

## Contact

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(Personal)

## Top Skills

Economics  
Public Policy  
Corporate Social Responsibility

# Aaron "Ronnie" Chatterji

Distinguished Professor at Duke University (currently on leave at White House National Economic Council)  
Durham, North Carolina, United States

## Summary

Aaron "Ronnie" Chatterji, Ph.D. is the Mark Burgess & Lisa Benson-Burgess Distinguished Professor of Business and Public Policy at Duke University. Ronnie works at the intersection of academia, public policy and business, investigating the most important forces shaping our economy and society. His primary appointment is in the Fuqua School of Business, from where he has published over 30 peer-reviewed articles in the top journals in strategic management, economics, finance and organizational studies.

He is currently on leave from Duke, serving in the Biden Administration. As the Acting Director of the White House National Economic Council, Chatterji oversees the Administration's work on supporting American manufacturing, building more resilient supply chains, and driving technological innovation. Chatterji also serves as the White House CHIPS coordinator, overseeing the implementation of the \$52 billion CHIPS and Science Act, one of the largest industrial policy initiatives in a generation. He previously served as the Chief Economist of the U.S. Department of Commerce, where he was the principal economic adviser to the Secretary of Commerce and responsible for policy development related to U.S. competitiveness, innovation, trade and economic growth. He previously worked for President Obama as a Senior Economist at the White House Council of Economic Advisers (CEA). During his sabbatical leave in 2020, Ronnie ran for State Treasurer of North Carolina, winning a statewide primary election and earning the endorsements of President Biden, Vice President Harris and former President Obama.

He has received several awards for his research, including the Kauffman Prize Medal for Distinguished Research in entrepreneurship, the Rising Star award from the Aspen Institute, and the Strategic Management Society Emerging Scholar award. Chatterji has authored several op-ed pieces in the New York Times

and the Wall Street Journal, including influential essays introducing the concept of CEO activism with co-author Michael Toffel. He writes widely for management and policy audiences with several recent pieces in Harvard Business Review and for the Brookings Institution.

Ronnie has won multiple teaching awards at Duke, both for his teaching in the core curriculum and electives. He is a frequent keynote speaker and experienced facilitator who has worked with top companies in finance, healthcare, technology, energy, retail, and sports.

He received his Ph.D. from the University of California at Berkeley and his B.A. in Economics from Cornell University.

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## Experience

### Duke University

Professor

July 2006 - Present (17 years 2 months)

Tenured Professor, Research, Teaching

### Harvard Business School

Visiting Associate Professor

July 2014 - July 2015 (1 year 1 month)

Cambridge, MA

For the 2014-2015 academic year, I was a Visiting Associate Professor at Harvard Business School in the Entrepreneurial Management Unit. I continued my research on entrepreneurship and innovation and taught The Entrepreneurial Manager (TEM) course, part of the required curriculum.

### White House Council of Economic Advisers

Senior Economist

April 2010 - August 2011 (1 year 5 months)

During this time, I was on leave from Duke working as a Senior Economist at the White House Council of Economic Advisers.

### University of California, Berkeley, Haas School of Business Ph.D.

August 2001 - December 2006 (5 years 5 months)

Business Economics

Goldman Sachs  
Financial Analyst  
July 2000 - July 2001 (1 year 1 month)

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## Education

University of California, Berkeley, Haas School of Business  
PhD, Business Economics and Public Policy · (2001 - 2006)

Cornell University  
B.A., Economics and International Relations · (1996 - 2000)