

Singapore Management University Economics Postgraduate Programmes by Research Information Session

MPhil | PhD in Economics



Nicolas L. Jacquet
Associate Professor of Economics
Associate Dean (Postgraduate Research Programmes)

A bit of history

2000 – SMU

2002 – School of Economics and Social Sciences

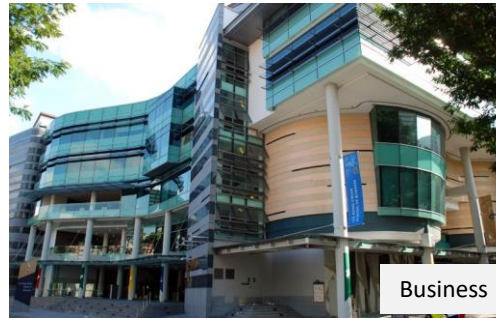
2007 – School of Economics

Today – **Almost 60 Faculty**

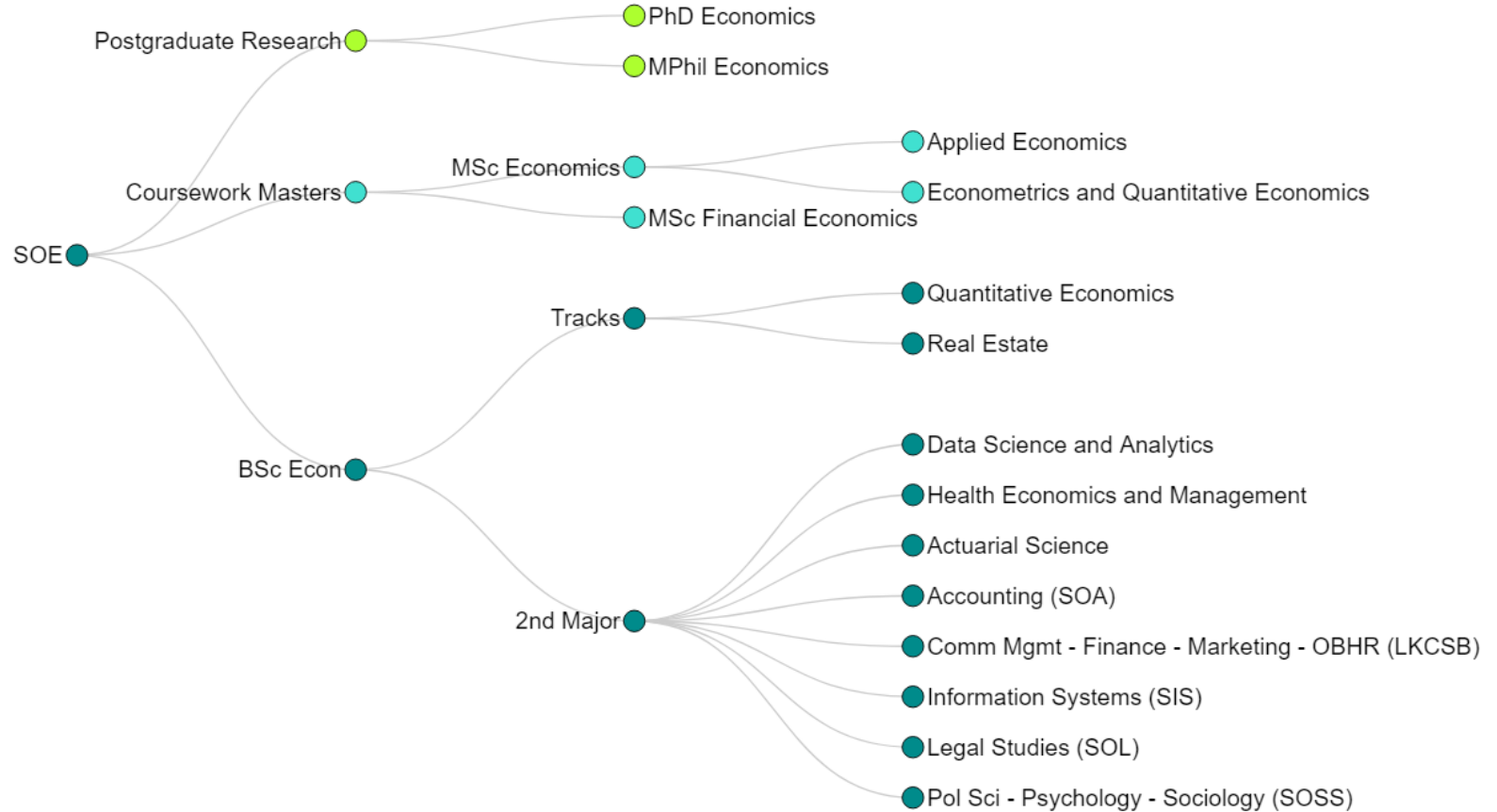
Econometrics, Health Economics, Empirical Industrial Organisation, International Trade, Real Estate and Urban Economics, Labour Economics, Human Capital and Education, Game Theory, Decision Theory, Social Choice and Mechanism Design, Monetary and Macroeconomics

