

RACHEL M. PERERA

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EMPLOYMENT

Brookings Institution, Brown Center on Education Policy
Fellow, Governance Studies July 2022 –

RAND Corporation
Adjunct Policy Researcher 2022 –
Assistant Policy Researcher 2016 – 2022

EDUCATION

Pardee RAND Graduate School
Ph.D., Policy Analysis 2022
M. Phil., Policy Analysis 2018

New York University, Robert F. Wagner School of Public Service
M.P.A., specialization in Public Policy Analysis 2014

Hofstra University, Honors College
B.A., dual major in Political Science and History 2009

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Educational equity; civil rights and education; school discipline; student assignment and school choice policies; quantitative policy analysis; and causal inference methods

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

Domina, T., Carlson, D., Carter, J., Lenard, M., McEachin, A., & **Perera, R.** (2021). The Kids on the Bus: The Academic Consequences of Diversity-Driven School Reassignments. *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*.

McEachin, A., Lauen, D., Fuller, S.C., & **Perera, R.** (2020). Social Returns to Private Choice? Effects of Charter Schools on Behavioral Outcomes, Arrests, and Civic Participation. *Economics of Education Review*.

Peer Reviewed Reports

Pierson, A., Cannon, J., **Perera, R.**, Mihaly, K., & LeMahieu, R. (2021). Professional development incentives for Oregon's early childhood education workforce: A randomized study. (REL 2021–111). U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance, Regional Educational Laboratory Northwest.

Dahlke, K., Karoly, L. A., **Perera, R.**, Little, M., Henry, C., Lasserre-Cortez, S., & Gerdeman, D. (2020). Participation in state-funded prekindergarten in Oklahoma (REL 2021–044). U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance, Regional Educational Laboratory Southwest.

Cannon, J., Schweig, J., & **Perera, R.** (2020). Evaluation of Families Forward Learning Center: Participant Perspectives and Student Outcomes. RAND Corporation.

Stelitano, L., **Perera, R.**, & Johnston, W. (2019). Supporting Students with High Incidence Disabilities in U.S. Schools. RAND Corporation.

Perera, R. & Armstrong, C. (2019). Time for Change? Educators' Perception of Discipline Reform in their Schools: An AEP Data Note. RAND Corporation.

McEachin, A., Schweig, J., **Perera, R.**, & Opper, I. (2018). Validation Study of the TNTP Core Teaching Rubric. RAND Corporation.

Wang, E., Gates, S., Herman, R., Mean, M., **Perera, R.**, Tsai, T., Whipkey, K., & Andrew, M. (2018). Launching a Redesign of University Principal Preparation. RAND Corporation.

Edelman, A., **Perera, R.**, & Schweig, J. (2018). Results from the Teach For America 2017 National Principal Survey. RAND Corporation.

Working Papers (Drafts of manuscripts available upon request)

Perera, R. When the Feds Come Knocking: The Impact of Federal Civil Rights Investigations on Racial Disparities.

Perera, R. A Promise Unfulfilled? How Modern Federal Civil Rights Enforcement is Used to Address Racial Discrimination in School Discipline. Available as *Annenberg Institute EdWorking Paper No. 21-413* ([link](#)).

Perera, R., Bush-Mecenas, S., & Schweig, J. Passive Investment: The Political Dynamics of Charter Expansion in Los Angeles' Portfolio District. *Under Review at JESPAR*.

Book Chapters

Miller, R., & **Perera, R.** (2014). Nonwage Benefits. In Dominic J. Brewer & Lawrence O. Picus (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of Education Economics & Finance* (492 – 495). SAGE Publications.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

May, 2022. When the Feds Come Knocking: The Impact of Federal Civil Rights Investigations on Racial Disparities. *Urban Institute's Brownbag Research Series*.

February, 2022. A Promise Unfulfilled? How Modern Federal Civil Rights Enforcement is Used to Address Racial Discrimination in School Discipline. *Harvard Strategic Data Project Racial Justice and Education Research Webinar Series*.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2022: APPAM fall conference

2021: AEFPP annual conference, AERA annual meeting, APPAM fall conference

2020: AEFPP annual conference, AERA annual meeting, APPAM fall conference

2019: AEFPP annual conference, AERA annual meeting

RESEARCH GRANTS

Principal Investigator, RAND-Initiated Research, “Do principal’s racial biases affect student discipline decisions? A nationally representative study,” \$372,000, with Andrew McEachin (co-PI), Celia Gomez (co-PI), and Matthew Mizel (co-PI), October 2020 – September 2022.

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

Herbert Goldhamer Memorial Dissertation Award, <i>Pardee RAND</i>	2022
APPAM Raymond Vernon Memorial Award	2021
National Academy of Education/Spencer Dissertation Fellowship (\$27,500)	2021 – 2022
AERA Minority Dissertation Fellowship in Education Research and	2020 – 2021
AERA & National Science Foundation Grants Program—Joint Scholar (\$25,000)	
Mathematica Summer Fellowship (\$10,000)	2020
Equity & Inclusion Fellowship, <i>Association for Public Policy and Management</i> (\$599)	2019
Susan Way-Smith Memorial Dissertation Award, <i>Pardee RAND</i> (\$17,480)	2019 – 2020
David L. Clark Scholar, <i>University Council of Educational Administration</i>	2019
Jim Lovelace Foundation Dissertation Award, <i>Pardee RAND</i> (\$25,000)	2018 – 2019
Sterling D. Spero Prize for Exceptional Written Work, <i>NYU Wagner</i>	2014
Phi Beta Kappa, <i>Hofstra University</i>	2009

RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

<i>LA Promise Fund</i>	
Data and Analytics Fellow	Summer 2016
<i>Teach For America</i>	
Director, Research Partnerships	2014 – 2016
Manager, Research Partnerships	2013 – 2014
Specialist, Development	2012 – 2013
Associate, Individual Giving	2011 – 2012

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

<i>Michigan State University, American Economic Association Summer Program</i>	
Teaching Fellow, Advanced Level Microeconomics	Summer 2019
<i>Pardee RAND Graduate School</i>	
Advanced Econometrics: Introduction to Panel Data	Winter 2020
Teaching Assistant for Dr. Zachary Wagner	
Introduction to Econometrics	Spring 2018, 2019
Teaching Assistant for Dr. Isaac Opper	
Organizational Theory	Winter 2019
Teaching Assistant for Dr. Angela O’Mahony	
Microeconomics I	Fall 2017, 2018
Teaching Assistant for Dr. Troy Smith	

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

<i>Pardee RAND Graduate School</i>	
Co-Chair, Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Working Group	2020 – 2021

Education & Labor Broker, On-the-Job-Training Brokerage	2018 – 2020
Student Representative, Faculty Committee on Curriculum & Appointments	2017 – 2018
<i>Association for Public Policy and Management (APPAM)</i>	
Member, Student Advisory Committee	2019 – 2021
<i>Association for Education Finance and Policy (AEFP)</i>	
Student Representative, Membership & Outreach Committee	2018 – 2019

AFFILIATIONS & REFEREE SERVICE

Membership: Association for Public Policy and Management, Association for Education Finance and Policy, American Educational Research Association

Ad-hoc Journal Reviewer: *Educational Researcher*, *Economics of Education Review*