

## ALEXANDER THOMAS WHALLEY

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### Current Positions

2020- Research Fellow, Westman Centre for Real Estate Studies  
2020- Associate Professor of Business, University of Calgary  
2016- Associate Professor of Economics, University of Calgary

### Previous Positions

2022-2023 Visiting Senior Fellow, London School of Economics - Management  
2014-2016 Associate Professor, University of California – Merced (with tenure)  
2006-2014 Assistant Professor, University of California – Merced  
2014 Visiting Fellow, Hoover Institution, Stanford University  
2014, 2016 Visiting Scholar, Western University  
2012 Visiting Scholar, University of California – Berkeley  
1999-2001 Research Analyst, NBER (Health Care)

### Affiliations

2024- Invited Researcher, J-PAL (Science for Progress Initiative)  
2017- Lab Economist, Creative Destruction Lab  
2009-2021 Research Economist, NBER (Development of the American Economy)  
2009- Faculty Affiliate, UC Center for Energy and Environmental Economics  
2007- Associate Research Fellow, SKOPE, Oxford University

### Education

2001-2006 University of Maryland – College Park, Ph.D. in Economics  
1998-1999 University of British Columbia, M.A. in Economics  
1995-1998 University of Western Ontario, B.A. in Economics  
1994-1995 University of Nottingham, Undergraduate Economics Coursework

### Working Papers

“Moonshot: Public R&D and Economic Growth,” with Shawn Kantor, *American Economic Review*, Conditionally Accepted.

“Are Program Participants Good Evaluators?” with Jeffrey Smith and Nathaniel Wilcox. *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, Revise and Resubmit.

## **Published Papers**

“150 years of the Geography of Innovation,” with Michael Andrews, *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, 94(May):1-8 (May 2022).

“Research Proximity and Productivity: Long-Term Evidence from Agriculture,” with Shawn Kantor, *Journal of Political Economy*, 127(2):819-854 (April 2019).

“Hierarchical Accountability in Government,” with Razvan Vlaicu, *Journal of Public Economics*, 134: 85-99, (February 2016).

“Knowledge Spillovers from Research Universities: Evidence from Endowment Value Shocks,” with Shawn Kantor, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 96 (1): 171-188 (March 2014).

“Spending Wisely? How Resources Affect Knowledge Production in Universities,” with Justin Hicks, *Economic Inquiry*, 52(1): 35-55, (January 2014).

“Elected Versus Appointed Policymakers: Evidence from City Treasurers,” *Journal of Law and Economics*, 56(1): 39-81 (February 2013).

“Green Infrastructure: The Effects of Urban Mass Transit on Air Quality,” with Yihsu Chen, *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, 4(1): 58-97 (February 2012).

“Do Housing Bubbles Generate Fiscal Bubbles? Evidence from California Cities,” with Razvan Vlaicu, *Public Choice*, 149(1-2): 89-108 (October 2011).

“Education and Labor Market Risk: Understanding the Role of Data Cleaning,” *Economics of Education Review*, 30(3): 528-545 (June 2011).

## **Work in Progress**

“Tech Hubs” with Shawn Kantor and Jason Barron - In preparation for *Journal of Economic Perspectives*.

“Human Capital, Ideas, and Growth: Evidence From Vietnam Draft Avoidance” with Shawn Kantor and Arthur Novaes de Amorim.

“International Technology Transfer and Growth in American Agriculture,” with Jacob Moscona and Karthik Sastry.

“Parental Background in the Labour Market” with Jean-William Laliberte

## **Other Publications**

“The Geography of Innovation between 1866 and Today,” with Mike Andrews, VOXEU: CEPR, 20 February 2021; <https://voxeu.org/article/geography-innovation-between-1866-and-today>

“Extending the Reach of Research Universities: A proposal for Productivity Growth in Lagging

Communities” with Jason Baron and Shawn Kantor, Brookings Institution, Hamilton Project, Policy Proposal 2018-11, September 2018.

“Governments can’t find the ‘secret sauce’ of Silicon Valley” with Trevor Tombe, *Financial Post*, November 29<sup>th</sup> 2016.

