cooper y C. Neilson. *El Trimestre Económico*, Vol LXXV (4) num. 300, Octubre – Diciembre de 2008.

“Refuerzo escolar para niños pobres: ¿Funciona?”, Dante Contreras, Rodrigo Herrera. *El Trimestre Económico*, Vol. LXXIV (1), pp. 123-159, enero-marzo de 2007.

“En busca del oro. ¿Qué determina el éxito en competencias deportivas internacionales?”. Dante Contreras, Andrés Gómez-Lobo. *El Trimestre Económico*, Vol. LXXIII (2), pp 241-263, Abril-junio 2006.

“Female labour force participation in greater Santiago, Chile: 1957-1997. A synthetic cohort analysis”. Dante Contreras, David Bravo y Esteban Puentes. *Journal of International Development*. Vol. 17, Issue 2, pp 169-186, February 2005.

“Political economic regime and the wage curve: Evidence from Chile, 1957–1996”. Janine Berg and Dante Contreras. *International Review of Applied Economics*. Vol. 18, N°2, pp 151–165. April 2004.

“Water subsidy policies: A comparison of the Chilean and the Colombian Schemes”. Andrés Gómez-Lobo and Dante Contreras. *The World Bank Economic Review*. Vol. 17 N°3, pp 391–407. December 2003.

“Poverty and inequality in a rapid growth economy: Chile 1990 –1996. Dante Contreras, *Journal of Development Studies*. Vol. 39 N°3, February 2003.

“Explaining wage inequality in Chile. Does education really matter?” Dante Contreras, *Journal of Income Distribution*. Vol. 11, Issue 1-2, pp 53-76, Spring-Summer 2002.

“Crisis, ingresos y mercado de trabajo en Ecuador”. Dante Contreras, María Luisa Granda. *Bulletin de l’Institut Francais d’Etudes Andines*, Vol. 31 N°3, pp. 621-654, 2002.

“Economic growth and poverty alleviation. A regional analysis in a rapid growth economy: Chile 1990-1996”. Dante Contreras *Development Policy Review*. Vol. 19, N°3, September 2001.

“Does gender and birth order matter when parent specialize in child’s nutrition?. Evidence from Chile”. Coauthor Luis Rubalcava. *Journal of Applied Economics*. Vol. III, N°2. November 2000.

“Activos y recursos de la población en Chile”. *El Trimestre Económico*. Vol. LXVI (3), N°263, Julio-Septiembre 1999.

Books

Las Nuevas Políticas de Protección Social en Chile (Nueva edición ampliada y actualizada), en O Larrañaga y D Contreras. UNDP, Uqbar, Santiago, 2015.

Las Nuevas Políticas de Protección Social en Chile, en O Larrañaga y D Contreras. UNDP, Uqbar, Santiago, 2010.

Competencias básicas de la población adulta. David Bravo, Dante Contreras. CORFO, Universidad de Chile, Ministerio de Economía. Mayo 2001.

Evaluación de impacto de los programas de capacitación: El caso de Fundes. Editores: David Bravo, Dante Contreras y Gustavo Crespi. McGraw Hill. Agosto, 2000.

Chapters

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“Social Policies: From Social Debt to Welfare State”. Chapter 11, in *Democratic Chile. The Politics and Policies of a Historic Coalition, 1990-2010*. Kirsten Sehnbruch and Peter Siavelis Editors. Rienner (2014)

“Desarrollo con Cohesión Social en América Latina”, en *Violencia y Cohesión Social en América Latina*. F.J. Diaz y P. Meller editores. CIEPLAN, 2012

“El Capital Cultural Familiar y su influencia sobre las habilidades Lectoras”, en *Evidencias para Políticas Públicas en Educación*. Centro de Estudios MINEDUC, 2012.

“Desigualdad y políticas educacionales: desde la Ley de subvención escolar preferencial a una subvención escolar pública”, en *El Chile que se viene. Ideas, miradas, perspectivas y sueños para el 2030*. R. Lagos y O. Landerretche editores. Catalonia, 2011.

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“When Schools Are the Ones That Choose: Policy Analysis of Screening in Chile”. *Emerging Evidence on Vouchers and Faith-Based Providers in Education (2009)*. Chapter 4, Page 55 - 70. The World Bank, Washington, D.C, U.S.A. Co-authored with Paulina Sepulveda and Sebastian Bustos.

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“Trade openness and the female worker: The case of Chile”. Dante Contreras, Esteban Puentes and Tomás Rau. In *Women at Work, Challenges for Latin America*. Claudia Piras, Editor. Inter-American Development Bank, 2004.

