SHAN AMAN-RANA

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Citizenship: Pakistan
Gender: Female

ACADEMIC POSITIONS:

2022-	Assistant Professor of Economics University of Virginia, Department of Economics
2020-2022	*COVID-19 based temporary break*
2019	Assistant Professor of Economics University of Virginia, Department of Economics

VISITING ACADEMIC POSITIONS:

Fall 2024	Visiting Faculty, Yale University, Department of Economics,
Spring 2025	Visiting Faculty, Princeton University, Department of Economics and Department of Political Science

OTHER POSITIONS HELD PRE-PHD

2005-2019	Pakistan Administrative Services (PAS) civil servant, Government of Pakistan
2017	Research Assistant for Prof. Oriana Bandiera, London School of Economics

AFFILIATIONS:

2026-	International Growth Centre (IGC)
2023-	Invited Researcher, J-PAL
2019-	Centre for Economic Research Pakistan (CERP)
2019-	Democracy initiative, Corruption Lab for Ethics, Accountability, and the Rule of Law (CLEAR)
2021-	Fellow, Mahbub-ul-Haq Research Center, LUMS, Pakistan
2020-	Visiting Senior Fellow, Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE)
2018-2021	Bissau Economics Lab (BELAB)

EDUCATION:

2014-2019	PhD Economics, London School of Economics
2013-2014	MRes Economics, London School of Economics
2010-2011	MSc. Economics, London School of Economics

FIELDS OF INTEREST:

Development Economics, Political Economy, Organizational Economics

RESEARCH

Publications/Accepted papers

Spillovers in State Capacity Building: Evidence from the Digitization of Land Records in Pakistan (w/ Clement Minaudier (City University), *American Economic Review, 2026*

Screen Now, Save Later? The Trade-Off between Administrative Ordeals and Fraud (w/ Daniel Gingerich (UVA) and Sandip Sukhtankar (UVA)), *Conditionally Accepted, American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, 2026.* Replication package submitted.

Informal Fiscal Systems in Developing Countries (w/ Clement Minaudier (City University) and Sandip Sukhtankar (UVA)), *Journal of Development Economics, 2026*

Meritocracy in a Bureaucracy, *Journal of Development Economics, 2025*

Team Size and Diversity (w/ Alexia Delfino (Bocconi University) and Brais Álvarez Pereira (Universidade NOVA SBE)),*Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, 2024*

Working Papers

Bureaucratic Deliberation and Performance: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Benin (w/ Leonard Wantchekon (Princeton University) and Lazare Kovo (Emory University)), 2026 - *Submitted*

Designing the State (w/ Ikram-ul-Haq (PLRA))

Work in progress (at advanced stage):

Advisor Gender and Performance (w/ Alexia Delfino (Bocconi University), Clement Minaudier (City University), Brais Álvarez Pereira (Universidade NOVA SBE) and Shamyla Chaudry (Lahore School of Economics))

Work in progress (at preliminary stage - titles subject to change)

The Political Economy of Urban Waste (w/ Asim I. Khwaja (Harvard) and Shing-Yi Wang (Wharton, UPenn))

Digitization and Trust in the State (w/ Claudio Ferraz (UBC) and Ikram-ul-Haq (PLRA))

Coordination among Female Entrepreneurs (w/ Leonard Wantchekon (Princeton) and Suman Zahra (independent researcher))

Colorism and the Marriage Market (w/ Siwan Anderson (UBC) and Ritika Gupta (UVA))

GRANTS:

External

Post-PhD

2026	JPAL Jobs and Opportunity Initiative (JOI) and Social Protection Initiative (SPI) ($35,000)
2026	JPAL Project AI Evidence Pilot ($75,000)
2026	Weiss Fund (~$95,000)
2026	JPAL Governance Initiative ($150,000)
2025	PEDL (£40,000)
2025	JPAL Governance Initiative (~$75,000)
2024	International Growth Center (three awards: ~ £30,000, £20,000, £30,000)
2022	International Growth Center (~ £40,000)
2021	JPAL Crime and Violence Initiative grant ($75,000) - *Returned due to COVID-related challenges.*

Pre-PhD

2018	Research Grant (£5,000), STICERD
2014	Research Grant (£20,000), International Growth Centre (IGC)
2014	PhD Field Research Grant ($5000), Institute of Development and Economic Alternatives (IDEAS), Pakistan

Internal (UVA based)

Post-PhD

2025	Bankard Fund for Political Economy (~$35,000), UVA
2024	Quantitative Collaborative ($10,000), UVA
2020, 2021	Quantitative Collaborative ($12,500), UVA
2020, 2021	Bankard Fund for Political Economy ($30,000), UVA

AWARDS, SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS:

Post-PhD

2024	Undergraduate Economics Summer Research Assistantship Fund (UVA)
2024-25	Roger Sherman Research Fellow Award for Faculty Excellence