“Review of Art and Science in Breeding: Creating Better Chickens by Margaret E. Derry,” *Journal of Economic History*, Vol .73, No. 3, pp. 892-893 (September 2013).

Are Participants Good Evaluators? with Jeffrey Smith and Nathaniel Wilcox, book manuscript, Conditionally Accepted, W.E. Upjohn Institute.

“Do Public Subsidies for Universities Affect Regional Economic Development?” with Shawn Kantor, TIAA-CREF Research Institute, *Research Dialogue*, May (91).

“Coins and Coinage” in *Reader's Guide to British History* Loades, David (Ed.), Routledge: London, UK, 2003.

“Urban Development: Medieval Period” in *Reader's Guide to British History* Loades, David (Ed.), Routledge: London, UK, 2003.

### **Resting Papers**

“The Power of Attention: Do Rankings Affect the Financial Resources of Public Colleges?” with Ginger Jin.

“Racial Differences in the Insurance Value of Human Capital”

### **Grants**

2023-2029	<i>Alberta Major Innovation Fund</i> , with 9 others (Team Member), \$CAD 7,000,000.
2023-2026	<i>Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council</i> , with Shawn Kantor, (PI), \$CAD 99,720
2019-2021	Global Research Initiative in Sustainable Low Carbon Unconventional Resources, with Steven Larter (Co-PI), \$CAD 239,000
2018-2022	<i>Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council</i> , with Greg Wright, (PI), \$CAD 96,824
2018	<i>Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council</i> , Partnership for the Organization of Innovation and New Technologies, (Co-Applicant) with 24 others, \$CAD 2,499,723.
2017	<i>National Sciences and Engineering Research Council</i> , CREATE Materials for Electrochemical Energy Solutions, (Co-Applicant) with 9 others, \$CAD 1,650,000.
2017	<i>National Bureau of Economic Research</i> , Valuing Health Research Network, \$US 4,000.
2012-2015	<i>National Science Foundation</i> , with Shawn Kantor (Co-PI), \$US 125,000.
2012-2013	<i>University of California Center for Energy and Environmental Economics</i> , with Christian Dippel (Co-PI), \$US 17,000.
2009-2011	<i>National Science Foundation</i> , with Shawn Kantor (Co-PI), \$US 311,020.
2008-2009	<i>National Bureau of Economic Research Innovation Policy and Economy</i> , \$US 10,000.

2008                    *UC Merced Graduate and Research Council*, \$US 5,000.  
 2006-2010           *University of California Miguel Contreras Labor Research Fund*, with Todd Neumann and Katie Winder (Co-PI), \$US 49,969.

### **Invited Seminar Presentations**

Aarhus University; Bocconi University; Boston University; Brown University; California State University – East Bay; California State University – Fresno; École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL); Florida State University; Harvard University; Imperial College London (Business); Institute for International Economic Studies – Stockholm; Korea University; London Business School; London School of Economics; Maastricht University; Naval Postgraduate School; Oxford University; Public Policy Institute of California; Policy Studies Institute (London); Queen’s University; Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute; Sant’Anna School of Advanced Studies; Santa Clara University; Stanford University; Stockholm University; Syracuse University; Texas A&M University; United States Department of Agriculture – Economic Research Service; University of Arizona; University of Bern; University of Calgary; University of Cambridge; University of Chicago; University College – London; University of California – Berkeley; University of California – Davis; University of California – Merced; University of California – Santa Barbara; University of Houston/Rice University; University of Illinois – Urbana Champaign; University of Maryland – College Park; University of Pittsburgh; University of Rochester; University of Virginia; University of Warwick; University of Waterloo; University of Toronto; University of Zurich; Vanderbilt University; World Intellectual Property Organization.

### **Conference Presentations**

Conference on Urban and Regional Economics; Econometric Society; Urban Economics Association; American Real Estate & Urban Economic Association; Darden & Cambridge Judge Entrepreneurship and Innovation; UC Center for Energy and Environmental Economics; Barcelona GSE Summer Forum; RCEF 2012; National Bureau of Economic Research – Development of the American Economy; All-UC Economic History; American Economic Association; Urban Economics Association; Mid-West Political Science Association; Local Public Choice Conference; National Bureau of Economic Research – Economics of Religion; National Bureau of Economic Research – Higher Education; Canadian Economics Association; Canadian Public Economics Group; Society of Labor Economists; IZA/SOLE Transatlantic Meeting of Labor Economists; University of California–Merced Conference on the Causes and Consequences of Increasing Earnings Inequality; IZA/IFAU Conference on Labor Market Policy Evaluation; IZA/CEPR European Summer Symposium in Labor Economics.

