updated October 2025

RACHEL E. KRANTON

Contact Information:
Department of Economics
Duke University, Box 90097
Durham, NC 27708
rachel.kranton@duke.edu

Research & Teaching Fields:
Microeconomics
Economics of Networks
Development Economics
Behavioral Economics

CURRENT POSITION

James B. Duke Distinguished Professor, Duke University, 2012 – present.

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Department of Economics, University of California, Berkeley, 1993.

M.P.A., Economics & Public Affairs, School of International and Public Affairs, Princeton University, 1988.

B.A., Economics, Middle East Studies, University of Pennsylvania, 1984.

HONORS

Fellow of the Society for the Advancement of Economic Theory, elected 2022.

Member of the National Academy of Sciences, elected 2021.

Member of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences, elected 2020.

Doctorate honoris causa, Université Aix-Marseille, 2020.

Fellow of the Econometric Society, elected 2012.

Chaire Blaise Pascal, École normale supérieure/Paris School of Economics, 2010-2012.

PREVIOUS POSITIONS

Dean of the Social Sciences, Trinity College, Duke University, 2018 – 2022.

Visiting Professor, Economics Department, Sciences Po, Paris, 2017-2018.

Professor, Department of Economics, Duke University, 2007 - 2012.

Chaire Blaise Pascal, Paris School of Economics, 2011-2012.

Professor, Department of Economics, University of Maryland, 2004 -2008.

Associate Professor, Department of Economics, University of Maryland, 2001-2004.

Visiting Associate Professor, Department of Economics, Princeton University, 2002-2003

Member, School of Social Science, Institute for Advanced Study, 2001-2002.

Russell Sage Foundation Visiting Scholar, New York, NY, 1997-1998.

Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, University of Maryland, 1994-2001.

Lecturer, Department of Economics, University of Maryland, 1993-1994.

Consultant, The World Bank, Infrastructure and Transport Division, 1988-1991.

Assistant to Program Officer, U.S.A.I.D., Cairo, Egypt, Summer 1987.

Project Officer, Catholic Relief Services, Cairo, Egypt, 1985-86.

BOOK

Identity Economics: how our identities affect our work, wages, and well-being, George Akerlof and Rachel Kranton. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2010. Paperback edition, September 2011.

JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

"Competition, Cooperation, and Social Preferences," Jeanne Hagenbach and Rachel Kranton, *The Economic Journal*, 135(672), November 2025, pp. 2531–2548.

"Altruism Networks and Economic Relations," Yann Bramoullé and Rachel Kranton, *Journal of Economic Behavior & Economic Relations*, 2226, October 2024.

"Cover-ups," Francis Bloch and Rachel Kranton, *The Journal of Law and Economics* 67 (2), 337-369, May 2024.

"Social Connectedness and Information Markets," Rachel Kranton and David McAdams, *American Economic Journal: Microeconomics* 16 (1) February 2024, pp. 33–62.

"The hidden cost of humanization: Individuating information reduces prosocial behavior toward in-group members," Victoria K. Lee, Rachel Kranton, Pierluigi Conzo, Scott Huettel, October 2021, *Journal of Economic Psychology*, Volume 86, 102424.

"Prevalence, severity and distribution of depression and anxiety symptoms using observational data collected before and nine months into the COVID-19 pandemic," Duncan Thomas, Ralph Lawton, Tyson Brown, and Rachel Kranton. September 2021. *The Lancet Regional – Americas*, 1:100009

"Oversampling of minority categories drives misperceptions of group compositions" Mel Khaw, Rachel Kranton, and Scott Huettel, September 2021, *Cognition*, 214:104756.

"Deconstructing Bias in Social Preferences Reveals Groupy and Not Groupy Behavior," Rachel Kranton, Matthew Pease, Seth Sanders, and Scott Huettel. September 2020, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 117 (35), pp. 21185-21193.

"The Devil is in the Details – Implications of Samuel Bowles' *The Moral Economy* for economics and policy research," Rachel Kranton, March 2019, *Journal of Economic Literature* 57(1): 147-60.

