

Unveiling the determinants of scientific productivity in middle-income countries

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Propositions accompanying the PhD thesis

Unveiling the determinants of scientific productivity in middle-income countries: An economics of science perspective

By Lorena Rivera León

1. Science is a source of economic growth (Chapter 1).
2. Little seems to matter apart from social structure and organizational proximity to make scientific collaboration persist over time (Chapter 2).
3. Female researchers are equally or even more productive than their male peers. They are also under-represented in the highest levels of academic seniority (Chapters 3 and 4).
4. Foreign-educated researchers are important conduits of knowledge to national scientific systems (Chapter 5).
5. There is a strong need for policy intervention to address the promotion of women to senior academic positions.
6. Research policy should promote cross-race and cross-gender interactions and diversity in academic networks.
7. Investing in women is smart economics, and investing in girls, catching them upstream, is even smarter economics (Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala).
8. History tells us that innovation is an outcome of a massive collective effort – not just from a narrow group of young white men in California. If we want to solve the world's biggest problems, we better understand that (Mariana Mazzucato).
9. We must think about development in a different, innovative, diversified, and inclusive way (Alicia Bárcena).
10. Women consistently earn less than men do, and the gap is wider for most women of color, mainly Hispanic and Latino women.
11. “F” as in “finally finished”, but also as in “family first”, and as in Filip, Frida and Felix.