

B. Restatement of Problem Researched

In this proposal, I requested the resources to attend the annual ASSA conference and the accompanying continuing education program. At the primary annual gathering of the economics profession I was able to network with colleagues, attend research presentations made by the leaders in the profession, and attend a continuing education program on the topic of “Cross Section Econometrics” a form of statistics used in my research.

C. Process of Attainment of Goals

I arrived in Philadelphia on Thurs Jan 2, 2013. I was able to register for the conference and get checked into the hotel.

On Friday, Jan 3, Saturday Jan 4, and part of Sunday Jan 5 the conference proceed with sessions.

By mid afternoon on Jan 5 the conference sessions were complete. The continuing education program begins at 3:00 on Jan 5, continued all day on Monday Jan 6, and concludes on Jan 7 at noon. The econometrics seminar was taught by Alberto Abadie, a faculty member at Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government, and Joshua Angrist a professor at the MIT.

D. Summary of Outcomes and Experiences

At the conference I networked with several economists, an endeavor which I hope will lead to some collaboration. I attended sessions in the areas of my research, household finance and empirical industrial organization. The seminar was enlightening. Dr. Abadie, covered techniques in which I had previously had little training – matching and difference-in-difference estimation. I immediately saw application to my current research. Dr. Angrist covered instrumental variables, a technique with which I am well familiar. His focus was first on understand the statistics behind the techniques and second on research scenarios in which the technique can be useful. I immediately saw many uses in my own research.

E. Conclusions and Recommendations

The conference was good. I reconnected with several people who I rarely get to see and it looks like I may be starting a new research as a result of a conversation while I was there. I believe that I should attend this conference regularly. The seminar was very good. It was taught at a very high level or rigor. The materials provided were very helpful in keeping up with the course and will provide a good source of reference in the future. In summary, it is well worth the relatively low cost of the seminar. I hope to attend more future seminars at this conference.

F. Attachments

copies of covers of the course material booklets

AEA CONTINUING EDUCATION
PROGRAM



CROSS-SECTION
ECONOMETRICS
JOSHUA ANGRIST, MIT

JANUARY 5-7, 2014

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PROGRAM



CROSS-SECTION
ECONOMETRICS
ALBERTO ABADIE, HARVARD

JANUARY 5-7, 2014