

About the Speakers

Catalina Amuedo-Dorantes

Professor

San Diego State University
San Diego, CA

Amuedo-Dorantes is an economics professor at San Diego State University whose fields of interest include labor economics, international migration, remittances and international finance. She is also a research associate at the Centre for Research and Analysis of Migration, Fundación de Estudios Andaluces and Institute for the Study of Labor and an advisory committee member of the Americas Center Advisory Council at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta. Amuedo-Dorantes has served as a research fellow at the Public Policy Institute of California, an associate and assistant professor at SDSU, an IZA research fellow, and research associate at the Center for Human Resource Research at Ohio State University. Amuedo-Dorantes has bachelor's degrees in English, French and economics from Universidad de Granada, Universidad de Seville and Université de Poitiers in Poitiers, France; a master's degree from Western Michigan University; a juris doctor degree from Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia in Madrid, Spain; and a doctoral degree from Western Michigan University.

Ann Baddour

Senior Policy Analyst
Texas Appleseed
Austin, TX

Baddour coordinates the national Appleseed project to promote access to fairly priced financial services for low-income immigrant communities. She oversees immigrant financial education, efforts to build transparency and consumer protections into remittance markets and reform of regulations governing small-dollar loans. She also oversees Texas Appleseed's project on protecting the rights of immigrants with mental disabilities in the immigration court and detention system. Baddour is a Fulbright Scholar and a nationally recognized expert in financial policy affecting immigrant and low-income communities. She holds an MPA from the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin and an MA in Middle Eastern studies from UT-Austin.

Brian Cadena

Assistant Professor

University of Colorado–Boulder
Boulder, CO

Cadena is an assistant professor in the department of economics at the University of Colorado–Boulder. His research interests include immigration, low-skilled labor markets, the economic consequences of government policies, behavioral economics and applied econometrics. His current research agenda focuses on how immigration flows respond to geographic differences in labor market opportunities. He has researched and written on immigration, welfare reform, poverty and the role of impatience in human capital investment. Cadena teaches courses at the graduate and undergraduate levels in applied econometrics and labor economics. He is also a faculty affiliate at the CU Population Center's Population Program within the Institute for Behavioral Science. Cadena earned a bachelor's degree from Northwestern University and master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Michigan.

Roberto Coronado

Economist

Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, El Paso Branch
El Paso, TX

Coronado is an economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas in El Paso. His research at the Fed focuses on issues pertaining to the Mexican economy, the maquiladora industry, the U.S.–Mexico border economy and the economies of West Texas and New Mexico. Coronado has written articles for various Federal Reserve publications and academic journals in the United States and Mexico, including *Annals of Regional Science*, *Southern Economic Journal*, *Investigación Económica* and *Migraciones Internacionales*. He is a clinical assistant professor at the University of Texas at El Paso, where he teaches in the master of science in economics program. He holds a BBA in accounting and economics and an MS in economics from the University of Texas at El Paso and a PhD in economics from the University of Houston.

Richard Fisher

President and Chief Executive Officer
Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas
Dallas, TX

Fisher assumed the office of president and CEO of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas in 2005. In this role, Fisher serves as a member of the Federal Open Market Committee, the Federal Reserve's principal monetary policy making group. He is former vice chairman of Kissinger McLarty Associates, a strategic advisory firm chaired by former

Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. Fisher began his career at the private bank of Brown Brothers Harriman & Co. and then became assistant to the secretary of the Treasury during the Carter administration, working on issues related to the dollar crisis of 1978–79. He returned to Brown Brothers, and, in 1987, created Fisher Capital Management and a separate funds-management firm, Fisher Ewing Partners. From 1997 to 2001, Fisher was deputy U.S. trade representative with the rank of ambassador. He oversaw implementation of the North American Free Trade Agreement and accords with Vietnam, Korea, Japan, Chile and Singapore. He was a senior member of the team that negotiated the bilateral accords for China's and Taiwan's accession to the World Trade Organization. Fisher serves on Harvard University's Board of Overseers, one of the university's two governing boards. He attended the U.S. Naval Academy, graduated with honors from Harvard University in economics, read Latin American politics at Oxford and received an MBA from Stanford University.

