

LEAH PLATT BOUSTAN

MAILING ADDRESS

Industrial Relations Section
Louis A. Simpson International Building
Princeton, NJ 08544

CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone: (609) 258-7116
Email: lboustan@princeton.edu
URL: scholar.princeton.edu/lboustan/home

EDUCATION

Harvard University, Ph.D. in Economics, 2006

Princeton University, A.B. in Economics *summa cum laude*, 2000

EMPLOYMENT

Princeton University

Professor of Economics, 2017–present

University of California Los Angeles

Professor of Economics, 2016–2017; Associate 2012–2016; Assistant 2006–2012

POSITIONS

National Bureau of Economic Research

Co-Director, Development of the American Economy Program, 2017–present

Faculty Research Fellow/Research Associate 2007–present

Journal of Urban Economics

Co-editor, 2017–present; Editorial board, 2013–17

Editorial board

American Economic Review; Urban Economics Association

Former editorial boards

Explorations in Economic History, Historical Methods, Journal of Economic History,
Journal of Economic Perspectives, Journal of European Econ Assn

BOOKS

Streets of Gold: America's Untold Story of Immigrant Success, PublicAffairs, 2022 (with Ran Abramitzky).

Competition in the Promised Land: Black Migrants in Northern Cities and Labor Markets, Princeton University Press, 2017.

Awards: Allan Sharlin (Social Science Hist Assn); Alice Hanson Jones (Econ History Assn)

Human Capital in History: The American Record, co-edited with Carola Frydman and Robert A. Margo. Chicago: U of Chicago Press, 2014.

PUBLISHED OR FORTHCOMING PAPERS

“The Effect of Immigration on Local Labor Markets: Lessons from the 1920s Border Closure,” with Ran Abramitzky, Philipp Ager, Elior Cohen and Casper Worm Hansen. Revision requested at *American Economic Journal: Applied*.

“Leaving the Enclave: Historical Evidence on Immigrant Mobility from the Industrial Removal Office,” with Ran Abramitzky and Dylan Connor. Revision requested at *Journal of Economic History*.

“The Intergenerational Effects of a Large Wealth Shock: White Southerners after the Civil War,” with Philipp Ager and Katherine Eriksson. *American Economic Review*, Forthcoming.

“Automated Linking of Historical Data,” with Ran Abramitzky, Katherine Eriksson, James Feigenbaum, and Santiago Pérez. *Journal of Economic Literature*, Forthcoming.

“Intergenerational Mobility of Immigrants in the U.S. over Two Centuries,” with Ran Abramitzky, Elisa Jácome & Santiago Pérez. *American Economic Review*, 111 (2021): 580-608.

“Do Immigrants Assimilate More Slowly Today Than in the Past?,” with Ran Abramitzky and Katherine Eriksson. *American Economic Review: Insights*, 2 (2020): 125–41.

“Discrimination and the Returns to Cultural Assimilation in the Age of Mass Migration,” with Ran Abramitzky, Katherine Eriksson and Stephanie Hao. *AEA Papers and Proceedings*, 110 (2020): 340–6.

“The Effect of Natural Disasters on Economic Activity in US Counties: A Century of Data,” with Matthew Kahn, Paul Rhode and Maria Lucia Yanguas. *Journal of Urban Economics*, 118 (2020).

“Variation in Women’s Success Across PhD Programs in Economics,” with Andrew Langan. *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 33 (2019), 23–42.

“To the New World and Back Again: Return Migration and Upward Mobility,” with Ran Abramitzky and Katherine Eriksson. *Industrial and Labor Relations Review*, 72 (2019) 300–322.

“Urbanization in the United States, 1800-2000,” with Devin Bunten and Owen Hearey. *Oxford Handbook of American Economic History*, ed. Louis Cain, Price Fishback, Paul Rhode. (New York: Oxford University Press, 2018).

“Immigration in American Economic History,” with Ran Abramitzky. *Journal of Economic Literature*, 55 (2017) 1311–45.

