

Neil G. Ruiz

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SUMMARY

Dr. Neil G. Ruiz has over 10 years of policy research experience for think-tanks, multilateral development banks, international organizations, and academia. He is an expert on the political economy of the global race for talent, skills, and labor. His work intersects literature on economic development, innovation, education, and international migration in both developing and high-income economies, and U.S. state and regional economic development. He has published several highly impactful publications at the World Bank, Brookings Institution, Asian Development Bank, and Migration Policy Institute. He has advised over 20 national governments in Africa, Asia, and Europe on how they could leverage migration for economic development and has conducted 10 national household surveys that provided the first-ever statistics on remittances, skills, and migrant engagement for these countries. Dr. Ruiz and his research has been cited in numerous media outlets including the *Associated Press*, *New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Financial Times*, and *The Economist*. He also has taught at Harvard, MIT, and American University and is a two-time winner of the Distinguished Teaching Award at Harvard University.

CURRENT POSITION

The Brookings Institution, Washington, DC

Associate Fellow and Senior Policy Analyst, Metropolitan Policy Program, May 2011-present

Non-Resident Fellow, Global Economy and Development Program, Sept. 2007-April 2011

Brookings Research Fellow, Global Economy and Development Program, Aug. 2006-Aug. 2007

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Political Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA (June 2014)

Fields: Political Economy and Comparative Politics

Thesis title: *Made for Export: Labor Migration, State Power, and Higher Education in a Developing Philippine Economy*

Committee: Michael J. Piore (chair), Richard M. Locke, and Devesh Kapur

Awards: Grand Prize Winner of MIT\$100K Entrepreneurship Competition (May 2006),

MIT IDEAS Competition Grand Prize Winner (May 2006)

M.Sc. in Economic History, Oxford University, St. Antony's College, Oxford, UK (September 2001)

Field: Political Economy of Sub-Saharan Africa

B.A. in Political Science, University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, CA (May 1999)

High Honors and Phi Beta Kappa, Study-Abroad in the Bahamas, South Africa, and Zimbabwe

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Comparative Public Policy, Political Economy of Public Policy Making, Global Development of Urban Cities, Political Economy of Emerging Nations, International Migration, Immigration and Economic Development

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

The World Bank, Washington, DC

International Migration Specialist and Program Manager, Development Economics Prospects Group, Migration and Remittances Team, Jan. 2008-April 2011. Managed and fundraised for a multi-million dollar research trust fund and authored research publications on skills, remittances, and migration management in Sub-Saharan Africa, Europe, United States, and the Philippines.

American University, Washington, DC

Lecturer of Social Entrepreneurship, School of International Service, Jan. 2012 and Feb. 2013
Instructor of Political Economy, School of International Service, Aug. 2007-Jan.2008

Asian Development Bank, Manila, Philippines

Consultant, Private Sector Operations Department (Overseas Filipino Remittances Project), Sept. 2003-Jan. 2004.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA

Teaching Assistant, for *Justice and American Foreign Policy*, Department of Political Science, Sept. 2005-June 2006.

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

Teaching Fellow, for *Globalization, Education and Economic Development* (graduate level), Graduate School of Education, Sept. 2004-Jan. 2005.

Head Teaching Fellow for *Deviance and Social Control* and *Human Societies* (undergraduate level), Department of Sociology, Jan. 2002-Jan. 2003. Recipient of the Derek Bok Harvard University Distinguished Teaching Award for both semesters.

Migration Policy Institute, Washington, DC

Summer Research Associate and Consultant, May-August 2002, February 2003-May 2003.

Harvard-MIT Positive Political Economy Series, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA

Program Coordinator, Sept. 2001-June 2005.

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

UCSD Center for Comparative Immigration Studies, San Diego, CA

Junior Scholar, Summer Institute for International Migration, Sponsored by the Social Science Research Council, June 2006.

ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods for Social Research, Ann Arbor, MI

Summer Participant, Advanced Training in Multivariate Statistics, University of Michigan, June-July 2005.

