Session 14F: Thurs 7th March, 10:30 – 11:00

**Nurturing Inclusivity and Revolutionary Support in Dual Degree Programs**

Michelle Yin
Northwestern University, USA

**Chair**
Michelle Yin
Northwestern University, USA

APAIE 2024

*Collaborating for sustainable impact: partnerships across the Asia Pacific*

APAIE Perth 4 - 8 March 2024

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# Nurturing Inclusivity and Revolutionary Support in Dual Degree Programs

**Michelle Yin, PhD**

Founding Director, Dual Master's Degree in Applied Economics and Social and Economic Policy

Associate Professor, School of Education & Social Policy

APAIE 2024

PERTH, AUSTRALIA 4-8 MARCH 2024

*Towards a sustainable future for international education in the Asia Pacific*

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# Introduction

- What is a Dual Degree Program?
    - Characteristics of Dual Degree Programs
    - Why are they important?

- Case Study: Dual Master's Degree in Applied Economics (CUHK) and Social and Economic Policy (Northwestern)

- Institutional Collaboration

- Diversifying the Student Body

- Approach to Student Support Services

- Creating an Inclusive Environment

- Challenges and Barriers

- Sustaining Inclusivity and Support

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# What is a Dual Degree program?

A dual degree program allows students to simultaneously pursue two different degrees, often from two distinct disciplines, within a reduced time frame as compared to pursuing each degree separately.

# Dual Degree Program Characteristics

- *Interdisciplinary*: Combines courses from two disciplines, offering a broader skill set.

- *Time-Efficient*: Often takes less time than pursuing two degrees separately.

- *Intensive*: Requires careful planning and commitment due to overlapping coursework.

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# Why are Dual Degree Programs Important?

**Diverse Skill Set:** Provides students with skills and knowledge from multiple fields, enhancing their career prospects.

**Competitive Edge:** Graduates often stand out in job markets due to their comprehensive understanding of two areas.

**Flexibility:** Offers career flexibility, especially in intersecting fields.

**Cost-Effective:** Generally more cost-effective than pursuing two separate degrees.

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Case Study: Dual Master's Degree in Applied Economics (CUHK) and Social and Economic Policy (Northwestern)

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# The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK)

CUHK Rankings

QS World University Rankings

10th in Asia / 47th in the World

Times Higher Education Rankings

6th in Asia / 53rd in the World

* Figures as at 30 October 2023

Founded in 1963, CUHK with a global vision and a mission to combine tradition with modernity, and to bring together China and the West.

As a top university in Hong Kong and Asia, CUHK aims to nurture students with both specialized knowledge and wisdom for life.

Our eight Faculties also offer a wide array of excellent undergraduate and postgraduate programs.

Eight faculties: Arts, Business Administration, Education, Engineering, Law, Medicine, Science and Social Science

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# Department of Economics

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**11th in Asia#**

**# QS World University Rankings by Subject (Economics and Econometrics) 2023**

**Professors at the CUHK Econ. published (or forthcoming ) 7 articles in the Top 5 economics journals in the past three years.**

**Four of these publications focus on the Chinese Economy, exemplifying the Department's internal leading edge in this research area.**

Bai, Ying, 2023, "Web of Power: How Elite Networks Shaped War and Politics in China." (with Ruixue Jia and Jiaojiao Yang), Quarterly Journal of Economics, vol. 138(2): 1067-1108.

Li, Z. Merrick, 2022, "A ReMeDI for Microstructure Noise." (with Oliver Linton) Econometrica, 90, 367-389.

Lu, Dan, 2023, "Misallocation Under Trade Liberalization." (with Yan Bai and Keyu Jin), Conditionally Accepted by American Economic Review.

Zhang, Ning, 2023, "Violence Against Women at Work." (with Abi Adams-Prassl, Kristiina Huttunen, and Emily Nix), Accepted by Quarterly Journal of Economics.

Song, (Michael) Zheng, 2022, "From Imitation to Innovation: Where Is All that Chinese R&D Going?" (with Michael Koenig, Kjetil Storesletten and Fabrizio Zilibotti), Econometrica, 2022, 90(4): 1615-1654.

Song, (Michael) Zheng, 2021, "Liquidity Rules and Credit Booms." (with Kinda Hachem), Journal of Political Economy, 129(10): 2721-2765.

Zhang, Yifan, 2022, "Migrants and Firms: Evidence from China." (with Clement Imbert, Marlon Seror and Yanos Zylberberg), American Economic Review, 112(6), 1885-1914.

