

# MELATI NUNGSARI

## ADDRESS

Asia School of Business in Collaboration with MIT Sloan  
Sasana Kijang  
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## WEBSITE

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## PERSONAL CELL NUMBER

+6013-290-3225 (Malaysia)

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Industrial Organization, Market Design, Labor Economics, Public Policy, Migration

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Assistant Professor of Economics (05/17 - Present)

*Asia School of Business in Collaboration with MIT Sloan Management  
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia*

Research Affiliate (08/17 - Present)

*Sloan School of Management at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge, MA*

International Faculty Fellow (05/17 - 08/17)

*Sloan School of Management at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge, MA*

Assistant Professor of Economics (08/16 - 05/17)

*Lacy School of Business at Butler University  
Indianapolis, IN*

Visiting Assistant Professor of Economics (08/15 - 08/16)

*Department of Economics at Davidson College  
Davidson, NC*

## OTHER POSITIONS

Director, ASEAN Research Center, endowed by Maybank (07/19 - Present)

*Asia School of Business in Collaboration with MIT Sloan Management  
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia*

Research Consultant (07/21-03/22)

*SUHAKAM - The Human Rights Commission of Malaysia  
Human Rights and Statelessness in Peninsular Malaysia*

Research Consultant (12/20-03/21)

*World Health Organization (WHO)  
The Impact of COVID-19 on Vulnerable Communities in Malaysia*

Research Consultant (11/20 - 01/21)

*United Nations Development Program (UNDP)  
Project: The COVID-19, Business, and Human Rights Agenda in Malaysia*

## EDUCATION

*The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (08/10 - 05/15)*

Ph.D. in Economics

Dissertation Title: Essays on Pricing and Matching on Two-Sided Platforms

Dissertation Committee: Gary Biglaiser (Main Advisor), Peter Norman, Helen Tauchen, Andy Yates, Fei Li

Knox College, Galesburg IL (08/06 - 06/10)

Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics and Economics (Magna Cum Laude)

Honors in Mathematics: Measure Theoretic Probability and its Applications to Finance

## PUBLICATIONS

### Journal Articles

- **Nungsari, M.**, S. Flanders, K. Ngu, J.W. Chin. (Forthcoming, 2022) The Formation of Youth Entrepreneurial Intention in an Emerging Economy: The Interaction of Psychological Traits and Socioeconomic Factors. *Journal of Entrepreneurship in Emerging Economies*.
- Flanders, S., and **Nungsari, M.** (Forthcoming, 2022) A Textual Analysis on The Effect of Short Term Volunteering on Attitudes Towards Refugees. *The Social Sciences Journal*.
- **Nungsari M.**, Chuah H.Y., Fong N. and Pillai V. (2021) Understanding the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak on vulnerable populations in Malaysia through an ethical lens: A study of NGOs and organizations involved in aid distribution. *Wellcome Open Res* 2021, 6:263. <https://doi.org/10.12688/wellcomeopenres.17239.1>
- Chuah, H.Y., **Nungsari, M.** (2020) Deconstructing the Victimization Narrative: The Case of Chin Refugees in Malaysia. *Oxford Monitor of Forced Migration*, Vol. 9(1): pp. 69-79. <https://bit.ly/2JrcvFG>
- Chuah, H.Y., Flanders, S., **Nungsari, M.** (2020) Factors Influencing the Decision of Returning to Rakhine State: The Case of the Rohingya in Malaysia. *Oxford Monitor of Forced Migration*, Vol. 9(1): pp. 87-92. <https://bit.ly/2JrcvFG>
- **Nungsari, M.**, Flanders, S. & Chuah, H. (2020) Poverty and Precarious Employment: The Case of Rohingya Refugee Construction Workers in Peninsular Malaysia. *Humanities and Social Sciences Communications* (7), 120. <https://doi.org/10.1057/s41599-020-00606-8>
- **Nungsari, M.**, & Flanders, S. (2020). Using Classroom Games to Teach Core Concepts in Market Design, Matching Theory, and Platform Theory. *International Review of Economics Education* (35), 100190. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.iree.2020.100190>.
- Flanders, S., **Nungsari, M.**, and Parada-Contzen, M. (2020) Pricing Schemes and Market Efficiency in Private Retirement Systems. *Journal of Public Economic Theory*, Vol. 11(4): pp. 1041-1068. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jpet.12419>.
- **Nungsari, M.**, Flanders, S., and Chuah, H.Y. (2020). Issues Facing Refugees and Asylum-Seekers in Southeast Asia: Narrowing the Gaps Between Theory, Policy, and Reality. *Refugee Review: Emerging Issues in Forced Migration - Perspectives from Research and Practice*, Vol. 4(1): pp. 129-146. <https://bit.ly/2ZDX0i0>
- **Nungsari, M.**, Dedrick, M., and Patel, S. (2017). Team Teaching an Interdisciplinary First-Year Seminar on Magic, Religion, and the Origins of Science: A 'Pieces-to-Picture' Approach'. *Journal of the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning*, Vol. 17(1): pp. 24-36. <https://doi.org/10.14434/v17i1.19772>.

