# ELAINE (WISSUCHEK) KIIRU

ewiss@bu.edu

## EDUCATION

Boston University (BU), MA                                  *August 2020 - Present*
*Doctor of Philosophy in Economics*
- Fields: Macro and Public Economics.
- Honors: GivingTuesday Data Commons Fellowship for "Innovative Nonprofits" project (2023).

University of Richmond (UR), VA                          *August 2014 - May 2018*
*Bachelor of Arts in Economics with a Minor in Mathematics*
- Honors: Departmental Honors in Economics (2018), Outstanding Student in Economics (2018), Boatwright Full-Tuition Scholarship (2014-2018), Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society (2017).

## PAPERS

- Kiiru, Elaine. "Growth, Inequality, and Nonprofit Contributions." Second Year Paper. September 2022.
- Haltom, Renee, Elaine Wissuchek and Alexander L Wolman. "Have Yield Curve Inversions Become More Likely?" Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond Economic Brief. December 2018.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

BU Department of Economics, Research and Teaching Assistant, MA    *August 2021 - Present*
- Prepared and presented weekly discussion sessions to undergraduate students in Introductory Macroeconomics.
- Studied the financial constraints of nonprofit firms over the business cycle by analyzing data from tax forms 990, contributing to the creation of a model, and reviewing relevant literature.

Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, Research Associate, VA          *June 2018 - August 2020*
- Analyzed employment transitions for demographic sub-groups using CPS microdata from 1994 - present and recoded the Non-Employment Index in R to improve the flexibility and efficiency of the system.
- Researched New Keynesian models and solved them using Dynamic Stochastic General Equilibrium R packages from Christopher Sims, to learn about inflation in a multisector economy.
- Performed vector autoregression forecasting using real time data to inform monetary policy advisors.
- Conducted statistical analysis of the probability of yield curve inversions with a declining term premium, resulting in co-authorship of an economic brief.
- Advanced diversity initiatives by mentoring students and sharing my expeiences at the DivEc conference for undergraduate economics students.

Raytheon Company, Global Trade Intern, CA                          *May - August 2017*
- Created online tools to document responses to violations of the International Traffic in Arms Regulation.

## SKILLS

Technical Skills: R, LaTeX, Haver DLX, and MS Office (Advanced). STATA, Python, and MATLAB (Intermediate). SAS, SPSS and ArcGIS (Basic).
Languages: English (Native), Spanish (Conversational), Swahili (Beginner).
Leadership: Resident Assistant, Cantoring/Choir.