

# ROWENA GRAY

*Curriculum Vitae, March 2023*

## Office Contact Information

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## **Current Positions**

**Associate Professor and Graduate Chair**, University of California, Merced, Economics, 2021-  
Research Affiliate, Queen's Centre for Economic History, Belfast, 2013-

## **Previous Positions**

Assistant Professor, UC Merced, Economics, 2015-2021  
Visiting Researcher, Russell Sage Foundation, New York City, Jan-Feb 2018  
Visiting Scholar, Institute for International Integration Studies, Trinity College Dublin, 2014  
Lecturer, University of Essex, 2011- 2013

## **Education**

Ph.D. Economics, University of California at Davis, 2011  
M.A. Economics, University of California at Davis, 2006  
B.A. Economics and History, University of Dublin, Trinity College, 2004, *first class honors*

## **Research Interests**

Economic History, Labor, Economics of Crime, Immigration, Housing, Inequality

## **Publications**

1. "Boomtowns: Local Shocks and Inequality in 1920s California" (with Sarah Quincy) *American Economic Review: Papers and Proceedings* 112 (2022). [EHES Working Paper](#).
2. "Does Electricity Drive Structural Transformation? Evidence from the United States" (with Paul Gaggl, Ioana Marinescu and Miguel Morin) *Labour Economics* 68 (2021). [NBER Working Paper 26477](#), [IZA Working Paper](#).
3. "Locating the Manhattan Rental Market: GIS Evidence for 1880-1910" (with Rocco Bowman) *Historical Methods* 54(3) (2021). [QUCHEH](#) version.
4. "Processing Immigration Shocks: Firm Responses on the Innovation Margin" (with Greg C. Wright and Giulia Montresor) *Journal of International Economics*, 126 (2020). [CESIFO Working Paper](#).
5. "Inequality in Nineteenth Century Manhattan: Evidence from the Housing Market" *Social Science History* 44(3) (2020). [QUCHEH](#) version.
6. "Globalization, Agricultural Markets and Mass Migration: Italy, 1881-1912" (with Gaia Narciso and Gaspare Tortorici) *Explorations in Economic History*, 74 (2019).
7. "Returns to Education in Criminal Organizations: Did Going to College Help Michael Corleone?" (with Nadia Campaniello and Giovanni Mastrobuoni) *Economics of Education Review*, 54 (2016).

Media: [Fortune Magazine](#), [Irish Times](#), [Times Higher Education](#), [Bloomberg Podcast](#), [ConversationUK](#), [Scientific American Podcast](#)

8. “Geography is not Destiny. Geography, Institutions and Literacy in Pre-Industrial England” (with Gregory Clark) [Oxford Economic Papers](#), 66(4) (2014).
9. “Taking Technology to Task: The Skill Content of Technological Change in Early Twentieth Century United States” [Explorations in Economic History](#), 50(3) (2013).

Winner of the **Larry Neal Prize** for best article in *Explorations*, 2013-2014.

### Book Chapters

10. “Economic Penalties based on Neighborhood, and Wealth Building” (with Raymond Kim) in eds. [Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Economics and Finance](#), 2023, Oxford University Press.
11. “Crime and Violence” in eds. Matthias Blum and Chris Colvin, [An Economist’s Guide to Economic History](#), 2018, Palgrave Macmillan.
12. “Energy in American Economic History” (with Carl Kitchens) in eds. Louis Cain, Price Fishback and Paul Rhode, [Oxford Handbook of American Economic History](#), 2018, Oxford University Press.

### Books

Under contract with **Columbia University Press**, joint with Jason Barr and Ronan Lyons, *Rent and the City*

### Grants

**National Science Foundation**, Economics Program (\$607,000), “Historical Housing Data”, (Co-PI Allison Shertzer, Collaborator Ronan C. Lyons), 2020-2023

Russell Sage Foundation Grant (\$21,041), PI, “Immigration, Crime and Policing: Evidence from US History”, 2019-2020

Hellman Faculty Fellows Award (\$21,000), PI, “Immigration, Crime and City Politics: Lessons from U.S. Urban History”, 2017-2018

UC Merced Senate Committee on Research, PI, 2015-16; 2016-17; 2017-18; 2020-21; 2022-23; 2023-24

Russell Sage Foundation Grant (\$22,712), “Adapting to Workplace Technological Change over the Long Run” (Co-PI with Miguel Morin, University of Cambridge), 2015-2016