"Amount and time exert independent influences on intertemporal choice" Dianna Amasino, Nicolette Sullivan, Rachel Kranton, and Scott Huettell, February 2019, *Nature Human Behaviour.*

"Rumors and Social Networks" Francis Bloch, Gabrielle Demange and Rachel Kranton, May 2018, *International Economics Review*, 59(2), pp. 421-448.

"Groupy vs. Non-Groupy Behavior: Personality, Region, and Party Affiliation," Rachel Kranton and Seth Sanders, *American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings*. 107(5), May 2017, pp. 65-69.

"Social Status in Networks," Nicole Immorlica, Rachel Kranton, Mihai Manea, and Gregory Stoddard, *American Economic Journal: Microeconomics* 9(1), February 2017, pp. 1-30.

"Games Played on Networks" Yann Bramoullé and Rachel Kranton, in Bramoullé, Galeotti, and Rogers (eds.) *The Oxford Handbook of the Economics of Networks*, Oxford University Press, 2016.

"Identity Economics 2016: Where do Social Divisions and Norms Come From?", Rachel Kranton, *American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings*, May 2016.

"Exploring the Generalization Process from Past Behavior to Predicting Current Behavior," Lasana Harris, Elizabeth Thompson, Victoria Lee, and Rachel Kranton, *Journal of Behavioral Decision Making,* June 2015.

"Strategic Interaction and Networks," Yann Bramoullé, Rachel Kranton, and Martin D'Amours, *American Economic Review*, March 2014, 104(3): 898-930.

"Identity Economics and the Brain: Uncovering the Mechanisms of Social Conflict," Scott Huettel and Rachel Kranton, *PTRS Biological Sciences* 367(159), March 2012, pp. 680-691.

"Contracts, Hold-Up, and Exports: Textiles and Opium in Colonial India," Rachel Kranton and Anand Swamy, *American Economic Review* 98 (3), June 2008, pp. 967-89.

"Identity, Supervision, and Work Groups," George Akerlof and Rachel Kranton, *American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings* 98 (2), May 2008, pp. 212-17.

"Risk-Sharing Across Communities," Yann Bramoullé and Rachel Kranton, *American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings* 97 (2), May 2007, pp. 70-74.

"Public Goods in Networks," Yann Bramoullé and Rachel Kranton, *Journal of Economic Theory*, 135(1), July 2007, pp.478-494

"Risk-Sharing in Networks," Yann Bramoullé and Rachel Kranton, *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, 64(3-4), November-December 2007, pp. 275-294.

"The Formation of Industrial Supply Networks," Rachel Kranton and Deborah Minehart, in James Rauch (ed.), *The Formation and Decay of Networks*, New York: Russell Sage Foundation Press, 2007

"Social Divisions within Schools: how school policies can affect students' identities and educational choices," George Akerlof and Rachel Kranton, in Christopher Barrett (ed.), *The Social Economics of Poverty: On Identities, Groups, Communities, and Networks*, London: Routledge, 2005, pp. 188-213.

"Identity and the Economics of Organizations," George Akerlof and Rachel Kranton, *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 19 (1), Winter 2005, pp. 9-32.

"A Model of Poverty and Oppositional Culture," George Akerlof and Rachel Kranton, in Kaushik Basu, Pulin Nayak, and Ranjan Ray (eds.), *Markets and Governments* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003).

"Competition and the Incentive to Produce High Quality," Rachel Kranton, *Economica* 70 (279) August 2003, pp. 385-404.

"Identity and Schooling: Some Lessons for the Economics of Education," George Akerlof and Rachel Kranton, *Journal of Economic Literature*, 40 (4), December 2002, pp. 1167-1201.

"A Theory of Buyer-Seller Networks," Rachel Kranton and Deborah Minehart, *American Economic Review* 91 (3), June 2001, pp. 485-508.

"Competition for Goods in Buyer-Seller Networks," Rachel Kranton and Deborah Minehart, *Review of Economic Design*, 5 (3), September 2000, pp. 301-331.

"Economics and Identity," George Akerlof and Rachel Kranton, *Quarterly Journal of Economics* CVX (3), August 2000, pp. 715-753.

"Networks versus Vertical Integration," Rachel Kranton and Deborah Minehart, *RAND Journal of Economics*, 31 (3), Autumn 2000, pp. 570-601.

