

## **Economics Seminar, Indian Statistical Institute, New Delhi.**

**SPEAKER:** Laura Zimmermann (University of Michigan)

**TITLE:** Remember When It Rained: The Elusiveness of Gender Discrimination in Indian School Enrollment

**TIME:** 11:30-1:00

**DAY & DATE:** Friday, 11th November

**PLACE:** Seminar Room 2

### **Abstract:**

Indian girls have significantly lower school enrollment rates than boys. Anecdotal evidence suggests that gender-differential treatment is the main explanation, but empirical support is often weak and seemingly inconsistent. I propose that this may be due to age-specific forms of discrimination. I analyze school enrollment using rainfall shocks, a plausibly exogenous source of income variation. Girls's school enrollment is more vulnerable to rainfall shocks than that of boys, with 6-10 year olds driving these effects. This is consistent with young girls being out of school because boys's education is prioritized, whereas older girls suffer from low perceived benefits of education.

<http://www.isid.ac.in/~pu/seminar.html>