SMU

A specialized university since 2000



SMU School of Economics Programmes



**SOE
Dean**



Hoon Hian Teck

**Distinguished
Visiting
Professors**



Peter Phillips



Atsushi Kajii

**Emeritus
Professors**



Bryoz Hool



Augustine Tan



Roberto Mariano



Tse Yiu Kuen

Research Professors



Chow Hwee Kwan



Shruvit Chatterji



Yu Jun



Yang Zhenlin



Denis Leung



Hoon Hian Teck



Phang Sock Yong



Jia U



Tomoki FUJII



Gea M. LEE



Nicolas L. Jacquet



Takashi Kunimoto



Chang Pao Li



Huane Fall



Nicolas L. Jacquet



Anthony Tay



Christine Ho



Kim Seonghoon



Juliana Sun



Yuan Mei



Gea M. LEE



Amanda Jakobsson



Zhang Yichong



Xue Jingyi



Ismail Baydur



Matthew Shapiro



Li Jing



Iona Lee



Xu Jianhuan



Myong Sunha



Massi Landi



Lee Jungho



Xuan Zhang



Aljoscha Janssen



Ma Lin



Joanna Tan



Yang Chenying



Li Jiantao

**Senior
Lecturers**



Rosie Ching



Hailey Hong



Wu Zhengxiao



Huynh Bao Tan



Liu Shew Fan

Practice / Education Professors



Chow Hwee Kwan



Kwong Koon Shing



Tan Kim Song



Tan Swee Liang



Madhav Aney



Massi Landi



HO Kong Weng



Daniel Pree



Goh Jing Hong

MSE / MSFE Adjunct Professors



Joshua Greene



Liang Zhao



Poh Lip Hang



Tu Jun



Jeremy Goh



Aurobindo Ghosh



Hamish Macalister



Tay Swee Yuan

**Deputy
Dean**

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A leading school for economics research in Asia

**1ST
IN ASIA**

**TOP 10
WORLDWIDE**

for Econometrics Research, and 74th worldwide for overall Economics research in the Tilburg University Economics Schools Research Ranking based on contributions from 2016 to 2020



**Top 100 Worldwide
Economics Schools**

What is are MPhil and PhD in Economics programme/degrees?

- MPhil and PhD are a academic research degrees
 - Degree is earned by engaging in **research**
 - Focus is on **academic** research
 - Coursework component is **preparation** for research
- Academic economic research:
 - *Uncover underlying mechanisms of economic phenomena*
 - *Developing better economic models*
 - *Developing tools for better empirical economic research*
 - *Designing better markets, institutions, and policies*

*A **PhD Dissertation** is expected to make an important and substantial contribution to knowledge, the advancement of a theory*

Our Research Strength

- Econometrics
- Game Theory, Social Choice and Mechanism Design
- Health Economics
- Empirical Industrial Organisation
- International Trade
- Labour Economics, Human Capital and Education
- Monetary and Macroeconomics
- Real Estate and Urban Economics

Faculty Profiles

Shurojit CHATTERJI

“Random assignment of bundles”, with Liu Peng, **Journal of Mathematical Economics**, forthcoming.

“Random mechanism design on multidimensional domains”, with Huaxia Zeng, **Journal of Economic Theory**, Vol. 182, Jul 2019.

