Jess Rudder

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Employment

2025 -	Assistant Professor, Department of Applied Economics, Oregon State University
2021 - 2025	Postdoctoral Scholar, Development Innovation Lab, University of Chicago

Affiliations

2025 -	Invited Researcher, J-PAL
2025-	Faculty Affiliate, Center for Effective Global Action (CEGA), UC Berkeley

Education

2021	University of California Davis, Ph.D. in Agricultural and Resource Economics
2015	University of Washington, MPA from the Evans School of Public Policy and Governance
2009	University of Puget Sound, BA, Business and Foreign Languages and Literature, Magna cum laude
2017	Visiting Fellow, Paris School of Economics

Publications

"Policy Design in Experiments with Unknown Interference," (2025) with Davide Viviano. Accepted at *Review of Economics and Statistics*

"Food price variation and passthrough among retail firms in rural and urban Tanzania," *Journal of Development Economics* (2025): 103621.

"Agricultural Input Markets in Sub-Saharan Africa: Theory and Evidence from the (underappreciated) Supply-Side", with Andrew Dillon, Travis Lybbert, and Hope Michelson. *Annual Review of Resource Economics 17* (2025).

Working Papers

"Learning from Weather Forecasts and Short-Run Adaptation: Evidence from an At-Scale Experiment," with Davide Viviano.

"Search Costs and Relational Contracts," with Brian Dillon.

"Economic, cultural and taste-based constraints to the scaling of climate-resilient biofortified maize among diverse smallholder populations in Guatemala," with Karen Macours and Paola Mallia.

"How Mechanistic Explanations Reshape Learning and Behavior: Evidence from a Fertilizer Choice Experiment in Eastern Uganda," with Anirudh Sankar, Robert Dulin, Ben Davies, Vesall Nourani, Abraham Salomon, and Godfrey Taulya.

"Firm Networks, Credit Access, and Resilience to Shocks Among Small Firms in Tanzania," with Parth Chawla and Daniel Putman.

"Search costs, mobile phones, and agricultural investment: a telephone directory intervention in Tanzania," with Jenny Aker, Richard Anderson, Brian Dillon, and Hosea Mpogole.

Works In Progress

"Virtual Agronomist: Adoption and Impact of a Digital Advisory Tool for Smallholder Agriculture," with Robert Dulin.

"Evaluation of Commercial Organic Fertilizer to Improve Farmers' Livelihoods," with Robert Dulin, Tomoko Harigaya, Paola Malia, Frank Odhiambo, Anirudh Sankar, and Abraham Soloman.

"Experimental study of monsoon onset forecast dissemination: Evidence from India," with Tomoko Harigaya, Amir Jina, Michael Kremer, and Sabareesh Ramachandran.

"Sample Selection and Climate Resilience after Adopting New Seeds: Evidence from Recruitment at Agrodealers in Guatemala," with Agustin Valenzuela Pidal

"Willingness-to-Pay to avoid tax exposure among small firms in Tanzania," with Jovin Lasway.

Policy Publications

Murphy, K., **Rudder, J.**, Cappucci, M., Cherian M., Deutschmann, J., Elmera, C., Fundukova, L., Kaiser-Tedesco, A., Ortiz-Riomalo, A., Puri, J., Salas, I., Songsermsawas, T. (2024). Evidence Review for Food Security, Nutrition, and Climate-Resilience Interventions. A product of the Secretariat of the Innovation Commission for Climate Change, Food Security, and Agriculture in collaboration with the International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD), and the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ).

Mace, K., **Rudder, J.**, Goodhue, R., Tolhurst, T., Tregeagle, D., Wei, H., Grafton-Cardwell, B., Grettenberger, I., Wilson, H., Van Steenwyk, R. and Zalom, F., 2022. Balancing bees and pest management: projected costs of proposed bee-protective neonicotinoid regulation in California. *Journal of Economic Entomology*, 115(1), pp.10-25.

