

MENNA BIZUNEH

Address:

Department of Economics
Pitzer College
1050 North Mills Avenue
Claremont, CA 91711
Office: Scott 204

Contact:

909-607-9127

Menna_Bizuneh@pitzer.edu

<http://www.pitzer.edu/academics/faculty/bizuneh/>

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS:

International Economics, Monetary Economics, Macroeconomics, Public Economics and Economics Education

POSITION:

Associate Professor of Economics, Pitzer College
Assistant Professor of Economics, Pitzer College
Assistant Professor of Economics, CSB | SJU

July 2019 to Present
July 2014 to June 2019
August 2012 - May 2014

EDUCATION:

Ph.D. Economics, Georgia State University, 2012
Dissertation: The Difficult Decision to Devalue a Currency
Main Advisor: Neven Valev
Other Advisors: Shiferaw Gurmu, Felix Rioja, Mahmut Yasar
M.S. Economics, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, 2006
B.S. Engineering, Georgia Institute of Technology, 2005
B.A. Economics, Emory University, 2003

RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS:

Published Refereed Scholarly Articles

“Gaining Global Clout through Monetary Union: Evidence from East Africa,” (with Steven Buigut and Neven Valev), Journal of Economic Integration, 2018, 33(2), 1363-1387.

“The Devil You Know: Pegs vs. Floats with Uncertain Outcomes,” (with Neven Valev) Review of International Economics, 2014, 22(4), 686-699.

“Safety in Numbers: Bailouts and the Decision to Join the EMU,” (with Neven Valev) Comparative Economic Studies, 2014, 56(3), 452-68.

Papers Under Review and In Progress

“Beyond borders: The Euro Crisis and Public Support for Monetary Integration in East Africa,” (with Steven Buigut and Neven Valev) under review.

“Foreign-Domestic Gap: Economics Major Choice among Undergraduate Students,” (with Alexandre Baude) under review.

“Are We Floating Yet? Duration of Fixed Exchange Rate Regimes,” Pitzer College, working paper. Latest revision: December 2017

“Matching Matters: Women and the Choice to major in Economics,” (with Alexandre Baude, Antara Anand, and Morgan Stockham)

“The Road to Growth: The Impact of Highway improvements on Firm Productivity,” (with Nara Monkam)

Publish Non-Refereed Articles

“Should Fannie, Freddie Do Principle Reduction?” hsn.com, 2015,
(<http://www.hsh.com/finance/mortgage/should-fannie-freddie-do-principal-reductions.html>)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE: PITZER COLLEGE

Instructor, Senior Seminar (Capstone), FA2018

Instructor, Principles of Macroeconomics, FA2014, SP2015, SP2016, FA2016, SP 2017, SP2018 & FA2018

Instructor, International Trade Theory and Policy, FA2014, FA2015, FA2016 & SP2018

Instructor, Macroeconomic Theory, SP2017

Instructor, What is German For Uncertainty? The Restless European Union, FA2015

Honor Thesis Advisor (1st reader), Economics Major (James Richards), SP2018

Honor Thesis Advisor (2nd reader), Economics Major (Alexandre Baude), SP2018

Honor Thesis Advisor (2nd reader), International Relations Major (Gailyn Marie Portelance), FA2014

Honor Thesis Advisor (2nd reader), Economics (Lenore Byers), SP2016

Independent Research Advisor, Economics (Antara Anand, Morgan Stockham), SU2017 – SP2018

Independent Research Advisor, Economics (Alexandre Baude), SU2016 –SP2018

Independent Study Advisor, Economics (Thomas Karnwinkle), FA2017

Independent Study Advisor, Economics (Michael Caldwell), SP2017

Independent Study Advisor, Economics (Norris Kayitare), FA2016

Academic Advisor, Economics Majors (34), FA2017 - SP2018

Academic Advisor, International Political Economy Major (3), FA2017 –SP2018

Academic Advisor, General (15), FA2017 - SP2018

COLLEGE OF ST. BENEDICT | ST. JOHN’S UNIVERSITY:

Instructor, International Finance Theory and Policy, SP2014

Instructor, International Trade Theory and Policy, SP2013

Instructor, Introduction to Economics, FA2012 & SP2013 & FA2013 & SP2014

Instructor, International Economics, FA2012& FA2013

Academic Advisor, Undergraduate Research, SUM2013 (accepted for NCUR 2014 Conference)

Academic Advisor, Economics Majors (15), SP2013 - SP2014

Developed a Global Economy website (w/ Neven Valev) to be used as a supplemental teaching instrument.

GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY:

Instructor, The Global Economy (undergraduate), SP2010

Instructor, Principles of Macroeconomics (undergraduate), FA2010

Teaching Assistant: Principles of Microeconomics SUM2010 & SUM2011 w/ Shiferaw Gurmu; The Global Economy (undergraduate) SUM2009 w/ Paul Kagundu; Econometrics (undergraduate) SP2009 & SP2010 w/ Shiferaw Gurmu; Applied Statistics and Econometrics II FA2010 & SP2011 w/ Shiferaw Gurmu; Applied Statistics and Econometrics II (graduate) SP2011 w/ Shiferaw Gurmu

EMORY UNIVERSITY:

Teaching Assistant: Regression Analysis SP2002 w/ Elena Pesavento

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE:

Graduate Research Assistant for Shiferaw Gurmu, Georgia State University, 2007-2011, Atlanta, Georgia

Economist, MATHER ECONOMICS, February 2007- May 2007, Roswell, Georgia

Consultant, MOTEL 6, January 2005-May 2005, Atlanta, Georgia

Consultant, OLIN, May 2004-July 2004, Atlanta, Georgia

Economic Analyst: Intern, May 2002-July 2002, AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK, Abidjan, Cote D'Ivoire

HONORS, AWARDS AND INVITED PRESENTATIONS:

Scholar in Residence Fellowship, Pitzer College, 2018

Keynote Address at the Andrew Young School of Policy Graduation Ceremony, December 2015, Atlanta, GA

Theodore C. Boyden Excellence in Teaching Economics Award, Georgia State University, 2011

Service Award, Georgia State University, 2010

George Malanos Scholarship, 2008

Omicron Delta Epsilon, 2005

RESEARCH GRANTS:

Consortium for Higher Achievement and Success (CHAS), "Demystifying Economics Major Shortage of Women in Minority Groups," 2015 (\$6,450)

Pitzer Faculty Research Award, 2014-2015(\$2,500), 2015-2016 (\$2,500), 2016-2017(\$3,000), 2017-2018(\$3,000)

African Development Bank (AfDB) Research Grant, "Public Attitude towards the East African Monetary Union," 2013 (\$18,000)

College of St. Benedict | St. John's University Faculty Development and Research Grant, "Public Attitude towards the East African Monetary Union," 2013 (\$5,000)

PRESENTATIONS:

Southern Economic Association Conference, November 2018, Washington, DC

Pitzer College Marquis Faculty Salon Seminar Series, April 2018, Claremont, CA

Midwestern Economic Association Conference, March 2018, Evanston, IL

Western Economic Association International, International Conference, January 2018, Newcastle, Australia

Midwest Political Science Association Conference, April 2017, Chicago, IL

Midwestern Economic Association Conference, March 2017, Cincinnati, WI

Eastern Economic Association Conference, February 2017, New York, NY

Western Economic Association International, International Conference, January 2017, Santiago, Chile

Midwest Political Science Association Conference, April 2016, Chicago, IL

Eastern Economic Association Conference, February 2016, Washington, D.C.

Western Economic Association International Conference, June 2015, Honolulu, HI

Eastern Economic Association Conference, February 2015, New York, NY

12th International Conference on the Ethiopian Economy and the 19th Annual Conference of African Econometrics Society, July 2014, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Committee on the Status of Women in Economics Profession (CSWEP) national mentoring (CeMENT) workshop, November 2013, Tampa, FL

Lawrence University Economics Colloquium Seminar Series, November 2013, Appleton, WI

Macroeconomic Research Workshop at Liberal Arts Colleges, August 2013, Claremont, CA

