

# RUBÉN IRVIN ROJAS VALDÉS

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## CURRENT FACULTY APPOINTMENT

### **Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas (CIDE)**

Assistant Professor, Division of Economics, 2018-present

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## OTHER APPOINTMENTS

### **Cornell University**

Faculty Associate, Cornell University DEEP-GREEN-RADAR, 2018-present

Dynamics, Economics, Econometrics, Policy, and Games: Rigorous Environmental, Energy, Natural Resource, Agriculture, and Development Analysis and Research (DEEP-GREEN-RADAR)

### **Cornell University**

Faculty Associate, Cornell University TREESPEAR, 2018-present

Think-tank for Resources, Energy, and the Environment: Science and Policy-related Economic Analysis and Research (TREESPEAR)

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## EDUCATION

### **Cornell University**

Visiting Fellow, Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management, 2017-2018

### **University of California at Davis**

Ph.D., Agricultural and Resource Economics, July 2018

Dissertation Committee: J. Edward Taylor and C.-Y. Cynthia Lin Lawell (co-chairs), Travis J. Lybbert

Fields of specialization: Development Economics, Applied Econometrics, Natural Resource Economics

### **El Colegio de Mexico**

M.S., Economics, June 2010

### **Universidad Autonoma Chapingo**

B.S., Agricultural Economics, June 2008

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## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Taylor, J. Edward, Mohamad Alloush, Anubhab Gupta, Rubén Irvin Rojas Valdés, and Ernesto Gonzalez-Estrada. (2017). 'Economic Life in Refugee Camps.' *World Development*, 95, 334-347.

Rojas Valdés, Rubén Irvin, C.-Y. Cynthia Lin Lawell, and J. Edward Taylor. (2017). 'Migration in Rural Mexico: Strategic Interactions, Dynamic Behavior, and the Environment.' *Journal of Academic Perspectives*, 2017 (3).

Taylor, J. Edward, Mateusz J. Filipski, Mohamad Alloush, Anubhab Gupta, Rubén Irvin Rojas Valdés, and Ernesto Gonzalez-Estrada. (2016). 'Economic Impact of Refugees.' *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 113 (27), 7449-7453.

Campos-Vazquez, Raymundo M., Andres Hincapie, and Rubén Irvin Rojas-Valdés. (2012). 'Family Income Inequality and the Role of Married Females' Earnings in Mexico: 1988-2010.' *Latin American Journal of Economics -ex Cuadernos de Economia*, 49 (1), 67-98.

Rojas Valdés, Rubén Irvin. (2012). 'Transmission Intergeneracional del Ingreso en Mexico.' In Raymundo M. Campos Vazquez, Juan E. Huerta Wong and Roberto Velez Grajales (eds.), *Movilidad Social en Mexico: Constantes de la Desigualdad*, Centro de Estudios Espinosa Yglesias, Mexico, D.F. pp. 299-351.

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## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Rojas Valdés, Rubén Irvin. (2018). 'Migration, Microfinance, and Microentrepreneurship in Rural Mexico: Neighborhood Effects, Dynamic Behavior, and Hope.' Ph.D. dissertation, University of California at Davis.

Rojas Valdés, Rubén Irvin. (2015). 'El campo y la izquierda' (On policy options for the rural and agricultural sector). [In Spanish]. *Horizontal*. <http://horizontal.mx/el-campo-y-la-izquierda/>

Rojas Valdés, Rubén Irvin. (2013). 'Ustedes los pobres: resultados del CONEVAL' (On poverty reduction policies). [In Spanish]. *Nexos*. <http://redaccion.nexos.com.mx/?p=5397&cpag=1>

Rojas Valdés, Rubén Irvin. (2012). '¿Nos preocupamos o no por el huevo?' (On the egg price hike). [In Spanish]. *Nexos*. <http://redaccion.nexos.com.mx/?p=4204>

Rojas Valdés, Rubén Irvin. (2012). 'Lo rural, un gran olvidado por las políticas públicas' (On rural policies). [In Spanish]. *El Financiero en Línea*.

