

# WEI-KANG WONG

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## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2001 – 2010: Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, National University of Singapore  
2011 - : Associate Professor, Department of Economics, National University of Singapore

## PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT

1995 – 2001: Senior Tutor, Department of Economics, National University of Singapore (on study leave during 1996 – 2001)  
1995: Central Banking Officer, Economics Department, Monetary Authority of Singapore (Jun – Oct)

## EDUCATION

B.Soc.Sci. (1<sup>ST</sup> Class Hons), National University of Singapore, 1995  
Ph.D., University of California at Berkeley, 2001  
Ph.D. Thesis Title: “Essays in Macroeconomics” (Principal Advisors: George Akerlof & David Romer)

## RESEARCH FIELDS

Behavioral Economics, Economic Growth & Macroeconomics, Applied Econometrics

## TEACHING FIELDS

Macroeconomics, Economics and Psychology, Finance

## FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND HONORS

2005 – 2010: Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Excellent Teacher Award (for 6 years)  
2004 – 2009, 2010-2011: Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Staff Research Support Scheme  
1996 – 2001: National University of Singapore Overseas Graduate Scholarship  
2000: Mini Grant for Data Acquisition, Institute for Business and Economic Research, UC Berkeley  
1995: Monetary Authority of Singapore Book Prize; S K Lee Scholarship  
1994: Singapore National Employers Federation Bronze Medal; Singapore National Academy of Science Award; Tan Lark Sye Scholarship  
1993: NTUC Medal

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

Assistant Editor, *Singapore Economic Review*, 2006-2009.  
Member, Review Committee, *the All China Economic (ACE) International Conference*, organized by APEC Study Center at the City University of Hong Kong, 2006, 2007

## **PUBLICATIONS**

1. [“How Good Are Trade and Telephone Call Traffic in Bridging Income Gaps and TFP Gaps?”](#) *Journal of International Economics*, 64(2), 2004, 441-463.
2. [“OECD Convergence: A Sectoral Decomposition Exercise.”](#) *Economics Letters*, 93(2), November 2006, 210–214.
3. [“Economic Growth: A Channel Accounting Exercise.”](#) *The B.E. Journals in Macroeconomics*: Vol. 7: Iss. 1 (Topics), Article 4, January 2007.
4. [“Nominal Increases and the Perception of Likelihood.”](#) *Economics Letters*, 95(3), June 2007, 433-437.
5. [“Comparing the Fit of the Gravity Model for Different Cross-Border Flows.”](#) *Economics Letters*, 99(3), June 2008, 474-477.
6. [“How Much Time-Inconsistency Is There and Does It Matter? Evidence on Self-Awareness, Size, and Effects.”](#) *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*, 68(3-4), December 2008, 645-656.
7. [“The Endowment Effect and the Reference State: Evidence and Manipulation.”](#) (with Jack L. Knetsch). *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization* 71(2), August 2009, 407-413.
8. [“The Political Economy of Housing Prices: Hedonic Pricing with Regression Discontinuity.”](#) (with Eddie Sue). *Journal of Housing Economics* 19(2), June 2010, 133-144.
9. [“Consumption Response to Government Transfers: Behavioral Motives Revealed by Savers and Spenders.”](#) *Contemporary Economic Policy* 30(4), October 2012, 489-501.

## **WORKING PAPERS**

1. Are Employers Susceptible to Coarse Thinking? Implications for Wage Determination and Returns to Signaling (with Jessica Pan and Dominic Soon)
2. Superstition and Asset Markets: Evidence from Singapore Housing (with Sumit Agarwal, Jia He, Haoming Liu, I.P.L. Png, and Tien-Foo Sing)
3. Parental Valuation of Priority Admission to Primary Schools: The Effects of Academic Reputation and Choices.
4. The Effect of Integration Policy for New Migrants on Housing Prices: Evidence from the Permanent Resident Quota in Singapore (with Hsienwei Tan).
5. Multiple Proposers in Ultimatum Game: Simultaneous Offer versus Sequential Offer.
6. The Endowment Effect and The Willingness to Accept-Willingness to Pay Gap: Do Procedural Details Matter When the Other Controls for Subject Misconceptions Are Present? (with Koh Weining).
7. The Channels of Conditional Convergence During 1960-2000: Allowing for Variable Capital Shares Across Countries (with Melvin Koh).
8. Does An Additional Year of Schooling Improve Skills in Reading, Mathematics and Science? Regression Discontinuity due to Imprecise Control over Birthdates (with Khaw Kaimin)
9. How Much Does Schooling Lead to Skill Formation? International Evidence From Sharp and Fuzzy Regression Discontinuity Designs (with Jason Lau).

## **WORK IN PROGRESS**

1. Loss Aversion in the Singapore Housing Market (with Shawn Seah).
2. Does Central Bank Independence Reduce the Incidence or Severity of Currency and Banking Crises? (with Foo Qixiang and Lau Zhengyi).
3. Multiple Recipients in Ultimatum Game: The Effect of Different Voting Rules.

