The Harvard University Lemann Brazil Research Fund
The Lemann Brazil Research Fund is made possible by a generous gift from the Lemann Foundation. The Office of the Vice Provost for Research administers the Fund together with the Office of the Vice Provost for International Affairs, in collaboration with the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies and the Brazil Studies Program.

Funding Priorities
The Fund is intended to foster collaboration between scholars and to support research projects focused on current issues facing Brazil. Proposals are sought for research projects that address education management and administration; social science and its applications; public administration and policy; technological advances in education; and evidence-based research. Consideration will also be given to projects that propose collaboration between Harvard faculty and Brazilian academics in the life sciences, physical sciences and engineering, and basic and applied sciences.

Eligibility and Review Criteria
Proposals will be evaluated on the basis of academic merit, feasibility, and their anticipated advancement of the objectives of the Fund and must meet at least one of the following three criteria:

1. Include collaboration with Brazilian academics
2. Be undertaken in Brazil in whole or in part
3. Focus on Brazil

Applications are invited from individuals who hold a faculty appointment at a Harvard school and who have principal investigator rights at that school. Harvard Medical School faculty must hold a faculty appointment with PI rights in one of HMS’s basic or social science departments. Faculty may request support for postdoctoral scholars and graduate students from Brazil; and for Harvard postdocs, graduate students, and undergraduates.

Available Funding
Applicants may request up to $150,000 payable over one or two years, as specified by the applicant in his or her proposal. Grants are non-renewable, but there are no limits on the number of times an individual may apply for funding. It is anticipated that 5 - 10 grants will be awarded each year.

About Jorge Paulo Lemann AB’61 and the Lemann Foundation
Global entrepreneur and financer Jorge Paulo Lemann regards education as Brazil’s most important challenge. He received a Bachelor’s degree in Economics from Harvard College in 1961. He is the Founder and Chair of the Lemann Foundation, a not-for-profit family organization founded in 2002. The Foundation works to ensure that all Brazilian children have high quality public education and to create a network of talented people dedicated to solving the main Brazilian social problems.

www.fundacaolemann.org.br
Our project focused on calculating the economic burden of arboviruses in Brazil, mainly dengue and Zika virus, and on evaluating government strategies to anticipate future arboviral epidemics. We assembled a massive database that is allowing us to calculate the burden for each Brazilian state from 2010 to 2015. We were the first to show that the transmission pattern of dengue during epidemic and interepidemic years is distinct, which has important vector control implications. We conducted the most comprehensive evaluation to date of entomological surveys done in Brazil, showing that they are not effective in predicting future epidemics. This is a critical result as the government made these surveys mandatory in 2017.

By informing better vector control planning in epidemic and interepidemic years, the Health Secretariat of Fortaleza is already benefitting from our findings. As soon as another impactful study is published, we expect to see national changes in the dengue control program, with potential effects in the mid-run. We will also share our results with the Ministry of Health and with PAHO and seek to propose novel entomological assessments.

The Lemann award accelerated our research and resulted in novel findings that helped my colleagues and I to increase the relevance and recognition of our scholarship. We have published one paper, have one under review, and are finalizing three more. The collaborative nature of the project also resulted in the transfer of important methodological skills between Harvard and Brazil, equipping and inspiring young scholars in Brazil.
With support from the Harvard Lemann Brazil Research Fund, I have been working for the past three years with colleagues from the Fundação Getúlio Vargas (FGV) and Instituto Vila Educação on a study examining the effects of a social-emotional learning program in primary schools in Rio de Janeiro. We have used a randomized control trial design to understand the short- and long-term impacts of the Programa Compasso intervention on both student social-emotional skills and teacher wellbeing. Our results from Year 1 indicate that Programa Compasso significantly improves students’ executive function skills, including their ability to avoid impulsive decisions. We have also found that the program’s effects are likely to differ based on children’s environments, including their household socioeconomic status and exposure to community violence.

Although still in progress, this research has already shown impact in Brazil. In particular, our collaborators from Instituto Vila Educação – the developers of Programa Compasso – are currently in discussion with several municipalities to bring this program to scale. As scholars, this work has also had immense impact on my research collaborators at FGV and me. Because we come from different fields and perspectives, we have had the opportunity to learn a variety of theories and methods from one another.

