

# Li Zhang

ROCKWOOL Foundation Berlin  
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<https://lizhangecon.github.io>

## Employment

### ROCKWOOL Foundation Berlin – Institute for the Economy and the Future of Work

Postdoctoral Fellow July 2025 –

### Humboldt University of Berlin

Visiting Scholar July 2025 –

### Centre for Research and Analysis of Migration, University College London

Postdoctoral Research Fellow July 2024 – June 2025

## Education

### The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Ph.D. in Economics July 2024

### Renmin University of China

M.A., Economics June 2019

B.A., Economics June 2017

## Research Interests

Labor Economics, Innovation, Development Economics, Economics of Education

## Research

### Publications

Zhang, Li, Lunyu Xie, & Xinye Zheng (2023). Across a Few Prohibitive Miles: The Impact of the Anti-Poverty Relocation Program in China. *Journal of Development Economics*, 160, 102945.

### Working Papers

Directed Technical Change Under Regulation: Evidence from the Chinese Auto Industry (with Christian Dustmann). *Job Market Paper*.

Migration Restrictions and the Migrant-Native Wage Gap: The Roles of Wage Setting and Sorting (with Naijia Guo, Rongjie Zhang, Ben Zou). Revision requested by *American Economic Review*. Available at SSRN: <http://ssrn.com/abstract=5092829>.

Growing Without Divergence: The Impact of Innovation on Low- and High-skilled Migration in China (with Suqin Ge, Naijia Guo, Zibin Huang, and Junsen Zhang). Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=5329631>.

Is a Better School Better for All? Evidence from Elite Education in China (with Lunyu Xie, Dongli Yu). Available at SSRN: <http://ssrn.com/abstract=4038574>.

- Honorable Mentions, 2021 CES Annual Conference Best Student Paper

Trade Liberalization and Intergenerational Education Mobility: Evidence from China (with Jingxuan Du). Revision requested by *Labour Economics*. Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=5274377>.

Rural Labor Allocation, Risk Insurance, and Temporary Migration (with Yucheng Wang)

## Work in Progress

Co-Ethnic Networks, Ethnic-Specific Amenities, and Wages of Immigrants (with Christian Dustmann)

Job Dynamics and Life-Cycle Wage Growth (with Naijia Guo, Rongjie Zhang, and Ben Zou)

## Conference and Seminar Presentations

- 2025:** RFBerlin Brownbag Seminar (scheduled); BAMS-BSoE Welcome Event (scheduled); RFBerlin-CReAM Workshop (Piemonte)
- 2024:** AASLE Annual Conference (Bangkok); The Chinese University of Hong Kong; RFBerlin-CReAM Workshop (Piemonte); Asian Meeting of Econometric Society (Zhejiang Univ.); SOLE Annual Conference (Portland); RFBerlin Spring Workshop (RFBerlin)
- 2023:** European Winter Meeting of the Econometric Society (UManchester); Hong Kong Economic Association Biennial Conference (HKU, session chair); AASLE Annual Conference (National Taiwan Univ.); Jinan University; The Asian Meeting of the Econometric Society (Tsinghua Univ.); China Economics Annual Conference (SCUT); WEAI International Conference (UMelbourne)
- 2022:** AASLE Annual Conference (UTokyo)
- 2021:** Beijing Normal University; Asia Impact Evaluation Conference (HKUST); Symposium on Contemporary Labor Economics (Xiamen Univ.); HCEO-CEP-CREC Virtual SSSI (virtual); The China Meeting of the Econometric Society (virtual); CES Annual Conference (virtual, session chair)
- 2020:** AAEEA Virtual Meeting (virtual); Annual World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty (cancelled)
- 2019:** International Symposium on Contemporary Labor Economics (CUHK Shenzhen); Sustainable Development Goals (Renmin Univ.); International Conference on China's Development Theory (Renmin Univ.); Conference on Micro-data and Economics Innovation (Jinan Univ.)
- 2018:** Annual Conference of CESA (UTS)

## Teaching Assistant

### The Chinese University of Hong Kong

ECON 3430 Public Finance	Fall 2022–23
ECON 1010 Perspectives in Economics (gave two tutorial sessions)	Fall 2021–22
ECON 3320 Asia-Pacific Economies	Spring 2020–21

## Honors and Awards

**Best Thesis Award**, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, 2025

**The CUHK Reaching Out Award**, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, 2023  
**Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme**, Research Grants Council of Hong Kong, 2020 – 2024  
**CUHK Vice-Chancellor HKPFS Scholarship**, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, 2020 – 2024  
**Outstanding Graduate**, Renmin University of China, 2019  
**National Scholarship**, Ministry of Education of the PRC, 2018, 2019  
**Graduate Student Grant for Overseas Academic Activities**, Renmin University of China, 2018  
**Graduate Student Fellowship**, Renmin University of China, 2017 – 2019  
**Meritorious Winner**, Interdisciplinary Contest in Modeling, 2016

## Journal Reviewer

American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, Journal of Development Economics, Labour Economics, Journal of Economic Geography, Journal of Development Studies, China Economic Review, Population Research and Policy Review

## Skills and Language

**Software:** Stata, Python, MATLAB, Julia, R, LaTeX

**Language:** Chinese (Native, Mandarin and Cantonese), English (Proficient)

## References

### Christian Dustmann

Professor of Economics  
 University College London  
 Director, ROCKWOOL Foundation Berlin (RFBerlin)  
 Director, Centre for Research and Analysis of Migration (CReAM)  
 Email: c.dustmann@ucl.ac.uk

### Naijia Guo

Associate Professor  
 Department of Economics  
 The University of Hong Kong  
 Email: njguo@hku.hk

### Junsen Zhang

Distinguished University Professor  
 School of Economics  
 Zhejiang University  
 Emeritus Professor  
 Department of Economics  
 The Chinese University of Hong Kong  
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### Ben Zou

Associate Professor of Economics  
 Mitch Daniels School of Business  
 Purdue University  
 Email: zou136@purdue.edu