“Racial Differences in Health in Long-Run Perspective,” with Robert A. Margo. *Oxford Handbook of Economics and Human Biology*, ed. John Komlos. (New York: Oxford University Press, 2016).

“The Origin and Persistence of Black-White Differences in Women’s Labor Force Participation,” with William J. Collins. In *Human Capital in History: The American Record* (U of Chicago Press, 2014).

“A Nation of Immigrants: Assimilation and Economic Outcomes in the Age of Mass Migration,” with Ran Abramitzky and Katherine Eriksson. *Journal of Political Economy*, 122 (2014) 467-506.

“A Silver Lining to White Flight? White Suburbanization and African-American Homeownership, 1940-80,” with Robert A. Margo. *Journal of Urban Economics*, 78 (2013) 71–80.

PUBLISHED PAPERS, CONT.

“The Effect of Rising Income Inequality on Taxation and Public Expenditures: Evidence from US Municipalities and School Districts, 1970-2000,” with Fernando Ferreira, Hernan Winkler and Eric Zolt. *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 95 (2013), 1291–1302.

“Local Public Goods and the Demand for High-Income Municipalities,” *Journal of Urban Economics*, 76 (2013) 71–82.

“Population Trends as a Counterweight to Central City Decline,” with Allison Shertzer. *Demography* 50.1 (2013): 125–47.

“Europe’s Tired, Poor, Huddled Masses: Self-selection and Economic Outcomes in the Age of Mass Migration,” with Ran Abramitzky and Katherine Eriksson, *American Economic Review* 102.5 (2012): 1832–56.

“Moving to Higher Ground: Migration Response to Natural Disasters in the Early Twentieth Century,” with Matthew E. Kahn and Paul W. Rhode, *AEA: Papers and Proceedings* (2012): 238–44.

“School Desegregation and Urban Change: Evidence from City Boundaries,” *American Economic Journal: Applied* 4.1 (2012): 85–108.

“Racial Residential Segregation in American Cities,” in *Oxford Handbook of Urban Economics and Planning*, ed. Nancy Brooks and Gerrit-Jan Knaap (Oxford University Press, 2011), 318–39.

“The Effect of Internal Migration on Local Labor Markets: American Cities During the Great Depression,” with Price Fishback and Shawn Kantor, *Journal of Labor Economics* 28.4 (2010): 719–46.
Winner of the 2010 IPUMS Research award

“Was Postwar Suburbanization White Flight? Evidence from the Black Migration,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 125.1 (2010): 417–43.

“Job Decentralization and Postwar Suburbanization: Evidence from State Capitals,” with Robert A. Margo, *Brookings-Wharton Papers on Urban Affairs* (2009): 1–20.

“Competition in the Promised Land: Black Migration and Northern Labor Markets, 1940-1970,” *Journal of Economic History* 69.3 (2009): 756–83.

“Race, Segregation, and Postal Employment: New Evidence on Spatial Mismatch,” with Robert A. Margo, *Journal of Urban Economics* 65.1 (2009): 1–10.

“Were Jews Political Refugees or Economic Migrants? Assessing the Persecution Theory of Jewish Emigration, 1881-1914,” in *The New Comparative Economic History: Essays in Honor of Jeffrey G. Williamson*, ed. Tim Hatton, Kevin O’Rourke and Alan Taylor (MIT Press, 2007), 267–90.

“Black Migration, White Flight: The Effect of Black Migration on Northern Cities and Labor Markets,” *Journal of Economic History* 67.2 (2007): 484–88. (Dissertation summary)

WORKING PAPERS

“Does Condominium Development Lead to Gentrification?” with Robert A. Margo, Matthew M. Miller, James M. Reeves and Justin Steil. NBER Working Paper 26170, August 2019.

“Automation Before Robots: Numerical Control and the US Labor Market,” with David Clingingsmith and Jiwon Choi.