I am looking forward to continuing this project – and hopefully many others in Brazil – in the years to come.
GAUTAM RAO, Assistant Professor of Economics, Faculty of Arts and Sciences
“From Research to Policy: Improving Municipal Policymaking in Brazil”
Co-Investigators: Jonas Hjort (Columbia University); Diana Moreira (Harvard Faculty of Arts and Sciences)

This project studies if providing political leaders in Brazil with research findings causes policy change. We use new types of experiments to measure policymakers’ (i) demand for research and (ii) policy responses to supply of research. Our results provide the first direct evidence that providing political leaders with access to academic research translates research findings into policy change.

The project was received with great enthusiasm by CNM (Confederação Nacional de Municípios) and by over 1000 mayors and municipal secretaries across Brazil, who received training and implementation assistance to adopt new policies. Over a hundred municipalities have adopted the recommended policy to increase compliance with municipal taxes.

The Lemann awards have been a tremendous boost for my career as an early-career scholar. Besides having made possible innovative and path-breaking research, it has also introduced me to working in Brazil, which is an incredibly important and interesting country to study. The project has been enormously beneficial for the careers of my Brazilian academic collaborators as well, helping them to advance in their careers as developmental economists. Having solved many of the logistical challenges of conducting experiments in Brazil, we are now working to share this knowledge and human resources with others, and to create a pipeline of scholars in development economics working between the US and Brazil.
2016 Award Winners

LAURA ALFARO, Warren Alpert Professor of Business Administration, Harvard Business School
“Globalization and Organizational Change: Evidence from Brazil”
Co-Investigators: Maggie X. Chen (George Washington University); Andrea Lucchesi (University of São Paulo); Naercio A. Menezes Filho (University of São Paulo & INSPER); Monika Schnitzer (University of Munich)
Collaborators: Alison Oliveira (University of São Paulo & INSPER); Leandro Justino Pereira Veloso (Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro)

SCOTT V. EDWARDS, Alexander Agassiz Professor of Zoology and Curator of Ornithology in the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Faculty of Arts and Sciences
“Prioritizing Biodiversity of Birds and Butterflies in Cerrado Habitats of Brazil Using Geographic and Phylogenetic Information Systems”
Co-Investigators: Naomi Pierce (Harvard Faculty of Arts and Sciences); Cristina Miyaki (University of São Paulo)

ICHIRO KAWACHI, John L. Loeb and Frances Lehman Loeb Professor of Social Epidemiology, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health
“Machine Learning to Estimate Life Expectancy by Race in Brazil: Challenges for a Multi-racial Future”
Co-Investigator: Alexander Chiavegatto (University of São Paulo)

DANA CHARLES McCOY, Assistant Professor of Education, Harvard Graduate School of Education
“Assessing the Impact of Socio-Emotional Learning Programming in Brazil”
Co-Investigators: Vladimir Ponczek (Fundação Getúlio Vargas); Cristine Campos de Xavier Pinto (Fundação Getúlio Vargas)
Collaborator: Ana Luiza Raggio Colagrossi (Instituto Vila Educação)

MARCIA CASTRO, Andelot Professor of Demography, Chair of the Department of Global Health and Population, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health
“Estimation of the Social and Economic Burdens of Dengue and Zika Virus in Brazil: A Public Policy Tool”
Co-Investigators: Mary E. Wilson (Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health); Monica Viegas Andrade (Federal University of Minas Gerais); Cláudio José Struchiner (State University of Rio de Janeiro; Oswaldo Cruz Foundation)
Collaborators: Sarah F. McGough (Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health); Benjamin MacCormack-Gelles (Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health); Lucas Resende de Carvalho (Federal University of Minas Gerais); Julia Almeida Calazans (Federal University of Minas Gerais)

GAUTAM RAO, Assistant Professor of Economics, Faculty of Arts and Sciences
“From Research to Policy: Improving Municipal Policymaking in Brazil”
Co-Investigators: Jonas Hjort (Columbia University); Diana Moreira (Harvard Faculty of Arts and Sciences)

