

Mitchell Watt

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

July 2025 - Lecturer in Economics (equivalent to Assistant Professor in the American system)
Monash University

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Market design, microeconomic theory, public policy, business strategy and regulation.

EDUCATION

- 2018 - 2025 Doctor of Philosophy in Economics
Stanford University
Dissertation: *Mechanism Design with Prices in Large Markets*
Primary Advisor: Professor Paul Milgrom
Committee: Professors Andrzej Skrzypacz, Alvin Roth, Shoshana Vasserman, Ravi Jagadeesan
- 2016-2018 Master in Public Policy
Harvard University, John F. Kennedy School of Government
Concentration: Business and Government Policy
Thesis: *Trust mechanisms and online platforms: A regulatory response*
Advisor: Professor Jason Furman
- 2008-2012 Bachelor of Science (Hons.) and Graduate Diploma of Economics
The University of Queensland
Major: Mathematics
Honours Thesis: *Morse Theory: Smooth and Discrete*
Advisor: Professor Stephan Tillmann

WORKING PAPERS

Optimal Redistribution Through Subsidies with Zi Yang Kang (Toronto), *Job Market Paper*

Optimal In-Kind Redistribution with Zi Yang Kang (Toronto), *accepted for presentation at The Twenty-Sixth ACM Conference on Economics and Computation (EC'25)*

A Walrasian Mechanism with Markups for Nonconvex Markets with Paul Milgrom (Stanford), *Conditionally Accepted at The Review of Economic Studies*

Strong Monotonicity and Perturbation-Proofness of Walrasian Equilibrium, *awarded Best Paper by Young Researcher at the Econometric Society Australasian Meeting 2023*

Reducing Congestion in Labor Markets: A Case Study in Simple Market Design with Shoshana Vasserman (Stanford GSB) and John J. Horton (MIT Sloan), *Revise and Resubmit at American Economic Journal: Microeconomics*

Concavity and Convexity of Order Statistics in Sample Size

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Risk aversion and auction design: Theoretical and empirical evidence, *International Journal of Industrial Organization*, 2021, 79:102758.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Commentary on Effective Allocation of Affordable Housing by Nick Arnosti and Peng Shi with Paul Milgrom, Management Science Blog, 2020.

Trust mechanisms and online platforms: A regulatory response with Hubert Wu, Harvard Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Business and Governance, Associate Working Paper Series, No. 97, 2018.

Labor should fight for economic mobility with The Hon. Dr. Jim Chalmers, Chifley Research Centre Blog, 2013.

WORK IN PROGRESS

Who Gets What and When: Dynamic Allocation without Transfers, [preliminary slides](#)

A Bandit Model of Trade with Two-Sided Learning with Yunus Aybas (Texas A&M), [preliminary slides](#)

SEMINARS AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2025	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, University of Warwick, Northwestern University Kellogg School of Management, University of Nebraska–Lincoln, Monash University, European Association of Young Economists, IMD Days, Econometric Society World Congress
2024	21st Annual Berkeley/Columbia/Duke/MIT/Northwestern IO Theory Conference, University of Queensland
2023	Econometric Society Australasian Meeting, 34th Stony Brook International Conference on Game Theory, American Economics Association CSQIEP Mentoring Conference
2022	Twenty-Third ACM Conference on Economics and Computation (EC'22)
2021	NBER Market Design Working Group, Fall Meeting 66

HONORS AND AWARDS

Professional	Journal of Industrial Economics Fellowship (2024), Best Paper by Young Researcher at Econometric Society Australasian Meeting (2023) for <i>Strong monotonicity and perturbation-proofness of Walrasian equilibrium</i>
Stanford University	Gale and Steve Kohlhagen Fellowship in Economics (2024-2025), Koret Fellowship (2021-2023), Ric Weiland Graduate Fellowship (2021-2023), Centennial Teaching Award (2021), Department of Economics Outstanding TA Award (2021)
Harvard University	Dean's Award for Excellence in Student Teaching (2018), John F. Kennedy Fellowship (2016-2018)
University of Queensland	Graduate of the Year (2012), University Medal (2011), Harriet Marks Bursary (2011), Madalen Kitty Ravenhill Hulbert Memorial Prize (2009), John Black Prize (2009), Dean's Excellence and Equity Scholarship (2008-2010), UQ Excellence Scholarship (2008-2010)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Refereeing *Econometrica*, *Journal of Political Economy*, *Journal of Economic Theory*
Stanford University Member of the Economics Graduate Student Committee (2021-2023)
Volunteer for Graduate Recruitment (2018-2023)
Social Chair, Stanford University Department of Economics (2019-2020)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Stanford University ECON 202 Graduate Microeconomics I (TA, 2020)
ECON 136 Market Design (TA, 2021)
Public Policy Masters Math & Economics Bootcamp (Instructor, 2021)
Economics PhD Math Camp (Instructor, 2022-23)
MGT ECON 602 Auctions, Bargaining, and Pricing (Guest Lecturer, 2025)

Harvard Kennedy School API-303 Game Theory & Strategic Behavior (TA, 2017)
API-101D Markets & Market Failure (Course Fellow and TA, 2017)
API-102I Economic Analysis of Public Policy (TA, 2018)

University of Queensland MATH1051 Calculus & Linear Algebra I (Tutor, 2009)
MATH1052 Multivariable Calculus & ODEs (Tutor, 2009-2013)
MATH2000 Calculus & Linear Algebra II (Tutor, 2011-2013)
MATH3402 Functional Analysis (Tutor, 2013)
MATH3500 Problems & Applications in Modern Mathematics (Tutor, 2012-13)
ECON7040 Macroeconomic Analysis (Tutor, 2013)
ECON7010 Consumer and Firm Behaviour (Tutor, 2013)

NON-ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Auctionomics - Consultant March 2023–present
Research support, economic analysis and litigation consulting for defense counsel in *United States et al. v. Google LLC* (online display advertising antitrust case). Analysis of auction design and strategy, including original research, empirical analysis, analysis of documentary evidence, report drafting, and presentation to non-expert audiences.

AlphaBeta Advisors - Consultant May–August 2017
Economic analysis and advice for public sector clients on policy design, including labour and industry policy.

Parliament of Australia, Office of The Hon. Dr. Jim Chalmers MP - Adviser October 2013–July 2016
Speech-writer and adviser on policy issues for the (then) Shadow Minister for Financial Services and Superannuation, Shadow Minister for Sport, Shadow Assistant Minister for Trade, Resources and Productivity. Policy and legislative advice, speech-writing, support for parliamentary duties.

Australian Labor Party
Secretary, Australian Young Labor April 2014–September 2015
President, Queensland Young Labor May 2013–May 2014
Campaign organizing, event management and administrative management of youth wing of party.

The Pyjama Foundation - Volunteer and IT Assistant April–November 2013
Assisted the charity (which provides tutoring and support for foster children) with database development and maintenance, training for new volunteers, and general office administration.