
CONTACT INFORMATION	Department of Economics and Finance College of Business and Entrepreneurship 1201 W. University Drive Edinburg, TX 78539	C: (909) 418-8478 W: (956) 665-2827 salvador.contreras@utrgv.edu http://faculty.utrgv.edu/salvador.contreras/
EDUCATION	Claremont Graduate University , Claremont, California	
	Ph.D., Economics, 2007	
	Field: International and Development Economics	
	Dissertation: <i>Human Capital Accumulation, Heterogeneous Households, and Economic Development</i>	
	M.A., Politics, Economics, and Business, 2002	
	University of La Verne , La Verne, California	
	B.A., Political Science, 2000	
CURRENT POSITIONS	Director	September 2015 - Present
	Center for Border Economic Studies, The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	
	Associate Professor	September 2015 - Present
	Department of Economics and Finance, The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	
PAST ACADEMIC & ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE	ADVANCE Administrative Fellow	September 2017 - May 2018
	Graduate College, The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	
	Director	February 2014 - August 2015
	Center for Border Economic Studies, The University of Texas-Pan American	
	Assistant Professor	September 2009 - August 2015
	Department of Economics and Finance, The University of Texas-Pan American	
	Director	2012 - 2014
	Coca Cola First Generation Scholars program, The University of Texas-Pan American	
	Assistant Professor	2007 - 2009
	Department of Accounting, Finance and Economics, McNeese State University	
	Lecturer	2006 - 2007
	Department of Economics, University of Redlands	
	Lecturer	2005 - 2006
	Department of Economics, California State University, Long Beach	

- [15] Financial crisis, Bank failures and corporate innovation. *Journal of Banking & Finance*, v 129, pp. 106161, 2021. (With Joon Ho Kong and Amit Ghosh)
doi:<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jbankfin.2021.106161>
- [14] Bank failures, local business dynamics, and government policy. *Small Business Economics* (forthcoming). (With Manthos DELIS, Amit Ghosh, and Iftekhar Hasan)
doi:<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11187-021-00478-5>
- [13] Income inequality and minority labor market dynamics: Medium term effects from the Great Recession. *Economics Letters*, v. 199, n. 109717, pp. 264-284, 2021. (With Amit Ghosh and Iftekhar Hasan)
doi:<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.econlet.2020.109717>
- [12] The racial/ethnic gap in financial literacy in the population and by income. *Contemporary Economic Policy*, v. 39, i. 3, pp. 524-536, 2021. (With Marco Angrisani, Sergio Barrera, and Luisa R. Blanco)
doi:<https://doi.org/10.1111/coep.12507>
- [11] Organizational change and work stress, attitudes, and cognitive load utilization: a natural experiment in a university restructuring. *Personnel Review*, v. 50, n. 1, pp. 264-284, 2020. (With Gorge Gonzalez)
doi:<https://doi.org/10.1108/PR-06-2018-0231>
- [10] For Economic Advantage or Something Else? A Case for Racial Identification Switching. *Review of Black Political Economy*, v. 43, i. 3, pp. 301-323, 2016.
doi:[10.1007/s12114-016-9238-5](https://doi.org/10.1007/s12114-016-9238-5)
- [9] Looking for status appeal? Act interested in your child's education. *International Journal of Social Economics*, v. 44, n. 3, pp. 377-399, 2017.
doi:[10.1108/IJSE-09-2015-0241](https://doi.org/10.1108/IJSE-09-2015-0241)
- [8] An Alternative View to the Cause of Market Failures: A Dynamic Approach. *Theoretical Economics Letters*, 4, 548-557, 2014.
doi:[10.4236/tel.2014.47069](https://doi.org/10.4236/tel.2014.47069)
- [7] The Influence of Migration on Human Capital Development. *International Economic Journal*, v. 27, i. 3., pp. 365-384, 2013.
doi:[10.1080/10168737.2012.659277](https://doi.org/10.1080/10168737.2012.659277)
- [6] Peer Effects on Undergraduate Business Student Performance. *International Review of Economics Education*, v. 11, i.1, pp. 57-66, 2012. (With Francisco Badua, and Mitchell Adrian)
- [5] A theoretical exposition of migration enforcement on existing migrant and domestic households. *Journal of Regional Science*, v. 51, i. 4, pp. 821-835, 2011.
doi:[10.1111/j.1467-9787.2011.00720.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1467-9787.2011.00720.x)
- [4] Parental Quality Investment, Child Effort, and Human Capital Accumulation. *International Economic Journal*, v. 25, i. 3, pp. 387-417, 2011.
doi:[10.1080/10168737.2010.505246](https://doi.org/10.1080/10168737.2010.505246)
- [3] Documenting and Explaining Major Field Test Results Among Undergraduate Students. *Journal of Education for Business*, v. 86, i.2, pp. 64-70, 2011. (With Francisco Badua, Jiun Shiu Chen, and Mitchell Adrian)
doi:[10.1080/08832323.2010.480987](https://doi.org/10.1080/08832323.2010.480987)
- [2] A Major Choice: Differential Effects of Academics, Demographics, and Effort-Tolerance on Major Selection. *The Journal of Academic Administration in Higher Education*, v.4, pp. 41-48, 2008. (With Francisco Badua)

