

Karthik Balasubramanian

✉ karthik.b@howard.edu 🌐 balasubramanian.org ☎ +1 202 684 6252 📍 Washington, DC

📄 kartbala 🎓 Google Scholar 🏛 Howard Profiles 🆔 ORCID 0000-0002-0376-3703

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT

Howard University School of Business

Washington, DC

Associate Professor, Information Systems & Supply Chain Management 2025-present

Assistant Professor, Information Systems & Supply Chain Management 2018-2025

EDUCATION

Harvard Business School

Boston, MA

Doctor of Business Administration – Technology & Operations Management 2012-2018

- Dissertation: optimization of inventory management for mobile money agents in East Africa.
- Technical coursework in Operations Research at MIT.

Duke University

Durham, NC

Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering & Economics – Magna cum Laude 2003-2007

- Coursework in Political Science at Oxford University.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Mobile money & financial inclusion • Base-of-the-pyramid operations • Transportation equity & accessibility • Civic engagement technology • Misinformation detection • Data-driven policy

AWARDS & HONORS

Highest Impact Paper Award, Center for the Environment and Social Responsibility 2023

Teaching Award, Howard University School of Business 2022

Public Sector OR Best Paper Award (Runner-Up), INFORMS 2019

Doing Good with Good OR Student Paper Award (Finalist), INFORMS 2018

Full Doctoral Fellowship, Harvard Business School 2012-2018

A.B. Duke Scholarship (full-tuition scholarship), Duke University 2003-2007

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- [1] E. Byrd, C. Parker, and **K. Balasubramanian**, "Data Set–Spatiotemporal Bikeshare System Status," *Manufacturing & Service Operations Management*, published online June 2026.
- [2] **K. Balasubramanian**, D.F. Drake, J. Acimovic, and D. Fearing, "Mobile Money Operations: Policies for Managing Cash and Digital Currency Inventories in the Developing World," *Manufacturing & Service Operations Management* 25(3), 958–974, 2023.
- [3] **K. Balasubramanian**, D.F. Drake, and G. Urrea, "The Impact of Poverty on Base of the Pyramid Operations: Evidence from Mobile Money in Africa," *Journal of Operations Management* 69(4), 616–642, 2023.
- [4] J. Acimovic, C. Parker, D.F. Drake, and **K. Balasubramanian**, "Show or Tell? Improving Inventory Support for Agent-Based Businesses at the Base of the Pyramid," *Manufacturing & Service Operations Management* 24(1), 664–681, 2022.
- [5] C.C. Cain, C.D. Buskey, A.L. Jones, and **K. Balasubramanian**, "Pathways to Empowerment: Cultivating Black Women's Leadership in Information Systems Through Education, Access, and Inclusive Policy," *Communications of the Association for Information Systems* 58(1), 2026.
- [6] B.E. Bagozzi, **K. Balasubramanian**, R. Goel, and C. Parker, "State-Linked Manipulated Media in the Time of Covid-19: A Look at Iran," *Data & Policy* 7, e19, 2025.
- [7] B.E. Bagozzi, R. Goel, B. Lugo-De-Fabritz, K. Knickmeier-Cummings, and **K. Balasubramanian**, "A Framework for Enhancing Social Media Misinformation Detection with Topical-Tactics," *Digital Threats: Research and Practice* 5(3), 1–29, 2024.
- [8] **K. Balasubramanian**, "Operations Research on Mobile-Enabled Financial Inclusion: A Road Map to Impact," *Tutorials in Operations Research*, INFORMS, 2022.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

- C. Parker, **K. Balasubramanian**, D.F. Drake, and E. He, "OM Grand Challenges: Achieving SDG 8.10 by Operationalizing Last-Mile Financial Inclusion," *Manufacturing & Service Operations Management* – **major revision** (under revision).
- K. Balasubramanian**, E. He, D.F. Drake, C. Parker, and J. Acimovic, "Inventory Pooling for Mobile Money Agents in the Developing World," *Manufacturing & Service Operations Management* – under review.
- K. Balasubramanian**, "The Cost of Gendered Signs: A Queueing Analysis of Single-Occupancy Restroom Designation Policy," *Socio-Economic Planning Sciences* – under review.

OP-EDS, BOOK CHAPTERS & PUBLIC COMMENTARY

- [9] **K. Balasubramanian**, "Democrats Are Ignoring the Voters Who Could Decide This Election," *The New York Times*, February 26, 2020.

