

Benjamin Collier is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Risk, Insurance, and Healthcare Management in the Fox School of Business at Temple University and a Research Fellow in the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania in its Risk Management and Decision Processes Center. His research examines how households and firms manage severe climate risks. His recent projects analyze households' insurance contract decisions in the U.S. National Flood Insurance Program, the effects of Hurricane Sandy on the finances of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in the New York area, and the consequences of natural disasters for SME credit markets in developing and emerging economies.

Among other outlets, Collier has published in the *Journal of Risk and Insurance* and *Harvard Business Review*. He has been quoted and his research cited in the *Wall Street Journal*, *Business Insurance*, and the *Actuarial Review*. He received the *Outstanding Dissertation Award* for his work on credit access in communities vulnerable to El Niño related flooding in Peru from the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, which selects annually from all dissertations in agricultural and applied economics in the U.S. He is a member of the Risk Theory Society.

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### Contact Information

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Temple University  
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Philadelphia, PA 19122

### Positions

<i>Year</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Institution</i>
2016-present	Assistant Professor	Department of Risk, Insurance, and Healthcare Management, Fox School of Business, Temple University
2013-present	Research Fellow	Risk Management and Decision Processes Center, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania
2012-2013	Director of Research	Global Centre on Disaster Risk and Poverty
2007-2012	Research Economist	GlobalAgRisk, Inc.
2010	Affiliated Researcher	Instituto de Estudios Peruanos

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### Education

Ph.D.	2013	Agricultural Economics, University of Kentucky
M.S.	2010	Economics, University of Kentucky
M.S.	2006	Psychology, University of Kentucky
B.A.	2003	Psychology, Asbury University, Wilmore, Kentucky

### Publications in Refereed Journals

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- Collier, B. L. and V. O. Babich (2017). "Financing Recovery After Disasters: Explaining Community Credit Market Responses to Severe Events" *Journal of Risk and Insurance*, DOI: 10.1111/jori.12221
- Atreya, A., Czajkowski, J., W. Botzen, G. Bustamante, K. Campbell, B. Collier, F. Ianni, H. Kunreuther, E. Michel-Kerjan, and M. Montgomery (2017). "Adoption of Flood Preparedness Actions: A Household Level Study in Rural Communities in Tabasco, Mexico." *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction*, 24, 428-438.
- Collier, B. L. (2015). "Financial Inclusion and Natural Disasters." *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 97(2), 656-657 (by invitation for the Outstanding Dissertation Award).
- Barnett, B. J. and B. Collier (2014). "Reflections on *Doing Bad by Doing Good*." *Studies in Emergent Order*, 7: 74–80.
- Collier, B., and J. R. Skees (2012). "Increasing the Resilience of Financial Intermediaries through Portfolio-Level Insurance against Natural Disasters." *Natural Hazards* 64: 55–72
- Collier, B., A. L. Katchova, and J. R. Skees (2011). "Loan Portfolio Performance and El Niño, An Intervention Analysis." *Agricultural Finance Review* 71: 98–119.
- Collier, B., J. R. Skees, and B. J. Barnett (2009). "Weather Index Insurance and Climate Change: Opportunities and Challenges in Lower Income Countries." *The Geneva Papers on Risk and Insurance: Issues and Practice* 34: 401–424.

### Working Papers

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- "Firms' Management of Infrequent Shocks," with A. Haughwout, H. Kunreuther, E. Michel-Kerjan, and M. Stewart, NBER Working Paper, w22612, under review
- "Risk Preference Inconsistencies Across Low and High Stakes: Evidence from the Field," with D. Schwartz, H. Kunreuther, and E. Michel-Kerjan
- "Credit Access and Natural Catastrophes: Considerations for Strengthening Local Credit Markets Through Risk Transfer"

### In the Media

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- Simon, R. and C. McWhirter. "Harvey's Test: Businesses Struggle with Flawed Insurance as Floods Multiply," *Wall Street Journal*, August 30, 2017, A1.
- Simon, R. and J. De Avila, "Small Businesses Say Federal-Disaster Aid Needs Strengthening." *Wall Street Journal*, October 11, 2017, A6.
- "Small and Young Businesses Are Especially Vulnerable to Extreme Weather." *Harvard Business Review*, November 23, 2016.
- Harvard Business Review* (2017), Is Your Company Weather Resistant? March-April 2017, p. 29.
- Jim Lynch, "Flood Insurance: The Private Sector Wades In" *Actuarial Review*, magazine of the Casualty Actuarial Society, September-October 2017, pp. 36-38.
- Gonzalez, G. "Harvey May Spur Short NFIP Reauthorization to Avoid Claims Disruption." *Business Insurance*, September 5, 2017.
- BRINK, "Picking Up the Pieces: Small and Medium in the Aftermath of Disaster. Interview with Benjamin Collier." September 25, 2017.
- "Small Firms, Big Risk: The Challenge of Natural Disasters," BRINK, 1 June 2015.

