

Ms. Eberechukwu Akobundu

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EDUCATION:

Post-Doctoral Fellowship, Pharmacoeconomics. Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, School of Pharmacy, University of Maryland, Baltimore, Maryland.

Research projects: Cost-effectiveness analysis of inhaled anticholinergic drugs from a managed care perspective; disparities in outcomes among stroke patients; manuscript reviews of pharmacoeconomic and health outcomes research; budget impact modeling.

Ph.D., Economics. Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech). Blacksburg, Virginia. GPA: 3.88. Graduation: December 17, 2004.

Concentrations: Econometrics (Major), Resource and Environmental Economics

Dissertation: *Two Essays on Resource Economics: A Study of the Statistical Evidence for Global Warming and An Analysis of Overcompliance with Effluent Standards amongst Wastewater Treatment Plants*

Advisors: Dr. Aris Spanos / Dr. Kurt Stephenson

M.S., Agricultural and Applied Economics. Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech). Blacksburg, Virginia. 1997. Summa Cum Laude. Concentration: Production Economics

Thesis: *Farm-Household Analysis of Policies Affecting Groundnut Production in Senegal*

Advisor: Dr. George Norton

B.A., Economics and French (double major). University at Albany, State University of New York. Albany, New York. 1995. Magna Cum Laude.

Diplôme Supérieur de Français des Affaires (Advanced Diploma in Business French). Paris Chamber of Commerce, Paris, France. 1994.

ACADEMIC RESEARCH AND RELATED TECHNICAL SKILLS:

Applied Research

Post-Doctoral Research (to date)

- Disparities in discharge status among stroke patients.
- Cost-effectiveness of treating patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease from a managed care perspective.
- Clinical and economic outcomes of atrial fibrillation.

Doctoral Dissertation Research

- Made a comprehensive qualitative and quantitative case for the importance of considering institutional factors when analyzing decision-making at the firm level concerning compliance with discharge permit limits. This analysis focused specifically on determinants of pollution levels at wastewater treatment facilities authorized to discharge pollutants through participation in the Clean Water Act's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System.
- Making use of data that have been widely used in global warming studies, I estimated a popular statistical model and conduct a complete set of diagnostic tests of the model. I showed how failing to perform misspecification tests prior to model interpretation can lead to inaccurate conclusions about the statistical evidence of global warming and I proposed an alternative, more reliable model.

Currently Published Research

- Developed and ran a statistical model to analyze the impact of a federal assistance program on participants' incomes in Virginia using data collected by the state's primary data collection agency.
- Estimated unconditional demand elasticities for various processed foods using a national panel dataset and an extended statistical model that accounted for the presence of fixed effects in the data.

Masters' Thesis Research

- Collected primary economic data on peanut producers in Senegal and used the data to assess the economic impact of the 1994 devaluation of the CFA Franc.

Programming

- Proficient with several statistical programs including SAS and STATA.
- Able to develop and run statistical programs in MATLAB and GAUSS.
- Competent in using Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, and PowerPoint.

PUBLICATIONS:

Akobundu, E., J. Alwang, A. Essel, G.W. Norton, and A. Tegene. "Does Extension Work? Impacts of a Program to Assist Limited-Resource Farmers in Virginia." *Review of Agricultural Economics*. 26 No. 3 (2004).

Bergtold, J., E. Akobundu, and E. Peterson. "The FAST Method: Estimating Unconditional Demand Elasticities for Processed Foods in the Presence of Fixed Effects." *Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics*. 29 No.2 (2004).

Tideman, N., E. Akobundu, A. Johns, and P. Wutthicharoen. "The Avoidable Excess Burden of Broad-based US Taxes." *Public Finance Review*. 30 No.5 (2002).

Akobundu, E. "Africans Have Different Priorities." Opinion-editorial. *International Herald Tribune*. (November 26, 1999).

Caldwell, J. S. and E. Akobundu (eds). "Agricultural Systems and Policy: Systems-Oriented Approaches to Agriculture and Rural Development." *Journal for Farming Systems Research / Extension*. 6 No.3 (1997).

PAPER PRESENTATIONS:

Akobundu, E., J. Alwang, A. Essel, G.W. Norton, and A. Tegene. *Impacts of Extension Efforts to Assist Limited-Resource Farmers in Virginia*. Selected paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Agricultural Economics Association. (2003).

Bergtold, J., E. Akobundu, and E. Peterson. *The FAST Method: Estimating Unconditional Demand Elasticities for Processed Foods in the Presence of Fixed Effects*. Selected paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Agricultural Economics Association. (2003).

Akobundu, E. *Resolving the tension between economic growth and environmental health: An African Perspective*. Paper presented at an official event of the World Trade Organization Third Ministerial Conference in Seattle. (1999).

Akobundu, E., G. W. Norton, M. Gaye, and M. Bertelsen. *Farm-Household Analysis of Policies Affecting Peanut Production in Senegal*. Selected paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Agricultural Economics Association. (1998).

PROFESSIONAL OR WORK EXPERIENCE:

Post-Doctoral Fellow. *Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, School of Pharmacy, University of Maryland, Baltimore.*

-Post-Doctoral Fellow in Pharmacoeconomics. **July 2004-present.**

Graduate Teaching Assistant. *Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, Virginia Tech.*

-Teaching Assistant for a first-year Ph.D. applied econometrics course. **Jan. 2003 – May 2003.**

Graduate Research Assistant. *Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, Virginia Tech.*

- Research formed the basis of a paper that was accepted for publication in the *Review of Agricultural Economics* and for presentation at the 2003 Annual Meeting of the American Agricultural Economics Association. **Sept. 2000 – May 2002.**