

Donghyun Kang

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ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Erasmus School of Economics

Assistant Professor of Finance

The Netherlands

2024–present

EDUCATION

Copenhagen Business School

Ph.D. in Finance

Denmark

2024

Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

Visiting Ph.D. student

Hong Kong

2022

Tilburg University

Research Master in Finance

The Netherlands

2019

University of Amsterdam

M.Sc. in Finance, *Cum Laude*

The Netherlands

2017

Yonsei University

Bachelor of Business Administration

South Korea

2016

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Corporate Finance, Bankruptcy and Financial Distress, Machine Learning and Text Analysis

WORKING PAPERS

1. **“Wealth Protection in Bankruptcy and Serial Entrepreneurship” (job market paper)**

Award: *Financial News & KAFA Doctoral Student Dissertation Award*

I study whether wealth protection in personal bankruptcy provides a second chance to failed entrepreneurs. I exploit windfall wealth from inheritances to proxy for exogenous variation in personal wealth after bankruptcy. Windfall wealth increases reentry to business *only* among entrepreneurs who did not experience severe losses in personal income or wealth before bankruptcy. Those who respond to windfall wealth by starting new businesses have lower profits, indicating their lower entrepreneurial quality. Overall, the findings suggest that bankruptcy policies increasing wealth protection can promote serial entrepreneurship, but their effectiveness is limited by low entrepreneurial quality and personal experience of severe losses.

2. **“Biased Judges? Judge Characteristics and Bankruptcy Outcomes”**

Award: *Best Dissertation Award at Conference on Asia-Pacific Financial Markets*

Exploiting random assignment of judges to corporate bankruptcy filings, I examine the effect of judge characteristics on outcomes. First, I find that cases assigned to judges who grew up during the Great Depression are more likely to emerge from bankruptcy, whereas those assigned to judges with economics training and conservative political ideology are less likely to. Second, I show that case duration is shorter (longer) when the potential case outcome is consistent (inconsistent) with judges’ preferences. Third, the judge characteristics do not correlate with post-emergence outcomes. Overall, the findings suggest that the effect of judge characteristics may be concentrated in marginal cases where the economic benefits of liquidation versus emergence are not significantly different.

WORK IN PROGRESS

1. “Disqualifying Managerial Misconduct in Corporate Bankruptcy”

(with S. Lakshmi Naaraayanan and Kasper Meisner Nielsen)

This study examines the introduction of bankruptcy quarantines that disqualifies managers engaging in negligent business practices for up to 3 years. Using administrative register data from Denmark, we document that disqualifications discourage future business activity: After the quarantine, individuals are 15% less likely to be managers or business owners. Disqualified individuals are also less likely to be involved in future bankruptcies or future criminal activities. At the same time, the fraction of family members of disqualified individuals who are active in a management role increases from 10% to 30%. We also find changes to the managerial labor pool, resulting in more CEOs with a criminal record and those that rely solely on social transfers. Overall, our findings provide the first systematic evidence on the governance consequences of disqualifying managerial misconduct in corporate bankruptcies.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND SEMINARS

2025 MFA Annual Meeting*

2024 Erasmus University Rotterdam, NYU Stern, American Law and Economics Association Annual Meeting, Durham Conference for Finance Job Market Papers, FMA Asia/Pacific Conference, Financial Fraud, Misconduct and Market Manipulation Conference[†], CSR, the Economy and Financial Markets[†], Research in Behavioral Finance Conference, Boca-ECGI Corporate Finance and Governance Conference (2x)*, Conference on Empirical Legal Studies (2x)*, Paris December Finance Meeting*

2023 Stockholm School of Economics (accounting)[†], Copenhagen Business School, MFA Annual Meeting, FMA Annual Meeting (Doctoral Student Consortium), Australasian Finance and Banking Conference, Young Scholars Nordic Finance Workshop, PhD Nordic Finance Workshop

2022 Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Financial Markets and Corporate Governance Conference PhD Symposium, AsianFA Annual Conference, Finance Forum, FMA European Conference, Annual Conference of the European Association of Law and Economics, FMA Annual Meeting (Main & Doctoral Student Consortium & Special PhD Paper Presentation), Conference on Asia-Pacific Financial Markets

2020–2021 Copenhagen Business School

(* denotes presentations scheduled; [†] denotes presentation by coauthor)

DISCUSSANT

2024 FMA Asia/Pacific Conference, National PhD Workshop in Finance at the Swedish House of Finance, Boca-ECGI Corporate Finance and Governance Conference*, Conference on Empirical Legal Studies*, Paris December Finance Meeting*, Dutch Financial Economists Conference*

2023 MFA Annual Meeting, Nova SBE Final Countdown, Australasian Finance and Banking Conference

2022 AsianFA Annual Conference, Finance Forum, FMA European Conference, FMA Annual Meeting

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Instructor, Undergraduate, Entrepreneurial Finance, 2024
- Instructor, Postgraduate, Advanced Seminar in Behavioral Finance, 2024
- Teaching Assistant, Undergraduate, Corporate Finance, 2020–2021, 2023
- Teaching Assistant, Postgraduate, Empirical Finance, 2024

AWARDS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND HONORS

- Financial News & KAFA Doctoral Student Dissertation Award; Shinhan Bank & KAFA Scholarship for Ph.D. Students; AFA Travel Grant; EFA Travel Grant, 2023
- Best Dissertation Award at Conference on Asia-Pacific Financial Markets; Shinhan Bank & KAFA Scholarship for Ph.D. Students, 2022
- Augustinus Fonden; Otto Mønstedts Fond; William Demant Fonden, 2021
- Koopmans Scholarship, Tilburg University, 2017–2019
- Top 9 Finalist in New Economic Talent Competition for the Thesis from University of Amsterdam, 2018
- Orange Tulip Scholarship and the Holland Scholarship, University of Amsterdam, 2016
- Dean's List, University of Scranton (on exchange), Spring & Fall 2013
- Scholarship Honors, Yonsei University, Spring 2012

PERSONAL

- Programming skills: Python, Stata, \LaTeX
- Passed Level I of the CFA Program, 2013
- Military service: Republic of Korea Air Force, Seongnam, Korea, 2009–2011
- Exchange program to University of Scranton (Scranton, PA), 2013
- Languages: English (fluent), Korean (native), French (basic)