- “Insurance Choices Identify How Individuals Prioritize Risks,” *Risk Management Review*, the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, 2014. (with Daniel Scwhartz)
- “Interview with Benjamin Collier,” *Global Index Insurance Facility, January-February 2014 Newsletter*, International Finance Corporation, World Bank Group, 19 February 2014.
- “Weather Risks, Index Insurance, and Developing Financial Services for the Rural Poor.” *Microfinance Insights* 5(2007): 31–33. (with Jerry Skees)

### Book Chapters

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- Skees, J. R., and B. Collier. “Climate Change: Risk Management Solutions for Developing Economies: A Portfolio Approach.” *Insurance for Development*. Köhn, D., ed. Heidelberg, Germany: Springer Verlag, forthcoming.
- Skees, J. R., and B. Collier. “The Role of Weather Markets and the Carbon Market.” *Greening the Financial Sector: How to Mainstream Environmental Finance in Developing Countries*. Köhn, D., ed. Heidelberg, Germany: Springer Verlag, 2012.
- Skees, J. R., and B. Collier. “New Approaches for Index Insurance: ENSO Insurance in Peru.” *Innovations in Rural and Agriculture Finance*. Kloeppinger-Todd, R., and M. Sharma, eds. Washington, DC: International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), 2010.

### Distinctions and Awards

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- Risk Theory Society, Member
- Outstanding Dissertation Award, Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (2014)
- Nairobi Work Plan Expert, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change [UNFCCC]
- Dissertation Year Fellow, University of Kentucky (2011-2012)
- John Redman Scholar, University of Kentucky (2008-2013)
- Pass with Distinction, Agricultural Economics Qualifying Exam, University of Kentucky (2009)

### Grant/Project Responsibilities

<i>Position</i>	<i>Grant/Project</i>	<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Duration</i>
Project Manager	Community Flood Resilience	Zurich Foundation	June 2013 – June 2016
Project Co-Director	Innovation in Catastrophic Weather Insurance to Improve the Livelihoods of Rural Households, Grant Number 51734	Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	April 2009 – June 2012
Team Leader	Insurance for Small Agricultural Loans for Adapting to Climate Change, Project VN 81130114	GIZ, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH	February 2011 – March 2013
Agricultural Insurance Specialist	Incorporating Weather Index Insurance with Territorial Approaches to Climate Change (TACC) In Northern Peru	United Nations Development Programme	October 2009 – November 2011

### Academic Reviewer

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| <i>Canadian Journal of Agricultural Economics</i>           | <i>International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction</i> |
| <i>Climate and Development</i>                              | <i>Journal of Contingencies and Crisis Management</i>   |
| <i>Climatic Change</i>                                      | <i>Journal of Risk and Insurance</i>                    |
| <i>Environmental and Resource Economics</i>                 | <i>Savings and Development</i>                          |
| <i>Geneva Papers</i>  | <i>World Development</i>                                |
| <i>International Conference for Agricultural Economists</i> |   |

### Presentations and Conference Responsibilities

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2017	Travelers Research Symposium (St. John's University); Seminar on Reinsurance, General Session (Casualty Actuarial Society)
2016	American Economic Association Annual Meeting; Risk Theory Society Annual Meeting; NBER Insurance Project Workshop; American Risk and Insurance Association Annual meeting; Southern Risk and Insurance Association Annual Meeting
2015	Behavioral Insurance Workshop VI (Center for Economic Analysis of Risk, Georgia St. University); Southern Economic Association; Managing and Financing Extreme Events Conference (Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania), Enhancing Food Security and Resilience To Climate Change (University of Bergamo, Italy); Traveler's Institute Workshop (Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania)
2014	United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment (Montreal); American Risk and Insurance Association Annual Meeting; Robert A. Hedges Research Seminar (Fox School of Business, Temple University)
2013	Risk Management and Decision Processes Center Seminar (Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania); NOAA National Ocean Service Seminar Series (U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration); American Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting; AGU Science Policy Conference
2012	Risk Management in Agricultural Finance: Building More Inclusive and Secure Markets (Inter-American Development Bank); 28 <sup>th</sup> International Conference for Agricultural Economists; American Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting; Insurance for Adaptation to Climate Change for Public, Private and Financial Sectors (Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, GIZ)
2011	United Nations Integrated Strategy for Disaster Reduction, II Session of the Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas (Nuevo Vallarta, Mexico); American Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting (Invited Presentation); Economic Development Seminar (the Ohio State University)
2010	International Workshop for the Reducing the Vulnerability of Financial Institutions to Extreme Climate Events (Lima, Peru); Southern Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting
2009	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Technical Workshop under the Nairobi Work Programme on Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation to Climate Change (Cairo)
2008	KfW Financial Sector Development Symposium (Berlin)

### Teaching

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<i>Date</i>	<i>Department</i>	<i>Course</i>	<i>Role</i>
Fall 2016	Department of Risk, Insurance, and Healthcare Management, Fox School of Business, Temple University	RMI 3567 Managing International Risk	Instructor
Spring 2008 – 2011	Department of Agricultural Economics, University of Kentucky	AEC 626 Agriculture and Economic Development	Teaching Assistant

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Fall 2004 –Spring  
2007

Department of Psychology, University of  
Kentucky

PSY 100 General  
Psychology

Lab  
Lecturer

PSY 215 Experimental  
Psychology

PSY 427 Cognitive  
Psychology