

Debayan Pakrashi

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Research Interests: Economic Development, Labour, Agricultural and Health Economics.

Academic Employment:

Assistant Professor of Economics, Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur June 2014 – Present.
Co-ordinator and Research Fellow, Development Policy Research Network at IIT Kanpur, 2015-Present. www.dprn.in

Postdoctoral Researcher, Stirling Management School, University of Stirling on an ESRC funded research project. March 2014 – May 2014.

ARC Research Scholar, School of Economics, University of Queensland for the Rural Urban Migration in China and Indonesia Project, funded by the Australian Research Council, World Bank, Ford Foundation and German Labour Institute, June 2010 – December 2013.

Educational Qualification:

PhD in Economics, University of Queensland, May 2014.

Specialization in Labour, Behavioural and Economic Development.

Thesis Title: “Essays on Migration and Economic Development”

Thesis Supervisor: Prof Paul Frijters. Thesis Co-supervisor: Prof Andrew McLennan.

Received a full tuition fee and living allowance scholarship for this PhD based on academic achievements. Awarded Best Thesis Award 2014.

Master of Arts in Economics (with thesis), University of Calgary, 2010.

Specialization in International Trade and Health Economics.

Thesis title: “Does membership in International (Trading) Organizations affect the incidence of Child Labour?”

Thesis Supervisor: Prof Eugene Beaulieu. Thesis Chair: Prof M.Scott Taylor.

Received a special invitation and a full scholarship for this Masters based on academic achievements.

Master of Arts in Economics (with specialisation in world economy), Centre for International Trade and Development, Jawaharlal Nehru University, 2008

Secured first class marks (with highest ever marks in a semester) from the University.

Received a full scholarship for this Masters based on academic achievements.

Bachelor of Science in Economics (with first class honours), University of Calcutta, 2006

First class first from college and University Rank Holder.

Minor in Statistics and Mathematics.

Academic Honours and Awards:

Awarded the J.J.Goodwin Memorial Prize and Scholarship, 2006
Awarded the Hrishikesh Chattopadhyay and Jainaseni Memorial Prize, 2006
Awarded the Mahatma Gandhi Award, 2006
Awarded the Swami Vivekananda Award, 2006
Awarded the Indian Culture Award, 2005, 2006
Awarded the Ford Foundation Scholarship, 2007 (declined)
Awarded the Merit Scholarship, 2006-2008
Awarded the Graduate Research Scholarship, 2008-2009
Awarded the Graduate Teaching Fellowship, 2008-2009.
Awarded the Research Summer Scholarship, 2009.
Awarded the Australian Research Council Discovery PhD Scholarship, 2010-2013.
Awarded the University of Queensland International Scholarship, 2010-2013.
Awarded the Graduate School International Travel Award, 2013.
Awarded the M.N.Murthy Excellence Fund, 2014.
Awarded the University of Stirling Postdoctoral Research Fellowship. 2014 - 2017 (resigned).
Awarded the University of Queensland Postdoctoral Research Fellowship. January 2015 – December 2017 (declined)
Awarded the 2014 Dean’s Award for Outstanding Research Higher Degree Theses, 2015.
Awarded the Australian Alumni Excellence Award India under Young Achiever Category, 2015.
Awarded letter of Appreciation from the Director of IITK for teaching (summer course), 2015.

Research Grants

“Can We Select the Right Peers in Indian Education? Evidence from Kolkata” (received amount £ 10,000 in 2013) with Paul Frijters (Queensland) and Asadul Islam (Monash), funded by the International Growth Centre, India Central, London School of Economics, directed by the London School of Economics and Oxford University, 2014-2015.

“Technology Adoption and Food Security in Rural Bangladesh” (received amount £ 60,000 in 2014) with Asadul Islam (Monash), Christopher Barrett (Cornell), Marcel Fafchamps (Stanford), Garth Holloway (Reading) and other researchers from IRRI, Monash, Dhaka University and BRAC, funded by the International Growth Centre, Bangladesh, directed by the London School of Economics and Oxford University, 2014-2015.

“Technology Adoption and Diffusion: The System of Rice Intensification and Food Security in Bangladesh” (received amount £ 74,000 in 2015) with Asadul Islam (Monash), Christopher Barrett (Cornell), Marcel Fafchamps (Stanford), Paul Christian (Cornell) and BRAC, BRRRI from Bangladesh, funded by the International Growth Centre, Bangladesh, directed by the London School of Economics and Oxford University, 2015-2016.

“Understanding Concepts in Behavioural Economics in the context of Developing Countries: Evidence from India and Bangladesh” (received amount £ 25,000 in 2015) funded by Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur Faculty Research Initiation Grant scheme, 2015-2017.

"Skill Formation and Self-Employment Generation through Vocational Training" (received amount INR 850,000) as PI with Deep Mukherjee and Arun Kumar Sharma (IIT Kanpur), Paul Frijters (University of Queensland) and Asadul Islam (Monash), funded by the Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi. 2016-2018.

"Evaluating and Learnings from India's Family Planning Investments" with the International Centre for Research on Women (ICRW), IPE Global, IIPS Mumbai and others, funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. 2016-2019.

Publications:

Do WTO Members employ less child labor? (with Professor Eugene Beaulieu) Master thesis submitted to the *Indian Growth and Development Review*, 2013. Vol. 6(1):148-159.

Make Time for Physical Activity or You May Spend More Time Sick! (with Grace Lordan, LSE) *Social Indicators Research*, 2014. Vol. 119 (3): 1379-1391.