### **PRESENTATIONS IN CONFERENCES**

2013: Econometric Society Australasian Meeting 2013; Asian Meeting of the Econometric Society 2013  
2012: Econometric Society Australasian Meeting 2012; Conference on “Evidence-based Public Policy Using Administrative Data” at Civil Service College, Singapore  
2010: 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Congress of the European Economic Association  
2009: 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Congress of the European Economic Association  
2008: The 2nd Joint Economics Symposium of Yonsei-Keio-Fudan-UHK-NUS; Fourth Asia Pacific Meeting of the Economic Science Association  
2007: Singapore Economic Review Conference; All China Economics (ACE) International Conference  
2006: 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Congress of the European Economic Association  
2005: 80<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Western Economic Association International  
2004: 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Congress of the European Economic Association  
2003: 58<sup>th</sup> European Meeting of the Econometric Society  
2003: Dynamics, Economic Growth, and International Trade (DEGIT) VIII Conference  
2002: 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Congress of the European Economic Association

### **PRESENTATIONS IN SEMINARS**

2004: European Institute of Japanese Studies at Stockholm School of Economics; National University of Singapore  
2003: Singapore Management University  
2002: National University of Singapore  
2001: National University of Singapore  
2000: UC Berkeley (Macroeconomic Seminar)  
1999: UC Berkeley (Macroeconomic Seminar)

### **PRESENTATIONS ON TEACHING**

2005: Motivating Students to Learn: Sharing and Demonstration Session with All Participants, 18 November 2005, CDTL, NUS.  
2004: Innovative Approaches to University Teaching and Learning, 4-5 November 2004, CDTL-FASS Symposium, NUS.

### **REFeree FOR**

American Economic Review, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization, Economica, Journal of Behavioral Decision Making, Journal of Economic Psychology, Journal of Productivity Analysis, The World Economy (in association with the ACE conference 2007), BE Journal of Macroeconomics, BE Journal of Economic Analysis and Policy, Journal of Asian Economics, Singapore Economic Review, Journal of Economic Education.

### **SUPERVISORY WORK FOR PHD THESIS**

1. Zhang Jianlin (PhD), “Essays on Experimental Organizational and Behavioral Economics.”

### **SUPERVISORY WORK FOR HONOURS THESES**

1. Tan Wee Jin, “The effects of school locations on housing prices in Singapore: a case study.”  
2. Fang Nan-Siew, “Why do people dislike inflation: survey evidence from Singapore.”

3. Fong Joyce Lu, "The value of a day: labor supply of Singapore taxi drivers revisited."
4. Kelvin Si Yan Yi, "Firm size, turnover, and the profitability of momentum strategies in the Singapore stock market."
5. Alan Yap Wei Loon, "Progress package and its implications on Ricardian equivalence."
6. Seah Kwee Lim, "Inward foreign direct investment as a channel of R&D spillovers?"
7. Eddie Sue Dao Wei, "Do people value living in the constituency of the ruling party? Evidence using hedonic pricing with regression discontinuity."
8. Low Hui Ping, "To share or not to share? The influence of salience on generosity in dictator games."
9. Melvin Koh Kint Hock, "Cross-country conditional convergence: a channel decomposition exercise with variable factor shares."
10. Tan Wei Long, "Openness, inflation and the sacrifice ratio: evidence from panel data."
11. Koh Weining, "Valuation disparities: a result of misconceptions or reference dependence?"
12. Foo Qixinag, "Central bank independence and systemic banking crises."
13. Seah Li Song Shawn, "Loss aversion in the Singapore housing market."
14. Khaw Kaimin, "Does an additional year of schooling improve skills in reading, math and science? A regression discontinuity approach using variation in birthdates around the school entry cut-off date."
15. Lau Zheng Yi, "Does central bank independence reduce the incidence or severity of banking and currency crises?"
16. Jason Lau How Leong, "A cross-country comparison of educational effectiveness."
17. Samuel Yeo Jianxing, "The effect of macroeconomic experiences on investment behavior."
18. Tan Hsien Wei, "The impact of Singapore permanent resident and ethnic integration policy quotas on the HDB resale market"
19. Low Weijian, "Categorical thinking: a case study in Singapore's property market."
20. Ngho Siyuan, "Does investment depend on cash flow? Evidence from listed Singapore firms."

#### **SUPERVISORY WORK FOR INDEPENDENT STUDY**

2008: Melvin Koh Kint Hock  
 2007: Jesse Chin Jun Liang  
 2006: Sarunyu Jitsophon  
 2005: Byron Teo Yongxin

#### **SUMMER SCHOOL ATTENDED**

2002: Russell Sage Summer Institute in Behavioral Economics (organized by David Laibson, George Loewenstein, and Matt Rabin), University of California, Berkeley, USA.

#### **CONSULTANCY WORK**

2006: World Bank, The East Asia Project, *Idea Flows and Innovation in East Asia*, February – May 2006.

#### **INVITED TALKS**

2011: Session on "Behavioral Economics: Principles, Evidence, and Applications" on 28 September 2011 for *The 5th Economics for Policy Analysts (EPA) Program*, Civil Service College, Singapore.  
 2008: Talk on "The Missing Behavioral Motives in New Classical Macroeconomics: Putting Some Human-ness back to Economic Agents" on 25 March 2008 at Professor Jack Knetsch's Behavioral Economics Workshop at the Civil Service College, Singapore.

2006: Session on Behavioral Economics, *Regulatory Impact Assessment and Decision Analysis*, 31 May - 1 June, 2006, Organized by The Economic Growth Centre, Division of Economics, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore.

**OTHER INFORMATION**

Affiliations: American Economic Association

Language: Chinese, English.