"The Hazards of Piecemeal Reform: British Civil Courts and the Credit Market in Colonial India," Rachel Kranton and Anand Swamy, *Journal of Development Economics*, 58 (1), February 1999, pp. 1-24.

"Reciprocal Exchange: A Self-Sustaining System," Rachel Kranton, *American Economic Review*, 86 (4), September 1996, pp. 830-851.

"The Formation of Cooperative Relationships," Rachel Kranton, *Journal of Law, Economics, & Organization*,12 (1), April 1996, pp. 214-233.

FELLOWSHIPS and GRANTS

National Endowment for Financial Education Grant, with Scott Huettel, 2014-2016.

Canadian Institute for Advanced Research (CIFAR) Program Fellow, "Social Interactions, Identity, and Well-Being," 2011-2017.

National Science Foundation Research Grant, "Networks, Public Goods, and Social Interactions: at the edge of analytics and complexity," 2011-2014.

National Science Foundation Research Grant, "Innovation in Social Networks," 2010-2011.

Duke University, Social Science Research Institute, "From Brain to Society (and Back), convener, 2009-2010.

Canadian Institute for Advanced Research (CIFAR) Program Fellow, "Social Interactions, Identity, and Well-Being," 2006-2010.

National Science Foundation Research Grant, "Topics in the Economic Theory of Networks," 2003-2006.

Institute for Advanced Study, School of Social Science, Member, Princeton, NJ, 2001-2002.

National Science Foundation Research Grant, "Buyer-Seller Networks," 1998-2000.

Russell Sage Foundation Scholar, New York, NY, 1997-98.

Graduate Research Board Award, University of Maryland, Summer 1997.

Alfred P. Sloan Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, 1992-93.

Foreign Language & Area Studies Fellowship, Arabic, 1989-91.

Woodrow Wilson Fellowship, Princeton University, 1986-1988.

DUKE UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Arts and Sciences Distinguished Professor Committee, 2025-2026.

Faculty Lead, Pickets, Protests, and Demonstrations, 2024-2025.

Convener, "Black in Blue: The Duke Sports and Race Project," 2021-2023.

Dean of Social Sciences, Trinity College, 2018-2022.

Academic Programs Committee (APC), 2014-2017.

Advisory Faculty (founding), Decision Sciences Certificate, 2015-2021.

Department of Economics Executive Committee, 2013-2017.

Review Committee Director of Social Science Research Institute (SSRI), 2016.

Arts and Sciences Distinguished Professors Committee, 2013-2016.

Duke Center for Decision Sciences (DCIDES) Search Committee, 2014-2015.

Duke Center for Decision Sciences (DCIDES) Executive Board, 2012-2014.

Convener, Faculty Fellows Program, Social Sciences Research Institute, 2009-10.

Appointments, Promotion, and Tenure (APT) Committee, 2008-2012.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Vice President, American Economic Association (elected), January 2026-27.

Scientific Advisory Board, CEPREMAP, Paris School of Economics, 2024-present

Scientific Advisory Board, Sciences Po, 2023-2027.

Convener, Economic Research on Identity, Norms, and Narratives (ERINN), 2016-present

Core, Theoretical Research in Development Economics (ThReD), 2015-present

Conference on *Economics and Computation* EC'23, Program Area Chair.

Panel on *Future Directions for Applying Behavioral Economics to Policy*, National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, 2022 -2023.

Program Committee, Econometric Society Asia Meetings, 2023.

Search Committee for Editor of *Journal of Economic Literature*, 2021.

Head of Program Committee, ThReD Annual Meetings: 2016, 2020.

Managing Editor, *The Economic Journal*, 2017-2020.

Nominating Committee, American Economic Association, 2018.

Executive Committee, American Economic Association (elected), 2015-2018.

Budget and Finance Committee, American Economic Association, 2015-2018.

Editorial Board, *Journal of Economic Literature*, 2013-2019.

Program Committee, American Economic Association Annual Meetings 2016.

Leader, Network on Identity and Personality, Human Capital and Economic Opportunity Working Group, University of Chicago, 2012 -.