Tom Fullerton

JPMorgan Chase Professor
University of Texas at El Paso
El Paso, TX

The JPMorgan Chase Professor of Economics and Finance at the University of Texas at El Paso, Fullerton conducts research on U.S.–Mexico border business conditions and teaches courses in econometrics, managerial economics, urban economics, business forecasting, Latin American political economy, border economics and international country risk analysis. Prior to joining UTEP, he was senior economist at the University of Florida Bureau of Economic and Business Research. Before moving to Florida, Fullerton was an international economist with Wharton Econometrics in Philadelphia, in charge of modeling, forecasting and policy analysis for the economies of Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela. He has also served as an economist in the executive office of the governor of Idaho, associate economist in the corporate planning department of El Paso Electric Company and visiting professor at the Helsinki School of Economics in Finland, Monterrey Institute of Technology in Mexico, Colegio de la Frontera Norte in Tijuana and Universidad Autónoma de Ciudad Juárez. His analyses have been cited in the *Wall Street Journal*, *New York Times*, *Barron's*, *USA Today*, *Investor's Business Daily* and *U.S. News and World Report*. He has appeared on ABC and CNN newscasts and on *The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer* on PBS. His research has been published in academic journals in North America, Europe, South America, Asia, Africa and Australia. He attended UTEP as a Stevens Scholar, majoring in economics and finance and minoring in mathematics. Fullerton holds an MS in economics from Iowa State University as a Pace Scholar, an MA in business economics from the Wharton School of Finance at the University of Pennsylvania and a PhD in economics from the University of Florida.

Magnus Lofstrom

Research Fellow

Public Policy Institute of California
San Francisco, CA

Lofstrom's areas of expertise lie in the fields of immigration and immigrants (labor market integration, welfare reform and participation and educational attainment), entrepreneurship (minority self-employment) and education (ethnic differences in high school dropout rates and general educational development credentials). He served as assistant professor at the School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences at the University of Texas at Dallas (2002–07); post-doctoral research fellow and lecturer at the School of Social Sciences at the University of California, Irvine (2000–02); research associate at the Institute for the Study of Labor at the University of Bonn in Germany (1999–2000); and teaching and research assistant in the department of economics and the Center for U.S.–Mexican Studies at the University of California, San Diego (1995–99). His most recent articles include, “Lessons from the 2007 Legal Arizona Workers Act,” “Entrepreneurship among California’s Low-Skilled Workers” and “Immigrant Legalization: Assessing the Labor Market Effects.” Lofstrom earned master’s and doctoral degrees in economics from the University of California, San Diego.

Mark Lopez

Associate Director

Pew Hispanic Center
Washington, DC

Prior to joining the Pew Hispanic Center, Lopez was research director of the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement as well as a research assistant professor at the School of Public Policy at the University of Maryland. His areas of expertise include labor economics, civic engagement, voting behavior and the economics of education. Lopez received his PhD in economics from Princeton University.

Mary Lopez

Assistant Professor

Occidental College
Los Angeles, CA

Lopez is an assistant professor of economics at Occidental College. Her primary field of interest is labor economics. Her teaching and research interests include immigration and immigration policy and gender and racial inequality. Her current research focuses on Latino entrepreneurs, the intersection of gender and nativity in the labor market and the labor market experiences of immigrants and Latinos. Lopez has a BA from the University of California, Riverside and an MA and a PhD from the University of Notre Dame.

David Molina

Associate Professor

University of North Texas

Denton, TX

In addition to serving as associate professor at the University of North Texas, Molina is president of the Association of Hispanic Economists and interim director of the Immigrant Research and Policy Center at UNT. His current interests include immigration from Mexico to the U.S., Mexican microenterprises and remittances, income distribution in Mexico, consumer behavior in Mexico and of Hispanics, U.S.–Mexico border economic issues, wages of Hispanics in the U.S. and the economics of sports. Molina taught at New Mexico State University and was a researcher at Louisiana State University and at Colegio de La Frontera in Monterrey, Mexico. He is also a past president of the Association of Borderland Scholars. He has over 30 professional peer-reviewed articles that have appeared in the *American Economic Review*, *Economic Inquiry*, *Land Economics*, *Journal of Economic Issues* and *Economica*. He has also written three books and over 50 book chapters. Molina testified before the U.S. Congress and the U.S. International Trade Commission during the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) negotiation and ratification process, participated in and led several Texas legislative ad-hoc committees and was sponsored by the U.S. State Department to present a review of the NAFTA process to ministers of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa in Lusaka, Zambia. Molina received a BBA in economics from St. Mary's University and a PhD in economics from Texas A&M University.

Marie Mora

Professor

University of Texas–Pan American

Edinburg, TX

Mora has been a professor of economics at the University of Texas–Pan American since 2002 and previously was a tenured faculty member at New Mexico State University. Her primary research interests are in labor economics, particularly in the areas of Hispanic labor-market outcomes, the economics of the U.S.–Mexico border and the economics of education. She has published 30 refereed articles since 1997 in journals including *Industrial Relations*, *American Economic Review: Papers and Proceedings*, the *Journal of Regional Science*, *Economics of Education Review* and *Social Science Quarterly*. She is coauthoring a book on Hispanic entrepreneurs in the 2000s, and her first coauthored/coedited book, *Labor Market Issues along the U.S.–Mexico Border*, was published in late 2009. Mora serves as the 2011 chair of the American Economic Association's Committee on the Status of Minority Groups in the Economics Profession. She is on the board of the American Society

of Hispanic Economists and the national advisory board for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Center for Health Policy at the University of New Mexico and on the editorial board of *Social Science Quarterly*. She serves as a mentor in the Diversity Initiative for Tenure in Economics, and she completed her second two-year term as president of the American Society of Hispanic Economists in September 2010. Mora earned bachelor's and master's degrees at the University of New Mexico and her doctoral degree from Texas A&M University.