### Book Chapters

- Chuah H.Y., **Nungsari M.** (Forthcoming, 2022). *Reclaiming Agency: A Case Study on Refugee Community Organizations in Malaysia*. Forced Displacement and NGOs in Asia Pacific. Routledge Edited Volume.
- **Nungsari M.** (Forthcoming, 2022). *Recruitment of Participants from Vulnerable Groups for Social Research: Challenges and Solutions*. Palgrave Handbook of Methodological Issues in Social Research.

- Nungsari M., Chuah H.Y. (2021) *Participation in the Sharing Economy for Refugees in Malaysia: A Solution that Bypasses Legal Constraints?* In: Qureshi I., Bhatt B., Shukla D.M. (eds) *Sharing Economy at the Base of the Pyramid*. Springer, Singapore. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-16-2414-8\\_6](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-16-2414-8_6)
- Egaña del Sol P.A., **Nungsari M.** (2021) *Sharing Economy and the Future of Energy*. In: Leal Filho W., Marisa Azul A., Brandli L., Lange Salvia A., Wall T. (eds) *Affordable and Clean Energy*. Encyclopedia of the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Springer, Cham. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-95864-4\\_37](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-95864-4_37).

## Textbook

- Abd. Rahman, F., Abd. Rahim N.A., **Nungsari M.**, Flanders, S., and Alshershaby, D. (2018). *Modul Bertutur Bahasa Melayu: Aras Permulaan (A Basic Conversational Malay Language Curriculum for Non-Native Adult Speakers)*. National Library of Malaysia, ISBN: 978-967-16604-0-9.
  - This textbook was prepared as a collaboration between UNHCR Malaysia, Asia School of Business, and Universiti Putra Malaysia. It was designed to teach adult refugees basic conversational Malay language. The practical curriculum was built around refugee life in Malaysia and contained topics relevant to their daily interactions. It is used for UNHCR-affiliated Malay language training programs in Malaysia and is free for anybody else to use as well, subject to copyright conditions.

## Policy Papers

- **Nungsari, M.** 7 September 2021. Issue Brief: Five Key Business and Human Rights Priorities for Malaysia’s Emerging Recovery Period. Business and Human Rights - United Nations Development Program (UNDP) Malaysia, Singapore, and Brunei Darussalam.
  - This Issue Brief discusses five key Business and Human Rights priorities for Malaysia as the country moves into the recovery period in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. While the business sector has been a key partner in the global response to COVID-19, there are also significant human rights risks that have emerged with civil society demanding more action to address the challenges faced by vulnerable communities. As Malaysia embarks on the development of the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights, it is crucial that these adverse impacts on society and the environment are assessed and mitigated, in line with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs).
- Abdul Aziz, N.I., Flanders, S., **Nungsari, M.**, Chin K.Y., Chua, S., F.N. Jamalolail, and Tan Z.G. ASB Working Paper ASB-ARC001. 24 August 2021. Trust, Norms, and Increasing COVID-19 Vaccination Registration in Malaysia – Preliminary Results. Asia School of Business, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
  - This report summarizes preliminary findings from a survey experiment with 1307 Malaysian respondents. We study 1) trust levels in institutions and norms surrounding the choice to get vaccinated in this country, 2) perceptions on state “carrots” versus “sticks” in incentivizing vaccinations, and 3) whether a cash lottery of RM 500 is an effective intervention to increase the number of registrations for vaccinations. Although our sample is not representative of the entire Malaysian society, they are suggestive and can provide some insights on incentivizing pro-social behaviour with regards to vaccination. Specifically, we found that incentives can encourage vaccine registration. When the cash lottery of RM 500 was offered to the treatment group in our small randomized controlled trial, almost all individuals in this group registered to get the vaccine (83.7%) compared to the control group (62.16%). This difference was statistically significant at  $p = 0.1$ . Furthermore, through a randomized vignette analysis where respondents are asked to predict the behavior of someone like them in a hypothetical scenario, we found that a punishment

of having to selfpay for PCR COVID-19 tests every two weeks was more effective at promoting vaccinations compared to an incentive of being enrolled in a lottery with one large cash prize of RM 1 million.

