

PROPOSAL TITLE Big Data and the Social Good

ABSTRACT:

Once you have finished answering the questions within the following application, please provide an abstract below summarizing the description of your sabbatical leave proposal in a paragraph of between 100-150 words. This abstract will become part of the Board Docket. Please include the following information as part of the abstract:

- **Need for the Professional Growth** - describe the purpose of the sabbatical leave.
- **Sabbatical Leave Activities** - describe what you plan to do.
- **Anticipated Outcomes** - describe the primary outcome; instructor and classroom teaching outcomes; professional/faculty relationship outcome; student outcomes.
- **Means of Measurement** - describe what evidence you will submit to demonstrate achievement of your outcomes.
- **Expected benefit to the students, department, college, district, and/or community**

Since the founding of economics, economists have aspired to promote the social good. As our tools expand, new possibilities for improving the well-being of the community through appropriate policy guidance emerge. With the growing availability of big data, some economists see an opportunity to use new tools to improve public policy. I hope to grow professionally by learning about the intersection between big data and the social good by attending to the work of leading economists such as Raj Chetty, Esther Duflo, and Abhijit Banerjee and bring what I learn from the works of these economists to my students, department, colleagues, and community. My efforts during my sabbatical will lead to enhanced curriculum for our students, greater outreach to the public through articles, public talks, and interviews, stronger mentoring, and networking through enhanced relations with SDSU where I will be physically located during the sabbatical.