Dr. Durronjae B.A. Boothe

Assistant Professor of Economics

Dr. Durronjae B.A. Boothe is an Assistant Professor of Economics whose academic journey began in Mandeville, Jamaica, where he attended Manchester High School. A distinguished student, he graduated as the school's valedictorian in 2011. During his high school years, he represented Manchester High School in the national Schools' Challenge Quiz competition, serving as team captain. He also placed first nationally in Jamaica in the 2011 CAPE Applied Mathematics Unit 2 examination, an early achievement that reflected his aptitude for mathematics and analytical reasoning.

Dr. Boothe pursued his undergraduate and graduate education at The University of the West Indies (UWI), Mona, Jamaica, earning a Bachelor of Science in Actuarial Science in 2014 and a Master of Science in Economics, with distinction, in 2018. His involvement in university life extended well beyond the classroom. As a resident of Chancellor Hall, he became part of a community whose traditions of brotherhood, camaraderie, and leadership shaped his university experience. The enduring bonds among the men of Chancellor Hall and the Hall's emphasis on fellowship, collective identity, and service were important dimensions of his development as a student and emerging leader.

His commitment to leadership and service was further demonstrated through his involvement in student governance and campus life. From 2016 to 2018, he served as President of the Mona Campus Youth League, the university-based chapter of Generation 2000 (G2K), the professional youth arm associated with Jamaica's Jamaica Labour Party. He also served as a Commuting Students' Advisor and as a Resident Advisor at Chancellor Hall, where he received the Most Outstanding Resident Advisor of the Year award in 2018. In addition, he served as a UNESCO Youth Ambassador Volunteer in Jamaica from 2017 to 2018. These experiences reflect a sustained commitment to student development, youth engagement, community service, and leadership.

Dr. Boothe subsequently pursued doctoral studies in Economics at Georgia State University in Atlanta, earning his Master of Arts in Economics in 2022 and his Ph.D. in Economics in 2024. His doctoral training emphasized labor and education economics, with additional fields in health economics, applied econometrics, and public finance. His doctoral dissertation examined how changes in grading policies and school scheduling arrangements influence educational outcomes and institutional performance.

Dr. Boothe's research focuses on labor economics, education economics, and applied microeconomics. His work investigates how educational policies, institutional arrangements, and public interventions shape student achievement, human capital development, educational attainment, and labor-market outcomes. His research examines topics including grading

reforms, the transition from double-shift to full-day schooling, STEM persistence and degree completion, the relationship between educational qualifications and employment, and the effects of financial regulation on banking outcomes. His broader interests include causal inference, applied econometrics, and the evaluation of public policies affecting individuals and institutions.

His research employs quantitative methods and quasi-experimental designs to investigate economic and policy questions. His published work includes *From Entry to Achievement: Admission Scores and Student Success*, published in the *Economía LACEA Journal*. Through his research, Dr. Boothe seeks to contribute to evidence-based discussions of educational policy, workforce development, and economic opportunity.

Before joining the economics faculty at Howard University, Dr. Boothe gained professional experience as a Financial Economist in the Department of Financial Stability at the Bank of Jamaica in 2019. He also completed a graduate internship through the International Monetary Fund's Caribbean Regional Technical Assistance Centre (CARTAC) at the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank, where he worked in research, statistics, and data analytics.

As a faculty member, Dr. Boothe teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in statistics, graduate mathematical economics, advanced labor economics, industrial organization, and empirical and statistical analysis using R and Stata. He also contributes to graduate education through doctoral student advising, dissertation committee service, and mathematics preparation for incoming graduate students. His teaching emphasizes economic reasoning, quantitative analysis, econometric methods, and the practical application of statistical software to empirical research.

Dr. Boothe's academic and professional trajectory reflects a continuing commitment to scholarship, quantitative reasoning, education, and leadership. From his early academic achievements in Jamaica to his doctoral training and faculty career in the United States, his experiences have been shaped by a sustained interest in understanding economic and educational outcomes and by a commitment to supporting the development of students and future scholars.