Pre-PhD

2013-2018	Economics Department Award, Full Scholarship, PhD Economics, LSE
2013	Offered Visiting Student Research Collaborator (VSRC), Princeton University, Department of Politics, under Dr. Jacob N. Shapiro
2013	Offered Visiting Graduate Student, University of California San Diego (UCSD), Economics Department under Prof. Eli Berman
2011-2013	Cambridge Commonwealth Trust- HEC Pakistan, Full PhD Scholarship
2009-2011	Master's Award, Full Scholarship, MSc. Economics, London School of Economics
2007	Best in Academics, Civil Service of Pakistan
2007	Best Research Paper, Civil Service of Pakistan
2006	President of Pakistan Gold Medal, Best Probationary Officer, Civil Services of Pakistan
2006	Best in Academics, Civil Service of Pakistan
2003	Gold Medal, MSc. Economics, Lahore School of Economics
2003	Silver Medal, Dean's Honor List, Lahore School of Economics
2002	Gold Medal, M.B.A. Program, Lahore School of Economics
2002	Silver Medal, M.B.A. Program, Lahore School of Economics
2002	Full Scholarship, MSc. Economics, Lahore School of Economics

TEACHING AWARDS:

Post-PhD

2021, 2022	Appreciation from UVA Career Center

Pre-PhD

2016	LSE Best Class Teacher Award
2016	Nominated for LSE Students' Union Student-led Most Inspirational Teacher Award
2012-2013	Best Teaching Fellow in the Economics Tripos, University of Cambridge

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Invited lectures

2025	Development Econ, PhD Economics, Economics Department, Princeton University
2023	Clientelism and state capture (Ph.D level), Politics Department, Princeton University
2023	Bureaucracy in the developing world (Master's level), School of Public and International Affairs (SPIA), Princeton University

Core teaching

Post-PhD

2022-	PhD Econ Math Camp, Department of Economics, University of Virginia
2019-	Economic Development, Department of Economics, University of Virginia

Pre-PhD

2015-2018	Micro and Macro for Public Policy, Master of Public Administration, School of Public Policy, LSE
2013-2018	Empirical Methods for Public Policy, Executive Master of Public Administration (EMPA), School of Public Policy, LSE
2013-2018	Economic Policy Analysis, Executive Master of Public Administration (EMPA), School of Public Policy, LSE
2013-2014	Political Science & Public Policy, Executive Master of Public Administration (EMPA), School of Public Policy, LSE
2012-2013	Economics of Developing Countries, Undergraduate Tripos Part IIB, Department of Economics, University of Cambridge
2011-2012	Development Economics, Undergraduate Tripos Part I, Department of Economics, University of Cambridge
2002-2004	Microeconomics, Masters level, Department of Economics, Lahore School of Economics

POST-PHD ADVISING

PhD Econ students (initial placement)

2025	Jessica Montgomery, AP, University of Kentucky
2025	Avantika Prabhakar, AP, Ashoka University
2021	Luan Santos, Quantitative Analytics Senior, Freddie Mac

Master's student (initial placement)

2023	Fatimah Shaalan, Research Assistant, Federal Reserve Board

Research Assistants (initial placement)

2019-2026	Yanwen Wang, PhD Econ, Cornell University Kathryn Enrique, PhD Econ, Vanderbilt University Shine Yang, Pre-doc Northwestern w/ Dean Karlan Joshua Mazhar, Masters, Engineering Columbia University Shenyi (Alex) Chen, Masters, Cornell Yuanzhan Gao, Masters, Berkeley (*declined*) Gabriel Bickham, Masters, LSE Gabriel Silva, Masters, Georgia Tech Da Lin, MSc. Computer Sciences, Duke University Ryan Keller, Senior Associate, Berkeley Research Group Dylan Klapper, Business Analyst, Capital One Zach Marhanka, UChicago Institute for Climate and Sustainable Growth Mudabbir Ali, PhD Public Policy ASU

Research Interns (initial placement)

2026	Ameenah Babar, Undergraduate Econ, Oxford University
2024	Haider Nafees Ahmed, Undergraduate Econ, Duke University
2024	Ahmad Hassan Faiz Chaddhar, Undergraduate Econ, NYU

SEMINAR AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (including scheduled*):

2027	**Seminars:** Columbia University Development Seminar*, Wharton development seminar*, Georgetown Development Seminar* **Conferences**: AEA/ASSA Annual meeting*, Annual Organizational and Political Economics Conference (Utah)*, BEDI Labor & Dev Conference (Uni of Pittsburgh)* *Invited to attend/discuss:* World Bank Public Finance Conference - *declined*

2026 **Seminars:** Development Seminar UC Davis
Conferences: Agency Conference (Princeton), NBER Organizational Econ Working Group Fall meeting*, NEUDC (Cornell Uni)*, SIOE (INSEAD), Washington Area Meeting of Economic Scientists (GMU), PACDEV (UC, Davis) – *cancelled*

Invited to attend/discuss: Berkeley Conference on State Building in Developing Countries, Annual Organizational and Political Economics Conference (Utah); WADES (AU); UC Berkeley Org Econ Conference