ACADEMIC FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS AND HONORS

The Brookings Institution Predoctoral Research Fellowship

MIT Graduate Fellowship, Full tuition and living stipend

MIT Center for International Studies Research Grants

Harvard University Distinguished Teaching Award

Winston Churchill Scholarship, Two-year funding for graduate study and research at Oxford

United Kingdom Overseas Research Students Award

Phi Beta Kappa, UC Berkeley

PUBLICATIONS

“The Geography of Foreign Students in U.S. Higher Education: Origins and Destinations,” *The Brookings Institution* (Washington, DC: Brookings Institution, August 2014), available at www.brookings.edu/foreignstudents.

“H-1B Visas and the STEM Shortage,” with Jonathan Rothwell, *The Brookings Institution* (Washington, DC: Brookings Institution, 2013).

“Drive! Moving Tennessee’s Automotive Sector Up the Value Chain,” with Mark Muro, Scot Andes, Kenan Fikri, Martha Ross, Jessica A. Lee, and Nick Marcio, *The Brookings Institution* (Washington, DC: Brookings Institution, 2013).

“The Search for Skills: Demand for H-1B Immigrant Workers in U.S. Metropolitan Areas,” with Shyamali Choudhury, and Jill Wilson, *The Brookings Institution* (Washington, DC: Brookings Institution, July 2012).

“Is America Falling Behind in the Skilled Worker Race?” with Shyamali Choudhury, *CNN Global Public Square*, July 19, 2012.

“Unify, Regionalize, and Diversify: An Economic Development Agenda for Nevada,” with Mark Muro, Kenan Fikri, and Devashree Saha, *The Brookings Institution* (Washington, DC: Brookings Institution, 2011).

Leveraging Migration for Africa: Remittances, Skills, and Investments, with Dilip Ratha, Sonia Plaza, Sanket Mohapatra (Washington, DC and Nairobi, Kenya: World Bank, 2011).

“Managing Migration Flows in Sub-Saharan Africa: Government Institutions for Managing Emigration from Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Senegal and Immigration to South Africa and the United Kingdom” (Washington, DC: World Bank, 2010).

“Protecting Temporary Workers: Migrant Welfare Funds from Developing Countries,” (with Dovelyn Rannveig Aguinas, *Migration and Development Brief 7* (Washington, DC: World Bank, October, 2008).

“Managing Migration: Lessons from the Philippines,” *Migration and Development Brief 6* (Washington, DC: World Bank, August, 2008).

“Protecting Overseas Workers: Lessons and Cautions from the Philippines,” (with Dovelyn Rannveig Aguinas), *Insight* (Washington, DC: Migration Policy Institute, September 2007).

“Rethinking the Revolving Door for Immigration,” *The Brookings Institution*, April 23, 2007.

“Is Bush’s Plan for Comprehensive Immigration Reform possible with the New Congress?” *The Brookings Institution*, January 24, 2007.

Enhancing the Efficiency of Overseas Filipino Workers’ Remittances (with Asian Development Bank consultants), Manila, Philippines: Asian Development Bank, December 2004.

“Entrepreneurship Strategies for Philippine National Development,” *Planet Philippines* (December 2005).

“Returning to Build an Environment for Innovation in the Philippines,” *Computerworld Philippines* (July 12, 2004).

MEDIA CITATIONS

Associated Press, New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, Financial Times, The Economist, Washington Post, Bloomberg Businessweek, Los Angeles Times, National Journal, CNN, National Public Radio, ABC, and numerous regional and local media outlets in the United States and Abroad

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Books

Made for Export: Labor Migration, State Power, and Higher Education in a Developing Philippine Economy (Single-authored book manuscript currently under review by Stanford University Press).

Gaming American Education: Temporary Jobs, Foreign Students, and Higher Education in the Global Economy (Single-authored book project, completed data analysis, conducted field research in India during fall 2014 for peer-reviewed academic publisher).

The Race for Skills: Immigrant Visa Systems in Emerging Economies (Co-authored book project with The World Bank, conducting initial research).

