

UNIVERSITY OF YORK

Department of Economics and Related Studies

Placement Officer: Dr Peter Wagner +44 (0) 1904 324595 peter.wagner@york.ac.uk

CONTACT INFORMATION

Department of Economics and Related Studies
University of York
Heslington, York, YO10 5DD, United Kingdom
Phone: +44 (0) 7393 899205
E-mail: thang.dang@thangdang.org / tdd513@york.ac.uk
Webpage: <https://thangdang.org>

GENDER Male

CITIZENSHIP Vietnamese

PRE-DOCTORAL STUDIES

June 2019	Summer School on Socioeconomic Inequality, Human Capital and Economic Opportunity Global Working Group (HCEO) and Norwegian School of Economics
February 2014–November 2015	Master of Economics, Victoria University of Wellington

DOCTORAL STUDIES

	PhD in Economics, University of York
DATES	October 2017–present
THESIS TITLE	Essays in Applied Microeconomics
EXPECTED COMPLETION	May 2021

SUPERVISORS AND REFERENCES

Prof Thomas Cornelissen (Supervisor)
Department of Economics
University of Essex
Wivenhoe Park, Colchester CO4 3SQ
United Kingdom
E-mail: t.cornelissen@essex.ac.uk

Prof Emma Tominey (Supervisor)
Department of Economics and Related Studies
University of York
Heslington, York, YO10 5DD
United Kingdom
E-mail: emma.tominey@york.ac.uk

Prof Marc Suhrcke
Centre for Health Economics
University of York
Heslington, York, YO10 5DD
United Kingdom
E-mail: marc.suhrcke@york.ac.uk

Dr Tuomo Suhonen
Labour Institute for Economic Research
Arkadiankatu 7 (Economicum)
00100 Helsinki
Finland
E-mail: tuomo.suhonen@labour.fi

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Applied Microeconomics: Labour, Education, Health and Development Economics

PAST RELEVANT POSITIONS

October 2020–present	Graduate Teaching Assistant University of York
----------------------	---

April 2020–July 2020	Research Assistant to Prof. Thomas Cornelissen University of Essex
July 2019	Research Assistant to Prof. Thomas Cornelissen University of York
December 2015–August 2017	Lecturer in Economics University of Economics Ho Chi Minh City
July 2014–December 2014	Research Assistant to Prof. Ilan Noy Victoria University of Wellington
December 2010–January 2014	Associate Lecturer in Economics University of Economics Ho Chi Minh City

TEACHING EXPERIENCES

2020–2021	Applied Economics (Undergraduate) University of York
2015–2017	Labour Economics (Masters) Development Economics (Masters) Health Economics (Undergraduate) Environmental Economics (Undergraduate) University of Economics Ho Chi Minh City
2010–2014	Labour Economics (Undergraduate) Environmental Economics (Undergraduate) University of Economics Ho Chi Minh City

PRESENTATIONS

2020	Labour Institute for Economic Research, Helsinki, Finland
2019	Applied Microeconometrics (AME) Seminar, University of York The 4th Workshop on Labour and Family Economics (WOLFE) Summer School on Socioeconomic Inequality, Norwegian School of Economics Economics Research Student Workshop, University of York
2018	The 3rd Workshop on Labour and Family Economics (WOLFE)
2017	The 10th Vietnam's Economists Annual Meeting (VEAM) The 13th Annual Conference of Asian Law and Economics Association

AWARDS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND GRANTS

2017–2021	PhD. Studentship, University of York (£60,000)
2016	Rockefeller Foundation Research Grant (\$10,000)
2014–2016	Environment and Economy Program for Southeast Asia (EEPSEA) (\$16,000)
2013–2015	New Zealand ASEAN Scholar Award (NZ\$ 79,000)

REFEREEING

Economics and Human Biology

MEMBERSHIPS AND OTHER SERVICES

2020–present	Membership, European Economic Association Membership, Royal Economic Society Membership, Asian and Australasian Society of Labour Economics
2019–2020	Chair, Economics Research Student Workshop University of York
2015–2016	Seminar Coordinator, Small Talks Big Ideas (STBI) Seminar University of Economics Ho Chi Minh City

LANGUAGES

English (Fluent), Vietnamese (Native)

COMPUTER SKILLS

Stata, R, LaTeX, MS-Office

JOB MARKET PAPERS

The Cultural Origins of Educational Success

I exploit exogenous variation in regional exposure to Confucian cultural heritage in Vietnam and employ a spatial regression discontinuity design to estimate the causal effects of culture on educational success. My results show that exposure to Confucian cultural heritage raises schooling years and degree achievement for adults as well as school enrollment and test scores for children. I also provide evidence to suggest that these effects work through persistent positive cultural values towards schooling and increased human capital investments. Confucianism also ameliorates the intergenerational educational mobility.

The Multigenerational Impacts of Educational Expansion: Evidence from Vietnam (Joint with Thomas Cornelissen)

We exploit a compulsory schooling reform in Vietnam to investigate the multigenerational effects of public primary school expansion. In the directly affected generation, the expansion increases educational attainment, literacy, non-agricultural economic activity, earnings and the intergenerational educational mobility. It increases marriage rates and fertility at the extensive margin, but reduces fertility at the intensive margin. The expansion increases human capital investments in the children of the directly affected generation, with increased educational expenditures, school enrollment, and health investments, and a reduction in child labor. Finally, the expansion improves the health in old age of the parents of the directly affected generation. They benefit from improved general health, but not mental health, as well as improved financial resources, access to private health insurance and reduced alcohol consumption.

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

Welfare Reform and Mental Health: Evidence from Universal Credit (Joint with Mike Brewer, Emma Tominey)

We exploit welfare reforms under the Universal Credit (UC) scheme compared to the former legacy system in the United Kingdom to investigate the effect of entering into the unemployment status on mental health and to decompose the effect via different mechanisms. We find that unemployed individuals under the UC system have lower mental health compared to those taking legacy benefits by 22% of a standard deviation. The effect working through potential mediators explains up to 32-48% of the total effect. Among the mediators, household income, the number of benefits claimed, and bill payment problems explain 14%, 34%, and 1% of the main effect, respectively. The number of job search methods negatively contributes to the main effect of a reduction of 16%.

Child Education and Parental Health: Evidence from Finland (Joint with Mika Haapanen, Tuomo Suhonen)

PRE-DOCTORAL RESEARCH

Retirement and Health Services Utilization in a Low-income Country (R&R at *The Economics of Transition and Institutional Change*).

Spillover Effects of Health Insurance for Children on Parents' Healthcare Services Utilization (R&R at *Empirical Economics*).

Intergenerational Earnings and Income Mobility in Vietnam, *LABOUR: Review of Labour Economics and Industrial Relations* 34(1): 113–136, 2020.

Quasi-experimental Evidence on the Political Impacts of Education in Vietnam, *Education Economics* 27(2): 207–221, 2019.

Do the More Educated Utilize More Health Care Services? Evidence from Vietnam Using a Regression Discontinuity Design, *International Journal of Health Economics and Management* 18(3): 277–299, 2018.