Zheng, Yanan, Rachael Goodhue, Kevi Claire Mace-Hill, **Jess Rudder**, Tor Tolhurst, Daniel Tregeagle, Hanlin Wei, Beth Grafton-Cardwell, Ian Grettenberger, Houston Wilson, Robert Van Steenwyk, Frank Zalom, Monique Rivera and John Steggall. 2023. Economic and Pest Management Evaluation of the Proposed Regulation of Nitroguanidine-Substituted Neonicotinoid Insecticides: Six Major California Commodities. *ARE Update* 26(6): 9-11. University of California Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics.
https://giannini.ucop.edu/filer/file/1694637435/20778/

H. Wei, R.E. Goodhue, K. Mace, **J. Rudder**, T. Tolhurst, D. Tregeagle, B. Grafton-Cardwell, I. Grettenberger, H. Wilson, R. Van Steenwyk, J. Steggall. 2020. Estimated Cost of the Withdrawal of the Insecticide Chlorpyrifos for Six Major California Crops. *ARE Update* 23(4): 13-15. University of California Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics.
https://giannini.ucop.edu/filer/file/1587396051/19625/

Grants and Fellowships

JPAL Programa de Sondeo y Arranque (PROSA) Guatemala ($149,000)	2026
International Growth Centre Small Research Grant (£27,000)	2024

	USAID Development Innovation Ventures, co-PI on sub-award ($1,200,000)	2023
	Chae Family Economics Research Fund ($29,000)	2023
	NBER Social Learning Fund ($93,000)	2023
	International Growth Centre Small Research Grant (£30,000)	2023
	Private Enterprise Development in Low-Income Countries (PEDL) Exploratory Research Grant (£35,000)	2023
	National Academies of Science and USAID's Partnerships for Enhanced Engagement in Research Grant, with Emmanuel Mwan'gonda and IRDP, Tanzania ($12,000)	2020
	UC Davis Henry A. Jastro Graduate Research Award, UC Davis ($3,000)	2019
	Blum Center for Developing Economies Research Grant, UC Davis ($3,000)	2018
	Policy Design and Evaluation Research in Developing Countries (PODER) Fellow, Paris School of Economics	2017
	Environmental Innovation Challenge Grant, University of Washington	2014

Presentations

University of Victoria, CEGA Research Retreat, University of Oregon, Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA) Annual Meeting	2026
CEPR/PEDL/British International Investment conference "The Business of Climate Technology Adoption: Evidence from Research and Reality", Pacific Conference on Development Economics (PacDev) at University of Southern California, AEA Annual Meetings in San Francisco	2025
University of Illinois, AI Weather Forecasting Workshop at UChicago, IFAD Food4Thought Knowledge Event, Cornell University	2024
University of California Davis, University of Chicago, NEUDC Conference at Harvard University, University of Washington, IPA/GPRL Annual Researcher Gathering, Advances in Field Experiments at University of Chicago, World Bank/CEGA MeasureDev Conference	2023
44th BREAD Conference hosted by Northwestern, STEG Annual Conference, Purdue University	2022
IPA's SME Program 11th Working Group Meeting, Development Day at the University of Notre Dame, Economic Research Southern Africa, Toulouse School of Economics - Doctoral Workshop on the Economics of Digitization, Centre for the Study of African Economies (CSAE) Conference	2021
PEDL Conference on Firms in Low-income Countries, NEUDC Conference at Dartmouth College, Association for Public Policy and Management (APPAM) Research Conference, UC Davis Development Economics Seminar, Advances in Field Experiments, Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA) Annual Meeting, Western Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting, Working Group for African Political Economy, Giannini Foundation of Agricultural and Resource Economics Student Conference	2020

Teaching

Instructor, Oregon State University	
Advanced Microeconomic Theory I (PhD)	2025
Teaching Assistant, UC Davis:	
Intermediate Microeconomics	2019
Demand Analysis, Master's Level Econometrics	2018
Advanced Econometrics for Business Decisions	2018
Business, Government Regulation, and Society	2018
Intermediate Microeconomics	2017

Other Employment

Graduate Student Researcher, Professor Rachael Goodhue, UC Davis	2019-2021
Research Assistant, Professor Brian Dillon, Cornell University	2014-2015
Research Assistant, Evans School Policy Analysis and Research Group, Professor C. Leigh Anderson, University of Washington	2013-2015
US Peace Corps Volunteer, Panama	2010-2013

Service

Referee, *Journal of Development Economics*, *European Review of Agricultural Economics*, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, *World Bank Economic Review*, *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*
Mentor, Graduate Applications International Network (GAIN)
Program Committee, *ACM Conference on Computing Systems and Sustainable Societies (COMPASS 2022)*

Languages

English (native), Spanish (fluent), Swahili (advanced), French (conversational)