

## AMA BAAFRA ABEBERESE

Department of Economics  
Wellesley College  
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### Academic Positions and Affiliations

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Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Wellesley College, July 2013-present

Fellow, Center for Development Economics and Policy, Columbia University, March 2014-present

Research Affiliate, International Growth Centre, May 2016-present

Institutions, Trade and Economic Development Network (InsTED), May 2018-present

### Education

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Columbia University, Ph.D. in Economics, 2013

*Dissertation: Essays on Firm Behavior in Developing Economies*

Wellesley College, B.A. in Economics and Physics, *summa cum laude*, 2004

### Research Interests

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Development Economics, Applied Microeconomics, International Trade

### Publications and Accepted Papers

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“An Unintended Consequence of Place-Based Policies: A Fall in Informality” With Ritam Chaurey. *Economics Letters*, 126(2019), 23-27, March 2019.

“The Effect of Electricity Shortages on Firm Investment: Evidence from Ghana” Accepted, *Journal of African Economies*.

“Electricity Cost and Firm Performance: Evidence from India” *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 99(5): 839-852, December 2017.

“Improving Reading Skills by Encouraging Children to Read: A Randomized Evaluation of the Sa Aklat Sisikat Reading Program in the Philippines” With Todd Kumler and Leigh Linden. *Journal of Human Resources*, 49(3): 611-633, Summer 2014.

## **Working Papers**

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“Productivity Losses and Firm Responses to Electricity Shortages: Evidence from Ghana” With Charles Ackah and Patrick Asuming. Revised and resubmitted, *World Bank Economic Review*.

“Input Tariff Reductions, Imported Inputs and Exporting Activity”

## **Work in Progress**

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“Input Tariff Liberalization and Consumer Prices”

“The Impact of Trade on Linkages between the Formal and Informal Sectors” With Ritam Chaurey.

“Firms under Dictatorship and Democracy: Evidence from Indonesia's Democratic Transition” With Prabhat Barnwal, Ritam Chaurey and Priya Mukherjee.

## **Teaching Experience**

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2013-Present Wellesley College:  
International Trade Theory (Econ 314)  
Development Economics (Econ 220)  
Principles of Macroeconomics (Econ 102)

2008-2012 Columbia University:  
Intermediate Macroeconomics (S4213Q)  
Financial Economics (V3025) – Teaching Assistant  
Economic Growth and Development (G4301) – Teaching Assistant  
Principles of Economics (W1105) – Teaching Assistant  
The Global Economic Environment (B7005) – Teaching Assistant

## **Other Work Experience**

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2009-2010 Consultant, World Trade Indicators, The World Bank  
2006-2007 Associate, CRA International, Finance Group  
2004-2006 Analyst, Lehman Brothers, Investment Banking, Financial Institutions Group

## Honors and Awards

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2016	International Growth Centre Grant for “Analyzing the Extent and Sources of Productivity Losses from Electricity Shortages for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises” with Charles Ackah and Patrick Asuming (£50,226)
2007-2013	Faculty Fellowship, Columbia University
2009-2012	Summer Fellowship, Columbia University
2009	Wueller Award for Teaching Excellence, Columbia University
2007	Margaret Freeman Bowers Fellowship, Wellesley College
2004	Phyllis J. Fleming Award for Excellence in Physics, Wellesley College
2003	Phi Beta Kappa (elected in junior year), Wellesley College

## Professional Activities

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### Conference and Seminar Presentations:

2018-2019:	University of Oxford (scheduled), Vassar College
2017-2018:	American Economic Association Annual Meeting (session chair and discussant), Eastern Economic Association Annual Meeting (session chair and presenter), Institutions, Trade and Economic Development Network (InsTED) Workshop at Syracuse University
2016-2017:	Eastern Economic Association Annual Meeting, Entrepreneurship and Private Enterprise Development (EPED) in Emerging Economies Workshop (NYU)
2014-2015:	Western Economic Association International Annual Conference
2013-2014:	IZA Workshop on Labor Market Effects of Environmental Policies, Liberal Arts Colleges Development Economics Conference, CSWEP regional mentoring (CeMENT) workshop
2012-2013	Barnard College, CSAE Annual Conference, Georgetown University SFS, Georgetown University SFS-Qatar, Middlebury College, NEUDC Annual Conference, Occidental College, Smith College, University of Arkansas, University of Delaware, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, University of Notre Dame, Wellesley College

### Referee:

*Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Economic Education, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Journal of Environmental Economics and Management, Journal of Human Resources, Economics of Education Review, Review of World Economics, Science, World Bank Economic Review*