Kusum Mundra

Assistant Professor

Rutgers University–Newark
Newark, NJ

Mundra is an assistant professor in the department of economics and division of global affairs at Rutgers University–Newark and a research fellow at IZA Bonn. Before joining Rutgers, she was an assistant professor at San Diego State University and worked in economic litigation consulting at NERA Economic Consulting in New York. Her areas of interest include immigration and international migration, minority population, terrorism and conflict and econometrics. She has worked on issues including the effect of immigrant networks on international trade, social networks and immigrant earnings and employment; access to health care for immigrant women; the earnings gap across gender; the empirical investigation of suicide bombing events; maquiladora employment fluctuation in Mexico; and nonparametric and semiparametric panel data models. Her current projects include immigrant and minority housing and the effect of immigrant population on host country conflict. She has been published in the *American Economic Review: Papers and Proceedings*, *Demography*, the *Journal of International Trade and Economic Development*, the *Handbook of Applied Econometrics and Statistical Inferences*, *Terrorism and Political Violence*, *Migration and Culture (Frontiers of Economics and Globalization)* and *Indian Growth and Development Review*. She obtained her MA from the Delhi School of Economics and her PhD from the University of California, Riverside.

Pia Orrenius

Research Officer and Senior Economist

Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas

Dallas, TX

Orrenius is a research officer and senior economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas and adjunct professor at the Hankamer School of Business at Baylor University. Her research focuses on the regional and national labor market impact of immigration, unauthorized immigration and U.S. immigration policy. She is coauthor of the book *Beside the Golden Door: U.S. Immigration Reform in a New Era of Globalization*, and her work has also been published in the *Journal of Development Economics*, *Labour Economics*, *Industrial and Labor Relations Review* and *Demography*, among others. Orrenius is a research fellow at the Tower Center for Political Studies at Southern Methodist University and at the Institute for the Study of Labor in Bonn, Germany. Orrenius was senior economist on the Council of Economic Advisers in the Executive Office of the President in Washington, D.C., in 2004–05. She received BA degrees in economics and Spanish from the University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign and a PhD in economics from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Isabel Ruiz

Assistant Professor

Sam Houston State University

Huntsville, TX

Ruiz has served as an assistant professor of economics and international business at SHSU since 2006. Her research interests include international economics, financial econometrics and economic development. In these fields, her emphasis is on exchange rates, time-series modeling of financial data, international capital flows (remittances and foreign direct investment) and international migration. Her most recent articles include “Another Consequence of the Economic Crisis: A Decrease in Migrants’ Remittances” in *Applied Financial Economics* and “Monetary Policy and International Remittances” in the *Journal of Developing Areas*. Ruiz earned her BA from Universidad EAFIT in Medellin, Colombia, and an MA and a PhD from Western Michigan University.

Andres Vargas

Assistant Professor

Texas Tech University

Lubbock, TX

Vargas is an assistant professor of economics at Texas Tech University. His main field of expertise is labor economics, with research interests in the areas of health, health care, wage inequality, immigration and time use. His work has been published in the *American Economic Review: Papers and Proceedings* and *Southern Economic Journal*, among others. Vargas holds bachelor's and master's degrees in economics from Los Andes University in Colombia, a master's degree in natural resources and agricultural economics from the Toulouse School of Economics in France and a doctoral degree in economics from the University of Texas at Austin.

M. Anne Visser

Researcher

Hunter College, City University of New York

New York, NY

Visser's research interests focus on social and economic inequality, the informal economy and low-wage labor markets. Specifically, she researches the role of state, community, non-profit and private actors in promoting urban economic and social equality through policy and advocacy. Her work has resulted in publications on social movements, immigrant workers, small businesses and the informal economy in the U.S. context. Visser has also written on issues of citizen engagement and economic development, as well as advocacy networks surrounding AIDS/HIV in South Africa and the role of the public workforce investment system in influencing worker mobility among low-income and minority populations. Her recent work appears or will appear in *Public Choice*, *Human Resource Management Journal*, the *Journal of Developmental Entrepreneurship* and the *Journal of Public Budgeting, Accounting and Financial Management*. Visser holds a PhD in public policy from The New School in New York.