

**Institute for Economic
and Social Research,
Jinan University**

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Printed in December 2019



暨南大学
JINAN UNIVERSITY



**Institute for Economic
and Social Research
Jinan University**

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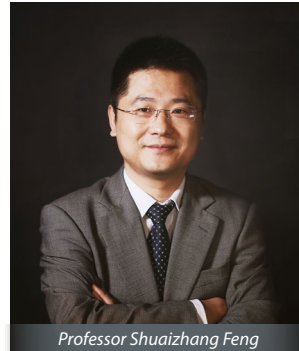
暨南大学
JINAN UNIVERSITY

Founded in 1906, Jinan University (JNU) has a long and successful history in economics education and international cooperation. As one of the earliest universities in China to offer an economics and business major, JNU was the first university to enroll overseas students. Located in Guangzhou, China's third-largest city and a commercial and trading center, JNU is a rapidly-growing university with over 300,000 alumni in over 170 countries. In 2018, JNU was recognized by Tilburg University as the 7th best university for economics in China and the 19th best university for economics in Asia.



Introduction

The Institute for Economic and Social Research (IESR) was founded at Jinan University in December 2015. Since then, IESR has played a leading role in economics education, research, public service, and international cooperation. Operating under the leadership of internationally renowned scholars, including Professor Shuaizhang Feng as Dean and Professor James Heckman as Chair of the Advisory Board, IESR currently has 42 full-time faculty members, many of whom are graduates of renowned institutions such as Yale University, University of Chicago, LSE, UC Berkeley, and UCLA. Research at IESR covers all major economic fields, and undergraduate and graduate students receive rigorous training in economics. The Institute runs a Survey Data Center for data collection and management, as well as a Policy Research Center for policy analysis and evaluation.



Professor Shuaizhang Feng

The mission of the Institute is to advance policy-oriented economic and social research by addressing pressing social and economic issues in China. Our work is driven by the following objectives:

- Developing China-based research programs in applied economics and other fields
- Collecting original survey data related to China's economic and social development
- Building a leading Chinese think tank to inform and influence national policymaking
- Guiding IESR students to become future leaders in economic and social research
- Facilitating academic exchanges between scholars in China and abroad

In 4 years

8 Centers

Research Center for Labor Economics
Research Center for International Trade and Firms
Research Center for Real Estate and Regional Economics
Center for Ecological Civilization and Environmental Economics
Center for Econometrics and Microdata Practice
Survey Data Center
Center for Policy Research
Center for Development and Exchange

42 Full-time faculty members

76 Research papers published (or accepted)

60 Research grants received

200+ Academic events

114 Undergraduate students

29 Graduate students

7 Overseas Masters programs in Economics launched with 5 overseas universities

IESR 
Institute for Economic and Social Research, Jinan University



Chair of the Advisory Board



James J. Heckman

James J. Heckman is a 2000 Nobel Laureate in Economics and the Henry Schultz Distinguished Service Professor of Economics at the University of Chicago. He is Director of the Center for the Economics of Human Development (CEHD) and Co-Director of Human Capital and Economic Opportunity Global Working Group (HCEO) at the University of Chicago. Professor Heckman has worked closely with IESR since its launch in late 2015 and now serves as Chair of the IESR Advisory Board.

March 2016

Professor Heckman visits IESR for the first time and sets the foundation for IESR’s future cooperation with the University of Chicago.

June 2016

IESR and HCEO co-organize the first Guangzhou Summer School on Socioeconomic Inequality, which continues as a collaborative summer event to this day.

September 2016

IESR and CEHD co-launch the Longitudinal Study of Children’s Development in Mianzhu, to explore how to measure the traits, skills, and preferences that determine important life outcomes for children. The project is also crucial for understanding how parental absence affects the cognitive and non-cognitive development of left-behind children.

October 2016

IESR and CEHD co-host the Asian Family in Transition Conference on Migration and Professor Heckman is appointed Chair of the IESR Advisory Board.

January 2018

With Professor Heckman serving as a leading foreign expert, IESR’s research base on “Migration and Labor Economics,” under the auspices of the Ministry of Education (MOE) and State Administration of Foreign Experts (SAFE), enters the “Discipline Innovation and Overseas Expertise Introduction Plan for Universities” (also known as “111 Plan”).

July 2018

IESR and CEHD formally co-launch the Chicago–Jinan Joint Initiative on the Study of Human Development, which serves as research home for our students/faculty and for visiting scholars from guest institutions.

September 2018

Professor Heckman attends the Chicago–Jinan Joint Initiative Workshop 2018 and gives a public lecture “China’s Investment in Skills” at Jinan University.

June 2019

Professor Heckman delivers the keynote lecture “A Dynamic Model of Health, Addiction, Education, and Wealth” at the 2019 China Meeting of the Econometric Society held by IESR.

October 2019

Professor Heckman receives the Chinese Government Friendship Award, the country’s highest honor to foreign experts in recognition of their contribution to China’s social and economic development.



Full-time faculty members



Shiyu Bo

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., London School of Economics, 2016

Research Fields:

Development Economics, Political Economy, Urban Economics,
Regional Economics



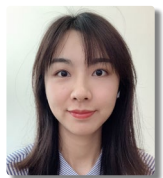
Shu Cai

Associate Professor

Ph.D., Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, 2016

Research Fields:

Development Economics, Labor Economics



Siyu Chen

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., National University of Singapore, 2019

Research Fields:

Labor Economics, Environmental Economics, Financial Economics



Yi Chen

Associate Professor

Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles, 2015

Research Fields:

Labor Economics, Family Economics, Population Economics,
Education Economics



Yunho Cho

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., University of Melbourne, 2018

Research Fields:

Macroeconomics, Real Estate Economics, Labor Economics



Xiaomeng Cui

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., University of California, Davis, 2018

Research Fields:

Environmental Economics, Agricultural Economics, Resource Economics



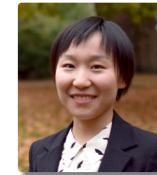
Shuaizhang Feng

Professor
Dean

Ph.D., Cornell University, 2006

Research Field:

Labor Economics



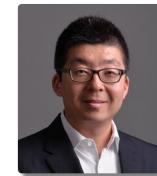
Jiajia Gu

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., London School of Economics, 2018

Research Fields:

Macroeconomics, Development Economics



Yizhen Gu

Associate Professor
Associate Dean

Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley, 2015

Research Fields:

Urban Economics, Transportation Economics



Wenshu Guo

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles, 2018

Research Field:

Industrial Organization



Yujie Han

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., The Chinese University of Hong Kong, 2017

Research Fields:

Education Economics, Labor Economics, Agricultural Economics



Jun Hyung Kim

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., University of Chicago, 2019

Research Fields:

Labor Economics, Family Economics



Chengzheng Li

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., Shanghai Jiao Tong University, 2016

Research Fields:

Agricultural Economics, Resource Economics, Development Economics



Runliang Li

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., Maastricht University, 2018

Research Fields:

Financial Economics, Environmental Economics



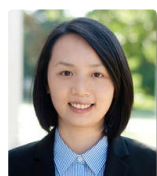
Shujuan Li

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., Sun Yat-sen University, 2016