### **Referee**

*American Economic Review; American Economic Journal: Applied; American Economic Journal: Economic Policy; American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics; American Economic Journal: Microeconomics; American Journal of Agricultural Economics; American Journal of Political Science; B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis and Policy; British Journal of Industrial Relations; Criminology; Econometrica; Economic Inquiry; Economic Journal; Economics of Education Review; Explorations in Economic History; Industrial and Labor Relations Review; Journal of Development Economics; Journal of Economic Geography; Journal of Economic History; Journal of Economics and Management Strategy; Journal of Environmental Economics and Management; Journal of the European Economic Association; Journal of Human Resources; Journal of Labor Economics,*

*Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization; Journal of Policy Analysis and Management; Journal of Political Economy; Journal of Public Economics; Journal of Urban Economics; Labour Economics; Management Science; Proceedings and the National Academy of Sciences; Quarterly Journal of Economics; Public Choice; Regional Science and Urban Economics; Routledge; Science-Advances; State and Local Government Review; Research Policy; Review of Economic Studies; Review of Economics and Statistics.*

### **Other Review Activity**

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, grant reviewer

National Science Foundation, grant reviewer

Association of Environmental and Resources Economists Summer Conference 2015, Program Committee.

Urban Economics Association Conference 2020, Program Committee

### **Conference Organization**

2024 Co-Organizer, Banff Innovation, Productivity and Growth Conference

2018 Co-Organizer, Canadian Institute for Advanced Research, Smart Inclusive Cities Conference

2007 Co-Organizer, UC Merced Conference on the Causes and Consequences of Increasing Earnings Inequality

### **Awards and Recognitions**

2020 JGBS Inspiration Lecturer, *O.P. Jindal Global Business School*

2020 Student Union Teaching Excellence Award, *University of Calgary*

2016 Research Achievement Award, Schulich School of Engineering, *University of Calgary*

2012 Mentioned in graduating student survey as a faculty member making a meaningful impact, *University of California – Merced*

2004 Doctoral Research Fellowship, *Economic Club of Washington*

1999 Fulbright Scholarship (declined)

1998 J. Douglas Ferguson Historical Research Undergraduate Essay Award

1998 Sir Arthur Currie Memorial Scholarship

### **Graduate Student Supervision**

Apoorva Babar, Supervisor, Ph.D., In Progress

Tazia Kushboo, Supervisor, Ph.D., In Progress

Arthur Novaes de Amorim, Supervisor, Ph.D. 2023; First Placement: Analysis Group

Mohsen Ramezanpour, Supervisor Post-Doctoral Scholar, 2021; First Placement: Moderna

Daniel Ma, Supervisor, Ph.D., 2021; First Placement: Statistics Canada

Mokhtar Tabari, Supervisor, Ph.D. 2020; First Placement: University of British Columbia, Post-Doc

Safoura Moeeni, Co-Supervisor, Ph.D. 2019; First Placement: Mount Allison University, Post-Doc

Justin Hicks, Supervisor, Ph.D. 2012; First Placement: ITIF, Senior Economic Policy Analyst

Amy Leung, Supervisor, M.A. 2009 Placement: Economics Instructor, Cosumnes River College

### **Undergraduate Student Mentoring**

2024 Tanjim Hossain, Program for Undergraduate Research Experience (PURE), Advisor

2017 Tiara Kerr, Program for Undergraduate Research Experience (PURE), Advisor

2017 Joseph Girgis, Alberta Innovates Youth Researcher Summer (HYRS), Advisor

2017 Rachel Mao, MITACS Globalink Summer Research Intern, Advisor  
 2017 Caroline Li, MITACS Globalink Summer Research Intern, Advisor

## Teaching

*Ph.D.*: Labour Economics; PhD Research Workshop; Topics in Labor and Public Economics; Data Science Capstone

*MBA*: Real Estate Disruptions

*Undergraduate*: Real Estate Disruptions; Data Science Capstone; Econometrics I; Econometrics II; Topics in Microeconomic Theory; Organizational Strategy, Urban and Regional Economics, Intermediate Macroeconomics, Human Resource Economics, Undergraduate Research, Community Development Analytics (Engineering Service Learning).

