

Molly J. Doruska

Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management, Cornell University
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EDUCATION

Cornell University

Ph.D. in Applied Economics and Management
M.S. in Applied Economics and Management

Expected May 2026
2022

Lawrence University

B.A in Economics & French and Francophone Studies, *summa cum laude* 2019

PUBLICATIONS

Rohr, J. R., Sack, A., Bakhoun, S., Barrett, C. B., Chamberlin, A. J., Civitello, D. J., **Doruska, M. J.**, De Leo, G. A., Forstchen, M., Haggerty, C. J. E., Jouanard, N., López-Carr, D., Lund, A. J., Ly, A. T., Seck, M., Selland, E., Sokolow, S. H., and Wolfe, C. (2025). A Planetary Health Adventure: How Removing Overgrown Water Plants Can Help Kids Stay Healthy and Improve the Planet. *Frontiers for Young Minds*. <https://doi.org/10.3389/frym.2025.1560703>.

Doruska, M. J., Barrett, C. B., and Rohr, J. R. (2024). Modeling how and why aquatic vegetation removal can free rural households from poverty-disease traps. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* 121 (52), e2411838121. <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2411838121>.

Rohr, J. R., Sack, A., Bakhoun, S., Barrett, C. B., Lopez-Carr D., Chamberlin, A. J., Civitello, D. J., Diatta, C., **Doruska, M. J.**, De Leo, G., Haggerty, C. J. E., J Jones, I. J., Jouanard, N., Lund, A. J., Ly, A. T., Ndione, R. A., Remais, J. V., Riveau, G., Schacht, A., Seck, M., Senghor, S., Sokolow, S. H., and Wolfe, C. (2023). A planetary health innovation for disease, food, and water challenges in Africa. *Nature* 619, 782-787. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-023-06313-z>.

WORKING PAPERS

Molly J. Doruska. “Flood Risk and Differential Firm Investment: Evidence from Dakar, Senegal”

Molly J. Doruska, Christopher B. Barrett, Samba Mbaye, and Jason R. Rohr. “Estimating Demand When Turning a Public Bad into an Impure Public Good”

Kira Lanker, Laksmi Iyer, Faraz Usmani, James Allen IV, **Molly J. Doruska**, Samba Mbaye, Amina Sylla, Binta Sow, Jason R. Rohr, and Christopher B. Barrett. “Do private incentives crowd out public good donations? Evidence from a lab-in-the-field experiment”

Musa Hasen Ahmed and **Molly J. Doruska**. “Paving the Way for Livestock Development: Rural Road Access and Agricultural Production in Ethiopia”

Emily K. Selland, Nicolas Jouanard, Amadou Guisse, Momy Seck, Andrea J. Lund, David Lopez-Carr, Alexandra Sack, Louis Magblenou, Guilio A. De Leo, **Molly J. Doruska**, Christopher B. Barrett, Jason R. Rohr. “Rice-Fish Co-Culturing for Sustainability, Food Security, and Disease and Poverty Reduction” *Submitted*.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Molly J. Doruska, Brian Dillon, and Jeffrey Wall. “Changes in Surface Water Availability and Adaptation by Herders in Sub-Saharan Africa”

Christopher B. Barrett, Jason R. Rohr, Laksmi Iyer, Faraz Usmani, **Molly J. Doruska**, Nicolas Jouanard, Gilles Riveau, Samba Mbaye, Doudou Sow, Bruno Senghor, Tidjani Ly, Sidy Bakhoun, James Allen IV, and Kira Lanker. “Integrating Socio-Economic and Environmental Interventions to Improve Well-Being in Vulnerable Communities”

OTHER WRITING

Doruska, M. and Hoddinott, J. (2020) What works to reduce extreme poverty? A selective review. DEEP Working Paper 01. Data and Evidence to end Extreme Poverty Research Programme: Oxford. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.55158/DEEPWP1>.

