

# Dietrich E. Vollrath

---

Department of Economics  
University of Houston  
201 McElhinney Hall  
Houston, TX 77204-5019

E-mail: [devollrath@uh.edu](mailto:devollrath@uh.edu)  
Web: <http://www.growthecon.com>  
Office: 713-743-3806  
Fax: 713-743-3798

---

PROFESSIONAL  
AFFILIATIONS      Chair, Dept. of Economics, University of Houston, 2019-present  
Professor, University of Houston, 2017-present  
Associate Professor, University of Houston, 2011-2017  
Assistant Professor, University of Houston, 2005-2011  
Visiting Professor, Dartmouth College, (Summers) 2011-2019

EDUCATION      Brown University, Ph.D., Economics, 2005  
Brown University, M.A., Economics, 2004  
University of Michigan, B.A., Economics, 1994

BOOKS      Vollrath, D., *Fully Grown: Why a Stagnant Economy is a Sign of Success*, University of Chicago Press, 2020.  
Jones, C. I., and Vollrath, D., *Introduction to Economic Growth*, 3rd Edition, W.W. Norton and Co., New York, NY, 2013.

PUBLICATIONS      R. Jedwab, D. Vollrath. The urban mortality transition and poor country urbanization. *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics*, 11(1):223-75, 2019.  
M. Eberhardt, D. Vollrath. The effect of agricultural technology on the speed of development. *World Development*, 109:483-496, 2018.  
D. Gollin, R. Jedwab, D. Vollrath. Urbanization with and without industrialization. *Journal of Economic Growth*, 21(1):35-70, 2016.  
R. Jedwab, D. Vollrath. Urbanization without growth in historical perspective. *Explorations in Economic History*, 58(C):1-21, 2015.  
S. G. Craig, E. C. Hoang, D. Vollrath. Household response to government debt: Evidence from life insurance holdings. *Journal of Money, Credit and Banking*, 47(5):819-845, 2015.  
D. Vollrath. The efficiency of human capital allocations in developing countries. *Journal of Development Economics*, 108:106-118, 2014.  
I. Hoxha, S. Kalemli-Ozcan, D. Vollrath. How big are the gains from international financial integration? *Journal of Development Economics*, 103(C):90-98, 2013.  
D. Vollrath. Measuring aggregate agricultural labor effort in dual economies. *Eurasian Economic Review*, 3(1):39-58, June 2013.  
D. Vollrath. Inequality and school funding in the rural united states, 1890. *Explorations in Economic History*, 50(2):267-284, 2013.  
D. Vollrath. Land tenure, population, and long-run growth. *Journal of Population Economics*, 25(3):833-852, July 2012.

D. Vollrath. The agricultural basis of comparative development. *Journal of Economic Growth*, 16:343-370, 2011.

D. Vollrath. The dual economy in long-run development. *Journal of Economic Growth*, 14(4):287-312, 2009.

D. Vollrath. How important are dual economy effects for aggregate productivity? *Journal of Development Economics*, 88(2):325-334, 2009.

O. Galor, O. Moav, D. Vollrath. Inequality in landownership, the emergence of human-capital promoting institutions, and the great divergence. *Review of Economic Studies*, 76(1):143-179, 2009.

D. Vollrath. Land distribution and international agricultural productivity. *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 89(1):202-216, 2007.

BOOK CHAPTERS     A. Adeyinka, S. Salau, D. Vollrath. Structural change and the possibilities for future growth in Nigeria. In M. McMillan, D. Rodrik, C. Sepulveda, editors, *Structural Change, Fundamentals, and Growth: A Framework and Case Studies*. IFPRI, 2017.

POPULAR PRESS     [Growth Economics Blog](#), 2013-present

[The tech revolution hasn't revolutionized economic growth](#). *The Hill*, Jul. 2018.

[Slumping productivity: We're victims of our own success](#). *The Hill*, Jun. 2017.

Evolving research on growth and development. *Development Policy Review*, 34(6), 907-910, Nov. 2016.

[There's no limit to Google's market power](#). *New York Times Room for Debate*, April 28th, 2016.

A brief history of economic growth. *Perspectives*, King's College London, Fall 2015.

