

**LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS & POLITICAL SCIENCE**

**Department of Economics**

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**DATE OF BIRTH:** November 23rd, 1981      **SEX:** Female      **CITIZENSHIP:** Chinese

**PRE-DOCTORAL STUDIES:**

2005 - 2007 MRes in Economics with merit, London School of Economics, UK  
2003 - 2005 M.A. in Economics with distinction, Tsinghua University, China  
1999 - 2003 B.A. in Economics with distinction, Tsinghua University, China

**DOCTORAL STUDIES:** London School of Economics

**DATES:** September 2007 - present

**THESIS TITLE:** "Essays on Chinese Economic Reform and Development"

**EXPECTED COMPLETION DATE:** July 2010

**THESIS ADVISOR AND REFERENCES:**

Dr. Oriana Bandiera (Advisor)  
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4. Prof. Alwyn Young  
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**DESIRED TEACHING AND RESEARCH:**

Primary Fields: Development Economics, Applied Econometrics

Secondary Fields: Public Economics, Chinese Economy

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE:**

2006-2009, Economics B, for Prof. Alwyn Young, Undergraduate level, LSE.

2003-2004, Advanced Topics of Development Economics, for Prof. Cheng-gang Xu, Graduate level, Tsinghua University

**RELEVANT POSITIONS HELD:**

2008-2009 Research assistant of Prof. Robin Burgess (LSE)

2006-2008 Research assistant of Prof. Cheng-gang Xu (HKU)

2005 Research assistant of Prof. Yingyi Qian (University of California, Berkeley) & Prof. Cheng-gang Xu (HKU)

**LANGUAGES**

Chinese (Native), English (Fluent)

**HONORS, SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS:**

2008-2009 LSE Research Studentship, LSE

2008 Michio Morishima Fund for PhD Student, STICERD, LSE

2005-2008 Vincent Cheng Scholarship, LSE

1999-2004 Scholarship for Excellent Students, Tsinghua University, China

2002 Second-class Prize in Paper Contest for Telecommunications Universal Service, the Ministry of Information Industry of China

**COMPLETED PAPERS:**

***Job Market Paper:***

**“The Economic Impact of Special Economic Zones: Evidence from Chinese Municipalities”**, mimeo, October, 2009

How large are the benefits of Special Economic Zones and what are the channels of these benefits? To shed some light on these questions, I collect a unique dataset of Chinese municipality economic statistics from 1978 and 2007 and use it to evaluate the impact of a Special Economic Zone experiment which

aimed at attracting foreign direct investment. Guided by three predictions from a theoretical framework, I find the Special Economic Zone policy: 1) increases per capita foreign direct investment by 58%, mainly in the form of foreign-invested and export-oriented industrial enterprises; 2) does not crowd out domestic investment and domestically owned capital stock and 3) increases total factor productivity growth by 0.6 percentage points. The results suggest that creating Special Economic Zones not only brings capital, but also more advanced technology, and provide important policy implications for many developing countries.

***Other Papers:***

**“Fiscal Incentive: Testing for China’s Sub-national Governments”**, mimeo, September, 2008

This paper evaluates the fiscal incentive faced by China’s sub-national governments. In 1994, Chinese sub-national governments engaged in one of the largest fiscal reforms in record, which set marginal sharing rates of budgetary taxes across provinces to a uniform level. Using panel data between 1980 and 2005, I exploit heterogeneity in the pre-reform marginal sharing rates of budgetary revenue across provinces to test the impact of marginal sharing rate change on local governments’ tax enforcement effort and extra-budgetary revenue collection effort. In 1994 tax separating reform, regarding the budgetary revenue category, for business tax and enterprise income tax, provinces with lower starting level experienced larger increase in marginal sharing rate, and exhibit higher efforts; for value added tax, provinces with lower starting level experienced smaller decrease in marginal sharing rate, exhibiting higher efforts. Regarding extra-budgetary revenue category, provinces with lower pre-existing sharing rates in budgetary tax put more effort in collecting extra-budgetary revenue before 1994 and put less effort after the 1994 reform relative to provinces with higher pre reform sharing rates. The results suggest that, China’s local governments treat budgetary tax collection and extra budgetary revenue collection as substitutes.

***Work in Progress:***

**The Special Economic Zone experiment and Urbanization in Chinese Municipalities**

**PRESENTATIONS IN CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS**

2008 Stanford Institute of Theoretical Economics summer workshop, Stanford University  
Public Economics of UK conference, Warwick University  
London School of Economics Seminar  
Hong Kong University of Science and Technology Seminar  
The University of Hong Kong Seminar  
Chinese University of Hong Kong seminar

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY**

Referee for: *Journal of Public Economics*

**Publications**

Mingzhi Li and Jin Wang, “China’s Telecommunications Industry: Transformation and Challenges”, in *Policies and Social Welfare in the 21st Century: Challenges and Responses for China and Thailand* (chapter10: page 207-220), published by Cengage Learning Asia Pte Ltd, 2009.