OTHER
PUBLICATIONS

- [1] Child Labor Participation, Human Capital Accumulation, and Economic Development. *Journal of Macroeconomics*, v.30, i. 1, pp. 499-512, March 2008.
doi:10.1016/j.jmacro.2007.01.005
- [25] April's toll on Texas. *Border Business Briefs*, Summer 2020
- [24] Texans in their twenties: a window into the state's future. *Border Business Briefs*, Spring 2020
- [23] Texas manufacturing and innovation jobs could use more education. *Border Business Briefs*, Winter 2019
- [22] Texas Inequality. *Border Business Briefs*, Fall 2019
- [21] Where have the criminals gone? Negative crime growth in South Texas. *Border Business Briefs*, Summer 2019
- [20] The health of the region's banking sector and implications for financial inclusion. *Border Business Briefs*, Fall 2018
- [19] Trade, Trade War, Texas, and the Border Region. *Border Business Briefs*, Summer 2018
- [18] The coveted high skill millennials: An analysis of the Border/South Texas stock. *Border Business Briefs*, Spring 2018
- [17] The Rio Grande Valley's four millimeter foe: citrus industry in fight for survival. *Border Business Briefs*, Winter 2017 (With Jon Dale)
- [16] Quality and Access to Medical Care in the Border/South Texas Region. *Border Business Briefs*, Fall 2017 (With Ruth Cano)
- [15] An Analysis of Border/South Texas employment and sector growth. *Border Business Briefs*, Summer 2017 (With Jacob Almaguer)
- [14] 2017 Economic Outlook for Border / South Texas Region. *Border Business Briefs*, Spring 2017 (With Jacob Almaguer and Jose Vazquez)
- [13] Financial Intermediation in the Border / South Texas Region. *Border Business Briefs*, Winter 2016 (With Jose Vazquez)
- [12] K-12 Education outlook of Border/South Texas region. *Border Business Briefs*, Fall 2016.
- [11] Trade flows through Border/South Texas ports. *Border Business Briefs*, Summer 2016 (With Abdelhamid Riani)
- [10] South Texas keeps pushing ahead. *Border Business Briefs*, Summer 2015 (With Abdelhamid Riani)
- [9] Book it: Hotel Revenues are up at RGV cities. *Border Business Briefs*, Spring 2015 (With Abdelhamid Riani)
- [8] Where the jobs are in South Texas. *Border Business Briefs*, Spring 2015 (With Jose Clemente)
- [7] Getting a Cut: Local Municipalities See Upward Trend in Sales and Use Tax Revenues. *Border Business Briefs*, Spring 2015 (With Jose Clemente)
- [6] 2015 Business Outlook and Economic Forecast: Annotated Forecast Report. *Center for Border Economic Studies*, January 2015. (With Jose Clemente and Abdelhamid Riani)

- [5] The Ups and Downs of Entrepreneurial Activity in South Texas. *Border Business Briefs*, Fall 2014. (With Armando Valero)
- [4] A not so hot South Texas labor market. *Border Business Briefs*, v.10, i.2, Spring 2014.
- [3] Valley house prices on neutral. *Border Business Briefs*, v.10, i.1, Winter 2014.
- [2] Transition at the Fed. *Border Business Briefs*, v.10, i.1, Winter 2014.
- [1] An Insight into Academic Motivation. *Hispanic Economic Outlook*, Spring 2013. (With Sara K. Ray)

