

## MARIANA ALFONSO

---

Inter-American Development Bank  
1300 New York Ave, NW  
Washington, DC 20577  
Voice: (202) 623-2804 - Fax: (202) 623-2481  
Email: [mariana@iadb.org](mailto:mariana@iadb.org)

---

### **EDUCATION**

2004 Ph.D. Economics and Education, Columbia University  
M.Phil. Economics and Education, Columbia University  
1997 B.A. Economics, Universidad Nacional de Córdoba, Argentina

### **RECENT WORK EXPERIENCE**

*Inter-American Development Bank* Junior Professional, Research Department (Sept 2006–present)  
*Brown University* Postdoctoral Research Associate in Public Policy, Taubman Center for Public Policy (Jul 2004–Jun 2006)  
Faculty Affiliate, Center for Latin American Studies (Aug 2005–Jun 2006)  
*Teachers College, Columbia University* Senior Research Affiliate, Community College Research Center (Jul 2004–present)  
Senior Research Assistant, Community College Research Center (2003–Jun 2004)  
Research Assistant, Community College Research Center (Jun 2000–2002)

### **HONORS/AWARDS**

*The College Board* Community College Research Fellow (2003-2004)  
*Teachers College, Columbia University* Donald G. Tewksbury Memorial Award (2002)  
International Development Scholar (1999-2002)  
*Fulbright Commission of Argentina* PROFOR (Ministry of Education) Scholarship (1999-2001)  
CONICOR Scholarship (1998, declined)  
*Universidad Nacional de Córdoba* University Honor Prize in Economics (1997)  
Honor Prize in Economics, School of Economic Sciences (1997)

### **FIELDS OF INTERESTS**

Education and Education Policies; Social Policies; Labor Markets; Gender Issues

### **PUBLICATIONS**

#### **Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles**

Calcagno, J. C. & Alfonso, M. (2007). *Institutional Responses to State Merit Aid Programs: The Case of Florida Community Colleges?* Under review.

Kienzl, G. S., Alfonso, M., & Melguizo, T. (2007). The Effect of Local Labor Market Conditions in the 1990s on the Likelihood of Community College Students' Persistence and Attainment. *Research in Higher Education*, 48(8).

Alfonso, M. (2006). The Impact of Community College Attendance on Baccalaureate Attainment. *Research in Higher Education*, 47(8), 873-903.

Anderson, G., Alfonso, M., & Sun, J. (2006). Rethinking the Cooling Out at Public Community Colleges: An Examination of Fiscal Trends in Higher Education and the Rise of Statewide Articulation Agreements. *Teachers College Record*, 108(3), 422-451.

Anderson, G., Sun, J., & Alfonso, M. (2006). Effectiveness of Statewide Articulation Agreements on the Probability of Transfer: A Preliminary Policy Analysis. *The Review of Higher Education*, 29(3), 261-291.

Alfonso, M., Bailey, T. R., & Scott, M. (2005). The Educational Outcomes of Occupational Sub-baccalaureate Students: Evidence from the 1990s. *Economics of Education Review*, 24(2), 197-212.

## Book Chapters

- Alfonso, M. (in press). Private Resources in Educational Finance and Equality Implications: Evidence from Peru. In K. L. Biraimah, W. Gaudelli, & J. Zajda (Eds.), *Globalisation, Comparative Education and Policy Research. Volume 6: Education and Social Inequality in the Global Culture*. Dordrecht, The Netherlands: Kluwer Academic Publishers.
- Alfonso, M. (2006). Hispanic Educational Attainment in Sub-baccalaureate Programs. In C. Horn, S. Flores, & G. Orfield (Eds.), *Latino Educational Opportunity: New Directions for Community Colleges* (no. 133). San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.

## Research Reports (with external review)

- Alfonso, M. (forthcoming). *Understanding Community College Transfer Rates: The Role of Educational Expectations in the Transfer Process*. New York, NY: The College Board.
- Bailey, T. R. & Alfonso, M. (2005). Paths to Persistence: An Analysis of Research on Program Effectiveness at Community Colleges. *Lumina Foundation for Education New Agenda Series*, 6(1). Indianapolis, IN: Lumina Foundation for Education.
- Bailey, T. R., Alfonso, M., Calcagno, J. C., Kienzl, G. S., & Leinbach, D. T. (2004). *Improving Student Attainment in Community Colleges: Institutional Characteristics and Policies*. New York, NY: Community College Research Center, Teachers College, Columbia University. Available at <http://ccrc.tc.columbia.edu/Publication.asp?UID=209>
- Bailey, T. R., Alfonso, M., Scott, M., & Leinbach, D. T. (2004). *The Educational Outcomes of Occupational Postsecondary Students*. Washington, DC: National Assessment of Vocational Education, US Department of Education. Available at <http://www.ed.gov/rschstat/eval/sectech/nave/ed-outcomes.pdf>
- Bailey, T. R., Leinbach, D. T., Scott, M., Alfonso, M., Kienzl, G. S., & Kennedy, B. (2004). *The Characteristics of Occupational Sub-baccalaureate Students Entering the New Millennium*. Washington, DC: National Assessment of Vocational Education, US Department of Education.

