

## ELAINE M. LIU

---

University of Houston  
Department of Economics  
McElhinney Hall 223D  
Houston, TX 77004

Office: 713.743.3861  
Fax: 713.743.3798  
[emliu@uh.edu](mailto:emliu@uh.edu)  
[www.uh.edu/~emliu](http://www.uh.edu/~emliu)

### ACADEMIC POSITION

University of Houston, Department of Economics  
Associate Professor of Economics, September 2014-present  
Assistant Professor of Economics, 2008-2014

### AFFILIATION

Research Associate, Children/Health Economics Programs, National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), 2015-present  
Faculty Research Fellow, Children/Health Economics Programs, National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), 2014-2015  
Member, Human Capital and Economic Opportunity (HCEO) Global Working Group, 2014-present  
Research Fellow, Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA), 2013-present  
Visiting Scholar, Center for Chinese Agricultural Policy, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China, Summer 2006, Winter 2006, Summer 2007, Summer 2012

### EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, Princeton University, 2008  
Dissertation Titled: "Essays on Development Economics in China"  
  
M.A., Economics, Princeton University, 2005  
  
B.A. *magna cum laude*, Economics, Wellesley College, 2003  
Minor in Mathematics. Phi Beta Kappa

### FIELDS OF INTEREST

Health Economics, Development Economics, Behavioral Economics, Labor Economics

### PUBLICATION

"Measuring the Impact of Interactions between Children of a Matrilineal and a Patriarchal Culture on Gender Differences in Risk Aversion" (with Sharon Xuejing Zuo) (2019), 116(14) 6713-6719, *Proceedings of National Academy of Sciences*

"Maternal Education, Parental Investment and Non-Cognitive Characteristics in Rural China" (with Jessica Leight) Forthcoming at *Economic Development and Cultural Change*

"Who is Coming to the Field Experiment? Participation Bias amongst Chinese Rural Migrants" (with Paul Frijters and Sherry Tao Kong) (2015), Volume 114, 62-74. *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*

“Does in Utero Exposure to Illness Matter? The 1918 Influenza Epidemic in Taiwan as a Natural Experiment” (with Ming-Jen Lin) (2014), Volume 37, 152-163, *Journal of Health Economics*

“Confucianism and Social Preferences: Evidence from Lab Experiments” (with Juanjuan Meng and Joseph Tao-yi Wang), (2014), Volume 104, 106 – 122, *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*

“Time to Change What to Sow: Risk Preferences and Technology Adoption Decisions of Cotton Farmers in China”, (2013), Volume 95(4), 1386-1403, *Review of Economics and Statistics*

“Risk Preference and Pesticide Use by Cotton Farmers in China” (with JiKun Huang) (2013), Volume 103, 202-215, *Journal of Development Economics*

“Does Sorry Work? The Impact of Apology Laws on Medical Malpractice” (with Benjamin Ho) (2011) Volume 43(2), 141-167, *Journal of Risk and Uncertainty*

“What’s an Apology Worth? Estimating the Effects of Apology in Medical Malpractice ” (with Benjamin Ho) (2011) Vol. 8(S1), 179-199, *Journal of Empirical Legal Studies*

## **WORKING PAPERS**

“Property Rights, Land Misallocation and Agricultural Efficiency in China” (with A.V. Chari, Shing-Yi Wang, and Yongxiang Wang) Revise and Resubmit at *Review of Economic Studies*

“Relative Obesity and the Formation of Non-cognitive Abilities During Adolescence” (with C. Andrew Zuppann) Revise and Resubmit at *Journal of Human Resources*

“Beggars-Thy-Women: Domestic Responses to Foreign Bride Competition, the case of Taiwan” (with Lena Edlund and Jin-Tan Liu)

“A Meta-Analysis of the Estimates of Returns to Schooling in China” (with Shu Zhang)

“The Impact of a Natural Disaster on the Incidence of Fetal Losses and Pregnancy Outcomes” (with Tzu-yin Hazel Tseng and Jin-Tan Liu)

“Fetal Origins of Mental Health: Evidence from Natural Disasters in Taiwan” (With Jin-Tan Liu and Tzu-Yin Hazel Tseng)

“Acclimating to Air Pollution?” (with Wei Huang and Junjie Hong)

## **REFEREE**

American Economic Review, American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, American Journal of Agricultural Economics, China Economic Review, Demography, Economic Development and Cultural Change, Economics and Human Biology, Economic Inquiry, Economic Journal, European Economic Review, Hong Kong Research Grants Council, Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Development Studies, Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization, Journal of Empirical Legal Studies, Journal of the European Economic Association,