- **Nungsari, M.** (2021). Migrant Labour in Malaysia: Challenges Amplified by COVID-19. Malaysian Institute of Economic Research (MIER) Policy Brief No. 8. 10 February 2021.
- Flanders, S., **Nungsari, M.**, and Chuah H.Y. (2020) The COVID-19 Hardship Survey: An Evaluation of the Prihatin Rakyat Economic Stimulus Package Asia School of Business Discussion Paper Series.
  - This report uses a survey of Malaysian household income and expenditures conducted from the 20th to the 27th of March 2020 to analyze the effect of stimulus packages enacted by the Malaysia government in the time of COVID-19 pandemic on the cash-flow and solvency of Malaysian households. We find that they are likely to address most of the cash-flow issues brought on by the COVID-19 crisis, at least in the short term. While a substantial minority of M40 respondents and a nearly half of B40 respondents reported negative cash-flow due to the crisis, the stimulus policies are able to decrease negative cash-flow rates among our respondents to levels at or below those that persisted before the COVID-19 crisis for the month of April, assuming income and expenditures from March persist. Among the minority who still have negative cash-flow, most have enough savings to survive for more than three months. However, a small minority of respondents in our survey are still likely to run out of money in the next few months, especially among the B40. If policymakers wish to further protect households from budget crises after the one-time transfers of April, our analysis shows that transfers to lower-income households—families making RM 4,000 or less and single individuals making RM 2,000 or less—are dramatically more effective than transfers to higher income households.
- Flanders, S., and **Nungsari M.** (2018). In Collaboration with the United Nations Refugee Agency in Malaysia. A Comprehensive Study of Rohingya Construction Workers in Peninsular Malaysia and Recommendations for a Future Work Pilot Program. Asia School of Business Discussion Paper Series.
  - This report was prepared in partnership with the UN Refugee Agency in Malaysia. It was formally presented to the Ministry of Human Resources in Parliament, and has been widely used to advocate for legal work rights for refugees in Malaysia both in the Cabinet of Malaysia, as well as by field practitioners. The report summarizes findings from a representative mixed methods research study on 397 Rohingya refugee construction workers in 4 states in Peninsular Malaysia, the first and only one of its kind at time of publication.

## OTHER RESEARCH

### Revise and Resubmit

- “Leader versus Followers: A Comparative Analysis of Refugee Experiences and Consequences for Aid Distribution” with Chuah Hui Yin and Sam Flanders. *At the Journal of Refugee Studies*.
- “Service Exclusion Practices: Impact on the Well-Being of Vulnerable Customers” with Sylvia Ng and Chuah Hui Yin. *At the Journal of Services Marketing*.

### Under Review

- “The Translation of Entrepreneurial Intention to Behavior Among Micro-Small Entrepreneurs in Malaysia: A Qualitative Approach” with K. Ngu, D. Wong, J.W. Chin, S.Y. Chee, D. Wong, S. Flanders. *At the Journal of Entrepreneurship in Emerging Economies*

- “Social Support as a Buffer against Low Socioeconomic Status and Gender Stereotype Threat Among Youths with Entrepreneurial Intention in Malaysia” with J.W. Chin, D. Wong, S.Y. Chee, S. Flanders, Y.S. Phoon, K. Ngu. *At the Journal of Career Development*.
- “Agency Amongst Individuals and Humanitarian Organizations in the Provision of Aid During the COVID-19 Pandemic in Malaysia” with N. Fong, H.Y. Chuah, and V. Pillai. *At Wellcome Open Research*.
- “Perceptions of Entrepreneurship and Online Learning during The Covid-19 Pandemic” with D. Wong, J.W. Chin, K. Ngu, S.Y. Chee, S. Flanders, and Y.S. Phoon. *At Entrepreneurial Education and Pedagogy*.

## Preparing for Review

- “No Escape: Experience As a Trust Mediator For Refugees During the COVID-19 Lockdown in Malaysia” with Chuah Hui Yin and Sam Flanders. *Preparing for Humanities and Social Sciences Communications*
- “Quality Versus Fit: Market Design and Externalities on Multidimensional Matching Platforms” with Sam Flanders *Preparing for Management Science*.
- “Searching for Yourself: A Model of Pricing on a Two-Sided Matching Platform with Horizontally-Differentiated Agents” *Rewriting and preparing for the Journal of Economics Education*.

## Working Paper

- “COVID-19 Economic Stimulus in Malaysia: Country Experiences and Lessons Learned” through the ISEAS - Yusof Ishak Institute’s Long-Term Project on COVID-19 Impact and Response in Southeast Asia.

## Public Scholarship and Media

- My policy paper titled “Trust, Norms, and Increasing COVID-19 Vaccination Registration in Malaysia – Preliminary Results” received press attention from a variety of national outlets, such as: The Star Malaysia, Sinchew Daily, Nanyang Siang Pau, etc.
- Radio Interview: “Raising the Alarm on Graduate Underemployment.” *On BFM ‘The Business Station’ Malaysia 89.9*. 12 August 2021. <https://www.bfm.my/podcast/morning-run/morning-brief/raising-the-alarm-on-graduate-underemployment>
- Podcast: Waroeng Baru episode on “Ekonomi Maju, Gaji Mundur”. July 26 2021. <https://open.spotify.com/episode/5XwYpJSDAq7WJqwpqtCdJz?si=FoQRvr3RSVmcjQEpkZcWIw>
- TV Interview: I spoke on Bernama TV’s “Tea with Tehmina” talkshow (Episode 28) on gender budgeting and COVID-19 on September 8, 2020. <https://fb.watch/2iwAjkJFPC/>
- **Nungsari, M.**, and Chuah, H.Y. “In a pandemic, nobody can be left behind.” *The Malay Mail Online*. 1 May 2020. <https://bit.ly/2T24jgD>
- Flanders, S., **Nungsari, M.**, and Chuah, H.Y. “Can the Prihatin Rakyat Economic Stimulus Package keep households afloat through the Covid-19 crisis?” *The Malay Mail Online*. 29 April 2020. <https://bit.ly/2WqYmMg>
- I was asked to comment on the 2018 Salaries and Wages Survey Report released by the Malaysian Statistics Department in The Star Newspaper. 3 November 2019. <https://bit.ly/2Qx6acC>
- Radio Interview: “Cultivating Evidence-Based Refugee Advocacy.” *On BFM ‘The Business Station’ Malaysia 89.9*. 21 August 2019. <https://bit.ly/2lUMcLM>
- Featured Article on Research Project: “Don’t like Refugees? Try Meeting One.” *Free Malaysia Today*. 23 July 2019. <https://bit.ly/2jXUNwC>