GRANTS &
CONTRACTS

- [6] **Contract:** Economic Impact Analysis of the Hidalgo County Loop Project. *Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority*, 2014. (Co-PI - Penny Simpson and Co-PI Salvador Contreras)
- [5] **Grant:** A study of the RGV Entrepreneurial environment. Undergraduate Research Initiative (Armando Valero), *University of Texas-Pan American*, 2014.
- [4] **Contract:** Hidalgo county tract level socioeconomic forecasts. *C & M Associates*, 2014. (PI - Diego Escobari and Co-PI Salvador Contreras)
- [3] **Grant:** Reframing academic engagement: A case for status priming. Faculty Research Council Award, *University of Texas-Pan American*, 2012.
- [2] **Grant:** Reframing academic engagement: A case for status priming. Undergraduate Research Initiative (Sara Ray), 2011. *University of Texas-Pan American*
- [1] **Grant :** Reframing academic engagement: A case for status priming. Undergraduate Research Initiative (Charles Danso), *University of Texas-Pan American*, 2011.

HONORS

- Featured in "The Economics of Race & Migration." Taylor & Francis Group, April 2014.
- Mellon Fellow**, Future of Minority Studies (FMS). *Cornell University*, 2010.
- Fellow**, Emerging Scholars Interdisciplinary Network (ESIN) Summer Fellowship Program in Applied Multi-Ethnic Research at ICPSR. *University of Michigan*, 2010.
- Fellow**, Diversity Initiative for Tenure in Economics (DITE). *Duke University*, 2008 - 2011.
- New Connections Research and Coaching Clinic Participant, *Robert Wood Johnson Foundation*, San Diego, California, 2008.

RESEARCH
CONFERENCE
PRESENTATIONS

- Allied Social Science Associations Meetings**
2022 (forthcoming), 2021, 2020, 2019, 2016, 2012 (discussant), 2010, 2009
- Economic Issues Affecting Hispanic and African-American Communities Conference**
2017, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2011, 2010
- Federation of Business Disciplines**
2008
- Fellowship Program in Applied Multi-Ethnic Research Mini-Conference 2010**
2010
- Freedom and Justice Conference**
2018
- Future of Minority Studies**
2012, 2010

Southern Economics Association meetings

2009

Western Economic Association International Annual Meetings

2019, 2017, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2011, 2006

INVITED
PRESENTATIONS

The RGV economy. *Leadership McAllen*, McAllen, Texas, April 2019.

RGV workforce, employment, and trends. *Leadership McAllen*, McAllen, Texas, April 2017.

Active learning in the classroom: The consequences of money creation. *College of Business Administration, University of Texas-Pan American*, Edinburg, Texas, April 2011.

The Obama Promise: Election Analysis and Policy Implications. *The Republican Round Table of Lake Charles*, Lake Charles, Louisiana, November 2008. (With Daryl Burckel and Mike Kurth)

The collateral damage of the 2008 financial crisis: a brief summary?. *Kiwanis Club of South Lake Charles*, Lake Charles, Louisiana, October 2008. (With Daryl Burckel and Mike Kurth)

The demise of the Dollar?. *Kiwanis Club of Lake Charles*, Lake Charles, Louisiana, November 2007.

PROFESSIONAL
SERVICE

Editorial Board

- *Estudios Fronterizos*, 2014-2018

Referee Service: *Ensayos Revista de Economía*, *International Journal of Population Research*, *International Journal of Social Economics*, *International Review of Economics Education*, *Journal of Economics*, *Journal of Macroeconomics*, *Migration Studies*, *Review of Black Political Economy*

SERVICE TO
UNIVERSITY

Chair (University of Texas Rio Grande Valley)

- Economics Faculty Search 2018 - 2019

Co-Chair (University of Texas Rio Grande Valley)

- Promotion & Tenure Committee 2018 - 2019

Committee Member (University of Texas Rio Grande Valley)

- Promotion & Tenure Committee 2016 - , College Strategic Planning Committee 2020 - 2021

