

# LEAH PLATT BOUSTAN

## MAILING ADDRESS

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

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## EDUCATION

**Harvard University, Ph.D. in Economics, 2006**

**Princeton University, A.B. in Economics *summa cum laude*, 2000**

## EMPLOYMENT

### **Princeton University**

Professor of Economics, 2017–present

### **University of California Los Angeles**

Professor of Economics, 2016–2017; Associate 2012–2016; Assistant 2006–2012

## POSITIONS

### **National Bureau of Economic Research**

Co-Director, Development of the American Economy Program, 2017–present  
Faculty Research Fellow/Research Associate 2007–present

### **Journal of Urban Economics**

Co-editor, 2017–present; Editorial board, 2013–17

### **Editorial board**

American Economic Review, Explorations in Economic History, Journal of Economic History, Journal of Economic Perspectives, Journal of European Econ Assn (2013–15)

## BOOKS

*Competition in the Promised Land: Black Migrants in Northern Cities and Labor Markets*, Princeton University Press, 2017.

Winner of Allan Sharlin Award (Social Science History Assn); Alice Hanson Jones Award (Economic History Assn)

*Human Capital in History: The American Record*, co-edited with Carola Frydman and Robert A. Margo. Chicago: U of Chicago Press, 2014.

## PUBLISHED OR FORTHCOMING PAPERS

“The Intergenerational Effects of a Large Wealth Shock: White Southerners after the Civil War,” with Philipp Ager and Katherine Eriksson. Revision requested at *American Economic Review*.

“Intergenerational Mobility of Immigrants in the U.S. over Two Centuries,” with Ran Abramitzky, Elisa Jácome & Santiago Pérez. *American Economic Review*, Forthcoming.

“Automated Linking of Historical Data,” with Ran Abramitzky, Katherine Eriksson, James Feigenbaum, and Santiago Pérez. *Journal of Economic Literature*, Forthcoming.

**PUBLISHED PAPERS, CONT.**

“Do Immigrants Assimilate More Slowly Today Than in the Past?,” with Ran Abramitzky and Katherine Eriksson. *American Economic Review: Insights*, 2 (2020): 125–41.

“Discrimination and the Returns to Cultural Assimilation in the Age of Mass Migration,” with Ran Abramitzky, Katherine Eriksson and Stephanie Hao. *AEA Papers and Proceedings*, 110 (2020): 340–6.

“The Effect of Natural Disasters on Economic Activity in US Counties: A Century of Data,” with Matthew Kahn, Paul Rhode and Maria Lucia Yanguas. *Journal of Urban Economics*, 118 (2020).

“Variation in Women’s Success Across PhD Programs in Economics,” with Andrew Langan. *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 33 (2019), 23–42.

“To the New World and Back Again: Return Migration and Upward Mobility,” with Ran Abramitzky and Katherine Eriksson. *Industrial and Labor Relations Review*, 72 (2019) 300–322.

“Urbanization in the United States, 1800-2000,” with Devin Bunten and Owen Hearey. *Oxford Handbook of American Economic History*, ed. Louis Cain, Price Fishback, Paul Rhode. (New York: Oxford University Press, 2018).

“Immigration in American Economic History,” with Ran Abramitzky. *Journal of Economic Literature*, 55 (2017) 1311–45.

“Racial Differences in Health in Long-Run Perspective,” with Robert A. Margo. *Oxford Handbook of Economics and Human Biology*, ed. John Komlos. (New York: Oxford University Press, 2016).

“The Origin and Persistence of Black-White Differences in Women’s Labor Force Participation,” with William J. Collins. In *Human Capital in History: The American Record*, ed. Leah Boustan, Carola Frydman and Robert A. Margo (U of Chicago Press, 2014).

“A Nation of Immigrants: Assimilation and Economic Outcomes in the Age of Mass Migration,” with Ran Abramitzky and Katherine Eriksson. *Journal of Political Economy*, 122 (2014) 467-506.

“A Silver Lining to White Flight? White Suburbanization and African-American Homeownership, 1940-80,” with Robert A. Margo. *Journal of Urban Economics*, 78 (2013) 71–80.

“The Effect of Rising Income Inequality on Taxation and Public Expenditures: Evidence from US Municipalities and School Districts, 1970-2000,” with Fernando Ferreira, Hernan Winkler and Eric Zolt. *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 95 (2013), 1291–1302.

“Local Public Goods and the Demand for High-Income Municipalities,” *Journal of Urban Economics*, 76 (2013) 71–82.

“Have the Poor Always Been Less Likely to Migrate? Evidence from Inheritance Practices during the Age of Mass Migration,” with Ran Abramitzky and Katherine Eriksson. *Journal of Development Economics*, 102 (2013) 2–14.

“Population Trends as a Counterweight to Central City Decline,” with Allison Shertzer. *Demography* 50.1 (2013): 125–47.

**PUBLISHED PAPERS, CONT.**

“Europe’s Tired, Poor, Huddled Masses: Self-selection and Economic Outcomes in the Age of Mass Migration,” with Ran Abramitzky and Katherine Eriksson, *American Economic Review* 102.5 (2012): 1832–56.

“Moving to Higher Ground: Migration Response to Natural Disasters in the Early Twentieth Century,” with Matthew E. Kahn and Paul W. Rhode, *AEA: Papers and Proceedings* (2012): 238–44.

“School Desegregation and Urban Change: Evidence from City Boundaries,” *American Economic Journal: Applied* 4.1 (2012): 85–108.