Rojas Valdés, Rubén Irvin. (2012). 'Movilidad social en México: nuevos hallazgos y una agenda amplia por explorar' (On social mobility). [In Spanish]. *El Financiero en Línea*.

## WORKING PAPERS

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Rojas Valdés, Rubén Irvin, C.-Y. Cynthia Lin Lawell, and J. Edward Taylor. (2018). 'The Dynamic Migration Game: A Structural Econometric Model and Application to Rural Mexico.' Working paper, Cornell University. (*Under review*).

Rojas Valdés, Rubén Irvin, C.-Y. Cynthia Lin Lawell, and J. Edward Taylor. (2018). 'Neighborhood Effects in Migration Decisions in Rural Mexico.' Working paper, Cornell University.

Rojas Valdés, Rubén Irvin, Bruce Wydick, and Travis J. Lybbert. (2018). 'Can Hope Elevate Microfinance? Evidence from Oaxaca Mexico'. Working paper.

Angelucci, Manuela, Carlos Chiapa, Silvia Prina, and Rubén Irvin Rojas Valdés. (2017). 'Consumption Smoothing and Economic Behavior in the Presence of Expected and Unexpected Shocks.' Working paper.

Rojas Valdés, Rubén Irvin, C.-Y. Cynthia Lin Lawell, and J. Edward Taylor. (2018). 'The Economics of Migration and Migration Policy in Rural Mexico.' Working paper, Cornell University.

## WORKS IN PROGRESS

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Rojas Valdés, Rubén Irvin. (2018). 'In-Kind vs. Cash Aid in Rwanda.'

Rojas Valdés, Rubén Irvin, C.-Y. Cynthia Lin Lawell, and J. Edward Taylor. (2018). 'Intra-Household Employment and Schooling Decisions in Rural Mexico.'

Rojas Valdés, Rubén Irvin, C.-Y. Cynthia Lin Lawell, and J. Edward Taylor. (2018). 'Intra-Household Migration Games in Rural Mexico.'

Rojas Valdés, Rubén Irvin, C.-Y. Cynthia Lin Lawell, and J. Edward Taylor. (2018). 'The effects of migration on the sending households in Mexico: A within-households games approach.'

Aragon, Gerardo Francisco, and Rubén Irvin Rojas Valdés. (2018). 'Is competition in the low-skilled labor market really bad? Evidence of the effect of immigrant workers on native students' educational attainment.'

Rojas Valdés, Rubén Irvin, and C.-Y. Cynthia Lin Lawell. (2018). 'Oil producing countries and oil industry privatization.'

## SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

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UC-Davis Hemispheric Institute for the Americas Travel Award (2018)  
University of California at Davis

Cornell University DEEP-GREEN-RADAR Travel Award (2018)  
Cornell University

Selected for Cornell Dyson Job Market Talk and Public Speaking Workshop (2018)  
Cornell University

Post-Candidacy Nonresident Supplemental Tuition Fellowship (2017-2018)  
University of California at Davis

Fellowship for Excellence in Graduate Research (2017)  
University of California at Davis

Gifford Center Travel Award (2017)  
University of California at Davis

Selected for WEAI Graduate Student Dissertation Workshop (2017)  
Western Economic Association International

UC-Davis Graduate Student Travel Award (2017)  
University of California at Davis

UC MEXUS Small Grant for UC Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Researchers (2016)  
The University of California Institute for Mexico and the United States, USA

Poverty Alleviation through Sustainable Solutions (PASS) Project Grant (2016)  
Blum Center for Developing Economies, University of California at Davis

Henry A. Jastro Graduate Research Award (2015)  
College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, University of California at Davis

Postgraduate Scholarship for Ph.D. Study Abroad (2012 - Present)  
National Council for Science and Technology, Mexico &  
The University of California Institute for Mexico and the United States, USA

Departmental Fellowship for Ph.D. Students (2012 - Present)  
Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of California at Davis

High Quality National Program Scholarship for the Master's Degree (2010 - 2012)  
National Council for Science and Technology, Mexico