Advisory Board, SAFE Center of Excellence, University of Frankfurt, 2011-2016.

Associate Editor, *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 2007 - 2010.

Editorial Board, *American Economic Review*, 2001-2007.

Program Committee, American Economic Association Annual Meetings 2008.

Local Arrangements Committee, North American Summer Meetings Econometric Society 2001.

Refereeing:

Excellence in Refereeing Award 2015, 2016, *American Economic Review.*

Referee for *American Economic Review*, *American Economic Journal: Microeconomics*, *American Economic Review: Insights*, *Econometrica, The Economic Journal*, *International Economic Review, International Journal of Industrial Organization*, *Journal of Development Economics*, *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, *Journal of Economic and Management Strategy*, *Journal of Economic Literature*, *Journal of Economic Theory*, *Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control*, *Journal of the European Economic Association*, *Journal of Industrial Economics*, *Journal of Institutional and Theoretical Economics*, *Journal of Law, Economics, & Organizations*, *Journal of Political Economy*, National Science Foundation, *Physical Review Letters*, *RAND Journal*, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, *Rationality and Society*, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, *Review of Economic Studies*.

CONFERENCES (Invited Speaker) and LECTURES

Maastricht Behavioral and Experimental Economics Symposium, Keynote, June 2025.

"The World at a Turning Point: Cornell Conference on Development Economics and Law," Keynote, October 2024.

Science of Philanthropy Initiative (SPI) Conference, Keynote, September 2024.

Society for the Advancement of Behavioral Economics, Keynote, August 2024.

Homo Economicus, Evolving, David Kreps Symposium, Stanford University November 2023.

Nobel Symposium on Social Networks, Lund, Sweden, August 2023.

Conference on Economics and Computation EC'23 Keynote, July 2023.

Asia Meeting of the Econometric Society Keynote, January 2023

Simons Institute Workshop on the Economics of Networks, UC Berkeley, December 2022.

Workshop on Relational Contracts Keynote, August 2022.

Canadian Economic Association, State of the Art Speaker, June 2022.

Institutional and Organizational Economics Academy (IOEA), May 2022.

Human Capital and Economic Opportunity Summer School on Inequality, June 2021.

Stony Brook International Conference on Game Theory, July 2020.

UC Berkeley Kadish Center for Morality, Law, and Public Affairs, November 2019.

New Economic School (Moscow), Social Diversity, Development and Stability: The Role of Context, October 2019.

Southern Economic Association Plenary Address, November 2018

Barcelona GSE Summer Forum, June 2018

European Conference on Networks, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, May 2018

European University Institute, Max Weber Lecture, March 2018

Paris School of Economics, Conference on Economics and Culture, March 2018

American Economic Association Annual Meetings, January 2018.

Summer Colloquium on the Economics of Identity, Kiel Institute for the World Economy, June 2015, June 2016, June 2017.

American Economic Association Annual Meetings, January 2017.

Class of 1960 Lecture, Williams College, October 2016.

Norms, Actions, and Games (NAG), Toulouse Institute for Advanced Study, June 2016.

American Economic Association Annual Meetings, January 2016.

Econometric Society World Congress, Plenary Session Discussant, Montreal, August 2015.

Stony Brook International Conference on Game Theory, July 2015.

The Economics of Socialization, Barcelona GSE Summer Forum, June 2015.

Summer School on Social Interactions and Urban Segregation, Université Rennes 1, May 2015.

Conference on Identity and Inequality, University of Chicago, October 2014.

Cambridge University Summer School on Social Interactions, July 2014.

Wellington-Burnham Lecture, Tufts University, May 2014.

Microeconomics of Social Network Analysis, University of College London, May 2014.

Thurgau Experimental Economics Meeting, Plenary Speaker, University of Konstanz, May 2014.

Conference on The Human Person, Economics, and Catholic Social Thought, Plenary Speaker, University of Chicago, April 2014.

Global Economic Symposium, Kiel Institute, October 2013.

University of Chicago Summer School on Socioeconomic Inequality, July 2013.

Choice Symposium, Erasmus University, June 2013.

Human Capital and Economic Opportunity Global Working Group, University of Chicago, Identity and Personality Conference, May 2013.