“On random social choice functions with the tops-only property” with Huaxia Zeng, **Games and Economic Behavior**, Vol. 109, May 2018.



Jun YU

“Deviance Information Criterion for Latent Variable Models and Missepecified Models”, with Li, Y., Zeng, T., **Journal of Econometrics**, 2020, 216(2), 450-493.

“Forecasting Equity Index Volatility by Measuring the Linkage among Component Stocks”, with Qiu, Y., Xie, T., Zhou, Q., **Journal of Financial Econometrics**, 2020, forthcoming

“Random Coefficient Continuous Systems: Testing for Unstable and Explosive Behaviour”, with Tao, Y., Phillips, P.C.B., **Journal of Econometrics**, 2019, 208-237.

Faculty Profiles

Pao-Li CHANG

“Made in Singapore”, with Phuong T. B. Nguyen, **Singapore Economic Review** forthcoming, 2020.

“Geography, Trade and Power-Law Phenomena”, with Wen-Tai Hsu, **Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Economics and Finance**, Jan 2020, Oxford University Press.

“Trade and Divergence in Education Systems”, with Fali Huang **International Economic Review**, Nov 2014, 55(4): 1251–1280.



Jingyi XUE

“Preferences with changing ambiguity aversion”, **Economic Theory**, 2018, 1-60.

“Sharing sequential values in a network”, with JUAREZ, Ruben, CHIU, Yu Ko, **Journal of Economic Theory**, 2018, 177, 734-779.

“Fair division with uncertain needs”, **Social Choice and Welfare**, 2018, 51 (1), 105-136.

Faculty Profiles

KIM Seonghoon

"Potential Crime Risk and Housing Market Responses," with Kwan Ok Lee, **Journal of Urban Economics**, 2018, 108: 1-17.

"The Role of Career and Wage Incentives in Labor Productivity: Evidence from a Two-Stage Field Experiment in Malawi," with Hyuncheol Bryant Kim and Thomas Kim, **Review of Economics and Statistics**, 2020, 102(5): 839-851.

"The Effects of Income on Health: Evidence from Lottery Wins in Singapore," with Kanghyock Koh, **Journal of Health Economics**, 2021, 76(2).



Jing Li

"Monthly Spending Dynamics of the Elderly Following a Health Shock: Evidence from Singapore" with Terence Cheng and Rhema Vaithianathan, **Health Economics** 28, 2019: pp.23-43.

"The Impact of In-house Unnatural Death on Property Values - Evidence from Hong Kong", with Zheng Chang, **Regional Science and Urban Economics** 73, 2018: pp.112-126.

"Strategic Sequential Bidding for Government Land Auction Sales - Evidence from Singapore", with Sumit, Agarwal, Ernie Teo, and Alan Cheong, **The Journal of Real Estate Finance and Economics** 57, 2018: pp.535-565.

Faculty Profiles



Ismail BAYDUR

“Worker Selection, Hiring, and Vacancies”, **American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics**, 9(1): 88-127, Jan 2017.

“Job Duration and Match Characteristics over the Business Cycle”, with Toshihiko Mukoyama, **Review of Economic Dynamics**, Volume 37, July 2020, Pages 33-53.

VAT Treatment of Financial Institutions: Implications for the Real Economy”, with Fatih Yilmaz, accepted at **Journal of Money, Credit, and Banking**.

Yichong ZHANG

“Root-n Consistency of the Binary Response Model under Tail Restrictions”, with Lili Tan, **Econometric Theory**, 2018, Vol. 34, No. 6, 1180–1206.

“Extremal Quantile Regressions for Selection Models and the Black-White Wage Gap”, with Xavier D’Haultfœuille and Arnaud Maurel, **Journal of Econometrics**, 2018, Vol. 203, No. 1, 129–142.

“Extremal Quantile Treatment Effects”, **The Annals of Statistics**, 2018, Vol. 46, No. 6B, 3707–3740.



Why study for an Econ MPhil or PhD and Who should do it?