Research Fields:

Political Economy, Development Economics, Environmental Economics



Wei Lin

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., Michigan State University, 2016

Research Fields:

Econometrics, Labor Economics



Cong Liu

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., University of Arizona, 2016

Research Fields:

Economic History, Development Economics



Ke Liu

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, 2018

Research Fields:

Industrial Organization, Game Theory



Shimeng Liu

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., Syracuse University, 2014

Research Fields:

Urban Economics, Regional Economics, Real Estate Economics, Labor Economics



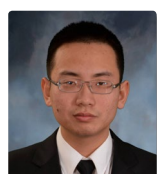
Jingliang Lu

Associate Professor

Ph.D., Shanghai University of Finance and Economics, 2014

Research Field:

Labor Economics



Sen Ma

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2018

Research Fields:

Development Economics, Environmental Economics, Family Economics, International Economics



Xiang Ma

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., Yale University, 2015

Research Fields:

Development Economics, Agricultural Economics



Jinseong Park

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 2018

Research Fields:

Public Economics, Labor Economics



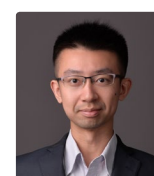
Yun Qiu

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., The Ohio State University, 2016

Research Field:

Environmental Economics



Wei Shi

Associate Professor

Ph.D., The Ohio State University, 2016

Research Fields:

Econometrics, Urban Economics, Real Estate Economics



Ji-Liang Shiu

Associate Professor

Ph.D., Johns Hopkins University, 2009

Research Fields:

Econometrics, Labor Economics



Yan Song

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., McGill University, 2016

Research Fields:

Health Economics, Education Economics, Labor Economics



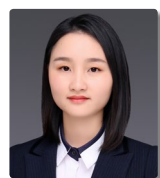
Yingjun Su

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., University of Pittsburgh, 2017

Research Field:

Industrial Organization



Gaojie Tang

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., Shanghai University of Finance and Economics, 2019

Research Fields:

Labor Economics, Health Economics



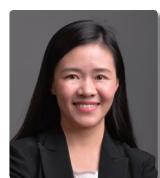
Lixin Tang

Associate Professor

Ph.D., University of Maryland, 2015

Research Fields:

International Economics, Development Economics



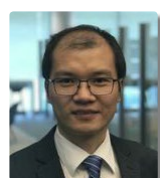
Qu Tang

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley, 2015

Research Fields:

Environmental Economics, Industrial Organization



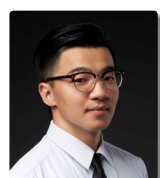
Wuyi Wang

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., Singapore Management University, 2018

Research Field:

Econometrics



Bin Xie

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., Rutgers University, 2017

Research Fields:

Labor Economics, Economic History



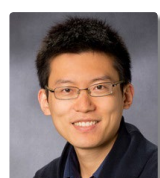
Jiaxin Xie

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, 2018

Research Fields:

Development Economics, Education Economics, Political Economy



Sen Xue

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., Australian National University, 2015

Research Fields:

Labor Economics, Development Economics



Zizhong Yan

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., The University of Warwick, 2018

Research Fields:

Econometrics, Education Economics



Shangming Yang

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., National University of Singapore, 2018

Research Fields:

Urban Economics, Regional Economics, Development Economics,
Real Estate Economics



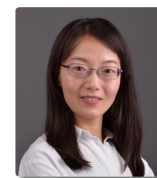
Zhe Yang

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., University of California, Davis, 2017

Research Fields:

Family Economics, Health Economics, Labor Economics



Lijuan Yin

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., University of California, Davis, 2017

Research Field:

International Economics



Sisi Zhang

Associate Professor
Associate Dean

Ph.D., Boston College, 2009

Research Fields:

Urban Economics, Real Estate Economics, Labor Economics



Yi Zhang

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., Boston University, 2018

Research Field:

Econometrics



Hongjia Zhu

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., University of New South Wales, 2014

Research Fields:

Urban Economics, Real Estate Economics, Environmental Economics

Research

Selected Recent Publications

Cai, Shu. (2020). Migration Under Liquidity Constraints: Evidence from Randomized Credit Access in China. *Journal of Development Economics*, 142: 102247.

Meng, Xin, & **Sen Xue.** (2020). Social Networks and Mental Health Outcomes: Chinese Rural-urban Migrant Experience. *Journal of Population Economics*, 33(1), 155-195.

Bo, Shiyu. Centralization and Regional Development: Evidence from a Political Hierarchy Reform to Create Cities in China. *Journal of Urban Economics*, accepted, 2019.

Bo, Shiyu, Joy Chen, **Yan Song,** & Sen Zhou. Media Attention and Choices of Major: Evidence from Anti-Doctor Violence. *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, accepted, 2019.

Chen, Yi, Sheng Jiang, & Li-An Zhou. Estimating Returns to Education in Urban China: Evidence from a Natural Experiment in Schooling Reform. *Journal of Comparative Economics*, accepted, 2019.

Chen, Yuanyuan, **Shuaizhang Feng,** & **Yujie Han.** The Effect of Primary School Type on the High School Opportunities of Migrant Children in China. *Journal of Comparative Economics*, accepted, 2019.

Liu, Cong. The Impact of WWI on Chinese Textile Industry: Was the World's Trouble China's Opportunity? *Journal of Economic History*, accepted, 2019.

Bruce, Donald J., Celeste K. Carruthers, Matthew C. Harris, Matthew N. Murray, & **Jinseong Park.** (2019). Do In-kind Grants Stick? The Department of Defense 1033 Program and Local Government Spending. *Journal of Urban Economics*, 112, 111-121.

Chen, Yi, Maurizio Mazzocco, & Bela Szemely. (2019). Explaining the Decline of the U.S. Saving Rate: The Role of Health Expenditure. *International Economic Review*, 60(4), 1823-1859.

Hunt, Jennifer, & **Bin Xie.** (2019). How Restricted is the Job Mobility of Skilled Temporary Work Visa Holders?. *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, 38(1), 41-64.

Kim, Kyoo il, Yao Luo, & **Yingjun Su.** (2019). A Robust Approach to Estimating Production Functions: Replication of the ACF Procedure. *Journal of Applied Econometrics*, 34(4), 612-619.

Fan, Haichao, Faqin Lin, & **Lixin Tang.** (2018). Minimum Wage and Outward FDI from China. *Journal of Development Economics*, 135, 1-19.

Fan, Jingting, **Lixin Tang,** Weiming Zhu, & Ben Zou. (2018). The Alibaba Effect: Spatial Consumption Inequality and the Welfare Gains from E-commerce. *Journal of International Economics*, 114, 203-220.

Feng, Shuaizhang, Lars Lefgren, Brennan C. Platt, & Bingyong Zheng. (2019). Job Search Under Asymmetric Information: Endogenous Wage Dispersion and Unemployment Stigma. *Economic Theory*, 67(4), 817-851.

Hu, Yingyao, & **Ji-Liang Shiu.** (2018). Nonparametric Identification Using Instrumental Variables: Sufficient Conditions for Completeness. *Econometric Theory*, 34(3), 659-693.

