

Christopher R. Esposito

christopher.esposito@anderson.ucla.edu

Osborne Postdoctoral Fellow
Price Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation
Strategy Unit
Anderson School of Management
UCLA

<http://cresposito.com>

Current Position

Osborne Postdoctoral Fellow, Price Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, Strategy Group, UCLA Anderson School of Management
Organizer, UCLA Price Quarterly Conference Series on Entrepreneurship & Innovation
Sept. 2023 – Present

Previous Position

Mansueto Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Sociology & Mansueto Institute for Urban Innovation, University of Chicago
Sept. 2021 – Aug. 2023

Education

Ph.D., Geography, University of California, Los Angeles, 2021
Dissertation: *The Evolution of Technological Knowledge Across Space and Time*

B.A., Economics & Geography (High Honors), Colgate University, 2014

Working Papers

Esposito, C. [Who Drives Technology Forward? Age and Spillovers in Inventor Networks.](#)

Esposito, C., and Van der Wouden, F. [The Speed of knowledge and the Rise of Team-Based Invention.](#) Under review.

Esposito, C. [Global Science Sustains U.S. Innovation.](#) In preparation for submission.

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Esposito, C.*, Wu, R.*, and Evans, J. 2025. [Shifting Power Asymmetries in Scientific Teams Reveal China's Rising Leadership in Global Science.](#) *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. Forthcoming. *Co-first authors; names appear in reverse-order on byline.

Esposito, C., Leamer, E., and Nickelsburg, J. 2024. [Who Paid Los Angeles' Minimum Wage? A Side-by-Side Minimum Wage Experiment in Los Angeles County.](#) *Journal of Human Resources*. Forthcoming.

Esposito, C. 2023. [The Geography of Breakthrough Invention in the United States over the 20th Century.](#) *Research Policy* 52 (7).

Esposito, C. 2023. [Cycles of Regional Innovative Growth.](#) *Journal of Economic Geography* 23 (1).

Esposito, C., Rigby, D. 2019. [Buzz and Pipelines: The Costs and Benefits of Local and Non-Local Interaction.](#) *Journal of Economic Geography* 19 (3).

Meyer, W., **Esposito, C.** 2014. [Burgess and Hoyt in L.A.: Testing the Chicago Models in the Automobile-Age American City](#). *Urban Geography* 36 (2).

Meyer, W., **Esposito, C.** 2014. [Residential Patterns in the Pre-Automobile American City](#). *Geographical Review* 104 (3).

Research in Progress

Kane, C., **Esposito, C.**, and Evans, J. Assembling Order: Tracing the Origins of Scientific Fields.

Esposito, C., and Sorenson, O. From Global Ideas to Local Advantage: How Academia and Industry Import Knowledge into Technology Hubs.

Esposito, C., and Sorenson, O. Strategic Corporate Investments in Basic Science.

Esposito, C. Diverging Search Paths in Science and Technology.

Esposito, C., and Furnas, Z. Funding Basic Science for Policy Impact.

Lockhardt, J., Chen, Z., **Esposito, C.**, Shi, F., and Evans, J. China Rises to Global Leadership in Emerging Science and Technology.

Teaching Experience

Guest lecturer: Organizations and Management MBA course
University of Chicago Booth School of Business
Spring 2023

Guest Speaker: Ethics in AI Research: Insights from the Social Sciences
University of Chicago Data Science Institute
Spring 2023

M236: Regional Economics and Development. Graduate public policy course
Winter 2019, winter 2020, and winter 2021

GEOG 7: Introduction to GIS
Fall 2019 and fall 2020. Online course.

GEOG 5: People and Earth's Ecosystems
Spring 2019 and spring 2021

Seminars and Select Conferences

2026: Max Planck Institute for Innovation and Competitiveness (*scheduled*)

2025: NBER Summer Institute – Science of Science Funding | DRUID – Toronto | Columbia Business School – Management, Analytics, and Data Conference (MAD) | Entrepreneurship & Innovation Policy (EIP) (*scheduled*)

2024: International Conference on the Science of Science & Innovation (ICSSI) – Washington DC | Berkely Haas Entrepreneurship and Innovation Brown-Bag | AOM – Chicago

2023: Harvard Kennedy School of Government Growth Lab | ICSSI Northwestern University | AOM – Boston | University of Toronto Munk School of Global Affairs Innovation Policy Lab

2022: Stanford GSB Macro Organizational Behavior | Columbia Business School Department of Management | Maryland Smith School of Business Management & Organization | Georgia Tech School of Public Policy | Kellogg School of Management Center for Science-of-Science and Innovation | ICSSI – Washington DC | Entrepreneurship & Innovation Policy Seminar Series (EIP) | AOM – Seattle | Research Policy Early Career Workshop

2021: UCLA Anderson School of Management Strategy Unit | University of Toronto Munk School of Global Affairs | DRUID – Copenhagen

2020 and earlier: Urban Economics Association – Philadelphia | Global Conference in Economic Geography – Cologne | Geography of Innovation – Barcelona & Toulouse | Harvard Kennedy School of Government – Growth Lab

Journal Referee Service

Nature Human Behavior, Research Policy, Journal of Economic Geography, PLOS One, Industry and Innovation, Journal of Regional Science, Regional Studies

Academic and Professional Service

Organizer, Quarterly Conference Series

Price Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation

Fall 2023 – Present

Conceive themes, recruit paper submissions, select presenters, and assemble program for quarterly UCLA Price research workshops attracting participants from leading universities. Deliver opening editorial remarks to frame sessions. Collaborate with Center Director on keynote invitations and funding; oversee event logistics in coordination with administrative staff.

Director of Seminars

Knowledge Lab at the University of Chicago

Spring 2023

Global E-Seminar Series Co-Founder and Director

Seminars in Economic Geography (SEG)

April 2020 – December 2022

Awards and Honors

National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow

May 2015 – 2020

UCLA Geography Graduate Student Publication Award

Awarded for “Buzz and Pipelines: The Costs and Benefits of Local and Non-Local Interaction,” published in *Journal of Economic Geography* (2019)

International Institute of Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) Fellowship

July 2018 – Aug. 2018

Funded by the U.S. National Academy of Sciences

UCLA Graduate Research Fellow

Sept. 2015 – June 2016

Colgate University Shannon McCune Award for Excellence in Geography
May 2014

Professional Association Membership

Academy of Management
American Association of Geographers

Technical Skills

R | Python | ARCMAP | QGIS | Linux/BASH | STATA

References

Prof. Olav Sorenson: olav.sorenson@anderson.ucla.edu

Prof. James Evans: jevans@uchicago.edu

Prof. David Rigby: rigby@geog.ucla.edu

Prof. Jacob Foster: foster@soc.ucla.edu

Prof. Michael Storper: storper@ucla.edu