Journal of Environmental Economics and Management, Journal of Health Economics, Journal of Labor Economics, Journal of Law, Economics and Organization, Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, Journal of Public Economics, Labour Economics, National Science Foundation, Pacific Economic Review, PLOS One, Review of Economics and Statistics, Review of Economic Studies, Review of Economic of the Household, Scandinavian Journal of Economics, Southern Economic Journal, Swiss National Science Foundation

## **INVITED SEMINARS AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

*2019*

Auburn University, Singapore Management University (scheduled), Hong Kong Baptist University (scheduled)

*2018*

Texas A&M, University of International Business and Economics, Rice University Baker Institute China Studies, University of Houston Bauer School of Business, National Taiwan University

*2017*

NBER-Children/Education Spring Meeting

*2016*

National Taiwan University, SOLE, University of Montreal Applied Economics Conference, PAA, HKUST

*2015*

University of South Florida, IFPRI, SOLE, NBER-Health Economics Meeting, Barcelona GSE Summer Forum Migration Workshop

*2014*

American Economic Association Meeting, University of Wisconsin-Madison (Agricultural & Applied Economics), University of Michigan-Conference on the Long Run Impacts of Early Life Events, University of Texas (School of Public Health), Sam Houston State University

*2013*

Texas A&M, University of Georgia (Agricultural Economics), Chapman University, Claremont McKenna College, Emory University, Louisiana State University, Center for Chinese Agricultural Policy, Simon Fraser University, American Economic Association Meeting (discussant), NBER-Conference on Economics, Religion and Culture, Economic of Demography Workshop, Population Association of America, Society of Labor Economic Meeting (SOLE), MWIEDC, China Econometric Society Meeting, China Economic Summer Institute, NEUDC, Symposium on Economic Experiments in Developing Countries (SEEDC), International Symposium on Human Capital and the Labor Market—Central University of Finance and Economics, National Taiwan University

*2012*

University of California—Irvine, University of Southern California, Vanderbilt University, Vanderbilt University (Law School), Dalhousie University, University of Toronto (CEPA Brown Bag), University of Houston-Law Center, NBER-SI Health Economics Workshop, University of Goettingen-Workshop on Human Trafficking, International Crime and National Security, Pacific Conference for Development Economics, MWIEDC, National Taiwan University-2012 International Conference on New Perspectives in East Asian Studies, Academia Sinica-Conference on Socioeconomic Causes and Consequences of Public Health, European Association of Labour

Economists (invited session), Southern Economic Association, NEUDC, Texas STATA Empirical Micro Conference, National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies/Tokyo International Workshop on Development-Conference on Risks, Social Networks, and Development

*2011*

University of Maryland (School of Public Policy) , International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) (Development Strategy and Governance Division), University of Illinois (College of Law), Baylor University, University of Arkansas- Fayetteville, Academia Sinica, National Taiwan University, Tsinghua University- School of Economics and Management , Southwestern University of Finance and Economics, Peking University (Guanghua School of Management), University of Western Ontario-Workshop on Labor Markets in China and North America, Population Association of America, MWIEDC, University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, NBER-Chinese Economy Working Group (discussant), Southern Economic Conference

*2010*

Brigham Young University, Texas A&M, University of Hong Kong, National Taiwan University, American Economic Association, Economics and Management of Risk in Agricultural and Natural Resources Conference, Midwest International Economic Development Conference (MWEIDC) (University of Minnesota), American Law and Economic Association Meeting, American Society of Health Economists Conference, IZA/CIER Annual Labor Workshop, North America Economic Science Association

*2009*

Baylor College of Medicine, Biotechnology in Developing Countries Conference (UC Berkeley), Texas A&M University (Agricultural Economics), Southern Economic Conference

*2008*

North America Economic Science Association (ESA), Cornell University, China Summer Institute, New Techniques in Development Economics (Australian National University), University of Houston, National University of Singapore, National Taiwan University, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology.