You are someone

- who **loves** Economics
 - whose interests naturally focuses on economic issues
 - who **burns** to understand underlying mechanisms driving economic phenomena
- has the right **mind-set** for research
 - Independent, hard working, and resilient
 - strong in mathematics / statistics (in addition to a good Economics mind)

You want to pursue a career that requires you to

- **engage** in academic economic research
Professors in research universities (PhD), research agencies
- **understand** and **use** latest academic economic research
International organizations, central banks and policy institutions, professors in teaching universities (PhD), industry

SMU PhD in Economics

- Programme:
 - US style program (2 years coursework, 3+ years research)
 - Well structured, with clear milestones
 - Aim to develop students into **independent** researchers
 - Includes instructor training, job market preparation
- Outcomes:
 - Many students publish before graduation
 - Excellent placement:
 - Academic: CUHK, SJTU, Renmin, Fudan, SHUFE, Gothenburg
 - Industry and Government: Moody's, Lazada, ShanghaiTrust, MTI, CPF

SMU MPhil in Economics

- Programme:
 - 2-year programme: equivalent to 10 months (2 terms) for coursework, 14 months for dissertation
 - **Flexible** to fit needs and aspirations of students: PhD or Government/Industry; Strong background in both Econ and Maths or not.
 - Aim to bring students to the forefront of economic knowledge, **expose** them to academic research, and **prepare** them for a PhD.
- Outcomes:
 - Admission into other top PhD programmes (UCL, Sciences Po)
 - Transferring to SMU PhD programme is possible

SMU MPhil/PhD: Scholarships & Fellowships

Fully-funded Scholarships (MPhil and PhD)

(cover registration & tuition fees, and provides monthly stipends for 1st 4 years for PhD and for 2 years for MPhil)

Doctoral Fellowships (PhD)

(Presidential Doctoral Fellowships & Interdisciplinary Doctoral Fellowships)

Graduate Assistantship Programme (PhD)

(includes Graduate Instructors, Research & Teaching Assistantships)

- *Generous conference funding for PhD students is also provided: SGD3,500.*
- *In the 5th year, students who have been on the scholarship may receive continued support through research and teaching assistantships, graduate instructor positions or industry grants.*

SMU PhD: Scholarships & Fellowships

Monthly Stipends for Full Scholarship

Nationality	Before Qualifying Exam	After Qualifying Exam
Singapore Citizen	S\$2,800	S\$3,300
Singapore Permanent Resident	S\$2,400	S\$2,900
Foreign Student	S\$2,200	S\$2,700

Monthly Stipends for Doctoral Fellowships

- Presidential Doctoral Fellowships (PDF)
- Interdisciplinary Doctoral Fellowships (IDF)

Nationality	Monthly Stipend
Singapore Citizens	S\$3,600
Singapore Permanent Residents	S\$3,400
International Students	S\$3,100

- **PDF:** Awarded to exceptionally qualified PhD candidates (incoming & existing)
- **IDF:** Awarded to existing PhD candidates who have shown exemplary pursuit of research that crosses traditional disciplinary boundaries.
- Higher monthly stipends.
- Additional conference funding of SGD3,500.

SMU MPhil: Scholarships

Monthly Stipends for **Full Scholarship**

Nationality	Stipend
Singapore Citizens	\$2,800
Singapore Permanent Residents	\$2,000
International Students	\$1,900

SMU PhD: Student Experiences That You Can Look Forward To

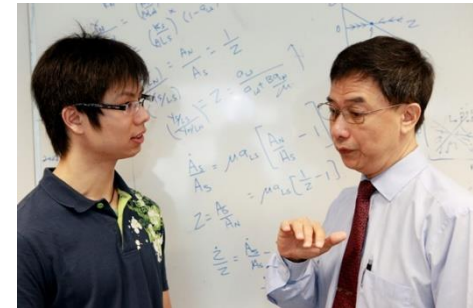
Academic Training & Professional Skills Training