“Racial Residential Segregation in American Cities,” in *Oxford Handbook of Urban Economics and Planning*, ed. Nancy Brooks and Gerrit-Jan Knaap (Oxford University Press, 2011), 318–39.

“The Effect of Internal Migration on Local Labor Markets: American Cities During the Great Depression,” with Price Fishback and Shawn Kantor, *Journal of Labor Economics* 28.4 (2010): 719–46. Winner of the 2010 IPUMS Research award

“Was Postwar Suburbanization White Flight? Evidence from the Black Migration,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 125.1 (2010): 417–43.

“Job Decentralization and Postwar Suburbanization: Evidence from State Capitals,” with Robert A. Margo, *Brookings-Wharton Papers on Urban Affairs* (2009): 1–20.

“Competition in the Promised Land: Black Migration and Northern Labor Markets, 1940-1970,” *Journal of Economic History* 69.3 (2009): 756–83.

“Race, Segregation, and Postal Employment: New Evidence on Spatial Mismatch,” with Robert A. Margo, *Journal of Urban Economics* 65.1 (2009): 1–10.

“Were Jews Political Refugees or Economic Migrants? Assessing the Persecution Theory of Jewish Emigration, 1881-1914,” in *The New Comparative Economic History: Essays in Honor of Jeffrey G. Williamson*, ed. Tim Hatton, Kevin O’Rourke and Alan Taylor (MIT Press, 2007), 267–90.

“Black Migration, White Flight: The Effect of Black Migration on Northern Cities and Labor Markets,” *Journal of Economic History* 67.2 (2007): 484–88. (Dissertation summary)

**WORKING PAPERS**

“Leaving the Enclave: Historical Evidence on Immigrant Mobility from the Industrial Removal Office,” with Ran Abramitzky and Dylan Connor. NBER WP 27372, June 2020.

“The Effects of Immigration on the Economy: Lessons from the 1920s Border Closure,” with Ran Abramitzky, Philipp Ager, Elior Cohen and Casper Worm Hansen. NBER WP 26536, Dec 2019.

“Does Condominium Development Lead to Gentrification?” with Robert A. Margo, Matthew M. Miller, James M. Reeves and Justin Steil. NBER Working Paper 26170, August 2019.

**BOOK REVIEWS (SELECTED)**

- Gavin Wright, *Sharing the Prize: The Economics of the Civil Rights Revolution*. In *Eb.Net*
- Jared Diamond and James A. Robinson, eds., *Natural Experiments of History*. In *JEL*.

**HONORS, PRIZES AND FELLOWSHIPS**

2019	IZA Young Labor Economist Award
2018	Graduate Economics Club, Best Advisor Award, Princeton University
2016–17	Russell Sage Foundation Research Project Award
2014	<i>American Economic Review</i> Excellence in Refereeing Award
2013–14	Research Fellow, Straus Institute at NYU School of Law
2012–14	Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellowship
2011	<i>Quarterly Journal of Economics</i> Excellence in Refereeing Award
2010	IPUMS Research Award, Best Journal Article
2010–13	National Science Foundation Research Grant
2006–14 (x 4)	Distinguished Teaching Award, UCLA Economics Dept
2006	Alan Nevins Prize for best dissertation in American Economic History
2001–04	National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship

**PUBLIC LECTURES, INVITED CONFERENCES AND INVITED TEACHING**

2020	Urban Economics Association Lectures on Urban Economics
2019	Departmental seminar, MIT (Economics)
2019	W.J. Usery Distinguished Lecturer, Georgia State University
2019	Keynote, “Moving to Opportunity in Developing Countries,” World Bank
2019	Keynote, Neighborhoods, Externalities and Inequality workshop, Copenhagen
2019	Public lecture, “Streets of Gold: Immigration and the American Dream,” Trinity-Dublin
2018	Keynote, Urban Economics Association
2018	“The Economics and Ethics of Immigration,” New York University
2018	Departmental seminar, Princeton University (Economics)
2018	Departmental seminar, UC-Berkeley (Economics)
2014	Mary MacKinnon Lecture, Canadian Network for Economic History
2013	Keynote, “Migration: Global Development, New Frontiers,” University College London
2011	Institut d’Economia de Barcelona, Summer School in Immigration & Public Policy
2010	Public lecture, “Black Migration and the Transformation of American Cities in the 20 <sup>th</sup> Century,” Dartmouth College

**GRADUATE ADVISING** \* indicates chair or co-chair

2020	Elior Cohen, Elisa Jacome*
2019	Jessica Brown (South Carolina); Mingyu Chen; Andrew Langan* (Mathematica); Maria Lucia Yanguas (Cornerstone)
2017	Peter Catron (Sociology; U Washington); Dylan Connor (Geography; Arizona State); Matthew Miller (Amazon); Colin Weiss (Fed Board)
2016	Devin Buntin (Fed Board; now MIT Urban Planning); Owen Hearey (Analysis Group); Carlos Hernandez* (Universidad de Los Andes)
2015	Francisco Haimovich* (World Bank); Sandra Roza (USC Marshall)
2014	Gabriela Rubio (UC-Merced)
2013	Katherine Eriksson* (Cal Poly; now UC-Davis); Molly Ball (History; Rochester)
2012	Matt Hill (Pompeu Fabra); Mohamed Saleh (Toulouse)
2011	Allison Shertzer (Pittsburgh); Hernan Winkler (World Bank)

Updated: September 2020