



ADVANCES IN SCHOOL ASSIGNMENT SYSTEMS IN PRACTICE: THE PROMISE OF DATA SCIENCE

November 14 -15th 2019
IDB HQ, Washington, D.C.

Thursday November 14th, 2019

9:00 - 9:15 OPENING REMARKS: Sabine Rieble-Aubourg, Acting Division Chief, IDB

09:15 – 12:30 MORNING SESSION: Centralized admissions systems in Chile and the City of Buenos Aires

- **Andres Palma**, former Director of the National Centralized Admission System, Chile
- **Pablo Federico Abramowicz**, Director of Digital Government and Technology, City of Buenos Aires, Argentina

12:30 – 13:30 LUNCH AT IDB

2:30 – 4:30 AFTERNOON SESSION: Field visit District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS)

- Conversation with DCPS centralized admission team

7:00 – DINNER

Friday November 15th, 2019

9:00 - 9:20 OPENING REMARKS: Marcelo Cabrol, Social Sector Manager, IDB

9:20 - 9:35 Gregory Elacqua, Principal Education Economist, IDB

- IDB's centralized assignment in education agenda in LAC
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9:35 - 10:45 MORNING SESSION 1: Back-end: Choice algorithms and centralized school choice systems in practice: A progress report

Seth Zimmerman, the University of Chicago, Booth School of Business

- Choice algorithms overview and new lessons.

Marquelle Middleton, New Haven Public School District Chief of School Choice

- Policy challenges of designing choice algorithms in practice

Moderator: Anne Sofie Westh Olsen, Education Division Specialist, IDB



10:45 - 11:00 COFFEE BREAK

11:00 - 12:15 MORNING SESSION 2: Front-end: Information frictions and potential solutions

Jennifer Jennings, Department of Sociology, Princeton University

- Leveling the playing field for school choice: Results from an information field experiment in NYC

Daniel Jarrat, Data Scientist and Product Manager, Infinite Campus

- Matching schools and parents: Recommendation engines on education platforms

Moderator: Carolina Mendez, Education Division Specialist, IDB

12:15 - 1:45 LUNCH AT IDB

1:45 - 2:45 AFTERNOON SESSION 1: Centralized admissions in LAC: The promise of new technologies

Christopher Neilson, Department of Economics, Princeton University and co-founder of *ConsiliumBots*

- Challenges with current school assignment systems in LAC
- Feedback systems and decision aids for centralized assignment mechanisms

James Savage, Manager, Data Scientist, Schmidt Futures, NYC

- The promise of centralized platforms

Moderator: Norbert Schady, Principal Economic Advisor for the Social Sector, IDB

2:45-3:00 COFFEE BREAK

3:00 - 4:45 AFTERNOON SESSION 2: Three pilots of centralized admissions in LAC: Ecuador, Pernambuco, and Peru

- Panel: Design, implementation, and evaluation of centralized student assignment pilots in Ecuador, Peru, and Pernambuco.

Doris Guaman, Director of School Admissions, Ministry of Education of Ecuador

Severino Andrade, Vice-Secretary of Education, Secretary of Education, Pernambuco, Brazil

Daniel Anavitarte Santillana, Director of School Quality Management, Ministry of Education of Peru

Moderator: Gregory Elacqua, Principal Education Economist, IDB

4:45-5:00 FINAL WORDS Ana Maria Ibáñez, Principal Economic Advisor, Vice President of Sectors and Knowledge, IDB