Academic Training

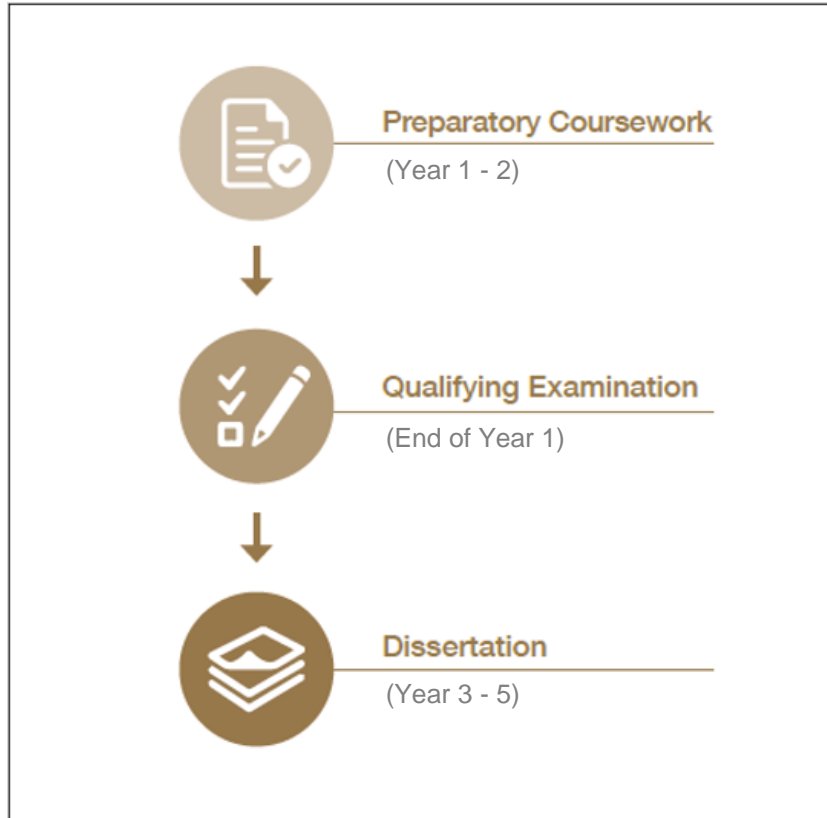
- Provided with **high quality academic research PhD curriculum**
- Appointed as **research assistants** at the Schools, & SMU centres & institutes
- Participate in **international research conferences**

Professional Skills Training

- Provided with **teaching skills training** through workshops
- Provided with **English communication, and scientific presentation & writing skills training** through courses
- Provided with **career development** workshops



Programme Structure



Preparatory Coursework Requirement

A combination of:

- Foundation Courses (Year 1)
- Empirical Research Project (Year 1)
- Advanced Research Topics (Year 2)

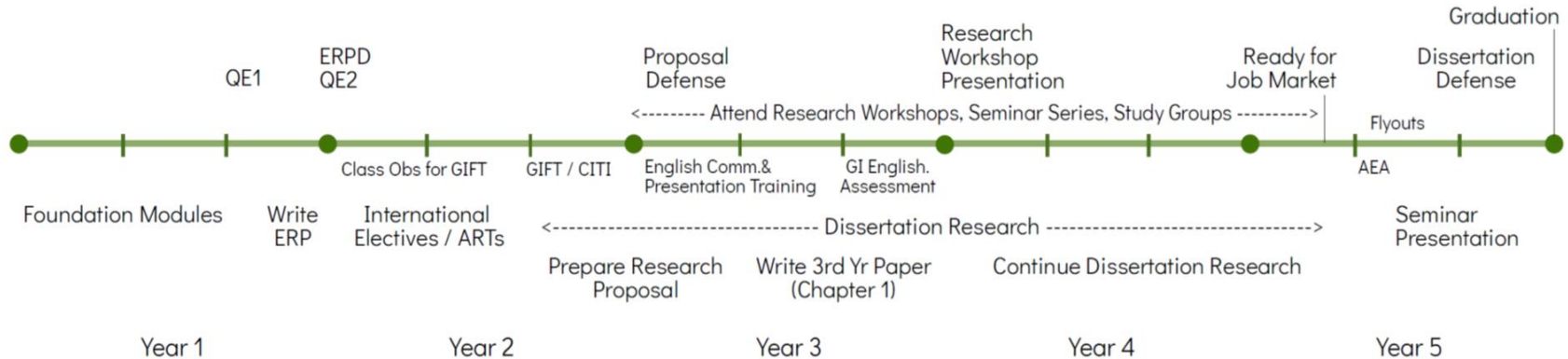
Qualifying Examination (QE)

- Students are **assessed on the mastery of the foundation required** for the Dissertation