SERVICE ACTIVITIES     Associate Graduate Director, Department of Economics, 2014-2019

Graduate admissions director, Department of Economics, 2013-2019

Macroeconomic Hiring Committee, Department of Economics, 2007, 2013, 2014, 2016, 2019

Executive Committee, Department of Economics, 2012-2014, 2015-2017

Dissertation Fellowship Committee, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, 2012

Ross Lence Teaching Award Selection Committee, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, 2013, 2015, 2016

PROFESSIONAL  
ACTIVITIES     Co-Editor, *Economic Inquiry*, 2015-present

Associate Editor, *Journal of Development Economics*, 2015-present

Associate Editor, *Economic Inquiry*, 2009-2012

Member, *American Economic Association*

Referee, *American Economic Review*, *Journal of Political Economy*, *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics*, *Journal of Economic Growth*, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, *Review of Economic Studies*, *Journal of Development Economics*, *Macroeconomic Dynamics*, *Review of Development Economics*, *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, *Agricultural Economics*, *Economica*, *Resource and Energy Economics*, *Journal of Public Economics*, *Review of Economic Dynamics*, *Scandinavian Journal of Economics*, *Canadian Journal of Economics*, *Economic Inquiry*, *Journal of the European Economic Association*

## ADVISING

*Dissertation Advisor:* Mike Hsu (2016, Hamilton College), Nadya Abramava (2016, Hanover Research), Edson Sobrinho (2015, Office of the Presidency of Brazil), Mahboobeh Asghari (2015, Winona State), Doruk Ilgaz (2013, FactSet), Elisabetta Gentile (2012, National University Singapore)

*Dissertation Committee:* Yewande Olapade (2019), Celine Boulenger (2017), Subash Khattry (2017), Amrita Dhar (2016), Volodymyr Korsun (2015), Wen Long (2015), Jarrod Hunt (2014), Emiliano Lutini (2014), Sine Tepe (2014), Lena Ogrokhina (2013), Gokcen Ogruk (2013), Shreyasee Das (2012), Teodora Stoica (2012), Edward Hoang (2010), Amelie Carlton (2010), Roberto Coronado (2010), Indrit Hoxha (2009), Sreenath Majumder (2009), Parul Mathur (2009), Cahit Guven (2008), Mayank Guatam (2007), Levent Bulut (2007)

*Undergraduate Thesis:* Sean Soares (2013), Monalisa Chandra (2008), Shreyasee Das (2007)

## TEACHING

Intermediate Macroeconomics (Undergraduate, UH), 2005–2012

Econometrics (Undergraduate, Dartmouth), 2011–2019

Economic Growth (Undergraduate, UH), 2014–2019

Macroeconomics I (Graduate, UH), 2006, 2007, 2009–2015, 2017–2019

Growth and Development (Graduate, UH), 2007, 2008, 2011–2019

3rd Year Research Workshop (Graduate, UH), 2014–2018

## HONORS AND AWARDS

Winner, Ross Lence Teaching Award, 2010

Finalist, Provost Teaching Award, 2010

Finalist, Ross Lence Teaching Award, 2009

University of Houston New Faculty Grant, 2006

Dissertation Fellowship, Brown University, 2004–2005

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development Fellowship, 2002–2004

## INVITED PRESENTATIONS

2019: Sewanee (Georgescu-Roegen Lecture)

2018: Dalhousie University, York University, Southern Economic Association

2017: Deep-rooted Factors in Comparative Development (Brown), Texas A&M Ag Econ, George Washington University

2016: McGill University, CESifo (Munich), DEGIT (U. of Nottingham)

2015: George Mason University, Clemson, LSU, Southern Economic Association

2014: Historical Persistence in Comparative Development (Williams College)

2013: NBER Growth Meeting (San Francisco), World Bank Agriculture and Poverty workshop

2012: South Florida University, World Bank Structural Change Conference, University of Oklahoma, Southern Economic Association Meetings

2011: Texas A&M University, Indiana University, Williams College, NBER Growth Meeting (discussant)

2010: NBER Growth Meeting (San Francisco), Center for Study of African Economies Conference (Oxford), World Bank Land Conference, CEPR Workshop on Sustained Economic Growth (Barcelona)  
2009: Northeast University Development Conference (NEUDC), University of Michigan  
2008: IEFS Winter Meetings, Southern Economic Association Meetings, University of Copenhagen  
2007: NBER IFM Summer Meeting, NBER EFG Summer Meeting, Baylor University  
2006: Rice University  
2005: University of Chicago Graduate School of Business, Clemson University, University of Houston, Hunter College (CUNY), United States Naval Academy  
2004: Northeast University Development Conference (NEUDC), International Monetary Fund, Brown University

WORK EXPERIENCE Andersen Consulting, 1995-1997  
PriceWaterhouseCoopers Consulting, 1997-1999  
Independent computer systems contractor, 1999-2000

PERSONAL Married, two children  
Citizenship: US  
Languages: English (native), German (surprisingly poor)