- Nungsari, M., and Chuah, H.Y. “Clearing the Air on Refugees.” *The Star Newspaper*. 10 July 2019. <https://bit.ly/2k7rx6U>
- Nungsari, M. “Platforms and Power.” *The Edge Weekly*. 12 April 2018. <https://goo.gl/LAQM7w>
- Nungsari, M. “Ideas to Curb Our Brain Drain.” *The Edge Weekly*. 8 January 2018. <https://goo.gl/ZPpX3J>.
- Nungsari, M. “We Solved Our 2-Body Problem - by Moving to Malaysia.” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. 18 June 2017. <https://goo.gl/L95o6a>.

## RESEARCH GRANTS

- Citi Foundation Grant for the RYSE Program – USD \$180,000 (January 2021 - December 2021)
  - Grant Number: G-IDS-20196635.
  - Funding for a randomized controlled trial to design, execute, and assess the impact of entrepreneurship and design-thinking skills on the socio-emotional and economic outcomes of low-income students across the entirety of Malaysia.
- World Health Organization (WHO) – USD \$15,500 (December 2020 - March 2021)
  - WHO Registration Number: 2020/1080428-0.
  - Funding for a research study on understanding the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on moving vulnerable populations in Malaysia, including refugees, migrant workers, and indigenous peoples.
- Citi Foundation Grant for the RYSE Program – USD \$140,000 (January 2020 - December 2020)
  - Grant Number: G-IDS-20207103.
  - Funding for a randomized controlled trial to design, execute, and assess the impact of entrepreneurship and design-thinking skills on the socio-emotional and economic outcomes of low-income students across the entirety of Malaysia.
- Citi Foundation Capacity-Building Grant for the RYSE Program – USD \$80,000 (January 2019 - December 2019)
  - Grant Number: G-ICB-20185529.
  - Funding for a randomized controlled trial to design, execute, and assess the impact of entrepreneurship and design-thinking skills on the socio-emotional and economic outcomes of low-income students at community colleges in Klang Valley, Malaysia.
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) - USD \$5,000 (January 2018 - July 2018)
  - Funding for a randomized controlled trial to measure the impact of Bahasa Malaysia language interventions on the economic and social outcomes of Rohingya refugees in Malaysia.

## TEACHING

## Teaching Experience

- *Asia School of Business (May 2017 - Present)*

### INSTRUCTOR:

- ECON101D: Advanced Economics II for MBAs (Winter 2018)  
This class was almost entirely taught using games and classroom experiments. I covered an extended treatment of game theory and strategy, auction theory, platforms, and two-sided matching with applications to real-world business problems. This course was subsequently categorized as an elective and renamed “ECON101F: Platforms, Auctions, and Competition Through Games”.
- ECON101A: Applied Economics for Managers (Fall 2018)
- ECON101F: Platforms, Auctions, and Competition Through Games (Fall 2018)
- ECON101A: Applied Economics for Managers (Online) (Summer 2018)
- ECON101F: Platforms, Auctions, and Competition Through Games (Fall 2019)
- ECON101A: Applied Economics for Managers (Online; Part-Time MBAs) (Winter 2020)
- ECON101F: Platforms, Auctions, and Competition Through Games (Summer 2020)
- ECON101A: Applied Economics for Managers (Summer 2020 Prep and Fall 2020)
- ECON101F: Platforms, Auctions, and Competition Through Games (Summer 2021)
- ECON101A: Managerial Economics (Fall 2021)

### FACULTY ADVISOR:

- AL 101C: Summer Action Learning (Summer 2017)
- AL 101A: Action Learning Trek in Southeast Asia I (Fall 2017)
- AL 101D: Action Learning Trek in Southeast Asia IV (Fall 2017)
- AL 101B: Action Learning Trek in Southeast Asia II (Winter 2018)
- AL 101E: Action Learning V - Social Enterprises in Malaysia (Winter 2018)
- AL 101C: Summer Action Learning (Summer 2018)
- AL 101A: Action Learning Trek in Southeast Asia I (Fall 2018)
- AL 101E: Action Learning V - Product Design (Winter 2019)
- AL 101E: Summer Action Learning (Summer 2019)
- AL 101E: Action Learning Trek in Southeast Asia I (Fall 2019)
- AL 101E: Summer Action Learning (Summer 2021)

- *Butler University (August 2016 - May 2017)*

### INSTRUCTOR:

- EC 231: Principles of Microeconomics (Fall 2016)
- EC 354: Intermediate Microeconomics (Fall 2016)
- EC 231: Principles of Microeconomics (Spring 2017)
- EC 495: Industrial Organization (Spring 2017)