TEACHING

Guest Lecturer, AEM 6080: Production Economics at Cornell University Fall 2025

Trip Team Leader, Field visit to Senegal for AEM 4415: Social Enterprises in Emerging Markets, Student Multidisciplinary Applied Research Teams (SMART) Program at Cornell University Winter 2025

Graduate Teaching Assistant at Cornell University

AEM 2555: Corporate Sustainability: The Business Challenge Spring 2020

AEM 4940/6940: Sustainable Business Fall 2023

AEM 2000: Contemporary Controversies in the Global Economy Spring 2024

Teaching Assistant at Lawrence University

ECON 380: Econometrics Winter 2019

ECON 223: Quantitative Decision Making Fall 2018

RESEARCH POSITIONS

Cornell University – Dyson School of Applied Economics & Management

Graduate Research Assistant for Christopher B. Barrett June 2020, June 2021 – Present

Graduate Research Assistant for John Hoddinott July 2020 – December 2020

Lawrence University

Research Assistant for Jonathan Lhost September 2018 – May 2019

GRANTS

PEDL Scale-Up Funding, *Flood Risk and Differential Firm Investment: Evidence from Dakar, Senegal* [£17,328], 2025

PEDL Exploratory Research Grant, *Flood Risk and Differential Firm Investment: Evidence from Dakar, Senegal* [£31,678], 2024

STEG PhD Research Travel Grant, *Flood Risk and Differential Firm Investment: Evidence from Dakar, Senegal* [£14,161], 2024

Einaudi Center for International Studies Research Travel Grant [\$1,700], 2024

Cornell University Graduate School Research Travel Grant [\$1,550], 2024

J-PAL King Climate Action Initiative, *Adaptation to Long-Term Changes in Surface Water Availability by Herders in West Africa* [\$9,600], 2023

PRESENTATIONS

2025: AERE Summer Conference, College of the Holy Cross, 2025 Ecology and Evolution of Infectious Disease Conference, AAEA Annual Meeting, Camp Resources, Advances with Field Experiments

2024: Pacific Conference for Development Economics (PacDev), AERE Summer Conference

2023: AAEA Annual Meeting

HONORS AND AWARDS

Louis Pasteur Prize for Best PhD Student Paper, Advances with Field Experiments	2025
George F. Warren Award, First Place, Cornell University for Doruska et al. 2025	2025
International Champion, Frontiers Planet Prize for Rohr et al. 2023	2024
Sustainability Science Award, The Ecological Society of America for Rohr et al. 2023	2024
United States National Champion, Frontiers Planet Prize for Rohr et al. 2023	2024
William A. McConagha Prize, Lawrence University (Senior student who best exhibits excellence in the study of economics)	2019
Iden Charles Champion Award in Commerce & Industry, Lawrence University (Best economics paper)	2019

Philip and Rosemary Wiley Bradley Achievement Scholarship in Economics, Lawrence University 2018
(Scholarship awarded to junior student to encourage talented and industrious students to major in the field of economics)

SERVICE

Referee Service, *PNAS*, *Food Policy*
Reviewer, *AERE Summer Conference 2025*, *STARS/STAARS program*
Peer Mentor, STARS/STAARS program, 2022 – 2023, 2024 – 2025
President, Applied Economics and Management Graduate Student Association, 2021 – 2022
Founder and Co-Chair, Dyson Diversity Council, 2021 – Present
President, Diversity in Cornell Economics, 2024 – 2025
Chair, Graduate Students for Gender Equity in Economics, 2023 – 2024
Vice President, Diversity in Cornell Economics, 2022 – 2023
Member, Diversity in Cornell Economics, 2021 – Present

MISCELLANEOUS

Languages: English (native); French (advanced), Wolof (beginning)
Software: Stata, R, Julia, QGIS, Google Earth Engine, SurveyCTO, LaTeX, Microsoft Office Suite
Athletic: Marathoner; Women's Open age group captain, Finger Lakes Running Club cross country team; Competed in varsity cross country, indoor, and outdoor track for Lawrence University, 2015-2019; MVP of Women's Track & Field 2019; Breakthrough female athlete of the year, Lawrence University Athletics Department, 2019

REFERENCES

Christopher B. Barrett Professor Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management Cornell University 607-255-4489 cbb2@cornell.edu	Catherine Louise Kling Professor Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management Cornell University 515-520-0662 ckling@cornell.edu
Brian Dillon Assistant Professor Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management Cornell University 517-410-4012 bmd28@cornell.edu	