Masters Thesis Scholarship (2012)  
Social Mobility Program, Centro de Estudios Espinosa Yglesias, Mexico

Honorable Mention for the Bachelor's Degree (2008)  
Chapingo Autonomous University, Mexico

Scholarship for the Bachelor's Degree as External Student (2006 - 2008)  
Chapingo Autonomous University, Mexico

## PRESENTATIONS

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| <b>The Effects of Migration on the Sending Households in Mexico:<br/>A Within-Households Games Approach</b><br><i>2018 Congress of the Latin American Studies Association</i> | May 2018<br><i>Barcelona, Spain</i>        |
| <b>Can Hope Elevate Microfinance? Evidence from Oaxaca Mexico</b><br><i>Pacific Conference for Development Economics (PacDev 2018)</i>  | March 2018<br><i>Davis, CA</i>             |
| <b>The Dynamic Migration Game:<br/>A Structural Econometric Model and Application to Rural Mexico</b><br><i>Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas (CIDE)</i>          | January 2018<br><i>Mexico City, Mexico</i> |
| <b>The Dynamic Migration Game:<br/>A Structural Econometric Model and Application to Rural Mexico</b><br><i>Cornell University</i>  | November 2017<br><i>Ithaca, NY</i>         |

<b>The Dynamic Migration Game: A Structural Econometric Model and Application to Rural Mexico</b> <i>Latin American Meeting of the Econometric Society (LAMES)</i>	November 2017 <i>Buenos Aires, Argentina</i>
<b>Income Changes and Economic Behavior</b> <i>North East Universities Development Consortium Conference (NEUDC)</i>	November 2017 <i>Medford, MA</i>
<b>The Dynamic Migration Game: A Structural Econometric Model and Application to Rural Mexico</b> <i>North East Universities Development Consortium Conference (NEUDC)</i>	November 2017 <i>Medford, MA</i>
<b>The Dynamic Migration Game: A Structural Econometric Model and Application to Rural Mexico</b> <i>2017 Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting</i>	August 2017 <i>Chicago, IL</i>
<b>The Dynamic Migration Game: A Structural Econometric Model and Application to Rural Mexico</b> <i>Gifford Center for Population Studies</i>	July 2017 <i>Davis, CA</i>
<b>Strategic Interactions and Dynamic Behavior in Migration in Rural Mexico</b> <i>WEAI Graduate Student Dissertation Workshop</i>	June 2017 <i>San Diego, CA</i>
<b>Strategic Interactions and Dynamic Behavior in Migration in Rural Mexico</b> <i>University of California at Davis</i>	May 2017 <i>Davis, CA</i>
<b>Strategic Interactions and Dynamic Behavior in Migration in Rural Mexico</b> <i>2017 CIRET International Conference on Migration and Welfare</i>	May 2017 <i>Rome, Italy</i>
<b>Smoothing Behavior in PROSPERA Recipient Households</b> <i>8th Annual Gianinni Foundation of Agricultural and Resource Economics Student Conference (GARESC)</i>	April 2017 <i>Davis, CA</i>
<b>Strategic Interactions and Dynamic Behavior in Migration in Rural Mexico</b> <i>Midwest International Economic Development Conference</i>	April 2017 <i>Madison, WI</i>
<b>Strategic Interactions and Dynamic Behavior in Migration in Rural Mexico</b> <i>Pacific Conference for Development Economics (PacDev 2017)</i>	March 2017 <i>Riverside, CA</i>
<b>Strategic Interactions and Dynamic Behavior in Migration in Rural Mexico</b> <i>Oxford Symposium on Population, Migration, and the Environment</i>	December 2016 <i>Oxford, UK</i>
<b>Strategic Interactions and Dynamic Behavior in Migration in Rural Mexico</b> <i>University of San Francisco</i>	October 2016 <i>San Francisco, CA</i>
<b>Strategic Interactions in Migration Decisions in Rural Mexico</b> <i>2016 Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting</i>	August 2016 <i>Boston, MA</i>
<b>Strategic Interactions and Migration Decisions in Rural Mexico</b> <i>2014 Gianinni Foundation of Agricultural and Resource Economics Student Conference (GARESC)</i>	April 2014 <i>Davis, CA</i>