- *Davidson College (August 2015 - July 2016)*

### INSTRUCTOR:

- ECO 101B: Introductory Economics (Fall 2015)
- ECO 101C: Introductory Economics (Fall 2015)
- ECO 225: Public Sector Economics (Fall 2015)
- ECO 101C: Introductory Economics (Spring 2016)

- ECO 282: Economics of Matching (Spring 2016)  
I designed and taught this new introductory market design class that studied the design and use of market-based mechanisms to solve problems of economic resource allocation. We studied the basics of matching theory, how markets fail, and how a policy-maker can redesign these “broken” markets. After obtaining a good understanding of the foundations to matching theory, we looked at applications to real-life markets: the National Residency Matching Program (NRMP), kidney transplant markets, student-school choice, job search, and marriage and dating. We answered some of the following questions: How is the dating market different than the market for coffee? How can matching theory help explain the increasing level of inequality in the US? How do firms behave when setting prices in matching markets? How do markets typically fail and how can a policy-maker address these failures to increase economic efficiency?

- *The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (August 2011-May 2014)*

- I completed the UNC Economics Teacher Training Program (TTP) in Spring 2012.

**INSTRUCTOR:**

- ECON 101: Principles of Economics (Summer Session I, 2012)
- IDST 89: Magic, Religion, and Science (Fall 2013)  
I designed this interdisciplinary first-year undergraduate seminar as part of a interdisciplinary collaboration project with two colleagues from Archaeology and Religious Studies. This is a discussion-based class, where we explore how society and scholars have constructed definitions of magic, religion, and science. We study how these definitions have overlapped in various societies and how they have been mutually exclusive in others. My contribution to the class was to provide an economic approach to understand how people make decisions and to provide methods for analyzing political and economic backgrounds of various societies.

**TEACHING ASSISTANT:**

- ECON 101: Principles of Economics (Fall 2011)
- ECON 420: Intermediate Theory: Money, Income, and Employment (Spring 2012)
- ECON 890 (Graduate): Advanced Quantitative Methods for Economists (Fall 2012)
- ECON 711 (Graduate): Microeconomic Theory II (Game Theory) (Spring 2013)
- ECON 511: Game Theory for Economics (Spring 2014)
- ECON 511 (Honors): Game Theory for Economics (Spring 2014)

**TEACHING AWARDS**

- *Honored Guest, Butler University Faculty and Staff Appreciation Day - 2016/17*
- *Best Graduate Teaching Assistant (UNC Economics Department) - 2012/13*

**CONSULTING EXPERIENCE**

- Through student and research projects, I have either consulted or advised on projects with Bosch, EmKay Group, mudah.my, Alliance of Financial Inclusion, Asian Development Bank, General Electric, Motorola, the United Nations, and Creador.
- MIT-UTM Sustainable Cities Program – Faculty Advisor (Fall 2017 - Spring 2018)
  - The MIT-UTM Malaysia Sustainable Cities Program (MSCP) was a five-year effort (2013-2018) initiated and run by faculty at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and the Universiti of Teknologi of Malaysia (UTM), with generous support by the Ministry of Education of Malaysia. The MSCP mission was to study and document sustainable city development efforts in Malaysia.



## OTHER HONORS AND AWARDS

- *Knox College Young Alumni Achievement Award, 2020*
- *Finalist, The World Bank Group's Sundaran Memorial Prize for Young Malaysian Researchers, 2019*
  - My paper with two co-authors titled “Pricing and Incentives In Defined Contribution Retirement Systems” was one of the top 3 papers submitted for this prize, which was “granted to a Malaysian national for a paper that demonstrates excellence in research while addressing clear and compelling ways of presenting a key development policy issue in Malaysia and other developing countries.”
- *24th Eurasian Business and Economics Society (EBES) Conference Best Paper Award, 2018*
  - My paper with two co-authors titled “Pricing and Incentives In Defined Contribution Retirement Systems” was one of the top 3 papers (out of 178 papers in total) at the January 2018 conference in Bangkok. Acceptance of the award was contingent on publishing the paper in one of the EBES journals, which we declined.
- *Royster Society of Fellows – Chancellor's Fellowship (2010-2015)*  
UNC-Chapel Hill Graduate School's premiere interdisciplinary fellowship program for recruiting exceptional graduate students.
- *Phi Beta Kappa (2010)*
- *Vinton C. Johnson Prize (2010)*  
Awarded annually to the outstanding senior economics major at Knox College
- *Victoria Legner Junod Prize in Mathematics (2010)*  
Awarded annually to the outstanding senior math major at Knox College