PAOLA UCCELLI, Professor of Education, Harvard Graduate School of Education
“Learning for All Project”
Co-Investigators: Felipe Barrera-Osorio (Harvard Graduate School of Education); Sarah Dryden-Peterson (Harvard Graduate School of Education)
Collaborator: Beatriz Cardoso (Laboratório de Educação, Brazil)
2017 Award Winners

EMMERICH DAVIES, Assistant Professor of Education, Harvard Graduate School of Education
“Teacher Incentives and Socialization”
Co-Investigators: Fernando Luiz Abrucio (Fundação Getúlio Vargas); Leslie Finger (Harvard Faculty of Arts and Sciences)

*GIGI LUK, Associate Professor of Education, Harvard Graduate School of Education
“Early Literacy Prediction and Reading Intervention for Preschoolers from Low-Income Families in Natal, Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil”
Co-Investigators: Cíntia Alves Salgado Azoni (Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte); Nadine Gaab (Boston Children’s Hospital); Charles Haynes (Massachusetts General Hospital)

DANA CHARLES McCOY, Assistant Professor of Education, Harvard Graduate School of Education
“Assessing the Impact of Socio-Emotional Learning Programming in Brazil: A Follow-Up Study”
Co-Investigators: Vladimir Ponczek (Fundação Getúlio Vargas); Cristine Campos de Xavier Pinto (Fundação Getúlio Vargas)
Collaborator: Ana Luiza Raggio Colagrossi (Instituto Vila Educação)

KATHERINE K. MERSETH, Adjunct Lecturer on Education, Harvard Graduate School of Education
“Teaching Teachers to Teach: Investigating Pedagogies and Practices to Improve Teacher Education in Brazil”
Co-Investigator: Gabriela Miranda Moriconi (Carlos Chagas Foundation)

GARY URTON, Dumbarton Oaks Professor of Pre-Columbian Studies, Faculty of Arts and Sciences
“The Black Earth and Radial Villages of Acre, Brazil: Explorations of a Continent-Wide Landscape Paradigm”
Co-Investigator: Eduardo Goes Neves (University of São Paulo)

NICOLAS MENZIES, Assistant Professor of Global Health, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health
“Identifying Approaches to Reduce Disparities in TB Diagnosis and Care in Brazil”
Co-Investigators: Daniele Maria Pelissari (University of São Paulo), Patricia Bartholomay Oliveira (Ministério da Saúde); Ethel Maciel (Universidade Federal do Espírito Santo); Carolina Maia Martins Sales (Universidade Federal do Espírito Santo); Theodore Cohen (Yale University); Marcia Castro (Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health)
Collaborators: Adelmo Bertolde (Universidade Federal do Espírito Santo); Denise Araraki (Ministério da Saúde); Mauro Sanchez (Federal University of Brasilia)

*Meredith Rowe, Saul Zaentz Professor of Early Learning and Development, has assumed the role of PI on this project as of 2018
2018 Award Winners

FLAVIO CALMON, Assistant Professor of Electrical Engineering, John A. Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences
“Bridging Electrical Engineering and Machine Learning Education in Brazil”
Collaborator: José Cândido Silveira Santos Filho (Universidade Estadual de Campinas)

STEPHANIE M. JONES, Gerald S. Lesser Professor in Early Childhood Development, Harvard Graduate School of Education
“SEL Kernels for Brazil ECE: A Low-Cost, Evidence-Based, and Scalable Approach to Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) in Brazilian Early Childhood Settings”
Co-investigators: Dana McCoy (Harvard Graduate School of Education); Alexandra Brentani (Faculdade de Medicina, University of São Paulo)
Collaborators: Ana Luiza Colagrossi (Faculdade de Medicina, University of São Paulo); Rebecca Bailey (Harvard Graduate School of Education); Jennifer Kahn (Harvard Graduate School of Education)

CHARLES NELSON, Professor of Pediatrics and Neuroscience, Harvard Medical School and Professor of Education, Harvard Graduate School of Education
“Early Institutionalization Intervention Impact Project”
Co-investigators: Nathan A. Fox (University of Maryland); Charles H. Zeanah (Tulane University School of Medicine)
Collaborator: Edson Amaro Jr. (PENSI Institute)

