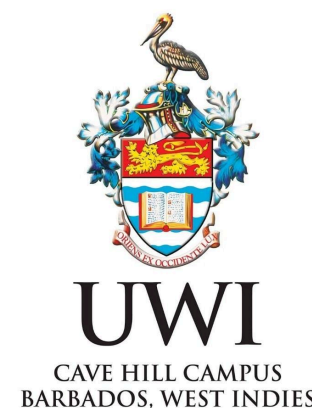




**RIDGE**  
RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR  
DEVELOPMENT, GROWTH  
AND ECONOMICS



# 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 Sagicor Centre for Lifelong Learning, Room LR14

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

Presenters will have 25 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

14:30-16:00 ► POLICY PANEL: BOOSTING FEMALE LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION IN THE CARIBBEAN: CHALLENGES AND POLICY OPTIONS

CHAIR

- Sergio Urzúa, U. of Maryland

PANELISTS

- Diether Beuermann (Inter-American Development Bank)
- Verónica Frisancho (Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean CAF)
- Minister of Education, Technical, and Vocational Training in The Bahamas (TBC)