British Academy Small Grant (£8671), “Occupational Change over Time: Evidence and Determinants using U.S. Linked Census Data”, PI, 2013-2014

Economic and Social Research Council (UK) Seminars Funding (£17500), Grant ES/J021822/1, (PI with Chris Minns and Alex Klein) to fund conference series “Economic Growth and Economic Performance over the Long Run”, 2012-2014

### Published Datasets

Processing Immigration Shocks: Firm Responses on the Innovation Margin (with Giulia Montresor and Greg C. Wright) Mendeley Data v. 1, doi: 10.17632/w543df97pr.1, 2020-03-27.

Globalization, Agricultural Markets and Mass Migration: Italy, 1881-1912 (with Gaia Narciso and Gaspare Tortorici) Ann Arbor, MI: Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research [distributor], 2019-06-06.

## Working Papers

A Rising Tide? The Local Incidence of the Second Wave of Globalization (with Greg C. Wright) *Revise and Resubmit* [CESifoWP9725](#)

Task Inequality and Racial Mobility over the Long Twentieth Century (with Siobhan O’Keefe, Sarah Quincy and Zachary Ward) *draft available soon*

## Work in Progress

Making a Police Officer: Police Quality After the Spoils System (with Raymond Kim) *draft coming soon*

Dens of Iniquity? Urban Crime in the United States in the Statistical Dark Age *draft coming soon*

Importing Crime? The Effect of Immigration on Crime in the United States, 1880-1930 (with G. Peri)

The Price of Housing in the United States, 1890-2006 (with Ronan C. Lyons, Allison Shertzer and David Agorastos) *draft available soon*

The Affordability of Housing in the United States over the Twentieth Century (with Ronan C. Lyons, Allison Shertzer)

Technological Revolutions and Occupational Change: Electrifying News from the Old Days (with Paul Gaggl and Ioana Marinescu)

## Book Reviews

Gray, Rowena (2021) review of Sandra E. Bonura, *Empire Builder: John D. Spreckels and the Making of San Diego* (University of Nebraska Press, 2020) reviewed for *California History*, 98(4).

Gray, Rowena (2017) review of Robert Gordon, *The Rise and Fall of American Economic Growth* (Princeton, 2016) reviewed for *Journal of Economic History*, 77(3): 960-962.

Gray, Rowena (2012) review of Leo Panitch and Sam Gindin, *The Making of Global Capitalism: The Political Economy of American Empire* (Verso, London, 2012) reviewed for *Times Higher Education*.

## Teaching

*UC Merced 2015-23*

Economics of Crime and Policing; Natural Experiments and Methods in Economic History (PhD); Intermediate Microeconomics; Economics of Immigration Freshman Seminar; GIS for World Economic History; Money & Banking; Labor Economics; Independent Study

*Earlier Teaching*

2014 Financial Institutions; Market Theory, *Queen’s University Belfast*

2014 Natural Experiments in History (PhD), *Trinity College Dublin*

2011-13 Financial Innovations and Monetary Policy, International Trade Institutions and Policy, *University of Essex*

2009 American Economic History before the Civil War, *UC Davis*

2008 Principles of Macroeconomics, *California State University, East Bay*

## Graduate Supervision

Raymond Kim (Economics), UC Merced, Advisor, 2021-

Rocco Bowman (History), UC Merced, Dissertation Committee Member, 2019-2022 (First Placement: Data Scientist at Booz Allen Hamilton)

## **Other Honors and Awards**

CSWEP Cement Mentoring Workshop Mentee, 2018  
Ray Beaumont Award for Department Collegiality, UC Davis, 2010  
Economic History Association Dissertation Fellowship, 2009-2010  
Fulbright Award (Ireland), US Department of State, 2005-2010  
European Science Foundation Exchange Grant (Globalizing Europe Economic History Network),  
Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, 2008  
Scholar, Trinity College Dublin, 2002-2007  
Editor, *Student Economic Review*, Trinity College Dublin, 2003  
Team Member, Washington-Ireland Program for Service and Leadership, 2003