# Northwestern University



**NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION**

Northwestern is one of only three top-10 US universities ranked in the top 20 in each of the five graduate education categories.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **#9** NATIONAL UNIVERSITY | **#2** BUSINESS SCHOOL | **#3** EDUCATION SCHOOL |
| **#10** LAW SCHOOL | **#13** MEDICAL SCHOOL | **#17** ENGINEERING SCHOOL |
| **#2** SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY | **#6** CHEMISTRY | **#8** ECONOMICS |

Rankings from *U.S. News & World Report* as of September 2023

- Comprehensive research university
- Deeply interdisciplinary across multiple schools and units.
- Emphasis on top-tier research, new knowledge, creative expression, and practical application.

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# School of Education and Social Policy

**SESP Values:**
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice

**A wide range of disciplines:**
Psychology, Economics, Computer Science, Learning Sciences, Human Development, Social Policy

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# #3

Best Education Graduate Schools

2023-24 U.S. News and World Report

Northwestern | Master of Science in Social and Economic Policy
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL POLICY

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**Sha Tian, HK**
September-May
(10 months)

**Evanston, IL**
June-December (7 months)

**Evanston, IL**
Optional winter quarter (3 months)

# Two Campuses | Two Cultures | Two Degrees

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# Collaboration Between Institutions:
## *Building the Foundation for Revolutionary Support*

Working with different institutions can provide access to a diverse network of experts, researchers, and students, creating opportunities for cross-disciplinary collaboration and facilitating the exchange of ideas.

Enhance international visibility and credibility.

Access to a larger pool of resources and expertise from both institutions

Enhanced international reputation and networking opportunities for current students and alumni

Sharing best practices and knowledge exchange in different areas of expertise

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# Diversifying the Student Body

Universities can partner with other institutions and organizations dedicated to promoting diversity and inclusion helping expand the reach and attract diversity:

**targeted recruitment strategy to attract students from a diverse range of backgrounds:**

- attending international education fairs (APAIE :), NAFSA, among many others!)
- partnering with educational agencies (EducationUSA, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce)
- reaching out to underrepresented communities

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# Diversifying the Student Body

universities can work together to create a supportive and inclusive campus environment that values diversity and promotes cross-cultural understanding:

- offering cultural competency training for faculty and staff
- organizing diversity and inclusion events
- providing mentorship for international students

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# Diversifying the Student Body

Providing financial assistance to students from underprivileged backgrounds can help attract diversity:

### Global Promise

Aims to attract students with exceptional academic backgrounds and a passion for making a difference:
- Investing in the next generation of innovative thinkers and leaders committed to tackling global challenges and creating positive change
- Scholarship promises financial support and opportunities for students to grow academically, professionally, and personally
- Encouraging students to apply and bring their unique perspectives and aspirations to the program

### Global Reach

Offers opportunities for students from hard-to-reach communities and countries:
- Students with excellent academic backgrounds but limited financial means can attend our program
- Scholarship covers tuition, allowing scholars to reach their academic dreams
- Commitment to widening participation and promoting diversity within student body through this initiative

**Merit Based Scholarships**: Designed to reward high-performing students from diverse backgrounds, and provide continued financial support throughout the program, in line with our mission to support students.

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# Creative Approach to Student Support

By offering a comprehensive range of support services, universities can help students in dual degree programs navigate the challenges they may face and achieve success in their academic and professional endeavors.

- *Mental Health Services*: Offering counseling services to help students manage the stress and pressure of balancing two degrees, as well as any personal or emotional challenges they may be facing.

- *Career services*: Providing career counseling, resume building, interview preparation, and job search assistance to help students plan for their futures and leverage their dual degrees in the job market.

- *Access to resources*: Providing access to resources such as libraries, student lounges and labs to support students in their academic pursuits.

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# Creating an Inclusive Environment

Strategies for fostering diversity and inclusion in dual degree programs:

- *Providing mentorship and support*: Pair students with mentors or advisors who can offer guidance and support and create opportunities for networking and building relationships with peers and faculty.

- *Integrated curriculum*: Designing a curriculum that integrates both disciplines. This can help students develop a deeper understanding of how the two disciplines intersect and complement each other.

- *Celebrating diversity*: Highlight and celebrate the diverse backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives of students in the program through events and communication.

- *Networking opportunities*: Organizing networking events, alumni panels, and industry networking opportunities to help students build connections and explore potential career paths in both fields of study.

- *Gathering feedback and continually improving*: Seek feedback from students on diversity and inclusion initiatives, and use this information to make ongoing improvements and adjustments to the program.
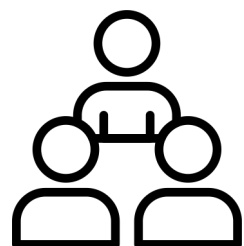
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# Social Life

