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**Department of Economics**

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**GENDER:** F

**CITIZENSHIP:** Chinese

**PRE-DOCTORAL STUDIES:**

10/2009 – 06/2011	MRes Economics, London School of Economics and Political Science
09/2007 – 07/2009	MPhil Economics, Chinese University of Hong Kong (First in Class)
09/2003 – 07/2007	Bachelor Economics, Nanjing University, P. R. China (First Class Honours)

**DOCTORAL STUDIES:** London School of Economics

DATES: 10/2011 - present

THESIS TITLE: "Three Essays on Cross-Sectional Inequality and Intergenerational Mobility in China"

EXPECTED COMPLETION DATE: May 2015

THESIS ADVISOR AND REFERENCES:

Professor Robin Burgess  
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Chinese University of Hong Kong  
Shatin, NT  
Hong Kong  
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**DESIRED TEACHING AND RESEARCH:**

Primary Fields: Development Economics, Labour Economics

Secondary Fields: Public Policy, Economic History, Political Economy

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE:**

10/2013 – 12/2013	Social Research Methods in Developing Countries (MSc) London School of Economics and Political Science
09/2008 – 12/2008	Introductory Mathematical Economics (undergraduate) Department of Economics, Chinese University of Hong Kong
09/2008 – 12/2008	Perspectives in Economics (undergraduate) Department of Economics, Chinese University of Hong Kong
01/2008 – 04/2008	Mathematical Methods in Economics III (undergraduate) Department of Economics, Chinese University of Hong Kong
09/2007 – 12/2007	Economics of Derivatives (undergraduate) Department of Economics, Chinese University of Hong Kong

**RELEVANT POSITIONS AND ACTIVITIES:**

07/2013	2 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Summer School on Socioeconomic Inequality, The University of Chicago, U.S.A
06/2008 – 08/2008	Research assistant to Professor Junsen Zhang, Hong Kong

**LANGUAGES**

Native Spoken Mandarin Chinese	Fluent Spoken English, Cantonese Chinese	Beginner Spoken French
Native Written Mandarin Chinese	Fluent Written English, Cantonese Chinese	Beginner Written French

**HONORS, SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS:**

10/2012 – 06/2015	Chinese State-Sponsored Scholarship Program for Oversea Graduate Students
10/2011 – 06/2012	Postgraduate Research Scholarship, London School of Economics
09/2009 – 07/2011	Guen Scholarship in Economics, London School of Economics
09/2007 – 06/2009	Postgraduate Studentship, Chinese University of Hong Kong
06/2009	Award of Best Thesis, Department of Economics, Chinese University of Hong Kong
07/2008	Highest GPA Prize, Department of Economics, Chinese University of Hong Kong
03/2007	Undergraduate Student Prize, Nanjing University
09/2003 – 06/2006	People's Scholarship, Nanjing University

**MEMBERSHIP TO PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATIONS:**

American Economic Association, American Political Science Association, Chinese Economic Society, European Association of Labour Economists, European Economic Association, Royal Economic Society

**COMPLETED PAPERS:**

***Job Market Paper:***

**“Does Adversity Affect Long-Term Consumption and Financial Behaviour? Evidence from China’s Rustication Programme”**, October 2014.

In this paper I examine the long-term consequence of adversity on consumption and financial behaviour, using the largest forced migration experiment in history. From 1966 to 1978, 17 million urban youths in China, mostly junior or senior high school graduates, were sent to the countryside to do farm work for an average of three to four years in a rustication programme. Using data from the mini-census in 2005, I find that the rusticated generation behaves more conservatively than the non-rusticated generations in the long term, as they consume less housing and purchase more insurance and pension. In addition to the cross-generational influence, I investigate the intra-generational effect of rustication with data from the Chinese Household Income Project and the Chinese Twins Survey in 2002. A similar conservative behavioural pattern is revealed. Individuals with rustication experience spend less on housing, accumulate more saving and insurance, and invest less in risky assets, compared to their age-eligible but non-rusticated peers. Applying a habit-forming model, I suggest that one interpretation for the conservative behaviour lies in the habits formed during adversity. The results shed light on how a policy, especially in the early stage of life, influences one generation in the long term.

***Other Papers:***

**“Intergenerational Income Persistence and Transmission through Identity: Evidence from Urban China”**, September 2014, *submitted*.