Qin, Yu, & **Hongjia Zhu.** (2018). Run Away? Air Pollution and Emigration Interests in China. *Journal of Population Economics*, 31(1), 235-266.

Qiu, Yun, & Sathya Gopalakrishnan. (2018). Shoreline Defense Against Climate Change and Capitalized Impact of Beach Nourishment. *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*, 92, 134-147.

Wang, Wuyi, Peter Phillips, & Liangjun Su. (2018). Homogeneity Pursuit in Panel Data Models: Theory and Application. *Journal of Applied Econometrics*, 33(6), 797-815.

Bueckner, Jan K., Shihe Fu, **Yizhen Gu,** & Junfu Zhang. (2017). Measuring the Stringency of Land Use Regulation: The Case of China's Building Height Limits. *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 99(4), 663-677.

Chen, Yuanyuan, & **Shuaizhang Feng.** (2017). Quality of Migrant Schools in China: Evidence from a Longitudinal Study in Shanghai. *Journal of Population Economics*, 30(3), 1007-1034.

Feng, Shuaizhang, Yingyao Hu, & Robert Moffitt. (2017). Long Run Trends in Unemployment and Labor Force Participation in Urban China. *Journal of Comparative Economics*, 45(2), 304-324.

Fu, Shihe, & **Yizhen Gu.** (2017). Highway Toll and Air Pollution: Evidence from Chinese Cities. *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*, 83, 32-49.

Gu, Yizhen, Elizabeth Deakin, & Ying Long. (2017). The Effects of Driving Restrictions on Travel Behavior: Evidence from Beijing. *Journal of Urban Economics*, 106, 106-122.

Hu, Yingyao, Susanne M. Schennach, & **Ji-Liang Shiu.** (2017). Injectivity of a Class of Integral Operators with Compactly Supported Kernels. *Journal of Econometrics*, 200(1), 48-58.

Shi, Wei, & Lung-fei Lee. (2017). Spatial Dynamic Panel Data Models with Interactive Fixed Effects. *Journal of Econometrics*, 197(2), 323-347.

Funded Projects

IESR has more than 60 funded research projects, of which 19 are funded by the National Natural Science Fund, China's largest and most prestigious fund for supporting basic research and applied research in various areas, including economics. The Fund is administered by the Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC), founded by the State Council and supervised by the Ministry of Science and Technology of China.

Project Highlights



Assistant Professor Shiyu Bo's *Political Hierarchy, Fiscal Decentralization and Regional Development: Theory and Empirical Evidence from China* was approved by the NSFC in 2018. The project aims to understand the effect of political hierarchy reforms and fiscal decentralization on regional development and inequality using a collection of microdata, aggregate data, and first-digitalized historical data. Shiyu's single-authored *Centralization and Regional Development: Evidence from a Political Hierarchy Reform to Create Cities in China* was accepted by the Journal of Urban Economics.



Associate Professor Shu Cai's *The Impact and Mechanism of Mutual-help Fund on Poverty Reduction in Poor Villages: Evidence from a Randomized Control Trial* was approved by the NSFC in 2017. With funding support, Shu conducted RCT experiments to explore questions related to poverty alleviation in China. His single-authored *Migration under Liquidity Constraints: Evidence from Randomized Credit Access in China* will appear in the Journal of Development Economics.

In 2019, the NSFC approved eleven research projects proposed by IESR faculty. Among them, ten projects are supported by the NSFC's Young Scientists Fund, and another is supported by the NSFC's Research Fund for International Young Scientists.

Yi Chen, *The Dynamics and Mechanisms of the Gender Wage Difference: Evidence from a Firm Personnel Data*

Yunho Cho, *Introducing Property Taxes in the Chinese Housing Market: Implications to Housing Affordability and Welfare**

Xiaomeng Cui, *The Impacts of Climate Change on Cropping Patterns*

Sen Ma, *Cultural Similarity, Foreign Direct Investment and Economic Development: Analysis Based on Borders of Chinese Dialect Zones*

Xiang Ma, *School Consolidation in China: Its Costs, Benefits and Total Welfare Impacts*

Chengzheng Li, *The Effect of Weather Extremes in the Context of Climate Change on Rural Labor Supply and Labor Productivity: Mechanism and Adaptation*

Shujuan Li, *The Heterogeneous Effect of Local Government's Economic Growth Target Constraint on Enterprise Investment*

Yingjun Su, *The Mechanism and Impact of Overcapacity Reduction Policy: An Empirical Study on the Chinese Steel Industry*

Lixin Tang, *Theory and Evidence on the Effect of Minimum Wage on Firms' Transition Behaviors: Perspective based on the Adoption of Industrial Robots and Outward FDI by Firms*

Bin Xie, *The Impact of the Supply of Educational Goods on Educational Inequality and Intergenerational Educational Mobility in China*

Lijuan Yin, *Policy Uncertainty and Firm Innovation: Theory and Evidence based on China's Entry into WTO*

* indicates the NSFC's Research Fund for International Young Scientists

Research Centers

Research Center for Labor Economics

Directed by IESR's Dean Shuaizhang Feng, the Center engages in academic and policy-related research on labor markets, migration, human capital investment in early life, and other topics. The Center collaborates with the Center for the Economics of Human Development (CEHD) at the University of Chicago, with Professor James Heckman serving as the leading expert. The Center has also established with CEHD the Chicago-Jinan Joint Initiative on the Study of Human Development, co-directed by Shuaizhang Feng and James Heckman.

Research Center for International Trade and Firms

Home to outstanding academics working in policy-oriented research in international trade and firm development, the Center's research team includes scholars from Duke University, Harvard University, and Jinan University, with Professor Daniel Yi Xu serving as the honorary director. The Center organizes an annual workshop, Firms in Emerging Economies, that brings together leading scholars in this research field.

Center for Econometrics and Microdata Practice

To promote the integration of microeconomic theory and econometric methodology, the Center focuses on the development of application-oriented micro-econometric methods and applying state-of-the-art quantitative technologies to applied microeconomic research. Professor Yingyao Hu at Johns Hopkins University acts as the honorary director. The Center has established a global collaboration network with scholars from Toronto, USC, MIT, Chicago, Yale, among other institutions.

Center for Real Estate and Regional Economics

Founded in 2019, the Center has worked to establish a global research network in real estate and regional economics. It successfully collaborates with industry to explore pressing social and policy issues, including China's housing policy, real estate finance, urban renewal, and Bay Area development. Professor Yongheng Deng at the University of Wisconsin Madison acts as the honorary director.

Center for Ecological Civilization and Environmental Economics

Founded in 2019, the Center aims to foster environmental economics research in China and provide recommendations and solutions for critical environmental issues, under the modern framework of economics analysis. The Center holds a bi-annual academic event on environmental and resource economics, bringing together leading environmental and resource economists from around the world.

Data

SURVEY DATA CENTER

Affiliated to IESR, the Survey Data Center (SDC) is a leading survey center in China. It uses state-of-the-art methods and technologies to collect several primary datasets and help IESR faculties with fieldwork. SDC has more than 20 fulltime staff members allocated in six departments: Survey Operation, Quality Control, Data Analysis, IT Support, Business Affairs, and Administration. Many SDC staff members graduated from acclaimed universities such as the University of Michigan, Boston University, and Peking University.