## RESEARCH CONFERENCES AND TALKS

- International Association for the Study of Forced Migration, Virtual (Hosted in Ghana), July 26-30th, 2021.
- The Migration Conference 2021, Virtual (Hosted in the United Kingdom), July 6-10th, 2021.
- 2021 Asian Meeting of the Econometric Society, Virtual, June 25-27th, 2021.
- 2021 National Conference on Teaching and Research in Economic Education (Hosted by the American Economic Association), Virtual, June 2-4th, 2021.
- Speaker at the Webinar titled Trust: A Precondition for Protection and Durable Solutions (Hosted by the University of Auckland's Centre for Asia Pacific Refugee Studies), Virtual, 19th May, 2021.
- 2021 Western Economic Association International's Virtual Conference, March 17-19, 2021.
- Advances with Field Experiments Virtual Conference, Sept. 23-24, 2020.
- The Econometric Society and Bocconi University Virtual World Congress, August 17-21, 2020.
- 2020 Virtual Annual Meeting of the Academic of Management, August 6-11, 2020.
- Western Economic Association International's Virtual 95th Annual Conference, June 26-30, 2020.
- 2019 Salzburg Conference in Interdisciplinary Poverty Research (Migration and Poverty), University of Salzburg, Austria, September 19-20, 2019.
- 2019 United Nations University - World Institute for Development Economics Research (UNU-WIDER) and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific Conference – “Transforming Economies for Better Jobs”, Bangkok, Thailand, 11-13 September.
- MERCY Malaysia International Humanitarian Conference 2019, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 5-7 August.
- 2019 World Bank Group Research Seminar, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, April 2.

- 15th International Conference of the Western Economic Association International, Tokyo, Japan, March 21-24, 2019.
- Médecins Sans Frontières and Mercy Malaysia's Annual Symposium on Access to Healthcare for Refugees and Asylum-Seekers, December 3, 2018.
- The 2018 Annual Meeting of the Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association (LACEA) and the Latin American Meeting of the Econometric Society (LAMES), Guayaquil, Ecuador, November 8-10, 2018.
- 2018 World Bank Group Research Seminar, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, October 9.
- 2018 Asia School of Business - UN High Commissioner for Refugees Research Workshop on Refugee Studies and Forced Migration, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, July 18. (Primary Organizer)
- 2018 National Conference on Teaching and Research in Economic Education (Hosted by the American Economic Association), San Antonio, TX, May 30 - June 1.
- 2018 Annual European Search and Matching Conference, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom, May 23-25.
- 2018 World Bank Group Research Seminar, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, May 15.
- Yale-NUS Department of Economics Research Seminar, Singapore, March 26, 2018.
- 24th Eurasia Business and Economics Society Conference, Bangkok, Thailand, January 10-12, 2018.
- 2018 American Economic Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, January 5-7, 2018.
- The 42nd Conference of Federation of ASEAN Economic Associations, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, December 5-8, 2017.
- 2017 Research Workshop on the Health of Migrants and Refugees, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, November 9-10.
- 2017 World Bank Group Research Seminar, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, October 24.
- 2017 Asia School of Business Research Seminar, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, October 10.
- 2017 Conference of the Society of Economic Measurement, MIT Sloan School of Management, Cambridge, MA, July 26-28.
- 2017 Leaders of Experiential and Project-Based Education Conference, Darden School of Business at The University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA, June 20 - June 22.
- 2017 National Conference on Teaching and Research in Economic Education (Hosted by the American Economic Association), Denver, CO, May 31 - June 2.
- 2017 Midwest Economic Association Meeting, Cincinnati, OH, March 31 - April 2.
- Fall Research Seminar, Lacy School of Business, Butler University, IN, October 2016.
- 2016 Midwest Economic Theory Conference, Krannert School of Management, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, December 2-4.
- 2016 National Conference on Teaching and Research in Economic Education (Hosted by the American Economic Association), Atlanta, GA, June 1-3.
- 85th Annual Conference of the Southern Economic Association, New Orleans, LA, November 21-23, 2015.
- UNC-Chapel Hill Research Seminar, Fall 2015.
- 2015 Singapore Economic Review Conference, Singapore, August 5-7.
- 2015 National Conference on Teaching and Research in Economic Education (Hosted by the American Economic Association), Minneapolis, MN, May 27-29.
- 14th Annual Economics Teaching Workshop, University of North Carolina at Wilmington, Wrightsville Beach, NC, October 4th, 2014.
- 12th Annual Columbia/Duke/MIT/Northwestern Industrial Organization Theory Conference, Duke University, Durham, NC, November 23-24, 2013.

- Networks and Development: Exploring an Emerging Theme (National Science Foundation), Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA, March 24-25, 2012.
- Undergraduate Research Symposium (Midwestern States Consortium for Mathematics and Science), The University of Chicago, Chicago IL, November 6-8, 2009. [Presented mathematics research project funded by the Ford Foundation and a Richter Foundation grant titled *Polynomial Invariants for Knots and Amphicheirality*]