- [10] **K. Balasubramanian**, "Want More Black Voters? Meet Them Where They Live," in *Turnout! Mobilizing Voters in an Emergency*, pp. 90-96, Routledge, 2020.
- [11] **K. Balasubramanian**, "The District's Transportation System Taxes Everyone's Time," *Greater Greater Washington*, 2025.
- [12] J. Acimovic, C. Parker, D. Drake, and **K. Balasubramanian**, "How Platforms Can Help Their Contract Workers Make Decisions in Uncertain Environments," *LSE Business Review Online*, August 2018.

TEACHING

Howard University School of Business	2018-present
<i>Production & Operations Research (GIST 502)</i>	MBA / Online MBA
<i>Production & Operations Management (INFO 335)</i>	BBA
<i>Quantitative Business Analysis (INFO 311)</i>	BBA
<i>Data Visualization & Storytelling (SCHM 375)</i>	BBA
<i>Procurement</i>	BBA
Teaching Assistant	2012-2014
<i>Operations Management – University of Chicago Booth</i>	Executive MBA
<i>Operations Management – Northwestern Kellogg</i>	MBA

PUBLIC SERVICE & CIVIC LEADERSHIP

Chair, Multimodal Accessibility Advisory Council (MAAC) , Government of DC	2022-present
Steering Committee, DC Transportation Equity Network , Washington, DC	2023-present
Steering Committee, DC Families for Safe Streets , Washington, DC	2022-present
Board of Directors, Hub3 (civic technology), Washington, DC	2023-present
Board of Directors, Block Power (voter turnout platform), Washington, DC	2020-present
Board of Directors, New North Carolina Project Action Fund , Charlotte, NC	2022-present

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Reviewer, <i>Journal of Operations Management</i>	2020-present
Reviewer, <i>Manufacturing & Service Operations Management</i>	2020-present
Reviewer, <i>Production and Operations Management</i>	2020-present

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Member, Howard University Transportation Committee	2023-present
Member, Howard University School of Business Library Committee	2018-present

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences (INFORMS)	2018-present
Production and Operations Management Society (POMS)	2018-present

LANGUAGES

English (native) • Tamil (conversational) • Spanish (conversational) • Swahili (formerly conversational) • Dutch and Japanese (aspiring – nothing beyond “good morning” so far)

MEDIA & PUBLIC COMMENTARY

Washington Post: “D.C.’s Speed Cameras Are Catching Super Violators” <i>[quoted]</i>	2026
Marketplace Tech: “It’s a Lot Harder to Get Out the Vote During a Pandemic”	Jul 2020
INFORMS: “Leveraging Analytics to Support Voter Turnout in Black Communities”	2020
GOTMFV: “Data-Driven Politics”	May 2020
WURD: “The Power of Data to Increase Black Voter Turnout”	Apr 2020

PRIOR PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Deborah Ross for US Senate	Raleigh, NC
<i>Data & Budget Director</i>	2016
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	Seattle, WA
<i>Associate Program Officer, Financial Services for the Poor</i>	2011-2012
Duke University Global Health Institute	Tanzania + Malawi
<i>Research Manager</i>	2009-2011
Obama for America	Cleveland, OH
<i>Field Organizer, Cleveland Ward 5</i>	2008
Boston Consulting Group	Bethesda, MD
<i>Associate</i>	2007-2009

Bain & Company

Atlanta, GA

Associate Consultant Intern

Summer 2006

PRIOR VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

American Red Cross

Uganda + Kenya

Cash Transfer Specialist, Emergency Response Unit

2010-2018

Obama for America

Chicago, IL

Budget Analyst

2012

World Food Programme

Liberia

Logistics Consultant

2012

Ohio Dept. of Rehabilitation & Correction

Columbus, OH

Policy Analyst

2007

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

POMS Annual Conference, Minneapolis, MN 2024

INFORMS Annual Meeting, Phoenix, AZ 2023

POMS Annual Conference, Orlando, FL 2023

INFORMS Annual Meeting, Indianapolis, IN 2022

DARWIN 2022, University of Delaware 2022

POMS Annual Conference (Virtual) 2021

Memorial Sloan Kettering: Health Disparities Seminar 2021

Duke University Sanford Institute Politics Panel 2019

POMS Annual Conference, Washington, DC 2019

COER Annual Conference, Boston, MA 2018

MSOM Annual Conference, Chapel Hill, NC 2017

POMS Annual Conference, Seattle, WA 2017

DSI Annual Conference, Austin, TX 2016

POMS Annual Conference, Orlando, FL 2016

INFORMS Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA 2015

POMS Annual Conference, Washington, DC 2015

INFORMS Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA	2014
POMS Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA	2014