Currently, SDC undertakes several projects focusing on major socioeconomic issues in China, including (1) rural development (Thousand-Village Survey in Guangdong), (2) the well-being of rural migrants (Rural-Urban Migration in China, RUMiC; Guangdong Migration Survey, GMS), (3) the development of left-behind children (Longitudinal Study of Children's Development in Mianzhu, LSCD), (4) the development of manufacturing industries (Guangdong Manufacturing Firm Survey, GDMFS), and (5) the employment situation (China Household Employment Survey, CHES).

SDC has cooperated with various Chinese government departments to work on joint projects, partnering with the Ministry of Civil Affairs, the National Health Commission, the Quality and Technical Supervision Bureau of Guangdong Province, the Guangdong Academy of Social Sciences, and the Education Bureau of Mianzhu City. SDC has also joined the Survey Association with other universities (Southwestern University of Finance and Economics, Peking University, Beijing Normal University, Zhejiang University, etc.) for the purpose of carrying out large-scale surveys such as the China Household Employment Survey. Cooperation with government and universities facilitates SDC's capacity to conduct large-scale surveys throughout China.



Longitudinal Study of Children's Development in Mianzhu (LSCD)

Large-scale rural-urban migration over the past decades has led to the so-called "left-behind children" phenomenon in China. It is estimated that over 60 million children were left behind in villages after their parents migrated to cities for work. The LSCD survey seeks to explore how to measure the traits, skills, and preferences that determine important life outcomes for children, understand the development of the cognitive and non-cognitive skills of left-behind children, and examine the effects of early childhood interventions. Each year, the survey collects data from over 6,000 primary students in grades 4 to 6 (guardians and teachers included). So far, the SDC completed three waves in 2017, 2018, and 2019. Professor James J. Heckman acts as an advisor to this survey and helps to develop its research design.

Thousand-Village Survey in Guangdong

This survey aims to document recent rural and agricultural development in Guangdong province and provide researchers with household data to evaluate the impact of the rural vitalization strategy implemented by the central government since 2018. The survey records detailed information about targeted poverty alleviation, rural governance, ecological environment, education, land acquisition, development of rural finance, and other aspects.

In 2018, the SDC carried out a baseline survey. During this wave, Thousand-Village Survey conducted interviews with 3,012 households across 99 villages in Guangdong. In 2019, the second wave successfully tracked 2,596 households and enlarged the sample size by including 20 new villages. In total, the second wave completed interviews with 3,622 households.



Rural-Urban Migration in China (RUMiC)

Due to its rapid industrialization and urbanization over the past three decades, China has experienced the largest rural-to-urban migration in history. Initiated by Prof. Meng Xin (Australian National University) in 2006, RUMiC aims to understand the institutional barriers that restrict rural-to-urban migration and how to improve rural migrants' living conditions. SDC has conducted this project independently since 2017.

RUMiC is a longitudinal survey conducted every year, collecting data about migrants' health, education, employment, social networks, household income and expenditure, housing conditions, and place of origin. The annual sample size consists of 5,000 migrant households living in 15 cities across 9 major provinces with the highest level of rural-to-urban migration (i.e., Guangzhou, Dongguan, Shenzhen, Zhengzhou, Luoyang, Chongqing, Shanghai, Nanjing, Wuxi, Hangzhou, Ningbo, Wuhan, Chengdu, Hefei and Bengbu).

In 2017, SDC successfully implemented the 10th wave of RUMiC. In this wave, a Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) system replaced the traditional paper-and-pencil method and significantly improved data quality. In 2018 and 2019, all households participating in the 2016 or 2017 waves were interviewed by phone using the Computer-Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) system, successfully tracing 3,036 and 2,471 households, respectively.



China Household Employment Survey (CHES)

Jointly conducted by Southwestern University of Finance and Economics, CHES seeks to understand the dynamics of the labor market in China. It records detailed information about individuals' labor market status, employment type, industry affiliation, occupation, wage and fringe benefits, and labor supply, among others. CHES completed four waves of data collection in 2011, 2013, 2015 and 2017. Currently the largest representative survey of China's labor market, CHES collected information from approximately 40,000 households nationwide in 2017.



Guangdong Manufacturing Firm Survey (GDMFS)

GDMFS is designed to measure the total factor productivity (TFP) of manufacturing firms in Guangdong province and examine the impact of product quality on TFP growth. This survey interviewed 599 and 424 manufacturing firms in 2017 and 2018, respectively, across 14 cities in Guangdong province. It records detailed information on financial management, quality control, human capital, production, industrial robots, informatization and e-commerce of each firm. The data of 80% surveyed firms can be merged with the Annual Survey of Industrial Enterprises (ASIE) of China's National Bureau of Statistics, one of China's most important databases of this kind.



Guangdong Migration Survey (GMS)

GMS is a longitudinal household survey that aims to better understand immigrant assimilation in the urban areas of Guangdong province by oversampling and comparing the households of migrants and local residents. GMS covers both rural-urban and urban-urban migrants, paying particular attention to migrants living in urban villages – a widely prevalent phenomenon in Guangdong province that provides inexpensive housing to relatively unskilled migrants as well as abundant labor to the service and labor-intensive industries nearby. Due to difficulties in constructing the sampling frame thus far, there has been no household survey containing sufficient observations of these migrants. To close this gap, the SDC has completed the pilot of constructing the sampling frame in 2019.



Think Tank

Center for Policy Research

The Center for Policy Research (CPR) explores a broad range of policy-relevant issues in China, including labor and employment, education of left-behind/migrant children, rural development, migration, industrial and housing policy.

Driven by the motto *Think globally, Act locally*, CPR builds partnerships with internationally renowned think tanks, provides microdata-based policy recommendations, organizes regular policy events, and collaborates with government institutions.

In 2019, CPR was ranked as one of China's 10 most influential social think tanks by the Center for Think Tank Studies, Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences (CTTS SASS), a leading Chinese think tank and research institution.



CPR Associate Director Sisi Zhang visiting the Urban Institute in Washington DC

Policy Events

Brookings–Jinan China Microeconomic Policy Forum

Brookings–Jinan China Microeconomic Policy Forum in 2019 marked the beginning of IESR's cooperation with The Brookings Institution, a Washington DC-based nonprofit public policy organization recognized to be among the most influential think tanks in the United States.

This initiative arose from a shared goal to facilitate closer ties between the institutions' think tanks and to promote research collaboration on a variety of microeconomic topics, including environmental, urban, public, labor, trade, industrial, and transportation economics. The annual event aims to generate important implications for public policy in China by addressing issues concerning the Chinese economy.

Jointly organized by Shuaizhang Feng from IESR and Clifford Winston from The Brookings Institution, this year's policy forum centered on the production and health impacts of environmental externalities and policies, and involved the presentation of seven scholarly papers by Hui Zhou (Cornell), V. Brian Viard (CKGSB), Yao Pan (ZUEL), Caixia Shen (ZUFE), Peng Zhang (HK PolyU), Wangyang Lai (SUFU) and Qu Tang (Jinan IESR). Paper discussants included Richard Morgenstern (RFF), David Brownstone (UC Irvine) and Ashley Langer (U Arizona).



