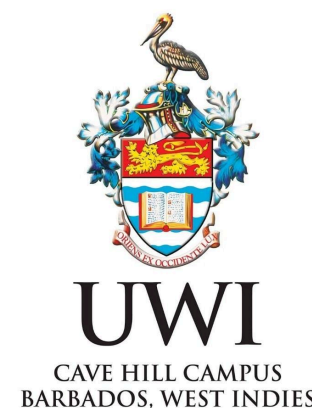




RIDGE
RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR
DEVELOPMENT, GROWTH
AND ECONOMICS



XXIII RIDGE FORUM

2026 RIDGE MAY FORUM

WORKSHOP ON LABOR

PROGRAM

Head of the Network

Sergio Urzúa (University of Maryland)

Scientific Committee

Diether Beuermann (IADB)

Cristina Riquelme (Trinity University)

Sandra Rozo (The World Bank)

Sergio Urzúa (University of Maryland)

May 20-21, 2026

The University of the West Indies, Cave Hill, Barbados

Day 1: May 20

Building Sagikor Centre for Lifelong Learning, Room LR14

NOTICE: All times are in Barbados Time (UTC-4)

Presenters will have 40 minutes for their presentation and there will be 5 minutes for Q&A

09:50-10:00 Opening Remarks

10:00-11:30 ► SESSION 1: TECHNOLOGY, AI, AND JOB QUALITY

Mobile Phone Expansion and the Quality of Jobs in Peru

Presenter: Carmen Armas, University of Minnesota

Remote Work and Child Penalties

Presenter: Pablo Zárate, Princeton University

11:30-12:00 Coffee break

12:00-13:30 ► SESSION 2: HUMAN CAPITAL FORMATION

Constrained School Choice and the Demand for Effective Schools

Presenter: Diether Beuerman, Inter-American Development Bank

Dynamic Complementarities in Human Capital Formation: Long-Term Evidence from Preschool and School Feeding

Presenter: Camila Galindo, Universidad de los Andes

13:30-14:30 Lunch break

14:30-16:00 ► SESSION 3: CAREERS, NETWORKS, AND HOUSEHOLD SHOCKS

When Violence Hits Home: Labor Markets and Household Responses in a Transit Country

Presenter: Andrés Ham, Universidad los Andes

Mentorship Networks and the Early Career Outcomes of College-Educated Women

Presenter: Maria Oaquim de Medeiros, Princeton University

16:00-16:30 Coffee break

16:30-18:00 ► SESSION 4: LABOR MARKET POLICY AND FIRMS

Firm Responses to Payroll Tax Increases: Evidence from Costa Rica

Presenter: Karla Hernández, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana

Outsourcing, Wages, and Employment Stability: Evidence from a Policy Reform in Mexico

Presenter: Jose Casco, Bank of Mexico

Day 2: May 21

Building Sagicor Centre for Lifelong Learning, Room LR14

10:00-11:30 ► SESSION 5: LABOR MARKET DYNAMICS AND MEASUREMENT

Respondent Bias and Measurement Challenges in Child Labor: Evidence from a Randomized Control Trial in Rural Peru

Presenter: Vera Chiodi, Sorbonne University

Intergenerational Mobility in Earnings: The Roles of Neighborhoods and Firms

Presenter: Moises Yi, US Census Bureau

11:30-12:00 Coffee break

12:00-13:30 ► SESSION 6: SKILLS, EDUCATION, AND FINANCIAL CONSTRAINTS

More than Just Skills: The Role of Self-Efficacy on the Path through College

Presenter: Catalina Morales, St Mary's College of Maryland

Cheaper Credit, Costlier Degrees: Evidence from Chile's Student Loans

Presenter: Sylvia Cesar, Georgetown University

13:30-14:30 Lunch break