“Mercado laboral: Cómo ha variado el 20% de los hogares con menor bienestar socioeconómico”. Dante Contreras, Patricia Medrano. *Cómo ha cambiado la vida de los chilenos... Análisis comparativo de las condiciones de vida en los hogares con menor bienestar socioeconómico* (Censos 1992-2002). Pp. 93-113. INE, septiembre, 2004.

“La distribución del ingreso en Chile 1990-1996: análisis del impacto del mercado de trabajo y las políticas sociales”, David Bravo, Dante Contreras, en *Reformas y Equidad Social en América Latina y el Caribe: Memorias de la primera fase del foro de equidad social*, capítulo 6, pp 99-128. Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo, abril de 2004.

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Academic Journal: Chile

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“Trayectoria Negativa de la Clase Media: México 2002-2009” Co autoreado Elvia Tapia. Rev. Est. de Políticas Públicas, 148-158. Vol. 4 (2016): Noviembre

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“Anti crime programs: An evaluation of Comuna Segura Program”. Co autoreado Rodrigo Montero y Jose Miguel Benavente. Estudios de Economía. Vol 38, N°2, Diciembre 2011.

"Determinantes de Desempeño Universitario: ¿Importa la habilidad relativa?" N°30, Julio 2009. Pág 17 – 48. Revista Calidad en la Educación. Co-authored with Sebastian Gallegos y Francisco Meneses

Self-Employment in Chile, Long Run Trends and Education and Age Structures Changes. Esteban Puentes, Dante Contreras, Claudia Sanhueza. Estudios de Economía, Vol. 34 N°2, pp. 203-247, Diciembre de 2007.

¿Estimando el retorno a la educación o a los no observables?: Evidencia de datos de panel. Dante Contreras, Emerson Melo Susana Ojeda. Estudios de Economía, Vol. 32, N°2, pp 187-199, diciembre de 2005.

"Chilean labor market efficiency: an earnings frontier approach". Dante Contreras Sergio Salas. Estudios de Economía. Vol. 30, N°1, pp. 87-102, June 2003.

"Desigualdad educacional en Chile: geografía y dependencia". Dante Contreras, Víctor Macías. Estudios de Economía. Año 39, N°118, pp. 395-421 Diciembre 2002.

"PAA, ¿una prueba de inteligencia?". Dante Contreras, co-author David Bravo, Claudia Sanhueza. Perspectivas, Vol. 4, N°2. 2001.

"Poverty and income distribution in Chile 1987-1998". New evidence. co-authors Osvaldo Larrañaga, Julie Litchfield, Alberto Valdés. Cuadernos de Economía. Año 38, N°114. Agosto 2001.

"Indicadores de medición del impacto de la capacitación en la productividad". David Bravo, Dante Contreras y C. Montero. Relaciones del Trabajo. Año 11, N°31, 2000.

"Asignación de recursos en los hogares pobres de Chile". Coauthor Julio Cáceres. Cuadernos de Economía. Año 36 N°108, pp 727-760. Agosto 1999.

"Distribución del ingreso en Chile. Nueve hechos y algunos mitos". Perspectivas. Vol. 2, N°2. Mayo 1999.

"¿Cómo medir la distribución de ingresos en Chile? ¿Son distintas nuestras regiones? ¿Son distintas nuestras familias? Coautor Jaime Ruiz-Tagle V. Estudios Públicos, N°65 pp 59-80, Centro de Estudios Públicos Verano 1997.

"Pobreza y desigualdad en Chile: 1987-1992. Discurso, metodología y evidencia empírica". Estudios Públicos N°64 pp 57-94, Centro de Estudios Públicos, Primavera 1996.

"Restricciones al crecimiento: Aplicación de un modelo de brechas a la economía Chilena". Colección Estudios Cieplan. N°36 (1992).

Work in progress

Wealth Disparities for Early Childhood Anthropometrics and Skills: Evidence from Chilean Longitudinal Data. Series Documentos de Trabajo. No. 454, Septiembre, 2017. Co authored with E. Puentes, J. Behrman and M. Palma.

Non-cognitive skills, low-income households and early childhood stimulation in Chile. Evidence from panel data. Co-authored with Lissette Briones and Gustavo Soto.

Is Private Education Worth it? Evidence from School-to-Work Transitions. Co-authored with Jorge Rodríguez and Sergio Urzúa.

Measuring the Macroeconomic Benefits of Labor Market Inclusion of People with Disabilities in LAC. Co-authored with Ignacio Riveros Ignacio Vargas.

The effects of mass migration on labour and educational outcomes. Evidence from Chile. Co-authored with Sebastian Gallardo.

Changes in nutritional status and academic achievement: evidence from Chile. Co-authored with Fabian Duarte and Sebastián Gallardo.