Ashley Langer (U Arizona) and Richard Morgenstern (RFF) having discussions at the Forum

Policy Events

IESR-GLO Workshop on Belt and Road Labor Markets

The IESR-GLO Workshop on Belt and Road Labor Markets 2019 welcomed Klaus F. Zimmermann (Uni-Bonn), Michele Bruni (CAPP at Unimore), Asad Islam (MON), Chandarany Ouch (CDRI), Mohammad Niaz Asadullah (UM) and IESR scholars Shuaizhang Feng, Jinseong Park and Sen Xue to discuss labor market challenges arising from the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and to compare research findings on BRI labor markets, with a particular focus on China and Southeast Asia.

This was the second GLO-IESR joint labor workshop to further ongoing cooperation with the Global Labor Organization (GLO) since the Institute joined GLO in 2017.



Policy Roundtable: Real Estate and Regional Development

During the launch and inaugural ceremony of IESR's Center for Real Estate and Regional Economics, the Policy Roundtable featured a discussion on the transformation of real estate and regional economic development in China. Yongheng Deng (UW-Madison), Hanming Fang (Penn), Li Gan (TAMU and SWUFE), Xiaobo Zhang (PKU) and others discussed property rights and housing prices, reverse mortgages and income stability for the elderly, urbanization and real estate markets, and other germane topics in China.



Other Events

Workshop on Thousand-Village Survey in Guangdong
November 24, 2019
April 13, 2019
October 23, 2018

Workshop on Rural-Urban Migrants: New City Residents
November 15-16, 2019

The National Policy Forum on Children of Migrants
April 18-19, 2019
May 19-20, 2018
May 20-21, 2017

Policy Roundtable with Village Leaders in Guangdong on Rural Development
January 10, 2019

Policy Roundtable: Industry Panel on Real Estate Development, Urban Planning and Financial Markets
June 13, 2018

Policy Roundtable: Industrial Policy in China
June 25, 2017

Policy Roundtable: Housing Boom and Bust: What Have We Learnt from U.S. Experience?
June 9, 2017

Policy Forum on Real Estate and Urban Development
March 25, 2017

In addition to policy forums, roundtables, and workshops, CPR holds regular policy lectures with leading scholars and governmental officials discussing various policy issues.

Partnerships

Ministry of Civil Affairs of the People's Republic of China

China Population and Development Research Center

Institute of Population and Labor Economics, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (IPLE-CASS)

The Brookings Institution

Global Labor Organization (GLO)

CPR Network

Over the years, the Center for Policy Research has collaborated with the Ministry of Civil Affairs, the National Bureau of Statistics and provincial government units working in education, civil and rural affairs, and other areas. The Center has also rapidly extended its academic network, which now involves a number of research institutions and think tanks nationwide, including the National Academy of Development and Strategy (NADS, Renmin University of China), the National School of Development (NSD, Peking University), the Research Institute of Chinese Economy (RICE, Fudan University), and the SIFL Institute. Internationally, CPR has developed ties with the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and renowned think tanks in the U.S. such as Mathematica Policy Research, and IMPAQ International.



除了激活
土地的增
产又有比
现代社
土地所有
那土地的
全归拆迁
没有获得
乔治敦
的农地价
恰好占有



Students

IESR offers a B.S. in Economics and an M.S. in Applied Economics. In 2019 Fall, IESR launched its first Ph.D. program in Economics.

Undergraduate

IESR students receive rigorous training in mathematics, statistics, and economics. Courses at the introductory and intermediate levels include real analysis, linear algebra, probability theory, microeconomics, macroeconomics and econometrics. IESR has a diverse faculty offering a full range of elective classes, including field classes on labor, development, urban, environmental, international, and financial economics, as well as advanced econometrics and data science.

Graduate

IESR offers microeconomics, macroeconomics, and econometrics core classes at both the Master and Ph.D. levels. All graduate students take a range of field classes and seminars covering frontier issues in economics research. Ph.D. students are expected to pass three preliminary exams by the end of their first year.

Overseas Masters Programs

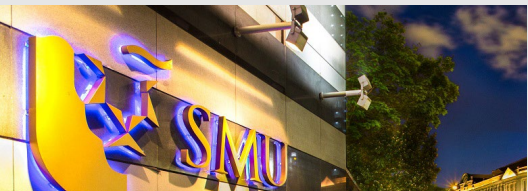
IESR has seven collaborative Masters programs partnered with five overseas universities:



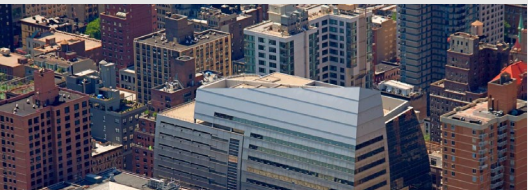
University of Wisconsin-Madison
(M.S. in Economics)



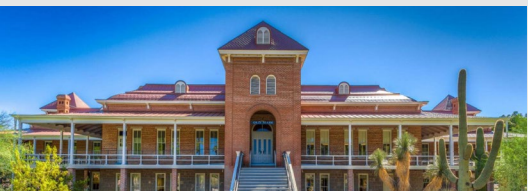
Texas A&M University (M.S. in Financial
Econometrics and M.S. in Financial Economics)



Singapore Management University (M.S. in Financial
Economics and M.S. in Applied Economics)



The City University of New York
(M.S. in Real Estate)



University of Arizona
(M.S. in Economics)

Study abroad

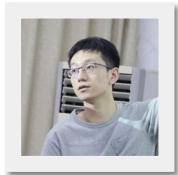
IESR provides students with opportunities to study abroad. In 2019, several IESR students spent a semester at overseas universities, including the University of Chicago, Columbia University, and Johns Hopkins University.

Student Quotes



“Economics is more like a way of thinking than simply studying relevant topics. It provides a unique and comprehensive analytical framework that can be used to shed light on problems. In reality, things are intricately intertwined. The goal of economic research is to reveal causal relationships, which is hard, even though we are in the era of abundant data and smart tools. Thus, finding a meaningful and interesting topic in the beginning keeps me motivated even when things get hard. I am always skeptical about the conclusions I have drawn and prepared to question them.”

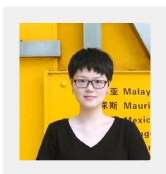
– Yu Yan, a senior undergraduate student whose research project on the Impact of Robots on Employment in China won second place in the National Challenge Cup in 2019



“To me, IESR serves as a solid international platform that gives me access to various scholars worldwide by regularly inviting them to our institute to share their latest research developments. It is an experience that I find enriching and of great significance to my own research. I am also grateful to my advisor Ji-Liang Shiu who has not only been a great mentor over the past two years but also opened the door to a world of research for me.”