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

“Protecting Migrant Workers in the GCC: Lessons from the Philippines,” Invited to deliver a paper at the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi, India (October 2014).

“Indian Foreign Students and H-1B Workers in the United States,” Presentation to High-Level Indian Government Officials, The Brookings Institution India Center, New Delhi, India (October 2014).

“International Students as Future Skilled Migrants,” Invited to present at the Plenary Session of The Global Talent Agenda organized by The World Education Services, New York, NY (October 2014).

“The Emigration State: Facilitating Labor Export as Economic Development Policy,” Paper to be presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Washington, DC (August 2014).

“Immigration Reform and the Global Competition for International Students,” presentation to The United States Congressional Staff, House of Representatives (June 26, 2014).

“International Students and Economic Development of Global Metropolitan Areas,” Presentation at the Global Great Lakes Conference, Pittsburgh, PA (June 2014).

“Innovation, Economic Development and Workforce Development in a Globalizing World,” Presentation at The Economic Outlook Breakfast of the Ventura County Chamber of Commerce, Ventura, CA (June 2014).

“Foreign Students and U.S. Immigration Reform,” presentation to senior leaders, The White House, Council of Economic Advisors, Domestic Policy Council, National Economic Council (February 2014).

“International Migration and Economic Development in Global Metropolitan Areas,” Lecture delivered at Brookings Mountain West, University of Nevada, Las Vegas (February 2014).

“H-1B Visas and U.S. Immigration Reform,” presentation to senior leaders, The White House, Council of

Economic Advisors, Domestic Policy Council, National Economic Council (January 2013).

“The Geography of H-1B Workers” keynote presentation on “The Search for Skills: Demand for H-1B Immigrant Workers in U.S. Metropolitan Areas,” The Brookings Institution, Washington, DC (July 2012).

“Leveraging Migration for Africa: Remittances, Skills and Investments” in multi-country World Bank mission to London, United Kingdom, Rome, Italy, Nairobi, Kenya, Johannesburg, South Africa (April 2011).

“Higher Education and Emigration Policy in the Philippines,” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Chicago, IL (September 2007).

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Global Experts Group, Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development, 2012-present.

Co-Chair, Roundtable Series on Global Labor Migration, The Brookings Institution, 2007-2008.

Referee for *International Migration Review*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *Journal of Asian and African Studies*, *American Economic Review*, *Routledge*

LEADERSHIP AND PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

Co-Founder, Vice-President of Market Research, CentroMigrante Incorporated, Cambridge, MA, and Manila, Philippines, 2005-2007.

Co-Founder, Founding President, Chair of Board of Directors, Philippine Emerging Startups Open, Inc., Cambridge, MA and Manila, Philippines, 2004-2007.

Founding Co-Chair, MIT Working Group on Migration and Development, Cambridge, MA, 2002-2005.

LEADERSHIP AND OTHER AWARDS

MIT \$100K Entrepreneurship Competition Grand Prize Winner for Development

MIT Public Service Center Fellowship

Student Life Achievement Award, UC Berkeley

Washington Center Minority Leaders Fellowship, Washington, DC

AFFILIATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

American Political Science Association, The Trevor Project (Suicide Prevention for LGBTQ youth), Human Rights Campaign, The Brain Gain Network

REFERENCES

Michael J. Piore, David W. Skinner Professor of Political Economy (emeritus), Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Departments of Economics and Political Science, Email: mpiore@mit.edu, Phone: 617-253-3377.

Devesh Kapur, Director of the Center for the Advanced Study of India and Associate Professor of Political Science, University of Pennsylvania, Email: dkapur@sas.upenn.edu, Phone: 215-898-6247.

Jeffrey Manns, Executive Director of Center for Law, Economics, and Finance and Associate Professor of Law, George Washington University, Email: jmanns@law.gwu.edu, Phone: 202-994-4645.

Sonia Plaza, Senior Economist, Development Economics Prospects Group, The World Bank, Email: splaza@worldbank.org, Phone: 202-473-4671.