NYU Workshop on Information in Networks (WIN), September 2012.

University of Chicago Summer School on Socioeconomic Inequality, July 2012.

Workshop on Heterogeneous Interacting Agents (WEHIA), Paris, June 2012.

Conference on the Economics of Interactions and Culture, Einaudi Institute for Economics and Finance (EIEF), April 2012.

Spanish Economic Association Meetings, Plenary Speaker, December 2011.

University of Cambridge, Conference on Networks, September 2011.

ThRed (Theoretical Research in Development Economics) Annual Conference, Barcelona, May 2011.

University of Warwick, Conference on Buyer-Seller Networks, May 2011.

Statistical and Applied Mathematical Sciences Institute (SAMSI), Dynamics on Networks, March 2011.

University of Richmond Leadership Conference, September 2010.

NYU Workshop on Information in Networks (WIN), September 2010.

Stanford University Institute for Theoretical Economics (SITE), July 2010.

Memorial Conference, Barcelona, Toni Calvo-Armengol, June 2010.

Université Laval, Workshop on Networks, October 2009.

NYU Workshop on Information in Networks (WIN), September 2009.

Cornell University, Research Issues at the Interface of Computer Science and Economics, September 2009.

Trento Festival of Economics, Invited Speaker, June 2009.

NYU Law School, Conference on Law, Commerce and Development, April 2008.

American Economic Association Annual Meetings, Invited Session, January 2008.

Coalition Theory Network (CTN) Conference, Plenary Speaker, Venice, Italy, January 2008.

SchlossDagstuhl, Computational Social Systems and the Internet, June 2007.

American Economic Association Annual Meetings, Invited Session, January 2007.

Cornell University Institute for the Social Sciences, "Search and Diffusion in Social Networks," November 2006.

European Summer Symposium on Economic Theory (ESSET), Gerzensee, Switzerland, July 2006.

The World Bank, "Microfoundations of Economic Growth," May 2006.

Université Laval, "Mini-Conference on Economic Development," February 2006.

GREQAM, Université de Marseille, "Networks, Aggregation, and Markets," June 2005.

Russell Sage Foundation, Working Group on "Decay and Formation of Social Networks," 2002-2005.

Pew Charitable Trust and Cornell University, Working Group on "Moral and Social Dimensions of Microeconomic Behavior in Poor Communities," 2001-2005.

IUI, Stockholm, Sweden, "Networks: Theory and Applications," June 2004.

Escuela de Verano, "The Role of Social Interactions and Networks in Economics," San Sebastian, Spain, July 2003.

Econometric Society of North America, Summer Meetings, June 2001.

Stanford Institute for Theoretical Economics (SITE), July 2000.

North Eastern Universities Development Conference (NEUDC), 2000.

European Summer Symposium on Economic Theory (ESSET), Gerzensee, Switzerland, June 1999.

CEPR and Univ. Libre de Bruxelles, "Information Processing in Organizations," June 1999.

Univ. Autonoma de Barcelona, "Congress on Groups, Networks and Coalitions," May 1999.

Santa Fe Institute, "Institutions: Complexity and Difficulty," March 1999.

University of Cambridge, “Barter in Post-Socialist Societies,” December 1998.

The Brookings Institution, “Colloquium on Social Dynamics,” January 1998.

American Economic Association Annual Meetings, January 1998.

MacArthur Foundation, Network on Preferences and Norms, October 1997.

Russell Sage Foundation, “Networks vs. Markets,” October 1997.

UC San Diego, “Conference on Cooperation under Difficult Conditions,” October 1997.

Stanford University Institute for Theoretical Economics (SITE), July 1997

The World Bank, “Emerging Issues in Development Economics,” July 1997.

Northeastern Universities Development Conference, 1996.

Econometric Society Winter Meetings 1996, 1997.

TEACHING AWARDS

Departmental Teaching Award, University of Maryland, Spring 2006.

Departmental Teaching Award, University of Maryland, Spring 2000.

Departmental Teaching Award, University of Maryland, Fall 1995.

Departmental Teaching Award, University of Maryland, Fall 1993.

Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award, U.C. Berkeley, 1991.

LANGUAGES

Proficiency in French, ability in Arabic.