– Yujian Chen, a Masters program alumnus and currently a Ph.D. student in Economics at Johns Hopkins University





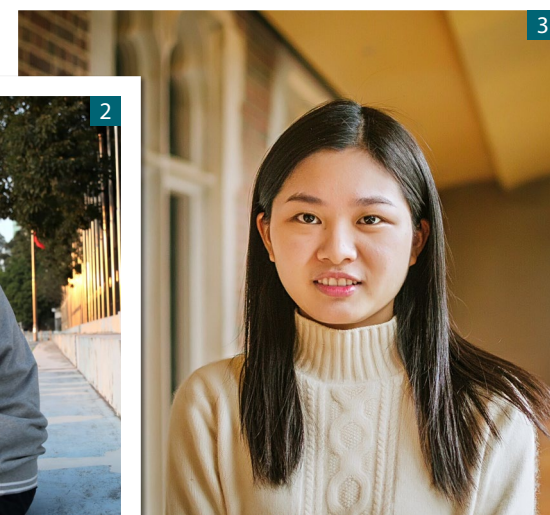
“Great professors, rich academic resources as well as generous Ph.D. funding – these are definitely the key reasons why I have chosen IESR. After finally arriving here in April 2019, what caught my eye was the extraordinary academic environment and rigorous economic instruction. Here, every week we have the opportunity of meeting various scholars from China and abroad, which is crucial to understand the frontiers of economics research.”

– Dongyi Yan, a first-year Ph.D. student



“I feel very grateful to IESR for giving me the opportunity of meeting all those outstanding economists from all over the world – it opened my mind, encouraged me to do research as well as study abroad. I love BYU so much! Every professor and student I have met here is super kind. Aside from my studies here, I am also working with Dr. Lefgren and Dr. Frandsen on a project about China (...). Without doubt, the experience of studying at BYU will be one of the most unforgettable memories in my life.”

– Qingman Liu, a senior graduate student who spent Fall 2019 semester at Brigham Young University



1. Yajie Han, a senior undergraduate student, won the Outstanding Student Award of Jinan University.
2. Haoran Zhang, a senior undergraduate student, spent a year as a visiting student in University of Birmingham.
3. Jiawei Lv, a senior graduate student, visited Chicago for three months under the Chicago-Jinan Joint Initiative.



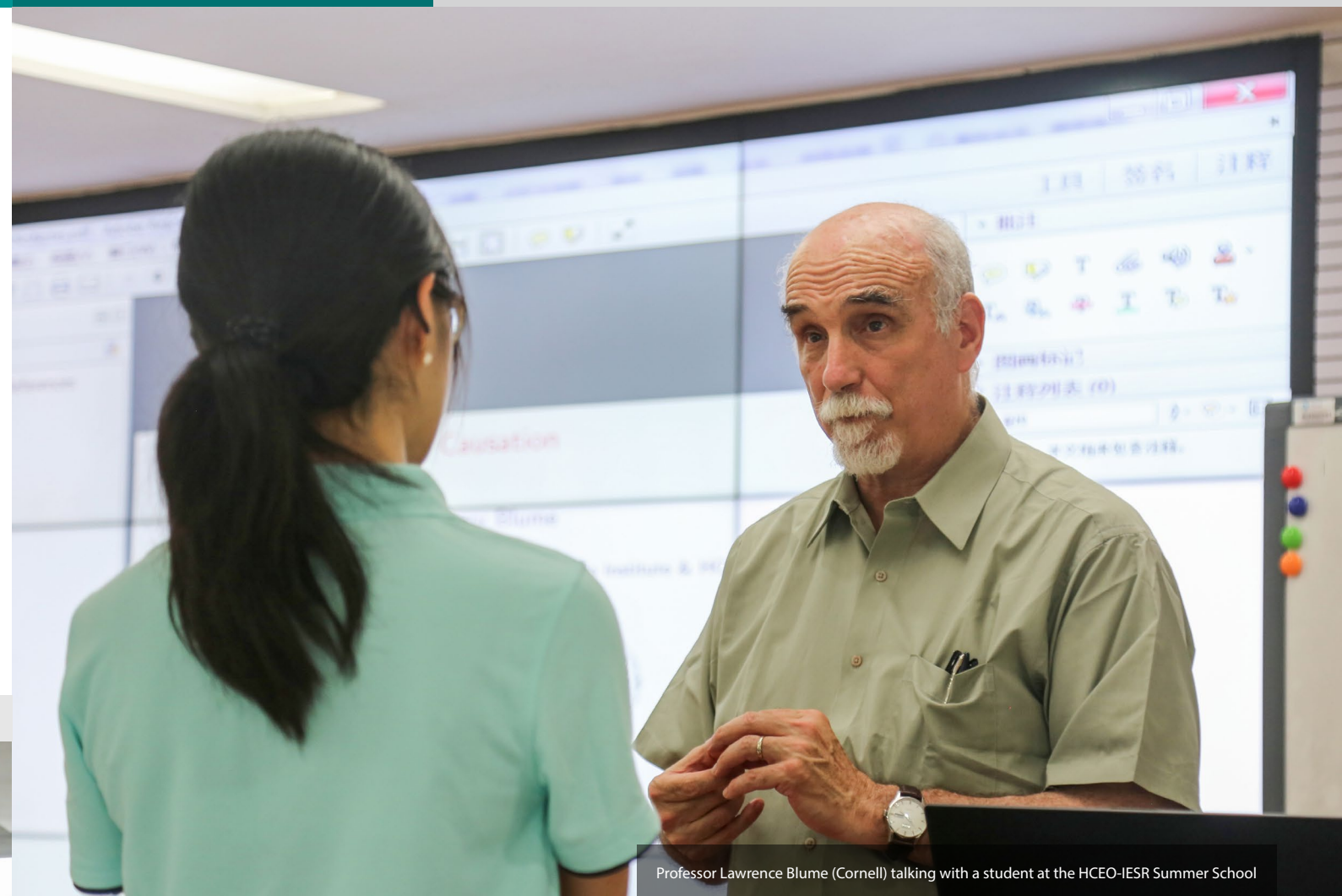
Training Programs

MIT Ford Professor Joshua Angrist's Workshop "Mastering 'Metrics: Empirical Strategies with Chinese Characteristics"

Hosted by IESR, the three-day workshop examined contemporary econometric methods and empirical modeling strategies with a focus on applications to economic policy. Joshua Angrist introduced key concepts and applications in his *Mostly Harmless Econometrics* and *Mastering 'Metrics* to nearly 200 workshop participants. He also commented on and made suggestions about several ongoing research projects presented by workshop participants during the three-day event.