Architectural Boat Tour

Sports Outings

Engagement Events
- Museum Visits
- Coffee Chats
- Picnics
- Retreats

# Academic Life

**Mischa Fisher**
Senior Staff Data Scientist
Udemy

Umut Özek
Senior Economist
RAND Corporation

**Kally Hallberg**
Scientific Director
University of Chicago Inclusive Economy Lab

**Daniel Miller**
Principal Economist at Amazon

**Peter Steiner**
Professor in the Quantitative Methodology: Measurement and Statistics at the University of Maryland

**Burçin Ünel**
Executive Director at Institute for Policy Integrity at NYU School of Law

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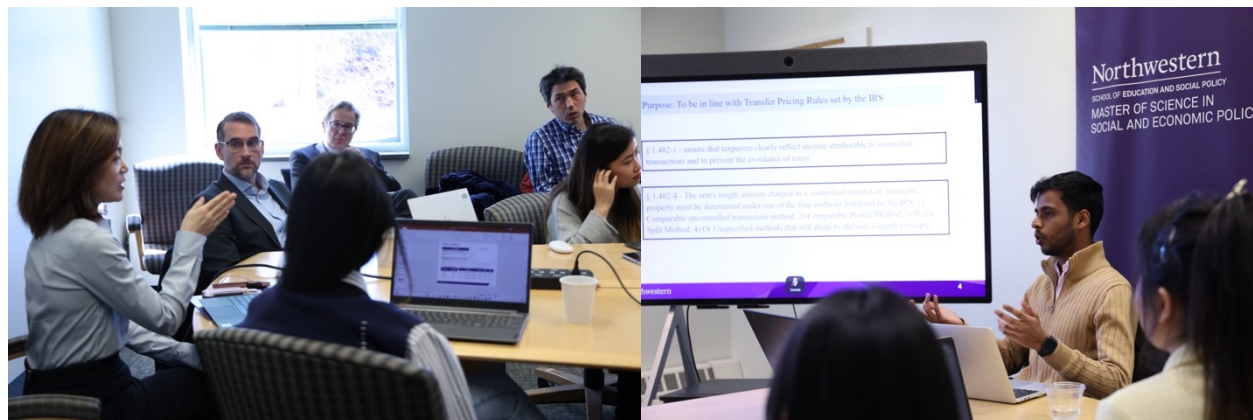
# Experiential Learning Opportunities

- Capstone projects in management consulting, data science, AI, workforce development, global impact, and health/education policy include a practical immersion experience. Students visit leading companies and institutions, gain insights, and engage with professionals in the field.

- Use real-world case studies and practical projects to engage students academically and help them apply their knowledge to real-life situations, deepening their understanding of the material.
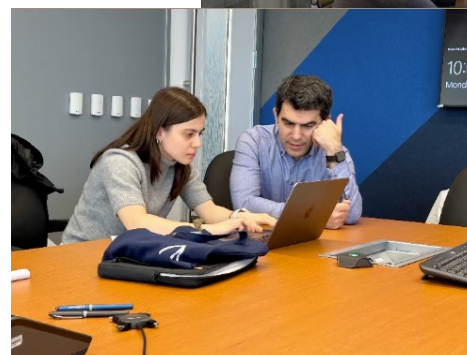
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# Experiential Learning Opportunities

## On-Site Visits
Students gain valuable real-world experience through onsite visits to companies, organizations and even campuses as part of their experiential learning opportunities and to promote their future growth.

## Conferences
Students attend conferences such as the Allied Social Sciences Association (ASSA) to learn from experts and network. In Fall 2023, our capstone students presented at the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM) with leading policy experts.

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# Industry Collaborations

**P I M C O**

an investment management firm that provides solutions for institutions, financial professionals and millions of individuals worldwide

**westMONROE**

a company that provides management consulting, creative and product engineering services to businesses across many industries.

**EY**

Ernst & Young is a British multinational professional services partnership. EY is one of the largest professional services networks in the world.

Reach out to your university's corporate engagement team to inquire about collaboration opportunities!

# Looking Ahead...

**Diversifying application pool:**
- The Academic Excellence Scholarships
- The Global Reach Scholarship
- The Global Promise Scholarship

**Recruiting faculty and guest speakers from diverse backgrounds and with varied content expertise.**
- Enrich the learning experience for students
- Foster a culture of inclusivity and openness to new ideas.

**Empowering minds, transforming the world**
- Build eminence of the program both in the U.S. and globally.

# Sustainability of Inclusivity and Support

Monitor effectiveness: Assess outcomes regularly using data and feedback to refine the program.

Build a strong administration: Invest in dedicated staff to ensure smooth operation of student support.

Engage stakeholders: Involve faculty, industry partners, university leadership for input and support.

Develop a strategic marketing plan: Highlight the program's unique benefits to attract students and collaborators.

Seek continuous feedback: Request feedback from students, faculty, staff, and program partners to adapt strategies for long-term success.

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# Q&A

Interested in collaborating with us?
Reach out to Program Director Michelle
Yin: Michelle.Yin@northwestern.edu

For information about the program,
reach out to Program Coordinator, Ashley
Reyes: ashley.reyes@northwestern.edu

Thank you!