

## STEPHEN PITTS, SJ, PHD

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Department of Economics | O'Brien Hall | 1530 W. Wisconsin Ave. | Milwaukee, WI 53233

### Academic Positions

Wade Jesuit Visiting Assistant Professor of Economics, Marquette University, 2025-present  
Affiliate, Collaborative for Econometrics and Integrated Development Studies (CEIDS) in  
Kellogg Institute for International Studies at the University of Notre Dame

### Education

PhD, Applied Economics, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, 2025  
Fields: Agricultural Development, Labor Economics; PhD minor: GIScience

MS, International and Development Economics, University of San Francisco, 2018

Master of Theology, Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University, 2018  
Concentration: Ethics and Social Theory

Master of Divinity, Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University, 2017

MA, Philosophy, Loyola University Chicago, 2011

BA, Mathematics (Japanese minor), University of Oklahoma, 2006

BS, Computer Science (summa cum laude), University of Oklahoma, 2006

### Fields of Interest

Agriculture, Development, Labor, Migration, Latin America, Catholic Social Teaching

### Peer-Reviewed Publications

**Pitts, Stephen**, Chris M. Boyd, and Grant Xavier Storer (2025). Unpacking Side-Selling: Experimental Evidence from Mexico. *Agricultural Economics* 56 (6): 1119-1149.

### Working Papers

Information decay and cooperative entry under risk (with Grant Xavier Storer and Jessie Anttila-Hughes)

The Role of Social Networks in Post-Displacement Outcomes (with Juan Pablo Arrendo and Lorenzo Aldeco)

Where You Go Depends on Who You Know: Social Networks as Determinants of Mexican Internal Migration

Sweet and Timely Income: The Effect of Honey Production in Reducing Food Insecurity of Coffee Producers (with Chris Boyd Leon, Grant Xavier Storer, Jessie Anttila-Hughes).

### Research in Progress

The Causal Impacts of Geographic Targeting on Local Poverty Reduction: Evidence from Mexico (with Alejandro Estefan)

### Invited Professional Presentations

- "The Role of Social Networks in Post-Displacement Outcomes" (scheduled)  
 UWisconsin-Milwaukee Labor Brownbag 2026  
 Midwest Economic Association / Society of Labor Economics 2026
- "Information decay and cooperative entry under risk" (scheduled)  
 CSAE Conference 2026: Economic Development in Africa 2026
- "Unpacking Side-Selling: Experimental Evidence from Mexico"  
 Loyola University Chicago 2025  
 Boston College 2024  
 Fordham University 2024  
 Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA) 2023  
 Association for Economics Research of Indigenous Peoples 2023
- "Sweet and Timely Income: The Effect of Honey Production in Reducing Food Insecurity"  
 University of Minnesota Applied Economics Student Seminar 2023  
 Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA) 2023
- "Where You Go Depends on Who you Know: Social Networks and Mexican Internal Migration"  
 University of San Francisco Department of Economics (virtual) 2023

### Popular Press

- S. Pitts, "The ICE raid on a Hyundai plant shows how hard it would be to quit globalization", *America Magazine*. 17 Sep 2025. Published online.  
<https://www.americamagazine.org/short-take/2025/09/17/ice-raid-hyundai-plant-korean-globalization/>

### Book Chapters

- S. Pitts, "The role of the farmer and their cooperative in supply chain governance: a Latin American small producer perspective," *Handbook of Cooperatives*, eds. Michael Boland and Matthew Eliot, Edward Elgar Publishing, 2023, pp 172-184.
- S. Pitts, "Value Chain Integration as an Alternative to Fair Trade for Chiapas Coffee Farmers," *Entrepreneurship and Development in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, eds. Sergio Bruno and Cole Scanlon, Emerald Publishing, 2019, pp 103-138.

### Invited Book Reviews

- Pitts, S. (2024) "Review of 'Research Ethics in Applied Economics: A Practical Guide,'" *Faith & Economics* 83, Fall 2024.
- Pitts, S. (2016). "Review of The Age of Sustainable Development." *Conversations on Jesuit Higher Education* 49, September 2016.