Professor Joshua Angrist (MIT) teaching applied econometrics at IESR



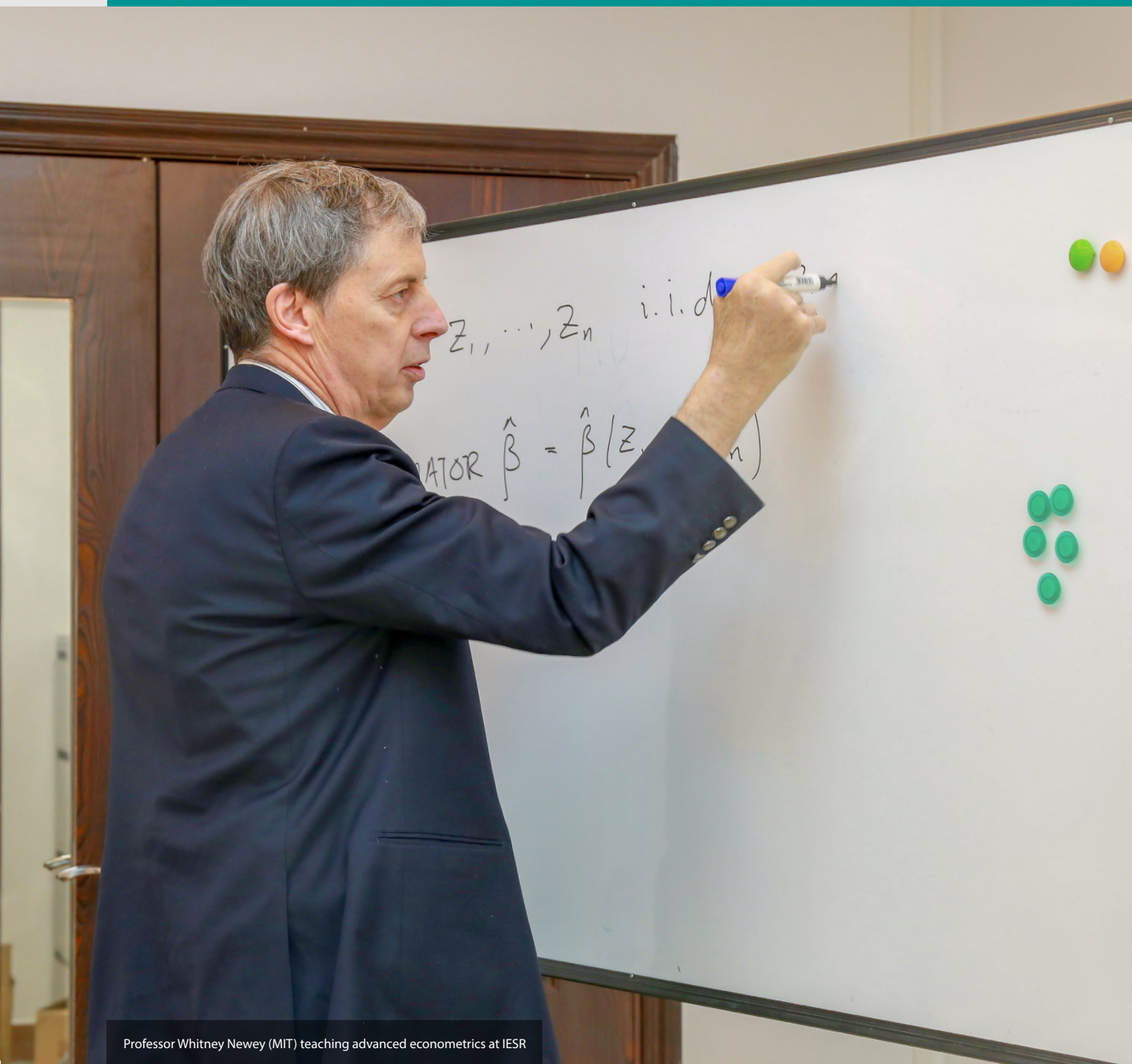
Professor Lawrence Blume (Cornell) talking with a student at the HCEO-IESR Summer School

HCEO-IESR Summer School: Best Paper Competition

HCEO and IESR joined forces to co-direct Summer School on Socioeconomic Inequality for undergraduate students from all over China. The Summer School was also marked with the first "Chicago-Jinan Joint Initiative" Best Paper Competition. During the five-day summer school event, students competed for the Best Paper Award 2019 and attended lectures on a variety of economics topics given by Lawrence Blume (Cornell), Jimmy Chan (CUHK), Steven Durlauf (Chicago), Chao Fu (UW Madison), Raji Jayaraman (ESMT Berlin), and James Kung (HKU).

IESR and HCEO have co-directed the joint summer programs since 2016. Past events included Summer School on Socioeconomic Inequality in 2016 and 2017 and Faculty Training Seminar in 2018.





Professor Whitney Newey (MIT) teaching advanced econometrics at IESR



Econometrics Camp at CEMP

In December 2019, the Center for Econometrics and Microdata Practice (CEMP) at IESR organized a one-week econometrics camp. Three leading econometricians, Whitney Newey (MIT), Bryan Graham (UC Berkeley), and Yingyao Hu (Johns Hopkins) gave lectures on topics, including machine learning and nonparametrics, network and social interactions, and the econometrics of unobservables. More than 60 scholars and students participated in the camp. The camp concluded with a one-day paper presentation workshop.





Academic Cooperation

Keynote by Professor Vernon Henderson (LSE) at the 2018 AREUEA



Keynote by Professor Joseph Gyourko (UPenn) at the 2018 AREUEA

2018 AREUEA International Conference

The 2018 AREUEA International Conference attracted more than 160 international scholars to disseminate theoretical and empirical research in real estate economics, real estate finance and urban economics, as well as to exchange ideas on applied decision making in related areas. Conference highlights included keynote addresses by Vernon Henderson (LSE) and Joseph E. Gyourko (UPenn), a special panel of local real estate industry representatives moderated by Sheridan Titman (UT Austin), and two days of parallel sessions.





Keynote by Professor Ariel Pakes (Harvard) at the 2019 CMES



Keynote by Professor Samuel Kortum (Yale) at the 2019 CMES

2019 China Meeting of the Econometric Society

The three-day 2019 China Meeting of the Econometric Society was host to nearly 300 scholars from more than 100 organizations across the globe, spurring the advancement of economic theory in its relation to statistics and mathematics and facilitating academic exchanges between scholars in China and other countries. The 2019 China Meeting featured 67 parallel sessions with over 260 papers presented and 11 keynote speeches, delivered by James J. Heckman (Chicago), Junsen Zhang (CUHK), Tong Li (Vanderbilt), Xiaohong Chen (Yale), Whitney Newey (MIT), Enrique Sentana (CEMFI), Christian Dustmann (UCL), Jess Benhabib (NYU), Jianjun Miao (BU), Ariel Pakes (Harvard), and Samuel Kortum (Yale).





Professor James Heckman giving a keynote speech at the 2018 Chicago-Jinan Joint Initiative Workshop

Chicago–Jinan Joint Initiative on the Study of Human Development

IESR and the Center for the Economics of Human Development (CEHD), led by Professor James Heckman, launched the Chicago-Jinan Joint Initiative on the Study of Human Development. The Initiative serves as a research home for both IESR and CEHD students, faculty, and visiting scholars from guest institutions. The Initiative marked a formalized partnership that began in 2016 and led to regular collaborative events and projects such as the Asian Family in Transition Conference on Migration, the HCEO-IESR Summer School, and the Longitudinal Study of Children's Development in Mianzhu, among others.



IESR Assistant Professor Cong Liu introducing economic history data at the Workshop

Workshop on Big Data Analytics in Business and Economic Research

In December 2019, IESR and the Centre for Business Analytics and the Digital Economy (CBADE) and the Department of Economics at Hong Kong Baptist University co-hosted the Workshop on Big Data Analytics in Business and Economic Research. Scholars from academia, industry, and government introduced data products on rural households, firms and employees, patents, customs records, trade, academic publishing, transportation, economic history, pollution and weather, etc. The workshop facilitated future data sharing and research cooperation among researchers.



