Rebecca Toole

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Student in Public Policy and Public Management, University of Washington
Seattle, WA *2024 – 2030 (Expected)*

- Member, Curriculum Committee (2025 – 2026)
- Relevant Coursework: Policy Processes, Qualitative Methods, Research Methods, Policy Analysis

M.S. in Economics and Urban & Environmental Planning, Tufts University
Medford, MA *2013 – 2015*

- Thesis: "Is the energy ladder a valid model for household energy use and transitions?", advised by Dr. Mary Davis and Dr. Ujjayant Chakravorty
- Relevant Coursework: Foundations of Public Policy, Cities in Place, Space and Time, Community Economic Development, Planning and Practice

B.S. in Economics, History of Art & Architecture, University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, PA *2009 – 2013*

SELECT RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

REAL CARE | Maria Rodriguez, principal investigator
Seattle, WA *Summer 2026*

- Reviewed academic literature on the value, role and implementation of advising systems in economic opportunity programs for student belonging, retention, and success
- Conducted qualitative coding of interviews with students and advisors to understand preferences for advising styles and relationships

Able and Willing? An Exploration of Perceptions and Cognitive Factors Influencing Technology Adoption Among Small-Scale Producers in Nigeria | C. Leigh Anderson, principal investigator
Seattle, WA *2025–2026*

- Developed instrument to survey small-scale producers on their farming practices, perceptions of various technologies, perceptions of self and capabilities, and beliefs about climate risks
- Cleaned and analyzed survey data to explore relationships between adoption and willingness to adapt, ability to adapt, and perceived profitability and resilience benefits of technologies

Impact of a Family Planning Mass Media Campaign in Burkina Faso | Rachel Glennerster, Joanna Murray, and Victor Pouliquen, principal investigators
Cambridge, MA *2017–2019*

- Cleaned and analyzed administrative data on contraceptive use and healthcare delivery
- Prepared reports and data visualizations for funders and partner organizations to provide project implementation updates and present results

Building Market Linkages for Smallholders | Craig McIntosh and Lauren Bergquist, principal investigators
Multiple sites, Uganda *February, March, and September 2018*

- Managed mixed methods research protocols to measure price gradient of staple crops across 50 markets and to conduct focus groups with farmers and market actors

- Devised and oversaw field implementation of behavioral games with farmers and traders
- Analyzed data on farmer and trader interactions via digital market linkage platform to understand user base and engagement

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Anderson CL, **Toole R**, Schmidt C, Darmstadt, GL. (2023) "Strengthening theories of change in women's group interventions to improve learning." *Journal of Global Health*, 13:04098.

SELECT TECHNICAL BRIEFS AND POLICY PUBLICATIONS

Anderson, C. L., Huff, A., Koroma, T., Marquez, L., & **Toole, R**. "CRIFS Technical Brief: A Food Systems Framework." *EPAR Technical Brief #396A*, 24 Jan. 2025, Evans School Policy Analysis & Research, University of Washington, https://epar.evans.uw.edu/crifs-technical-brief-a-food-systems-framework/.

Alia, D. Y., **Toole, R.,** Trindade, F., & Anderson, C. L. "CRIFS Technical Brief: Who Is a Small-Scale Producer? A Proposed Operational Definition." *EPAR Technical Brief #396B*, 15 Aug. 2025, Evans School Policy Analysis & Research, University of Washington, https://epar.evans.uw.edu/crifs-technical-brief-who-is-a-small-scale-producer-a-proposed-operational-definition/.

Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL). 2019. "Encouraging residential energy efficiency." J-PAL Policy Insights. Last modified November 2019. https://doi.org/10.31485/pi.2266.2019.

Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL). 2019. "Facilitating savings among smallholder farmers to smooth or increase consumption." J-PAL Policy Insights. Last modified May 2019. https://doi.org/10.31485/pi.2417.2019.

Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL). 2019. "Reducing adolescent pregnancy by increasing educational and economic opportunities in low- and middle-income countries." J-PAL Policy Insights. http://doi.org/10.31485/pi.2392.2019.

Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL). 2018. "Reducing energy and water use through information and social comparisons." J-PAL Policy Insights. Last modified April 2018. https://doi.org/10.31485/pi.2266.2018.

CONFERENCE & SELECT INVITED PRESENTATIONS

"Able and Willing? An Exploration of Perceptions and Cognitive Factors Influencing Technology Adoption Among Small-Scale Producers in Nigeria." November 2025. Association of Public Policy and Management (APPAM) Annual Conference, Seattle, WA.

"Administrative Burden, Frontline Workers, and Stigma." November 2025. University of Washington Behavioral Sciences Applied to Public Policy (BAP) Group, Seattle, WA.

"Leveraging rigorous evidence to achieve energy access for all." March 2020. Kingdom of Saudi Arabia G20 Energy Sustainability Working Group (ESWG) [remote], Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

"Combining Input Subsidies with Agricultural Extension Services to Boost Agricultural Productivity Growth in Uganda." March 2018. Ugandan Ministry of Agriculture, Kampala, Uganda.

"Improving the Lives of Adolescent Mothers: Lessons from Policy." October 2017. Canadian Conference for Global Health, Ottawa, Canada.

AWARDS & HONORS

- **Evans Provost Fellowship**, University of Washington, 2024
- **Phi Beta Kappa**, Distinguished Junior Member (specially elected Junior year), University of Pittsburgh, 2013

- **National Science Foundation Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) Fellowship**, advised by Dr. James Cook, Shanxi, China, 2012
- **Summa Cum Laude**, University of Pittsburgh, 2013
- **Outstanding Senior, Department of Economics**, University of Pittsburgh, 2013

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Evans Policy Analysis and Research Group (EPAR), University of Washington, Seattle, WA
Research Scientist 4 — *September 2022–September 2024*
Research Scientist 3 — *October 2020–August 2022*

- Managed portfolio of commissioned impact and outcome evaluations for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation under Evaluating Inclusive Transformation in Agriculture (EVITA)
- Provided technical oversight to the development of data collection instruments, evaluation methods and protocols, and final reports
- Conducted systematic evidence reviews on agricultural development, food security, and gender and economic empowerment
- Supervised and mentored 1–4 research staff and graduate students at a time, providing guidance on quantitative methods, instrument design, and scientific writing

Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL), MIT Department of Economics, Cambridge, MA
Policy Manager — *January 2020–September 2020*
Senior Policy Associate — *July 2017–December 2019*
Policy Associate — *September 2015–June 2017*

- Co-managed two competitive funds totaling US$40 million that supported over 65 randomized evaluations of social programs in agriculture and climate
- Engaged 35+ policy and research stakeholders through meetings, presentations, and workshops to share evidence, build partnerships for impact evaluation, and advance research agendas
- Authored five research synthesis briefs on conserving energy and water use, smallholder adoption of technology and financial products, and preventing adolescent pregnancy
- Conducted systematic evidence reviews synthesizing findings across 100+ experimental studies on energy efficiency, agricultural finance, and adolescent reproductive health

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Statistical software:** Stata (Intermediate), R (Intermediate)
- **Survey platforms:** SurveyCTO, Qualtrics
- **Methods:** systematic literature reviews and evidence synthesis; mixed methods program evaluation design; survey instrument development; qualitative methods including focus groups and semi-structured interviews