

## **CHUN-WING TSE**

1144 Commonwealth Avenue

Apt. 20

Allston MA 02134 USA

Cell: +1-857-389-8580 Fax: +1-617-353-4449

Email: [winghk@bu.edu](mailto:winghk@bu.edu)

Web site: <http://blogs.bu.edu/winghk/>

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### **EDUCATION**

Ph.D., Economics, Boston University, Boston, MA, May 2012 (expected)

Dissertation Title: *Three Essays on Environmental and Development Economics*

Main advisor: Dilip Mookherjee

Dissertation Committee: Dilip Mookherjee, Daniele Paserman and Michael Manove

M.Sc., Economics, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Hong Kong, 2004

B.Sc., Actuarial Science, University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, 2002

### **FIELDS OF INTEREST**

Environmental Economics, Development Economics

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Teaching Fellow, Master Level Statistics, Department of Economics, Boston University, Fall 2011

Teaching Assistant, Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory, Department of Economics, Boston University, Spring 2011

Teaching Assistant, Intermediate Microeconomic Theory, Department of Economics, Boston University, Fall 2010

Teaching Assistant, Development Economics, Department of Economics, Boston University, Fall 2009

Teaching Assistant, Health Economics, Department of Economics, Boston University, Fall 2008 and Spring 2009

### **WORK EXPERIENCE**

Research Assistant for Prof. Yun-Wing Sung, Hong Kong Institute of Asia Pacific Studies, Chinese University of Hong Kong, 2005-2007

Investment Operations Assistant, ABN Amro, Hong Kong, 2004-2005

Research Assistant for Prof. David Cook, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, 2003-2004

### **FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS**

Pardee's Summer Fellowship, Boston University, Summer 2011

Special Research Fellowship, Boston University, Spring 2010

Distinction in Ph.D. Macroeconomics Qualifying Exam, Boston University, Spring 2008

Dean's Fellowship, Boston University, 2007-2012

**WORKING PAPERS**

- “Do Natural Disasters Really Lead to More Migration? Evidence from Indonesia,” November 2011.  
“Welcoming Tourists or Epidemics? Dilemma of Border Control Policies,” October 2009.

**WORK IN PROGRESS**

- “Risk Aversion, Time Preferences and Rainfall: Evidence from Ethiopia’s Droughts”  
“Social Capital in Indonesia”

**CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS**

- Northeast Universities Development Consortium (NEUDC) Conference, New Haven, CT, 2011  
Pardee Center Research Seminar, Boston, MA, 2011

**LANGUAGES**

Fluent in English, Cantonese and Mandarin. Intermediate in Japanese

**COMPUTER SKILLS:** STATA, Scientific WorkPlace, LyX, Microsoft Office

**CITIZENSHIP/VISA:** HONG KONG SAR, CHINA / F-1 VISA

**REFERENCES**

**Professor Dilip Mookherjee**

Department of Economics  
Boston University  
Phone: +1-617-353-4392  
Email: [dilipm@bu.edu](mailto:dilipm@bu.edu)

**Professor Daniele Paserman**

Department of Economics  
Boston University  
Phone: +1-617-358-5695  
Email: [paserman@bu.edu](mailto:paserman@bu.edu)

**Professor Michael Manove**

Department of Economics  
Boston University  
Phone: +1-617-353-3299  
Email: [manove@bu.edu](mailto:manove@bu.edu)

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**Do Natural Disasters Really Lead to More Migration? Evidence from Indonesia** (Job Market Paper)

Using panel datasets of Indonesia, I look at how earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and floods, affect household migration. The study separately examines the impact on tendency of entire households to out-migrate, as well as for part of the household to split off and out-migrate. Contrary to received wisdom, I find all three types of disasters significantly reduce out-migration rates. Nevertheless, the channels of impact are quite different. Earthquakes reduce household size, earnings and non-business assets, each of which tends to reduce out-migration rates. Volcanic eruptions on the other hand raise the value of farmland, which also reduces out-migration. Floods have no significant impacts on household assets or earnings, and their effect remains unexplained.

**Risk Aversion, Time Preferences and Rainfall: Evidence from Ethiopia's Droughts**

Using the last round of Ethiopian Rural Household Survey (ERHS) conducted in 2009, I estimate how rain failures change household level of impatience and behaviors of risk aversion. The results show that inappropriate timing and duration of rainfall make households more impatient. Also, when rain failures get more frequent, households become more risk averse. The paper goes on to study how risk aversion and time preferences affect different household decisions and discovers that more risk averse households spend less on fertilizers and take less loan for off-farm businesses. Meanwhile, households which show higher level of impatience spend less on child education.

**Social Capital in Indonesia**

This paper studies the impacts of accumulating social capital on household socio-economic welfare in Indonesia. In particular, I look at the effectiveness of social capital in reducing the adverse effects of economic shocks of various kinds. The findings show that households taking part more in Arisan (the Rotating Savings and Credit Association in Indonesia) and other general social organizations fare better in total earnings, level of food consumption, child education and health status. Accumulating more social capital is also effective in lessening the adverse impacts of economic shocks, which enables household to maintain total earnings and level of food consumption. Finally, the paper goes on to check whether social capital and government support are complementary goods or substitutes and discovers that households provided with more government support take part less in general social organizations but their participation in Arisan is not much affected.