Midwest Political Science Association Conference, March 2013, Chicago, IL

Tilburg University (CentER) Seminar Series, December 2012, Tilburg, Netherlands

Southern Economic Association Conference, November 2012, New Orleans, LA

EUSA-Economics Interest Section Workshop, June 2012, Arlington, VA

Tax Policy, Fiscal Analysis & Revenue Forecasting Course (International Studies Training Program), Georgia State University, August 2011, Atlanta, GA

Midwest Political Association Conference, March 2011, Chicago, IL

Georgia State University Dissertation Workshop Seminar Series, March 2011, Atlanta, GA

Southern Economic Association Conference, November 2010, Atlanta, GA

Georgia State Dissertation Workshop Seminar Series, October 2010, Atlanta, GA

Midwest Political Association Conference, March 2010, Chicago, IL

SERVICE:

Financial Literacy Workshops (w/ Georgia Hartman), 2018 (Fall)

Committee co-chair, TLC, Pitzer College, 2018 (Spring)

Faculty Panel presenter, Best Practices for Managing Summer Research Students, the Claremont Colleges, 2018

Committee member, Study Abroad and International Programs (SAIP), Pitzer College, Spring 2018

Faculty Advisor for Claremont Crypto Society, Pitzer College 2017-2018

Session Chair, Midwest Economic Association Conference, 2018

Discussant, Western Economic Association International, 2018, 2017 & 2015
 Committee member, Ad Hoc Committee on Benefits, 2017-2018
 Session Organizer & chair, Eastern Economic Association Conference, 2017
 Committee member, IRB, Pitzer College, 2016-2017
 Faculty Advisor for DECA, Pitzer College, 2016–2017
 Committee member, TLC, Pitzer College, 2015-2016,
 Session Chair, Midwest Political Science Association Conference, 2016
 Session Organizer & chair, Eastern Economic Association Conference, 2016
 Discussant, Southern Economic Association Conference, 2010 & 2012 & 2018
 Discussant, Midwestern Economic Association, 2017 & 2018
 Discussant, Eastern Economic Association Conference, 2017 & 2015
 Discussant, Claremont-UC Undergraduate Conference on the European, 2015
 Panel Discussant, Faculty Forum at CRC Norco, 2015
 Panel Moderator, Minnesota Economic Association Conference, 2013
 Board Member of the Minnesota Economic Association, 2012-2013 & 2013-2014
 Faculty Advisor for CSB|SJU Economics Club, 2013–2014
 Faculty Member, CSB|SJU Economics Department Scholarship Committee, 2012-2014
 Session Chair, Midwest Political Science Association Conference, 2013
 Session Chair, Southern Economic Association Conference, 2010 & 2012
 Discussant, Midwest Political Science Association Conference, 2017, 2015, 2013, 2011 & 2010
 President of the Economics Graduate Student Association, Georgia State University, 2009-2010
 Member of the Dean Search Committee, Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, 2010
 Treasurer and Co-founder of Society of Pre-Engineers, Emory, 2001-2003
 Vice President of the African Student Association, Emory, 2002-2000

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Refereeing: Journal of International Money and Finance, Cambridge Review of International Relations, International Journal of Economics and Business Research, Applied Economics Letters (incorporating Applied Financial Economics Letters), Atlantic Economic Journal, International Journal of Gender Studies in Developing Societies, Studies in Higher Education, International Journal of Pluralism and Economics Education, National Council on Undergraduate Research (NCUR)

Member: American Economic Association (AEA), Eastern Economic Association (EEA), Southern Economic Association (SEA), Western Economic Association International (WEAI), Midwestern Economic Association (MEA), Committee on the Status of Women in the Economic Profession (CSWEP), Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA), Ethiopian Economic Association (EthEA), European Union Center of California

Workshop participation: European Union (EU) Center of California’s Research Conference “2016 Claremont Integration Workshop” 2016, NBER Universities’ Research Conference “Poverty, Inequality, and Social Policy” 2013, CSWEP “CeMENT” 2013

LANGUAGES: English (native), French (fluent), Amharic (native), Spanish (limited)

SOFTWARE KNOWLEDGE: STATA, R, SAS, E-views, Matlab, Latex, Works Minitab, Access, Arena, Microsoft Excel, PowerPoint, Word

Updated June 2019