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

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<b>Cornell University</b> <i>Graduate Research Associate, Cornell University DEEP-GREEN-RADAR</i>	July 2017 - Present <i>Ithaca, New York, USA</i>
Graduate Research Associate at Cornell University Dynamics, Economics, Econometrics, Policy, and Games: Rigorous Environmental, Energy, Natural Resource, Agriculture, and Development Analysis and Research (DEEP-GREEN-RADAR) Supervisor: C.-Y. Cynthia Lin Lawell	
<b>Cornell University</b> <i>Graduate Research Associate, Cornell University TREESPEAR</i>	July 2017 - Present <i>Ithaca, New York, USA</i>
Graduate Research Associate at Cornell University Think-tank for Resources, Energy, and the Environment: Science and Policy-related Economic Analysis and Research (TREESPEAR) Supervisor: C.-Y. Cynthia Lin Lawell	

**University of California at Davis**  
*Graduate Student Researcher*

January 2014 - Present  
*Davis, California, USA*

Dissertation Committee: J. Edward Taylor and C.-Y. Cynthia Lin Lawell (co-chairs), Travis J. Lybbert

- Strategic interactions and dynamic behavior in migration decisions in rural Mexico (part of Ph.D. dissertation)
- A structural econometric model of the world oil industry's privatization
- A local economy-wide impact evaluation (LEWIE) of the World Food Programme aid in Rwandan's refugee camps. Fieldwork in Rwanda in collaboration with the World Food Programme (WFP)
- Evaluation of the causal impacts of higher aspirations and hopefulness within a population of microfinance borrowers in Oaxaca, Mexico (field coordinator)

**El Colegio de Mexico**  
*Consultant*

September 2011 - August 2012  
*Mexico, D.F., Mexico*

Supervisors: Antonio Yunez Naude and Carlos Chiapa

- Program design evaluation, Program of Subsidy for the Agricultural Insurance Premium, Mexico
- Program design evaluation, Program for Women in the Agricultural Sector, Mexico

**Inter-American Development Bank**  
*Junior Researcher at the Integration and Trade Sector*

September 2010 - August 2011  
*Washington, D.C., USA*

Supervisor: Juan Blyde

- An analysis of the domestic factors that influence international trade in Colombia, Brazil, and Mexico using georeferenced data
- An analysis of Chile's international trade using customs' micro-data

**El Colegio de Mexico**  
*Research Assistant*

January - June 2010  
*Mexico, D.F., Mexico*

Supervisor: Raymundo Campos Vazquez

- An analysis of female labor force participation in Mexico using the National Employment Surveys

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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**Centro de Investigacin y Docencia Econmicas (CIDE)**  
*Instructor*

August 2018  
*Mexico City*

Graduate Course in Programs Evaluation

**University of California at Davis**  
*Guest Lecturer*

August 2017  
*Davis, CA*

Guest Lecturer on International Labor Migration in the XXI Century for Japanese Agricultural Training Program at UC-Davis, a course which brings recent Japanese undergraduate students to UC-Davis for the summer, where they receive training in several fields.

**University of California at Davis**  
*Instructor*

August 2016  
*Davis, CA*

Agribusiness Instructor for the Japanese Agricultural Training Program

**El Colegio de Mexico**  
*Teaching Assistant*

January - June 2012  
*Mexico, D.F., Mexico*

Teaching Assistant for Graduate Course in Microeconometrics and Program Evaluation for Professor Carlos Chiapa

**Universidad Autnoma Chapingo**  
*Instructor*

September 2009  
*Texcoco, Mexico*

Topics in Macroeconomics

Teaching Assistant for Graduate Course in Microeconomics for Professor Raymundo Campos Vazquez

## SERVICE

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Referee, *American Journal of Agricultural Economics, Environmental Economics and Policy Studies, Latin America Economic Review*

Reviewer, Pacific Conference for Development Economics (PacDev 2018)

Discussant, North East Universities Development Consortium Conference (2017)

Discussant, WEAI Graduate Student Dissertation Workshop (2017)

Discussant, Midwest International Economic Development Conference (2017)

Session Moderator, Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting (2016)

President, Graduate Students Association (2013-2014)

Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of California at Davis

## MEDIA CITATIONS

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'Let them work: Refugees need not be a burden, if they are allowed to work'. *The Economist*. 21 April 2018.