## **Conferences/Presentations last 10 years**

2023: Grinnell College; World Congress of Cliometrics  
2022: Virginia Tech; Cliometrics Society; Canadian Economics Association  
2021: Trinity College Dublin; University of Victoria (BC); York University; Economic History Society;  
Economic History Association; Social Science History Association  
2020: UC Davis  
2019: INET Young Scholars Initiative Economic History North America; Economic History Society;  
Cliometrics Society; European Historical Economics Society  
2018: ASSA Cliometrics Association Session; UC Merced; UC Davis; World Economic History Congress  
(Boston); Western Economic Association; PUC Santiago; UC Irvine  
2017: 8<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Cliometrics (Strasbourg); Trinity College Dublin; Economic History  
Association; Colby College; Social Science History Association; Dartmouth College  
2016: UC Merced; UC Davis; NBER Summer Institute (Development of the American Economy); Trinity  
College Dublin; Social Science History Association  
2015: CSU Fresno; Western Economic Association EHA & CSWEP Sessions; Economic History  
Association  
2014: Trinity College Dublin; BETA Workshop in Economic History; Economic and Business History  
Society; Irish Society of New Economists; Long-Run Perspectives on Crime and Conflict; University  
College Dublin; Queen's University Belfast  
2013: ASSA Economic History Association Session; Economic History Society; Queen's University  
Belfast; UC Merced; European Historical Economics Society; University of Southern Denmark; Swedish  
Economic History; London School of Economics; University of Essex  
2012: Groningen FRESH Meeting; Seoul National University; Tsinghua University; Royal Economics  
Society Women's Committee Mentoring Meetings; University of Kent; TASKS 2 Conference

## **Professional Service**

Editorial Board, *European Review of Economic History*, 2021-  
Board of Trustees, Cliometrics Society, 2021-2024  
Mentor, AEA Mentoring Program, 2022-  
Co-organizer, Successfully Navigating your PhD: Mentoring Workshop for 3<sup>rd</sup>+ Year Students, 2022  
Mentor, NSF-Funded Navigating your Economics PhD Workshop, Stanford, 2019  
All-UC Group in Economic History Conference Organizer: Housing Markets and Living Standards in  
Economic History, Tenaya Lodge, March 2017  
Steering Committee, All-UC Group in Economic History, 2016-2019

Summer Grant Coordinator, All-UC Group in Economic History, 2016  
Co-Organizer, Long-Run Perspectives on Crime and Conflict Group, 2014-  
Co-Organizer, Frontier Research in Economic and Social History, 2011-22  
Editorial Board, *Scandinavian Economic History Review*, 2011-2014

### **Refereeing**

*American Economic Review, Economic Journal, Review of Economics and Statistics, Journal of Economic History, Explorations in Economic History, Economic History Review, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Journal of Economic Development, European Review of Economic History, Scandinavian Economic History Review, Historical Methods, European Journal of Comparative Economics, International Journal of Geo-Information, Review of Development Economics Grants: Riksbankens Jubileumsfond, Russell Sage Foundation (panel review & referee), National Science Foundation*

### **University Service**

Economics Graduate Program Chair, UC Merced, 2021-2024  
Instructional Budget Guidelines Faculty Review Committee, UC Merced, 2020-2021  
Graduate Studies Committee, Economics, UC Merced, 2018-present  
Governance Committee, Economics, UC Merced, 2020-2021  
Data Science Professional Masters, Extended Planning Team, UC Merced, 2020-2022  
Undergraduate Council, Member, UC Merced, 2019-2020  
Committee on Library and Scholarly Communications, Member, UC Merced, 2019-2020  
Chancellor's Advisory Committee on the Status of Women, Member, UC Merced, 2019-2020  
Student Success Internship Program Mentor, UC Merced, 2015-2021, 2022-23  
UROC-H and SURF Faculty Mentor, UC Merced, 2019  
UCOP Faculty Salary Equity Studies Seminar, Attendee, 2018  
Undergraduate Chair, Economics, UC Merced, 2016-2017, 2017-2018  
Co-organizer, Women in Economics Taskforce, UC Merced, 2017-2018  
Economics Department Search Committee, UC Merced, 2015-2016, 2016-2017, 2017-2018, 2018-2019  
Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Mentor, UC Merced, 2017  
Seminar Coordinator, Economics, UC Merced, 2016-2017  
Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Economics, UC Merced, 2015-2018  
Fiat Lux Scholars Program Faculty Participant, UC Merced, 2015, 2018, 2020, 2021

### **Public Service**

Speaker on the state of the economy for Financial Foundations for Educators Workshop, California JumpStart and CSU Stanislaus, 2021 & 2022