## Courses Developed

*Business of Quantum Computing II* - a professional master's class where students learn how startups build a value proposition based on emerging technologies.

*Business of Quantum Computing I* - a professional master's class where students learn how established companies assess the commercial potential of emerging technologies.

*Real Estate Disruptions* – a commerce class discussing emerging technologies and how they are disrupting the real estate market.

*Data Science Capstone* – an economics capstone class where teams of economics students work with an external partner to develop a data science solution for an external partner.

*Community Development Analytics* - an experiential learning class where a multi-discipline team of students developed a GIS solution for local government.

*Organizational Strategy* - a commerce class where students apply research findings from organizational economics to understand an organizational enigma that they have observed.

*Urban and Regional Economics* - an economics class where students apply research findings from urban and regional economics to recommend policies to the local government of their hometowns.

## Service

National Academy of Sciences

2024 Data and Metrics for the DOD SBIR and STTR Programs: A Workshop, Expert Panelist

University of Calgary:

2024- University of Calgary SUPPORT Committee, Vice-Provost Research

2019-2022 Economics Advisory Committee, Economics

2019-2022 Chair Research Activities Committee, Economics

2019-2020 Canada Research Chair Hiring Committee, Economics

2018-2019 Graduate Admissions Committee, Economics

2018-2019 Director of Graduate Recruitment, Economics

2018-2020 Untapped Energy Datathon, Board Member

2017- Creative Destruction Lab, Lab Economist

2017-2018 Shortlisting Committee, Economics

2017-2018 Ph.D. Placement Director, Economics

2017-2018 Skunkworks, member

2016-2017 Shortlisting Committee, Economics

2016-2017 Ph.D. Placement Director, Economics

2016-2017 Skunkworks, member

University of California Merced:

2015-2016	Board Member, UC Merced Venture Lab
2015-2016	Undergraduate Chair, Economics
2014-2016	Committee on Committees, UC Merced
2014-2016	Faculty Lead, Analytics of Prosperity, Blum Center UC Merced
2012-2013	Graduate Student Research Competition, Judge
2012-2016	Faculty Accreditation Organizer, Economics
2012-2013	Junior Search Committee, Economics
2012-2013	Senior Search Committee, Economics
2011-2012	Junior Search Committee, Economics
2011-2012	Senior Search Committee, Economics
2011-2012	Visiting Assistant Search Committee, Management
2011-2014	Graduate Admissions Committee, Social Sciences
2011-2012	Committee for the Advancement of Graduate Education in the Social Sciences
2011-2012	Management Planning Committee
2010-2016	Official Representative, Wharton Research Data Services
2010-2011	Senior Search Committee, Economics
2008-2009	Senior Search Committee, Economics
2008-2009	Junior Search Committee, Economics
2008-2009	Executive Committee, School of Social Sciences Humanities and Arts
2008	Undergraduate Regents Scholars Selection Committee
2007-2008	Senior Search Committee, Economics
2007-2008	Junior Search Committee, Economics
2006-2007	Senior Search Committee, Economics
2006-2007	Senior Search Committee, Management
2006-2007	Junior Search Committee, Management
2007-2014	Co-Organizer, Economics Seminar
2007	Co-Organizer, UC Merced Conference on the Causes and Consequences of Increasing Earnings Inequality
2006-2014	Official Representative, Interuniversity Consortium for Political and Social Research
2006-2012	Director of Graduate Education, Economics

**Media Mentions**

*National Post* (August 2023), *New York Times* (November 2018), *NBER Digest* (May, 2010), *Governing* (March, 2010), *The Economist* (February, 2010). *Washingtonpost.com* (January, 2010), *Maclean's Magazine* (April, 2009), *Time.com* (April, 2008), *Morse Code* (February 2008), *NBER Digest* (September/October, 2007), *InsideHigherEd.com* (March, 2007).