“Historical refugees to the US achieved more English-language attainment than economic migrants” with Ran Abramitzky, Peter Catron, Dylan Connor, and Rob Voigt.

“White Flight from Asian Immigrants: Evidence from California Public Schools,” w/ Christine Cai

“Political Speech about Immigration is More Positive but More Polarized than at Any Time in the Past 140 Years” with Ran Abramitzky, Dallas Card, Serina Chang, Dan Jurafsky and Rob Voigt

HONORS, PRIZES AND FELLOWSHIPS

2019–20	<i>American Economic Journal: Applied</i> Excellence in Reviewing Award
2019–	Non-resident fellow, Global Economy, Brookings Institution
2019	IZA Young Labor Economist Award
2018	Graduate Economics Club, Best Advisor Award, Princeton University
2016–17	Russell Sage Foundation Research Project Award
2014	<i>American Economic Review</i> Excellence in Refereeing Award
2013–14	Research Fellow, Straus Institute at NYU School of Law
2012–14	Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellowship
2011	<i>Quarterly Journal of Economics</i> Excellence in Refereeing Award
2010	IPUMS Research Award, Best Journal Article
2010–13	National Science Foundation Research Grant
2006–14 (x 4)	Distinguished Teaching Award, UCLA Economics Dept
2006	Alan Nevins Prize for best dissertation in American Economic History
2001–04	National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship

PUBLIC LECTURES, INVITED CONFERENCES AND INVITED TEACHING

2021	Clair Wilcox Lecture, Swarthmore College
2021	Uppsala Lecture in Housing and Urban Research, Uppsala University, Sweden
2021	Hicks Lecture, Economic and Social History Workshop, Oxford University
2021	Keynote lecture, immigration and the economy conerence, NBER
2020	Urban Economics Association Lectures on Urban Economics
2019	Departmental seminar, MIT (Economics)
2019	W.J. Usery Distinguished Lecturer, Georgia State University
2019	Keynote, “Moving to Opportunity in Developing Countries,” World Bank
2019	Keynote, Neighborhoods, Externalities and Inequality workshop, Copenhagen
2019	Public lecture, “Streets of Gold: Immigration and the American Dream,” Trinity-Dublin
2018	Keynote, Urban Economics Association
2018	“The Economics and Ethics of Immigration,” New York University
2018	Departmental seminar, Princeton University (Economics)
2018	Departmental seminar, UC-Berkeley (Economics)
2014	Mary MacKinnon Lecture, Canadian Network for Economic History
2013	Keynote, “Migration: Global Development, New Frontiers,” University College London
2011	Institut d’Economia de Barcelona, Summer School in Immigration & Public Policy
2010	Public lecture, “Black Migration and the Transformation of American Cities,” Dartmouth

GRADUATE ADVISING *indicates chair or co-chair

- 2020 Cavit Baran* (Northwestern, Postdoc) Elior Cohen (Fed – Kansas City), Elisa Jacome* (Northwestern)
- 2019 Jessica Brown (South Carolina); Mingyu Chen (Amazon); Andrew Langan* (Mathematica); Maria Lucia Yanguas (Cornerstone)
- 2017 Peter Catron (Sociology; U Washington); Dylan Connor (Geography; Arizona State); Matthew Miller (Amazon); Colin Weiss (Fed Board)
- 2016 Devin Buntin (Fed Board; now MIT Urban Planning); Owen Hearey (Analysis Group); Carlos Hernandez* (Universidad de Los Andes)
- 2015 Francisco Haimovich* (World Bank); Sandra Rozo (USC Marshall)
- 2014 Gabriela Rubio (UC-Merced)
- 2013 Katherine Eriksson* (Cal Poly; now UC-Davis); Molly Ball (History; Rochester)
- 2012 Matt Hill (Pompeu Fabra); Mohamed Saleh (Toulouse)
- 2011 Allison Shertzer (Pittsburgh); Hernan Winkler (World Bank)

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