Dissertation

- **Oral presentation of the proposed topic** to a Dissertation Committee
- **Oral presentation of the written dissertation report** to the Dissertation Committee

Programme Timeline



QE: Qualifying Exams
 QE2: Qualifying Exams Re-Sit (if necessary)
 ERP: Empirical Research Project
 ERPD: Empirical Research Project Defense
 ARTs: Advanced Research Topics (2nd year field courses)

GIFT: Graduate Instructor Forum for Teaching
 CITI: Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative
 (Basic course on protecting human participants in research)
 GI: Graduate Instructor
 AEA: Job interviews at American Economic Association meetings

Admission Requirements

- A strong Bachelor / Master degree, preferably in Economics, Mathematics, Statistics or related fields
- Excellent GRE / GMAT scores
Selected SMU, NUS, NTU graduates may use academic transcript in place of GRE/GMAT
- TOEFL / IELTS
Required if first degree is not in English, 90 (TOEFL) / 6.5 (IELTS) or higher
- Personal and Research Statements
- Curriculum Vitae
- Two Reference Letters (preferably with academic focus)
- Admission interview for shortlisted candidates

Apply by 31 January 2023 for AY2023/24 intake!

Graduate Placements



CHEN Renjing
Assistant Professor
Economics & Management School
Wuhan University



HE Qiugu
Assistant Professor
School of Economics
Nankai University



BIAN Xueying
Assistant Professor
Beijing University of Posts and
Telecommunications



Rohan RAY
Research Fellow
Global Asia Institute
National University of Singapore



CHAY Junxing
Research Fellow
Duke - NUS Medical School



LU Angdi
Assistant Professor
School of Applied Economics
Renmin University



LIU Yanbo
Assistant Professor in Economics
School of Economics
Shandong University



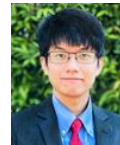
CHEN Yuting
Assistant Professor in Economics
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MIAO Ke
Assistant Professor
School of Economics
Fudan University



WANG Liyao
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Hong Kong Baptist University



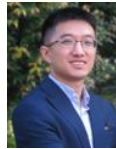
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YAO Kefang
Assistant Professor
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Hunan University



ZENG Ming
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Department of Economics
University of Gothenburg



LIU Peng
Assistant Professor in Economics
School of Economics & Management
East China Normal University



VU Hoang Phuong Que
Adjunct Faculty
School of Economics
Singapore Management University



CHEN Yanying
Lead Research Analyst
Policy Research Department
Central Provident Fund Board



LIU Xiaobin
Assistant Professor
School of Economics
Zhejiang University



XU Sijia
Assistant Professor in Economics
School of Business
East China University of Science & Technology



Vishrut Rana DHIRENDRA
Economist
S&P Global Ratings
Asia-Pacific



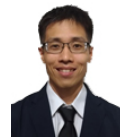
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JIN Wei
Assistant Professor in Economics
School of Economics
Nankai University



HUANG Wenxin
Assistant Professor in Economics
College of Economics & Management
Shanghai Jiao Tong University

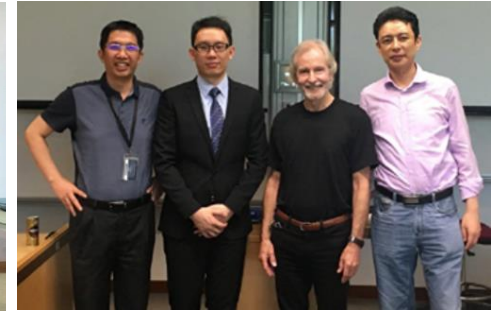


TAN Yi Jin
Economist
Economics Division
Ministry of Trade and Industry



WANG Wuyi
Assistant Professor in Economics
Institute for Economic and Social Research
Jinan University

Our PhD Community





Our Libraries

Li Ka Shing Library
Kwa Geok Choo Law Library



Campus Green
*A garden in
the middle
of the city*



Question & Answer



SMU School of Economics

Connect with us

Programme Website	economics.smu.edu.sg/phd	
Contact information	Tel: (65) 6828 0239 Email: soephd@smu.edu.sg	
Apply Now	economics.smu.edu.sg/phd-economics/apply Deadline: 31 January 2023	

Thank You!