Chair (University of Texas-Pan American)

- MBA committee 2011 - 2012

Committee Member (University of Texas-Pan American)

College of Business Engagement Steering Committee 2013 - 2015, College of Business My Achievement Progress (MAP) committee 2010 - 2014, AACSB assurance of learning (AOL) Economics program committee 2010 - 2015, MBA committee 2010 - 2012, Department of Economics and Finance Lecturer search committee 2010 - 2011

Co-Chair (McNeese State University)

- AACSB assurance of learning (AOL) committee 2007 - 2009

Committee Member (McNeese State University)

Write to Excellence Faculty Advisory Group 2008 - 2009, Faculty Senate 2008 - 2009, MBA Director search committee 2007 - 2008, Freshman foundations 2007 - 2009, Student writing in business 2007 - 2009, and AACSB assessment of faculty qualifications 2007 - 2009

PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT

Career

- *ADVANCE Associate to Full Program*. The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, September 16 2016 - April 28 2017.

Leadership

- *Texas Academic Leadership Academy*. Sam Houston State University, August 2019 - July 2020.
- *ADVANCE Leadership Institute*. The University of Texas-Pan American, February 14 - May 2 2013.
- *Redesigning the MBA: A Curriculum Development Symposium*. Led by Srikant Datar and David A. Garvin, AACSB Seminar, March 26-27 2012.
- *Leadership Education Accelerated Program (LEAP)*. Led by Susan Franzen, University of Texas System Leadership Institute, Spring 2011.

Pedagogy

- *“Teaching Economics with Excel workshop.”* Led by Humberto Barreto, DePauw University, June 21-24 2011.
- *“Fostering deep learning.”* Led by Ken Bain, University of Texas-Pan American, March 22 2011.
- *“What the best college teachers do.”* Led by Ken Bain, University of Texas-Pan American, February 19 2010.

TEACHING &
ADVISING
EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate Courses

Development Economics, Intermediate Macroeconomics, Intermediate Microeconomics, Managerial Economics, Principles of Macroeconomics, Principles of Microeconomics

Graduate Courses

Economic Analysis (MBA), Managerial Economics (MBA), Principles of Economics (MBA), Seminar in Economics Topics [Introduction to Financial Theory] (PhD)

Thesis Committee (member)

Klaus Beckmann (PhD). “Essays on the Performance, Earnings Management and Information Efficiency.” May 2013. placement: University of South Dakota, SD.

Weifang Yang (PhD). “Three Essays on Hedge Fund Flow, Regulation, and Economic Geography.” May 2013. placement: Shandong University, Shandong.

Yongli Luo (PhD). “Executive Compensation, firm performance and liquidity under imperfect corporate governance.” July 2012. placement: Houston Baptist University, TX.

William Pratt (PhD). “Is capital structure relevant? An empirical examination of capital structure choices.” July 2012. placement: Clarion University of Pennsylvania, PA.

Pooja Chopra (MBA). “The Use of Preventive Health Care Services in Hispanic Workers in Manufacturing Sector in South Texas.” December 2011. placement: Phonon.in, Gujarat.

MENTORING

Diversity Initiative for Tenure in Economics (DITE) 2017-2018 cohort, Duke University

Christine Strong - PhD Student, University of Oklahoma

Yu Liu - Assistant Professor, The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

RESEARCH
INTERESTS

Economic Development, Education, Financial Intermediation, Migration, and Race

PROFESSIONAL
ASSOCIATIONS

Membership: American Economic Association, American Society of Hispanic Economists, Western Economic Association

SELECT MEDIA
APPEARANCES

Hansi Lo Wang, Despite Low Employment, Millennials Hold Key To Reviving South Texas, NPR (November 20, 2014).

Cynthia Vaquera, Efectos del aumento a salario minimo, KTLN-TV Telemundo 40 (March 15, 2014).

Kevin Lu, Economic Impact of Immigrants, KVEO News Center 23 (May 31, 2013).

Michael Lopez, Gas prices continue to drop, KVEO News Center 23 (March 11, 2013).

Fiscal Cliff Negotiations Worry Valley Business Owners, KRGV Channel 5 News (December 10, 2012).