Kenn Chua

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EDUCATION

University of Minnesota, Ph.D., Applied Economics, 2022 (expected)

Job Market Paper: The Impacts of School Finance on Student Achievement

Main Advisors: Paul Glewwe and Elizabeth Davis

Dissertation Committee: Marc Bellemare and Aaron Sojourner

Centro de Estudios Monetarios y Financieros (CEMFI), M.A., Economics, 2014 University of the Philippines - Diliman, B.S., Economics (*Magna Cum Laude*), 2011

FIELDS OF INTEREST Primary: Applied Microeconomics, Development Economics Secondary: Labor Economics, Environmental Economics

Publications

Miller, S., Chua, K., Coggins, J. and Mohtadi, H., 2021. "Heat Waves, Climate Change, and Economic Output". *Journal of the European Economic Association*.

Bellemare, M.F., Chua, K., Santamaria, J. and Vu, K., 2020. "Tenurial security and agricultural investment: Evidence from Vietnam." *Food Policy*, 94, p.101839

WORKING PAPERS "The Impacts of School Finance on Student Achievement." [Job Market Paper]

Abstract: I investigate whether raising school operational finance improve students' performance in school and their education investment decisions. To do this, I assemble a novel dataset linking school finance records to survey and administrative data, which allow me to study the impact of a large-scale reform that raised school operations budgets in the Philippines. To identify the effects of the policy, I adopt an instrumented difference-in-difference (IV-DID) design that leverages plausibly exogenous variation in school finance based on reforms to the formula used to calculate the budget. My results show that a 10% increase in school budgets lowers the incidence of child labor among secondary-school aged children by 1.75 percentage points and raises the test scores of elementary and secondary school students in selected subject domains.

"Peer Effects in Learning and the Formation of Academic Interests"

"Effective Training Through a Mobile App: Evidence from a Randomized Field Experiment" (with Qingxiao Li and Khandker Wahedur Rahman)

Works in Progress

"Parental Education and Child Investment"

"The Effects of Higher Education Access on Teen Fertility"

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Teaching Experience

- Instructor, Principles of Microeconomics, University of Minnesota, Fall 2020
- Teaching Assistant, Principles of Microeconomics, University of Minnesota, Fall 2017; Fall 2019; Spring 2020

Professional Experience

- Economic Consultant, Asian Development Bank, Manila, Philippines, 2021-2022
- Research Assistant for Prof. Paul Glewwe, University of Minnesota, 2021-2022
- Research Assistant for Prof. Steve Miller, University of Minnesota, 2018-2019
- Economic Consultant, UNESCO GEM Report, Paris, France, 2016
- Economic Consultant, Asian Development Bank, Manila, Philippines, 2014-2016

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS Applied Economics Graduate Program Fellowship, University of Minnesota, 2016 - 2020 Master Program Fellowship, CEMFI, 2012 - 2014

Computer **SKILLS**

Stata, R (Tidyverse, Geospatial, Tidymodels, Shiny), Python, L'TEX

LANGUAGES

English (Native), Filipino (Native), Spanish (Advanced Beginner), Mandarin (Advanced Beginner)

CITIZENSHIP / Visa

U.S.A. F-1, Hong Kong Permanent Resident, Philippine Citizen

REFERENCES

Professor Paul Glewwe

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Professor Marc Bellemare

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Professor Elizabeth Davis

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Professor Aaron Sojourner

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