In this paper I investigate the intergenerational income association and its transmission channels amid China’s economic transition period. The estimated intergenerational income elasticity increases by 40% for cohorts educated before and after the market reform. In the post-reform era, it is even 56% higher among households with above-average income than that in households with below-average income. In addition, I examine the mechanism for the income transmission across generations. Besides the conventional channel of education, I innovatively estimate the contribution from political and occupational identities. I discover that schooling is a leading contributor for all families before the market reform, and for households with below-average income in the post-reform era. However, a new transmission channel, political identity, plays a leading role among households with above-average income in the post-reform era. It sheds light on the necessity of intensifying the economic reform within social and political reforms in contemporary China.

**“Glorified Mothers of Sons: FE and IV Estimates of the Effect of Sex Composition on Parental Time Allocation in Rural China”**, with Junjian Yi (National University of Singapore) and Junsen Zhang (Chinese University of Hong Kong), September 2014, *submitted*.

This paper empirically examines the effects of sons versus daughters on parental joint time allocation between the labor market and household. Using data from the China Health and Nutrition Survey, we apply a fixed-effects model to control for cross-household heterogeneity on son preference. We find that the presence of sons significantly reduces the maternal time spent on household chores, which indicates increased female intra-household bargaining power. However, the effects of sex composition of children on paternal time allocation and maternal time spent in the labor market are weak or mixed. The result is robust to an inclusion of time-varying family socioeconomic status, an instrumental-variable estimation, and an alternative strategy applying private consumption to measure the bargaining outcome. We find that the foregone maternal time on household chores is picked up by grandparents.

**“The Great Gatsby Curve in China: Cross-Sectional Inequality and Intergenerational Mobility”**, with Junjian Yi (National University of Singapore) and Junsen Zhang (Chinese University of Hong Kong), October 2014, *submitted*.

This study examines the temporal patterns of cross-sectional inequality and intergenerational mobility amid China's economic transition and growth. First, we estimate the declining pattern of intergenerational mobility in income and education with respect to cohort. Specifically, a child's rank increases from 0.27 to 0.35 for cohorts born before and after 1970, with one percentile increase in the rank of parents' income. The corresponding rank-rank estimates for intergenerational education mobility are 0.24 and 0.29 respectively. The declining pattern is more significant for females and residents in economically disadvantaged regions, such as rural and western areas. Second, we correlate intergenerational mobility with cross-sectional inequality and find a Great Gatsby Curve with a negative slope in China. Finally, we discuss the structural forces behind the decreasing intergenerational mobility and the negative correlation between cross-sectional inequality and intergenerational mobility, namely, the increase in return to human capital and educational cost, as well as the decentralization of government expenditure on education. Results imply that in China the inequality may increase in the future.

**MEDIA:**

**The Increasing Intergenerational Inequality in China**, with Junjian Yi (National University of Singapore) and Junsen Zhang (Chinese University of Hong Kong), *The Wall Street Journal (Chinese Edition)*, July 29, 2013.

**INVITED PRESENTATION AT SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES:**

08/2014	29 <sup>th</sup> Annual Congress of the European Economic Association and the 68 <sup>th</sup> European Meeting of the Econometric Society, Toulouse, France
04/2014	2014 Annual Conference of the Royal Economic Society, Manchester, United Kingdom
08/2013	8 <sup>th</sup> IZA/World Bank Conference on Employment and Development, Bonn, Germany
08/2013	24 <sup>th</sup> Chinese Economic Association (UK) and 5 <sup>th</sup> Chinese Economic Association (Europe) Annual Conference (CEA), The Hague, The Netherlands
06/2012	26 <sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the European Society for Population Economics (ESPE), Bern, Switzerland
06/2010	24 <sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the European Society for Population Economics (ESPE), Essen, Germany

**VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCES:**

1996 - present	Buddy Scheme in the Hope Project (a Chinese public service project to build schools and help children in poor rural areas)
2007	World Historical and Cultural Cities Exposition, Nanjing, P.R.China
2007	Nursing Home for the Elders, Nanjing, P.R.China
2006	Home for Children with Hearing Disability, Nanjing, P.R.China

**IT SKILLS:**

Stata, LaTeX, Beamer, Scientific WorkPlace, SPSS, Mathematica, Matlab.