

Yvonne Jie CHEN

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Research Interests

Development Economics, Applied Econometrics, Economic Inequality

Academic Employment

2012 – Present

Assistant Professor, National University of Singapore Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy
Faculty Associate, National University of Singapore Institute of Water Policy

Education

Ph.D. in Economics, Yale University 2012

Thesis Title: An Analysis of Equality of Opportunity for Health.

Advisors: John Roemer and Edward Vytlačil (co-chair)

B.S. in Computer Science, Washington University in St. Louis, *Magna cum Laude*, 2000-2003

Publications

1. Chindarkar, Namrata, Yvonne J. Chen and Dennis Wichelns, “Government-Civil society co-management contracts for rural water services: Lessons from India”, Forthcoming, *Policy Design and Practice*
2. Chindarkar, Namrata, Yvonne J. Chen and Yogendra B. Gurung, “Subjective Well-being Effects of Coping Costs: Evidence from Household Water Supply in Kathmandu Valley, Nepal.” Forthcoming, *Journal of Happiness Studies*
3. Chen, Yvonne J., Zhiwu Chen and Shijun He, “Social norms and household savings rate in China.” Forthcoming, *Review of Finance*
4. Thampapillai, Dodo J. and Yvonne J. Chen, “Environmental macroeconomics: A Neglected Theme in Environmental Economics – Leave Alone Economics“, Forthcoming, *Singapore Economic Review*
5. Chen, Yvonne J., Pei Li and Yi Lu, “Career concerns and multitasking bureaucrats: Evidence of a target-based performance evaluation system in China.” *Journal of Development Economics*, Vol 133, 84-101, July 2018
6. Thampapillai, Dodo J., Yvonne J. Chen, Christopher I. Bacani and Faris F. Omer, “New estimates of factor income shares in central Asian economies.”, *Economic Papers: A Journal of Applied Economics and Policy*, Vol 35(3), Sept 2016
7. Chen, Yvonne J. and Namrata Chindarkar, “The value of skills – raising the socio-economic status for rural women in India.” *Development Policy Review*, Vol 35 Issue 2, Jan 2017
8. Chindarkar, N., Yvonne J. Chen and Dennis Welchens, “Impact of State—Non-State Co-management Contracts on Water Supply in Rural India: Evidence from a Natural Experiment” Prepared for Kekez, A; Howlett, M.; and M Ramesh (eds.) Collaboration in Public Service Delivery: Promises and Pitfalls. Edward Elgar Publishing

Working Papers

1. Chen, Yvonne J., Li Li and Yun Xiao, "Early life exposure to tap water and the development of cognitive skills.", Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy Research Paper No. 17-02, Mar 2017 *Resubmitted, Journal of Human Resources*
2. The Effect of Reliable Electricity on Health Facilities, Health Information, and Health Services Utilization: Evidence from Rural Gujarat, India, with Namrata Chindarkar and Yun Xiao, *Resubmitted, Journal of Health, Population and Nutrition*
3. Water and Time Use – Evidence from Kathmandu, with Namrata Chindarkar and Jane Zhao, *Revise and resubmit, Water Policy*

Seminars and Conference Presentations

2019 (including scheduled)

AEA CeMENT workshop (Atlanta)

2018 (including scheduled)

World Bank Development Research Seminar Series (Kuala Lumpur), Econometric Society China Meeting (Fudan University), East China Normal University (School of Public Policy), Antai School of Business Shanghai Jiaotong University, Zhejiang University Department of Economics, ShanghaiTech University SEM, Sydney Technology University Department of Economics

2017

University of Tokyo (Department of Economics/Public Policy), Program on Global Demography of Aging (Harvard Public Health), 10th Asian Applied Micro and Econometrics Conference (NUS), Asia Econometric Society Meeting (Hong Kong), 3rd Biennial Conference of China Development (Shanghai Jiaotong University), Singapore Management University Department of Economics, Fudan University Department of Economics, Asian and Australian Society of Labour Economics Meeting (ANU), Shanghai University of International Business and Economics

2016

LKY School of Public Policy, East Asia Institute, Institute of Water Policy, First China Labor Economist Forum Annual Meeting (Changsha), Nanjing University of Technology, NEUDC(Boston)

2015

AEA meeting, LKY School of Public Policy, NUS Small Interest Group, University of Hong Kong School of Business, Fudan University Department of Economics, ECINEQ Society 6th Meeting (University of Luxemburg), Xiamen University WISE

2014

LKY School of Public Policy, The 3rd Symposium on Emerging Financial Markets (Peking University), NUS East Asia Institute, NUS Small Interest Group, Conference on Rural and Development Economics (Beijing)

2012 - 2013

Zhejiang University School of Public Administration, Yale University, PSID Conference on Social Economic Status and Health, LKY School of Public Policy, NTU Department of Economics

Conference Organization (as key organizer)

10th Asian Microeconomics and Econometrics Conference, NUS, Singapore 2017 (Jointly with NUS Economics Department)

LKY School Economic Development and Development Policy Conference (DeEP), Singapore 2016 - Keynote speakers: Prof Yao Yang (Dean, Center for China Economic Research, Peking University) and Prof David Canning (Harvard University School of Public Health)

Research Grants

MOE Tier 1 Grant (FRC), PI, “Depreciation of Natural Resource Stocks and Macroeconomic Performance” , SGD 30,000

Academic Research Fund (LKYSPP), PI, “Gender and Economic Development” , SGD 75,000

NUS Faculty Thematic Research Collaboration Fund, Co-PI, with Wu Xun and V.M. Khuong, SGD 45,000

NUS Faculty Research Support Scheme, PI, 2012-2013, SGD 15,000

Faculty Startup Grant, PI, “Household Finance, Economic Development and the Society”, 2013-2016 SGD 180,000

NUS Faculty Thematic Research Collaboration Fund, Co-PI, with Namrata Chindarkar, SGD 30,000

Teaching Experience

Instructor:

Quantitative Methods for Public Policy (Master of Public Policy Core Course), 2013-2018

Economics for Public Policy - Macroeconomics (Master of Public Policy Core Course), 2013-2015

Economics of Developing Countries (Elective Course), 2013 - 2015

Policy Analysis (Master of Public Policy in Mandarin Core Course), 2016-2018

Executive education programs:

Economics for Public Policy – Macroeconomics, Nazarbayev University, Aug 2016

Other Services

Economics Hiring Committee Member, 2017

MPP curriculum review committee, NUS, 2012-2014

MPP Policy Analysis Exercise (PAE) advisor, NUS, 2012-2016

Ph.D. Students Supervised

As committee member

Aditi Raina, 2015, Placement: World Bank Singapore

Siyang Tan (Thesis submitted)

Media Exposure

Singapore Channel News Asia – Primetime news (on relaxation of one child policy)

Singapore Channel News Asia - Between the Lines (on relaxation of one child policy)

Singapore Channel 8 - *Jiaodian* (on targeted poverty in rural China)

Other Professional Experience

Senior Associate, Cofactor Group, 2006-2008 (full time), Philadelphia, PA

Intern, World Bank (Development Research Group), summer 2005, Washington D.C.