*2007*

Princeton University, Rutgers University (Agricultural Economics), Northeast Universities Development Consortium Conference (NEUDC)

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Instructor, University of Houston 2008-Present

Development Economics (Undergraduate Level) (Teaching effectiveness evaluation: 4.5/5.0)

Chinese Economy (Undergraduate Level) (Teaching effectiveness evaluation:4.8/5.0)

Economics of Health Care (Undergraduate Level) (Teaching effectiveness evaluation: 4.1/5.0)

Introductory to Microeconomics (Undergraduate Level) (Teaching effectiveness evaluation: 4.1/5.0)

Health Economics (Masters Level) (Teaching effectiveness evaluation: 4.9/5.0)

Topics in Health Economics (Ph.D. Level) (Teaching effectiveness evaluation: 5.0/5.0)

Preceptor, Princeton University 2006-2007

Introductory Microeconomics, Introductory Macroeconomics

## **SERVICE**

Member, University of Houston Borders, Trade, and Immigration Institute Research Committee,

2018-present

Reviewer, Economic Demography Workshop, 2019

Co-Organizer, Graduate Student Workshop, 2015- present

Member, University of Houston Department of Economics Executive Committee, 2014-2018

Ph.D. Admission Committee, 2016--present

Reviewer, Midwest Development Economic Conference, 2015, 2017, 2019

Member, University of Houston Liberal Studies Evaluation Committee, 2015-2016

Member, Selection Committee for the 2015 Women and Gender Resource Center Distinguished Faculty Scholar and Distinguished Service to Women Awards, Spring 2015

Organizer, Faculty Brown Bag 2009-2015

Affiliate, Abramson Center for the Future of Health (Joint effort between University of Houston College of Technology and the Methodist Hospital Research Institute), Fall 2008- present

Member, University of Houston Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies Program Faculty Summer Fellowship Selection Committee, 2013

Member, University of Houston Department of Economics Microeconomics Recruiting Committee, 2009-2010, 2010-2011, 2012-2013, 2014-2015

Reviewing Ph.D. program applications, 2009-2010, 2010-2011, 2011-2012, 2013-2014

Reviewing Master's program applications, 2011-2012, 2012-2013, 2013-2014

Co-organizer (with colleague Aimee Chin) University of Houston Conference on Gender, Health and Economic Development, 2010

Co-organizer (with colleague Aimee Chin), Stata Empirical Microeconomics Conference, 2013

Co-organizer (with Shing-Yi Wang and Yongxiang Wang), Conference on Rural Issues and Development Economics, 2014

## **MEDIA COVERAGE OF MY PUBLICATIONS**

My work with Sharon Xuejing Zuo was featured on *NPR*, *Newsweek*, *London Times*, *Quartz*, *BBC Radio*.

My work with AV Chari, Shing-Yi Wang and Yongxiang Wang was featured on VoxDev and VoxChina blogs.

My work with Benjamin Ho on medical malpractice and apology was featured in the Idea Market Column in the *Wall Street Journal*, on the Daily Stats Column in the *Harvard Business Review*, and *Freakonomics Radio*.

## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

University of Houston, CLASS Research Progress Grant \$2,000 2015  
 Albert Rees Prize for Outstanding Princeton Ph.D. Dissertation in Labor Economics, 2013  
 Economic and Social Research Council/DFID (Principal Investigator, with Shing-Yi Wang and Yongxiang Wang) \$433,800 2012-2014  
 Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation Junior Scholar Grants, \$13,009, 2014  
 Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation Junior Scholar Grants, \$13,354, 2013  
 Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation Junior Scholar Grants, \$25,000, 2012  
 Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation Junior Scholar Grants, \$28,500, 2011  
 Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation Junior Scholar Grants, \$25,000, 2010  
 University of Houston Small Grant, \$6,000 2010  
 University of Houston New Faculty Grant, 2009  
 Princeton University John Parker Compton Memorial Fellowship in International Relations, 2007-2008  
 Princeton University Industrial Relations Section Research Grant, 2006  
 Princeton University Graduate School Summer Research Fellowship, 2004-2007  
 Princeton University Graduate School Fellowship, 2004-2007  
 Princeton University Harold W. Dodds Honorific Fellowship, 2003-2004  
 Wellesley College, Economics Department Honors Program, 2003

#### **Ph.D. DISSERTATION COMMITTEES**

If a student has been awarded a Ph.D. degree, the year that degree was awarded with initial placement is denoted. (\* asterisk denotes role as chair or co-chair of dissertation committee.)

- Saumya Rana (2019, Welch Consulting)
- Arpita Chakravorty\* (2018, 2MResearch)
- Sharon Xuejing Zuo\* (2018, Fudan University)
- Hazel Tzu-yin Tseng\* (2016, Amazon.com)
- Chon-Kit Ao (2016, National Cheng-Gong University)
- David Bostashvili (2015, Hanover Research)
- Randy Crouch\* (2015, Flagler College)
- Ashmita Gupta (2015, Indian Statistical Institute Post-doc)
- Abhilasha Singh (2014, Moody's Analytics)
- Shu Zhang\* (2013, NRG Energy)
- Satadru Mukherjee (2012, University of Memphis)
- Santosh Kumar (2010, Harvard School of Public Health Post-doc)