## Working Papers and Manuscripts

- Alfonso, M. (2007). *Girls Just Want to Have Fun? Sexual Activity, Pregnancy and Motherhood Among Bolivian Teenagers*. Washington, DC: Research Department, Inter-American Development Bank (under internal review).
- Alfonso, M. & Calcagno, J. C. (2007). *Minority Enrollments at Public Universities of Diverse Selectivity Levels Under Different Admission Regimes: The Case of Texas*. Washington, DC: Research Department, Inter-American Development Bank (under internal review).
- Alfonso, M. & Navarro, J.C. (2007). *Cuáles son las Preguntas en Educación?* Washington, DC: Research Department, Inter-American Development Bank.
- Calcagno, J. C. & Alfonso, M. (2007). *Institutional Responses to State Merit Aid Programs: The Case of Florida Community Colleges*. Working paper no. 8. New York, NY: Community College Research Center, Teachers College, Columbia University.
- Kienzl, G.S., Melguizo, T., & Alfonso, M. (2007). *Industry-specific Employment Shocks and the Persistence and Attainment of Community College Students*. Los Angeles, CA: Rossier School of Education, University of Southern California.
- Melguizo, T., Kienzl, G.S., & Alfonso, M. (2007). *Evaluating the Effect of Community College Attendance on Educational Attainment: Application of Propensity Score Matching Methods*. Los Angeles, CA: Rossier School of Education, University of Southern California.
- Alfonso, M. & Calcagno, J. C. (2006). *Changes in Affirmative Action Policies or Demographic Shift? Understanding Variations in Minority Enrollment at Public Universities in Texas*. Princeton, NJ: Office of Population Research, Princeton University.
- Alfonso, M. (2005). *What Students of Different Racial/Ethnic Groups Do after High School: An Empirical Analysis with Focus on Why Students Attend Two-Year Colleges*. Providence, RI: Taubman Center for Public Policy, Brown University.
- Alfonso, M. (2003). *Argentina's Colegios Universitarios: Understanding their Origins and Examining their Potential Impacts*. New York, NY: Community College Research Center, Teachers College, Columbia University. Available at <http://ccrc.tc.columbia.edu/Publication.asp?UID=3>
- Alfonso, M. (2001). *Wage Discrimination Against Hispanic Women in the U.S.* New York, NY: Program of Economics and Education, Teachers College, Columbia University. Available at <http://www.tc.columbia.edu/students/see/events/Alfonso%20-%2010-30-01.pdf>

Alfonso, M. (2000). *Estimating the Determinants of Fertility Using Aggregate Data. An Application to Latin America and the Caribbean*. New York, NY: Program of Economics and Education, Teachers College, Columbia University. Available at <http://www.utdt.edu/congresos/economia/pdfs-pob-dis/alfonso-.pdf>

### **RESEARCH IN PROGRESS**

*Teenage pregnancy and childbearing and social exclusion: Evidence from Latin America*

*The impact of the social and economic environment on Latin American teenagers' academic performance. Evidence from PISA 2003* with Hugo Ñopo

*Changes in Affirmative Action Policies and Minority Enrollments in Public Universities: Evidence from a Natural Experiment in Texas* with Juan Carlos Calcagno

*The influence of unobservables and articulation policies on transfer and bachelor's attainment rates of community college students: A thirty year perspective* with Tatiana Melguizo and Gregory S. Kienzl

### **EXTERNAL RESEARCH SUPPORT (As Principal Investigator)**

- 2006 American Educational Research Association (\$40,000; co-principal investigator)  
Association for Institutional Research (\$30,000; co-principal investigator)  
Spencer Foundation for Education (\$40,000; co-principal investigator)  
Texas Higher Education Opportunity Project, Princeton University (\$16,000)
- 2005 The College Board (\$1,500)
- 2004 The College Board (\$22,500)
- 2003 Harvard Civil Rights Project and Pew Hispanic Center (\$2,000)

### **RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS**

- 2007 American Educational Finance Association
- 2006 LACEA Network of Inequality and Poverty, Argentine Chapter; Princeton University; American Educational Research Association; American Educational Finance Association
- 2005 Association for the Study of Higher Education; American Educational Research Association; Council for the Study of Community Colleges
- 2004 Association for the Study of Higher Education; Latin American Studies Association; Comparative and International Education Society
- 2003 Association for the Study of Higher Education; The Civil Rights Project at Harvard University; NALEO Educational Fund; American Educational Research Association; American Association of Community Colleges; Comparative and International Education Society; Latin American Studies Association
- 2002 LACEA Network of Inequality and Poverty, Argentine Chapter; Comparative and International Education Society
- 2001 LACEA Network of Inequality and Poverty, Argentine Chapter
- 2000 LACEA Network of Inequality and Poverty, Argentine Chapter

### **TEACHING AND ADVISING EXPERIENCE**

- Brown University* Education Policy Challenges: International Trends in Education Policy (2004–2006)  
Issues Facing Education Policy (2004–2006)  
Senior Thesis Advisor in Development Studies (2005–2006)  
Senior Thesis Second Reader in Latin American Studies (2005–2006)
- Teachers College, Columbia University* Economics of Higher Education, Teaching Assistant (2003–2004)
- Instituto Universitario Aeronáutico* Introductory Economics (1999)
- Universidad Nacional de Córdoba* Argentina's Economic Policy (1997–1999)  
Economics of Education, Teaching Assistant (1998)

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS, ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE**

<i>Memberships</i>	Latin American Studies Association; Comparative and International Education Society; Association for the Study of Higher Education; American Educational Finance Association
<i>Reviewer</i>	Education Economics; Revista de Economía y Estadística; Annual Graduate Student Conference <i>Education Across the Americas</i> , 2003 and 2004
<i>Service</i>	President, Society for Economics and Education, Teachers College, Columbia University, 2000-2004; Founding Member and Alumni Affiliate, Association of Latin American Scholars, Teachers College, Columbia University
<i>Volunteering Work</i>	Asociación Educando para Incluir (Buenos Aires)
<i>Varied Recognitions</i>	Biography included in Who's Who in America, 2006 and 2007; Who's Who in American Education 2006 Edition; Who's Who of American Women 2006 Edition