## INVITED TALKS - PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

- Panelist, Doing Collaborative Qualitative Work Virtually, 10th International Qualitative Research Conference (iQRC 2021), Qualitative Research Association of Malaysia (QRAM), 23 October 2021.
- Panelist, The Implications of a Multidimensional Gender Index of Poverty: Suggestions for a Gender-Responsive National Budget 2022, Permatang Pauh Parliamentary Office (invitation by Nurul Izzah Anwar), 21 October 2021.
- Moderator, What Matters Most for a Better Tropics: A Youth Perspective, Pre-Conference Event for the 2021 Tropical Sciences Conference (hosted by the Malaysian Science Academy), 9 October 2021.
- Panelist, Post-COVID Economic Policy: What and How, Gabungan Bertindak Malaysia (GBM), 24 July 2021
- Panelist, the launch of 24th Malaysia Economic Monitor (Surviving the Storm and Making Ends Meet) by the World Bank, 23 June 2021
  - I was invited to give my thoughts on the current state of Malaysian households and vulnerable groups, as well as suggested policies to aid in their recovery post-COVID-19.
- The 2020 United Nations Populations Fund (UNFPA) Malaysian Forum on Women and Girls, 17 December 2020
  - I will be moderating the plenary panel session on driving the economic potential of Malaysian women through key legislation and social reforms.
- United Nations Populations Fund (UNFPA) Malaysia Special Presentation: International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and 16 Days of Activism, 2 December 2020
  - Together with 3 other panelists, I discussed the importance of funding in addressing violence against women during the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM) Student Union Talkshow, 19 November 2020
  - Together with two other panelists, I discussed 2021 Malaysian National Budget 2021, focusing on uplifting welfare and education.
- Nottingham University Malaysia, October 15, 2020.
  - I gave a talk titled “Poverty in Malaysia: A short, very condensed, incomplete version” on my work surrounding poverty and vulnerable groups in Malaysia to students in the MA in International Relations program at Nottingham University in Malaysia.
- Sunway University Economic Conference - COVID-19 and The Economy, July 11, 2020.
  - I will be virtually speaking to approximately 70 young individuals who are interested in economic research or becoming an economist in the future. The description of the talk is as follows: COVID-19 has forced the world to rethink a variety of things and norms, from how we live to how we work, and how we define ourselves in relation to other people. What are some issues surrounding inequality and poverty that people should be aware of in these times of crises? What are some issues that young economists should be thinking about and tackling? In this interactive talk, the speaker will present on some basic results from her research with refugees and urban poor in Malaysia, the increasingly important role of digitalization in the economy, and entrepreneurship as an option for young people in Malaysia to weather through these pandemic times. The speaker will also introduce the

Rapid Youth Success in Entrepreneurship (RYSE) Program, a Citi Foundation-funded, free business training program housed at the Asia School of Business in collaboration with MIT Sloan School of Management to those interested in joining and competing for seed money this year. There will be plenty of time for Q&As, so bring your questions!

- Research for Social Advancement’s 6th Webinar (REFSA Discuss) with UNDI18 – Post-Covid-19: What lies ahead for Malaysian Youths? May 27, 2020.
  - I participated in a webinar to discuss how the nature of education, work and business will change for youth, the opportunities available to them, and potential problems they should try and avoid as the world battles COVID-19. The webinar was attended by more than 120 individuals and was covered by The Star newspaper here: <https://bit.ly/3c0aegj>.
- Masterclass for the Alumni Association of the Axiata Young Talent Programme, May 9, 2020.
  - I was invited to give a talk to more than 35 alumni of the Axiata Young Talent Programme, a “Young CEO Development Programme” conducted yearly by one of Asia’s leading telecommunications group, Axiata, on the topic of “Platform Strategy and Market Design.”
- Panel on “The Gig Economy: Seizing New Opportunities” by Brandt International and Sorga Ventures, October 22, 2019.
  - I spoke to more than 30 HR Managers, businesspeople and corporate representatives on the challenges for workers in participating in gig work as part of a 4-person panel of experts.
- Universiti Kuala Lumpur - the Malaysia France Institute Professional Forum 2019, October 9.
  - I spoke to more than 50 final-year engineering students on employment challenges in Malaysia and the importance of giving back to underserved communities.
- The Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (Malaysian Bootcamp Finale), September 28, 2019.
  - YSEALI is social outreach and training program funded by the U.S. government in ASEAN nations. It aims to “build the leadership capabilities of youth in the region and promotes cross-border cooperation to solve regional and global challenges.” I spoke at the 2019 Bootcamp Finale in Malaysia to 14 winning youth teams on the importance of impact measurements in socially impactful programs and businesses.
- Universiti Malaysia Kelantan, Malaysia, February 10, 2019.
  - My talk was titled “Mens et Manus in Malaysia: Creating Socially Impactful Research Programs”. I spoke to over 100 faculty members at a public university in East Malaysia about how I have started a range of new research programs from my work in the field with practitioners and NGOs who deal with real problems facing marginalized communities in Malaysia.
- The British International School in Kuala Lumpur’s Annual Model United Nations Conference, December 2, 2018.
  - This talk was part of my youth outreach initiative. I was the keynote speaker at the Model UN conference at a prestigious international school in Kuala Lumpur, and spoke to high-school students about my research and work with the Rohingya refugee community in Peninsular Malaysia.
- United Nations Development Programme’s (UNDP) Asia-Pacific Youth Entrepreneurship Initiative (Youth Co:Lab), Cyberjaya, Malaysia, September 13-15, 2018.
  - I was a mentor/technical expert for the program, which aimed to incite, catalyze, and sustain youth innovation that are aimed at creating positive impact on some of the nation’s most pressing issues. I mentored teams who pitched social enterprise startup ideas aimed at income generation for undocumented persons.