<https://www.economist.com/news/international/21740725-successes-and-failures-ugandas-liberal-refugee-policy-have-lessons>

'Rubén Irvin Rojas Valdés: Assistant Professor at Center for Research and Teaching in Economics'. UC-Davis Agricultural and Resource Economics. 19 April 2018.

<https://are.ucdavis.edu/department/news/2018/4/19/Rub%20Irvin%20Rojas%20Vald%20-%20Assistant%20Professor%20at%20Center%20for%20Research%20and%20Teaching%20in%20Economics>

'Irvin Rojas presented structural econometric model of the dynamic migration game at Latin American Meeting of the Econometric Society'. Cornell University Dynamics, Economics, Econometrics, Policy, and Games: Rigorous Environmental, Energy, Natural Resource, Agriculture, and Development Analysis and Research (DEEP-GREEN-RADAR). November 2017.

[http://deep-green-radar.dyson.cornell.edu/irvin\\_rojas\\_news\\_LAMES.html](http://deep-green-radar.dyson.cornell.edu/irvin_rojas_news_LAMES.html)

'Whats the latest in development economics research?'. *World Bank Development Impact Blog*. 8 November 2017.

<https://blogs.worldbank.org/impacthevaluations/what-s-latest-development-economics-research-round-140-papers-neudc-2017>

'Irvin Rojas presented structural econometric model of the dynamic migration game at Oxford University and in Rome'. Cornell University Dynamics, Economics, Econometrics, Policy, and Games: Rigorous Environmental, Energy, Natural Resource, Agriculture, and Development Analysis and Research (DEEP-GREEN-RADAR). August 2017.

[http://deep-green-radar.dyson.cornell.edu/irvin\\_rojas\\_news\\_OxfordRome.html](http://deep-green-radar.dyson.cornell.edu/irvin_rojas_news_OxfordRome.html)

'Irvin Rojas presented at Oxford University'. Cornell University Think-tank for Resources, Energy, and the Environment: Science and Policy-related Economic Analysis and Research (TREESPEAR). August 2017.

[http://treespear.dyson.cornell.edu/irvin\\_rojas\\_news\\_Oxford.html](http://treespear.dyson.cornell.edu/irvin_rojas_news_Oxford.html)

'People Section'. *The Exchange*. Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA). August 2017.

<http://www.aaea.org/publications/the-exchange/newsletter-archives/volume-39---2017/august-2017-issue-17/people-section>

'AAEA Presentation by Rubén Irvin Rojas Valdés: The Dynamic Migration Game: A Structural Econometric Model and Application to Rural Mexico'. UC-Davis Agricultural and Resource Economics. 26 July 2016.

<https://are.ucdavis.edu/department/news/2017/7/26/aaea-presentation-Rub%20Irvin%20Rojas%20Vald%20-%20The%20Dynamic%20Migration%20Game%20-%20A%20Structural%20Econometric%20Model%20and%20Application%20to%20Rural%20Mexico>

## TECHNICAL STRENGTHS

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<b>Statistical Software</b>	Stata, R
<b>Scientific Software</b>	Matlab, Mathematica, GAMS
<b>Geographic Information System</b>	ArcGIS
<b>Others</b>	L <sup>A</sup> T <sub>E</sub> X, ODK

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

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<b>Languages</b>	Spanish (native) and English (fluent)
<b>Date of birth</b>	April 22, 1986
<b>Place of birth</b>	Texcoco, Estado de Mexico, Mexico
<b>Citizenship</b>	Mexican

#### **LAST UPDATE**

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**August 2018**