Participants of the Workshop in 2019

Workshop on Firms in Emerging Economies

Workshop on Firms in Emerging Economies in 2019 invited scholars to present their latest research on international trade, industrial organization, development economics, and generate discussions on data and policies on industrial development in a globalized economy and across various emerging markets. Over the two-day workshop, Hugo Hopenhayn (UCLA), Lauren Bergquist (UMich), Yuhei Miyauchi (BU), Mike Dickstein (NYU), Kevin Lim (UToronto), Bee-Yan Roberts (PSU), Kevin Donovan (Yale), Daniel Bjorkegren (Brown) and Mitsuru Igami (Yale) gave presentations, along with a session for data benchmarking. This has been an annual workshop since 2017, coordinated by Daniel Yi Xu (Duke) and organized by IESR Research Center for International Trade and Firms.



Keynote by Professor Fernando Broner (CREI) at the 2018 Conference



Keynote by Professor Neng Wang (Columbia University) at the 2019 Conference

HKUST-Jinan Joint Conference on Macroeconomics

To promote academic exchange in the Greater Bay Area, HKUST Department of Economics and IESR co-hosted the HKUST-Jinan Joint Conference on Macroeconomics in 2018 and 2019. This annual conference has attracted economists from the United States, Europe, and China to discuss important macroeconomic issues.



Professor Jonathan Guryan (Northwestern) presenting at the 2017 International Symposium



IESR Assistant Professor Bin Xie commenting in a parallel session

International Symposium on Contemporary Labor Economics

Co-organized by IESR, the Wang Yanan Institute for Studies in Economics (WISE) of Xiamen University and the Department of Economics of The Chinese University of Hong Kong, the International Symposium on Contemporary Labor Economics attracted Chinese and international scholars to discuss the latest research on employment and unemployment, education and human capital, population and aging, marriage and intra-household decision, internal migration and urbanization, and other topics. This annual event was held in Guangzhou in 2017, in Xiamen in 2018, and in Shenzhen in 2019.



Professor Christopher Pissarides (LSE) lecturing at Jinan University



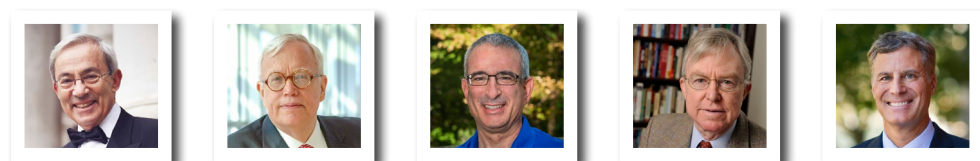
Xin Meng (The Australian National University)



Loren Brandt (University of Toronto)

Public Lectures

IESR regularly invites world-renowned scholars to deliver public lectures to faculty and students. Recent invited speakers include Christopher Pissarides (LSE), James Heckman (Chicago), Joshua Angrist (MIT), Robert Moffitt (JHU), and Alan Krueger (Princeton).

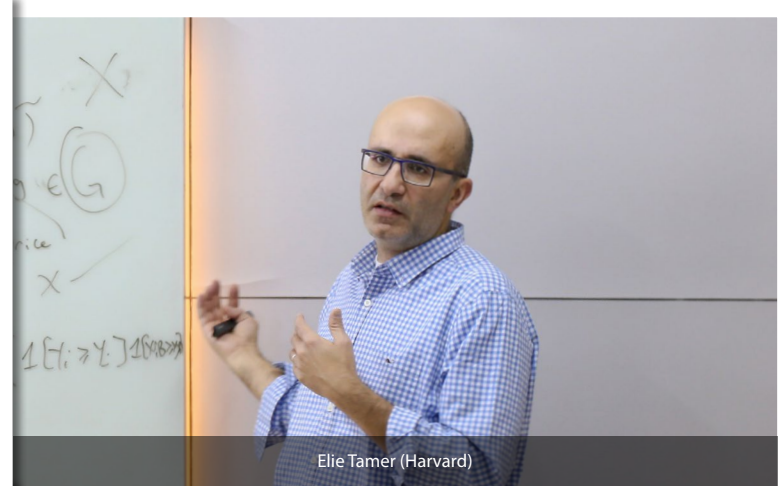


Regular Seminars

IESR had more than 200 regular seminars over the past four years. Invited speakers from all over the world presented their working papers and work in progress on a wide range of topics. Coordinated by field leaders, regular seminars are broadly categorized into eight fields: labor, development, econometrics, industrial organization and trade, urban and transportation, environmental and resource, macroeconomics and finance, and others.



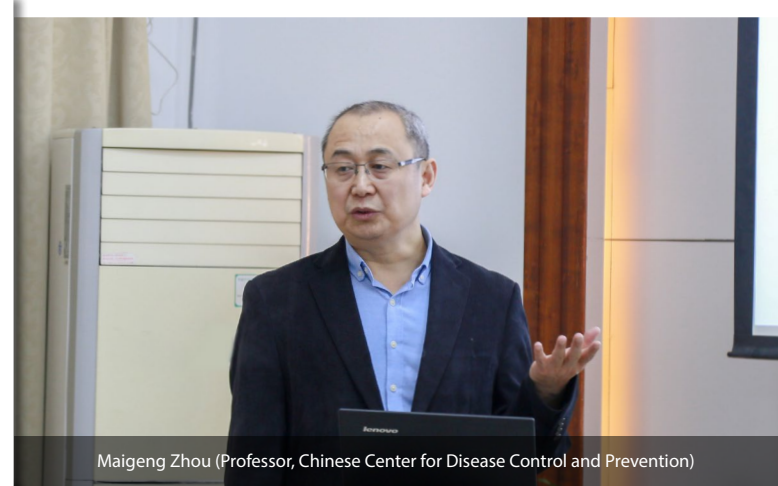
Vincent Yao (Georgia State)



Elie Tamer (Harvard)



Qian Wang (Commissioner, National Health Commission)



Maigeng Zhou (Professor, Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention)



Lars Lefgren (Brigham Young)



Sumit Agarwal (NUS)



Jian Chen (Founder and CEO, CreditWise Technology)



Ruoyun Zhao (Senior Director, TalkingData)

Short Courses

In addition to the training programs, IESR hosts a series of short courses on frontier topics for junior faculty and graduate students. Recent invited instructors include Elie Tamer (Harvard), Tong Li (Vanderbilt), Sumit Agarwal (NUS), Vincent Yao (Georgia State), Andrew Chesher (UCL), Russell Cooper (Penn State), and Lars Lefgren (Brigham Young).

Policy and Data Seminars

IESR invites researchers and governmental officials to discuss trending policy issues in China. Recent policy seminars cover topics on poverty alleviation, energy sector transformation, industrial policies, metropolitan development and housing markets, etc. IESR also organizes a special seminar series, IESR+, that brings researchers from industry and government to talk about novel data. Recent IESR+ seminars showcased online search data, individual-based transportation data, and micro-level administrative data on health outcomes.



Institute for Economic
and Social Research,
Jinan University