GAUTAM RAO, Assistant Professor of Economics, Faculty of Arts and Sciences
“Overcoming Barriers to Adoption of Effective Municipal Policies”
Co-Investigators: Jonas Hjort (Columbia University); Diana Moreira (University of California, Davis); Juan Francisco Santini (Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro)

MEREDITH L. ROWE, Saul Zaentz Professor of Early Learning and Development, Harvard Graduate School of Education
“Parent-child Interaction and Child Language Development in Low-income Families in Brazil”
Co-investigator: Guilherme Vanoni Polanczyk (University of São Paulo)

CATHERINE SNOW, Patricia Albjerg Graham Professor of Education, Harvard Graduate School of Education
“Improving Literacy Outcomes in Brazil by Expanding Teachers’ Instructional Repertoires”
Co-investigator: Renan de Almeida Sargiani (University of São Paulo)

ELIZABETH SPELKE, Marshall L. Berkman Professor of Psychology, Faculty of Arts and Sciences
“A Preschool Intervention in Brazil to Enhance Poor Children’s School Readiness”
Co-investigators: Chrissie Ferreira de Carvalho (Universidade Católica de Salvador); Nara Cortes Andrade (Universidade Católica de Salvador); Jose Neander Silva Abreu (Federal University of Bahia)
2019 Award Winners

**FLAVIO CALMON**, Assistant Professor of Electrical Engineering, John A. Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences
“Preparing Brazilian Engineering Students for the Data-Driven Economy”
**Collaborator:** José Cândido Silveira Santos Filho (Universidade Estadual de Campinas)

**MICHELA CARLANA**, Assistant Professor of Public Policy, Harvard Kennedy School
“Tackling Stereotypes to Encourage Brazilian Math Talent”
**Co-Investigators:** Raissa Fabregas (University of Texas at Austin); Diana Moreira (University of California, Davis)
**Collaborator:** Felipe C R Lima (University of São Paulo)

**ROGER FU**, Assistant Professor of Earth and Planetary Sciences, Faculty of Arts and Sciences
“Records of ancient rainfall from cave deposits: A combined research campaign and field course”
**Co-Investigator:** Ricardo Ivan Trindade (University of São Paulo)

**BERNARDO LEMOS**, Associate Professor of Environmental Epigenetics, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health
“Does Zika infection accelerate neuronal aging and death: Novel aging clocks to monitor the earlier onset of pathologies of the nervous systems”
**Collaborator:** Raquel da Hora Barbosa (Universidade Federal Fluminense)

**JUDY LIEBERMAN**, Professor of Pediatrics, Harvard Medical School
“Identifying T cell epitopes in Plasmodium vivax”
**Co-Investigator:** Caroline Junqueira (Instituto Rene Rachou/Fundação Oswaldo Cruz)

**DANA MCCOY**, Assistant Professor of Education, Harvard Graduate School of Education
“Testing the Impact of a Low-Cost, Evidence-Based, and Scalable Approach to Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) in Brazilian Early Childhood Settings”
**Co-Investigators:** Stephanie Jones (Harvard Graduate School of Education); Alexandra Brentani (University of São Paulo)
**Collaborators:** Ana Luiza Raggio Colagrossi (Instituto D’Or de Pesquisa e Ensino); Rebecca Bailey (Harvard Graduate School of Education); Jennifer Kahn (Harvard Graduate School of Education); Sonya Temko (Harvard Graduate School of Education)

**PAOLA UCCELLI**, Professor of Education, Harvard Graduate School of Education
“Aprender a Estudar: Supporting fourth-grade teachers to prepare lifelong readers and learners”
**Co-Investigators:** Beatriz Cardoso (Laboratório de Educação); Daniel Domingues dos Santos (University of São Paulo, Ribeirão Preto)
**Collaborator:** Nicole Paulet (Laboratório de Educação)
Faculty Review Committee Members

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SCOTT MAINWARING
Jorge Paulo Lemann Professor of Brazil Studies and the Faculty Co-chair of the Brazil Studies Program at the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, Harvard Kennedy School of Government

FRANCES HAGOPIAN
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