- Kolej Yayasan United Engineers Malaysia Kaigi Conference, Kolej Yayasan UEM, Lembah Beringin, Selangor, Malaysia, August 25, 2018.
  - The KYUEM Kaigi is a prestigious college event in which issues regarding Malaysia are discussed in an international context. This conference aims to develop the talents of bright young Malaysian minds as future professionals, as well as hone their skills as critical thinkers and eloquent speakers. I spoke at the 4-person panel symposium as an economist.
- K-Novasi Pengajaran and Pembelajaran (Pendidikan 4.0: Graduan Kalis Masa Depan), Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Selangor, Malaysia, January 17-18, 2018.
  - This is an annual conference on pedagogical innovations in higher education hosted by Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, one of the five research universities in Malaysia. This year’s theme was improving graduate employability. I spoke about the labor market challenges facing graduates from Malaysian universities, the importance of failure, and the importance of diversity in one’s educational experience.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Participant, Understanding the Economic Potential of Blockchains by Joshua Gans, ScholarSite, December 2021.
- Participant, Building and Investing in Network Effects by Andrei Hagiu and Julian Wright (F21 Cohort, ScholarSite), Fall 2021.
- Participant, 2022 Statelessness Intensive Course, University of Melbourne, 16-22 February, 2021.
- Participant, 2021 Advanced Course on Childhood Statelessness and the Child’s Right to a Nationality, Institute of Statelessness and Inclusion, 1-12 November, 2021.
- Participant, the Refugee Studies Centre at University of Oxford’s International Online School in Forced Migration, 12-16 July, 2021.
- Participant, Virtual Workshop on the Role of Scholars in Promoting Business and Human Rights Law and Policy Reforms in Asia (hosted by the City University of Hong Kong) 26-28 April, 2021.
- Participant, The 2nd KAIST-CISP Innovation and Entrepreneurship Boot Camp (organized by KAIST CISP, KAIST Graduate School of Innovation and Technology Management, KAIST School of Business and Technology Management, and the National Research Foundation of Korea), October 16th - November 20th, 2020.
  - From the program: “This intensive boot camp introduces the leading research topics in the areas of innovation and entrepreneurship. The boot camp is meant to promote research interest in the areas of innovation and entrepreneurship. It is particularly well suited for PhD students in economics and management, who are either considering, or already doing research in these areas. While the boot camp is primarily intended for PhD students, it is also suitable for post-docs and early-career assistant professors with an interest in these areas of research. Participants are expected to carefully prepare for the workshop.”
- Participant, 9th Annual IPSA-NUS Summer School for Social Science Research Methods, National University of Singapore, July 6-17, 2020.
  - Interview and Focus Groups
  - Mixed Methods
- Participant, Media Training Workshop for Faculty and Senior Management at Asia School of Business, held by Intellectasia, 8 May 2020.
- Participant, University of Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analytics (Applied Research Methods with Hidden, Marginal, and Excluded Populations), 29 July - 2 August 2019.

- Selected Participant, Western Economic Association International's Early Career Researcher Workshop (Mentoring Program), Keio University, Tokyo, Japan, 21-24 March, 2019.
- Visiting Professor, Department of Economics, Thammasat University, Bangkok, Thailand, September 17-21, 2018.
  - I was invited to join the Department of Economics at Thammasat University for a week as a Visiting Scholar/Professor. I taught two graduate seminar workshops (one on Market Design/IO and one on Impact Evaluations), gave a research seminar presentation to the faculty, and taught an undergraduate seminar class on Market Design and Pricing in an Industrial Economics class.
- Participant, Harvard Business School's Case Method Teaching Seminar, Boston, MA, August 18-19, 2017.
- Fellow, 2015 Duke University Summer Institute on the History of Economic Thought (Hosted by the Center for the History of Political Economy), Durham, NC, June 1-13.

### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

- Reviewer (Journal of Development Studies, Journal of International Migration and Integration, International Review of Economic Education, Journal of Asian Economics)
- Member of the Scientific Committee of Forced Displacement and Urban Management Conference 2021, Jakarta, Indonesia

### **LEADERSHIP**

- President, UNC Economics Graduate Student Association (2012-2013)
- President, UNC Omicron Delta Epsilon (The International Economics Honor Society) (2012-2013)

### **COMPUTER SKILLS**

R, Mathematica, Matlab, Stata, NVivo

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

- Member, Board of Trustees, Yayasan Chow Kit (July 2021 - present)
- Companion, *Orange Country Rape Crisis Center* (February 2014 - May 2015)  
I volunteered my time at the center by staffing the 24-Hour Crisis Line. I supported survivors of sexual assault by providing information on the medical, legal, and mental health resources available in the community. I sometimes accompanied survivors to receive medical treatment, file a police report, or meet with legal services.

### **LANGUAGES**

English (native), Malay (native)

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Economic Association, Western Economic Association, The Econometric Society, The Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network

### **REFERENCES**

Available upon request.

Last updated: November 23, 2021.