### Teaching Experience

**Marquette University:** Principles of Microeconomics (x2), Development Economics

**University of Minnesota:** Applications of Excel in Economics, Microeconomics of International Development, Principles of Microeconomics (TA), Econometric Analysis I-IV (TA)

### Grants

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| Catholic Community Foundation of Minnesota (\$10000)            | 2024-26    |
| Ralph K Morris Foundation (\$2500)                              | 2023-24    |
| University of Minnesota   |            |
| Agricultural Experimental Station Summer Stipend (\$6300)       | 2024       |
| Department of Applied Economics Travel Grant (\$1000)           | 2023       |
| CIFAP Travel Grant (\$1000)                                     | 2023       |
| Center for International Food and Agricultural Policy (\$25000) | 2022-23    |
| Office of Provost Summer Research Stipend (\$6300)              | 2022, 2021 |
| Santa Clara University  |            |
| Ignatian Center for Jesuit Education (\$1500, \$1000)           | 2022       |
| Ignatian Center for Jesuit Education (\$500)                    | 2017       |
| Markula Center for Applied Ethics Travel Grant (\$750)          | 2015       |
| US Central and Southern Province, Society of Jesus              |            |
| Social Ministries Grant (\$1100)                                | 2017       |
| University of San Francisco, Department of Economics            |            |
| Field Research Grant (\$1500)                                   | 2017       |

### Honors and Awards

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| Department Teaching Assistant Award for 1000-level classes | 2021-22 |
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### Fellowships

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| University of Minnesota, Department of Applied Economics |                  |
| Dr. Dale C. Dahl and Jean Kinsey Graduate Fellowship     | 2020-21          |
| University of San Francisco, Department of Economics     |                  |
| Department Merit Scholarship (\$2500, \$1000)            | 2017-18; 2016-17 |
| McDermott Scholarship (full tuition)                     | 2015-16; 2016-17 |

### Department Service (Marquette)

|                         |       |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Undergraduate Committee | 2025- |
|-------------------------|-------|

### Department Service (UMN Applied Economics)

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| Graduate student member of Priorities and Graduate Committee | 2022-23 |
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### Professional Service

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|---|------------|
| Referee for <i>Agricultural Economics</i>                     | 2025       |
| Referee for <i>American Journal of Agricultural Economics</i> | 2023, 2022 |
| Referee for <i>Handbook of Cooperatives</i>                   | 2022       |

### Invited Popular Presentations

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|--|-----------|
| "Seguimiento y levantamiento de data en proyectos"<br>Jesuit Collaborative of the Jesuits in Peru (virtual)                  | 2026      |
| "What is a Jesuit approach to economic development?"<br>CREDO Economics and Catholic Social Teaching Workshop                | 2023      |
| Jesuit Scholarship in a Secular Age  | 2023      |
| "Why would a Jesuit study Applied Economics?"<br>Jesuit Novitiate of St. Albert Hurtado (St Paul, MN)                        | 2023      |
| Jesuit Friends and Alumni Network (St. Paul, MN)   | 2022      |
| "Overview of Economic Causes of US/Mexico Migration"<br>St. Catherine's University (St. Paul, MN)                            | 2024      |
| Encuentro Project (El Paso, TX)  | 2019-2021 |
| Archdiocesan Peace & Justice Commission (St. Louis, MO)  | 2019      |
| "Relationships of Solidarity and Depth: Capeltic Coffee Cooperative"<br>AJCU Conference on International Education (virtual) | 2021      |
| Pioneers 21 (El Paso, TX)  | 2020      |

### Mentoring

Supervised a master's student funded through Wade Chair at Marquette University  
 Supervised three master's students who did fieldwork with a Jesuit NGO in Piura, Peru  
 Supervised three master's students who did fieldwork with a Jesuit NGO in Chiapas, Mexico  
 Supervised two undergraduates who did projects with a Jesuit NGO in Chiapas, Mexico

### Board Service

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|---|-----------|
| Santa Clara University, <i>Ignatian Center for Jesuit Education</i>                   | 2021-2024 |
| Built relationship with Jesuit NGO in Chiapas, Mexico                                 |           |
| Built relationship with Jesuit NGOs in Lima and Piura, Peru                           |           |
| Assisted Long Le (Business School) to incorporate Chiapas and Peru NGO in his classes |           |

### Relevant Professional Experience

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| Mathematics Faculty at Jesuit College Preparatory (Dallas, TX)           | 2011-2014  |
| Associate Pastor at Sacred Heart Church (El Paso, TX)                    | 2018-2020  |
| Associate Pastor at Jesuit Mission of Bachajón (Chiapas, Mexico)         | 2018       |
| Research Associate at Jesuit Social Research Institute (New Orleans, LA) | 2015       |
| Volunteer at Adachi International Academy (Tokyo, Japan)                 | 2010, 2013 |
| Volunteer at Casa de los Pobres (Tijuana, BC, México)                    | 2008       |

**Language and Technical Proficiency**

Computer: R, SQL, GIS, Python, Stata, JavaScript

Languages: English (native), Spanish (proficient), Japanese (advanced),  
Portuguese (intermediate)

**Personal**

Member, US Central and Southern Province of Society of Jesus (Jesuits)

Entrance: 8/15/2006; First Vows: 8/15/2008; Priestly Ordination: 6/10/2017