2025 **Seminars:** Development Econ Workshop (Economics, Princeton); Center for Economic Studies (US Census Bureau) - *postponed by them following govt policy*
Conferences: Game Theory, Political Economy and Development (Princeton-African School of Econ Research Hub and Moroccan Game Theory Center); Kuznets conference (Yale); Pacific Conference for Development Econ - PACDEV (UCLA, USC); Emerging Research in State Capacity and Political Economy Conference (Oxford) *cancelled*
Invited to attend: NBER Organizational Econ meeting, BREAD & Princeton Conference on Development Economics, Annual Organizational and Political Economics Conference (Utah) cancelled

2024 **Seminars**: MIT Organizational Econ Seminar, Yale Development Seminar, UVA Econ Dept (internal)
Conferences: DC Political Economy Center (DCPEC) Research Workshop (Georgetown University); NEUDC (Northeastern), STEG-CEPR annual conference (Barcelona), ThReD Conference (MIT Sloan), Annual Organizational and Political Economics Conference (Utah), Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting (Chicago), Midwestern International Economic Development Conference (University of Chicago); NBER Organization Economics Spring Meeting; RIDGE/LACEA Political Economy Workshop (Chile); SIOE, *cancelled* (University of Chicago); American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, *cancelled* (Philadelphia)
Invited to attend: Washington-Area Political Economy Conference, DC Political Economy Center (DCPEC) at Georgetown and Johns Hopkins University, NBER SI Development Economics, NBER Organizational Econ Fall meeting
Invited to discuss: Organizational Economics Workshop (Cornell University, *declined)*

2023 **Seminars**: UVA Econ Dept (internal); CREB Development Research Seminar Lahore School of Econ (cancelled)
Conferences: Empirical Management Conference (Stanford); Path2Dev Conference; Southern Economic Association annual meeting; IEA - World Congress (declined); WADES (George Washington University); Entrepreneurship and Private Enterprise Development Workshop (George Mason)
Invited to attend: NBER Organizational Econ; NBER Compensation of Top Executives: Determinants and Consequences; Firms, trade and development conference (Yale)

2022 **Seminars:** UVA (Experimental Economics Reading group); University of Delaware; Quantitative Collaborative Lunch Series; Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad, SIOE University of Toronto, Workshop on Corruption and Institutions
Conferences: Workshop on Entrepreneurial Finance and Innovation by Mike Ewens (Caltech) and Song Ma (Yale SOM) (as discussant); Pathways to Development Conference, LUMS; *Invited to attend:* NBER Organizational Econ; NBER SI Gender in the Economy

2021 **Seminars (online):** Development seminar University of Michigan; Fordham University; IFPRI; Iowa State University; Williams College; UVA (Development Economics)
Conferences (online, except):** NBER Organizational Economics fall meeting**;

	NEUDC (Boston University); Southern Economic Association (SEA); UVA-Richmond Fed-Duke Jamboree; WADES (Georgetown); IEA (cancelled); Society for Institutional and Organizational Economics (SIOE); London School of Economics Workshop on Clientelism
2020	**Seminars**: UVA Junior Economists Lunch Series **Conferences**: WADES (cancelled); IEA (cancelled); EALE SOLE AASLE World Conference (cancelled); Midwest International Economic Development Conference (cancelled)
2019	**Seminars:** Queen Mary University of London; World Bank; University of Toronto; University of Virginia; Lahore University of Management Sciences
2018	**Seminars:** Institute of Fiscal Studies; London School of Economics (Development, STICERD, Political Science and Political Economy seminars) **Conferences:** Stanford and UC Berkeley: Fourth Development and Political Economics SF Bay Area conference, UC Berkeley
2017	**Seminars:** London School of Economics (Development, Labor, STICERD, Political Science and Political Economy seminars) **Conferences:** IEA; North American Summer Meeting; Annual Congress of the European Economic Association (EEA-ESEM), NEUDC (Tufts University)

REFEREEING

American Economic Review, Econometrica, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Economic Studies, Journal of Political Economy, AEJ: Applied, AEJ: Economic Policy, AER Insights, Review of Economics and Statistics, Nature Cities, Economic Journal, Journal of Labor Economics, Journal of Development Econ, Journal of Public Economics, Economica, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Journal of Law, Economics and Organization, Economic Development and Cultural Change, Economic Letters, Oxford Economic Papers

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Department service

2026-	Undergraduate Program Committee
2024-2026	Committee for the Distinguished Majors Program
2023-	Development Workshop Organizer
2023	Political Economy and Economic History Reading Group Organizer (w/ Kerem Cosar, UVA)

University service

2026	Organizing a conference on “Bureaucracy Across Borders” with Politics Department
2022	Organized a conference on Corruption and Institutions (CLEAR Lab UVA)

National service

2026	Reviewer, NEUDC Conference, Cornell University
2024	Invited talk: *How research changes the world*, Salus Populi Foundation, Yale University
2022, 2023	Mentoring job market candidates, Association for Mentoring and Inclusion in Economics (AMIE)
2021	Scientific program committee, Society for Institutional and Organizational Economics (SIOE)

International service

2023-2024	Founded *Azad Soch* – a research and public engagement initiative that takes research to films https://www.instagram.com/azadsochorg/ All videos

2014	Conference convened: Institutions and their Discontents: Rethinking Economic Development in South Asia, University of Cambridge