Do all activities 'weigh' equally? How different physical activities differ as predictors of weight (with Grace Lordan, LSE) *Risk Analysis*, 2015. Vol. 35(11): 2069-2086.

"Microcredit Program Participation and Household Food Security in Rural Bangladesh" (Asadul Islam, Chandana Maitra, Debayan Pakrashi and Russell Smyth) forthcoming in *Journal of Agricultural Economics*.

Revise and Resubmits:

Migration and Discrimination: A Decomposition Approach (with Paul Frijters, UQ) Revise and Resubmit, Review of Income and Wealth.

Papers under Submission:

Microcredit Program Participation and Labour Supply Behaviour of Rural Households (with Asadul Islam, Monash Uni)

Happiness Assimilation Amongst Migrants: Evidence from Australia (with Paul Frijters, UQ)

The Political Economy of Migration in China (with Paul Frijters, UQ)

Selected Working Papers:

Take-Offs, Landing and Economic Growth (with Paul Frijters, UQ)

Can we select the right peers in Indian education? Evidence from random dormitory assignment of University Students in Kolkata (with Paul Frijters and Asadul Islam).

Technology Adoption and Diffusion among rice farmers in Bangladesh. (with Asadul Islam, Chris Barrett, Marcel Fafchamps and Garth Holloway).

Mind the Age Gap: The Effect of Age Gaps on Mental Health (with Grace Lordan, London School of Economics)

Professional Experience:

Written a report (with Grace Lordan) for Nuffield Health with London School of Economics, titled “12 minutes more...” and is expected to promote the importance of physical activity, sports and exercise in maintaining good health. <http://www.nuffieldhealth.com/about-us/lse>
ARC Research Scholar under the supervision of Professor Paul Frijters on the RUMiCI project.
Research Assistant under Professor Paul Frijters on miscellaneous projects.
Research assistant under Dr Sangeeta Bansal on a joint project with Colombia University on developing teaching material on “Trade and Environment”. (An UNCTAD Project).
Research Assistant under Dr Gurbachan Singh on a finance project for University of Texas A and M, “Asset Prices in India.” 2008.
Research Assistant for Dr Bharat Ramaswami and Dr Sangeeta Bansal for a project funded by International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), 2008.

Number of PhD students: 1 in progress.

Number of MS students: 1 graduated, 1 in progress.

Number of UGP students: 20 in progress.

Visiting Positions:

Visiting Research Scholar at Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta, December 2011 to January 2012.

Fully funded visiting Researcher at the London School of Economics, United Kingdom, January 2013.

Visiting Researcher at the Department of Economics, Monash University, Australia, September to October, 2015.

Visiting Researcher at BRAC Bangladesh, November to December, 2015.

Teaching Assistant Experience: August, 2008 – December, 2009

Econ 311 Computer Applications in Economics, Fall 2008; Econ 321 Global Trading System, Fall 2008; Econ 323 Natural Gas Markets, Fall 2008; Econ 357 Microeconomics II, Winter 2009; Econ 325 Petroleum in North American Economy, Winter 2009; Econ 311 Computer Applications in Economics, Fall 2009.

Teaching Experience: June, 2010 – December, 2013

Econ 2460/7460 Health Economics, Undergraduate and Postgraduate level, Guest Lecturer; Econ 3800 Human Resource Economics, Undergraduate level, Guest Lecturer; Econ 2060 Behavioural Economics, Undergraduate level, Guest Lecturer.

Teaching Experience: June, 2014 – Present

Eco 101A Introduction to Economics (Semester 1, 2014; Summer Semester; Semester 1, 2015) Undergraduate level.

Eco 505A Behavioural and Experimental Economics (Semester 2, 2015; Semester 2, 2016) Undergraduate level.

Tutorial Experience:

June 2010 – December 2013

ECON2060 Behavioural Economics, Undergraduate level; ECON2460 Health Economics, Undergraduate level course; ECON7460 Health Economics, Postgraduate level course; ECON1310 Statistics for Business A, Undergraduate level; ECON2050 Mathematical Economics, Undergraduate level; ECON7530 International Trade and Finance, Postgraduate level (Evaluations available upon request).

Conferences and Workshops organized:

Debayan Pakrashi (with Asadul Islam) organized a Workshop on Social Networks on October 5, 2015 at Monash University, Clayton campus, sponsored by the Centre for Development Economics and Sustainability (CDES) and Department of Economics, Monash University for IGC India Central.

Debayan Pakrashi organized the first Development Policy Research Network Workshop and roundtable discussion session with policymakers on March 16-17, 2016 at IIT Kanpur, sponsored by IIT Kanpur.

Seminars and Conference Presentations:

Occupational Safety and Health Regulation, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India, 2007.

Gender Discrimination in the context of Game Theory, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, 2008.

Climate Change and Kyoto Protocol, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India, 2008.

Microcredit and the Apparel Sector in Asia, University of Calgary, 2009.

The Political Economy of Migration in China, University of Queensland, 2010.

Take-Offs, Landing and Economic Growth, Applied Economics Seminar, UQ, October, 2011
“How Australian are you? Happiness, Migration, Assimilation and National Pride” Applied Economics Seminar, UQ, Brisbane, 2012.

8th Australian Development Economics Workshop, Monash University 2012.

14th International Schumpeter Society Conference, Brisbane 2012.

25th UWA ANU Annual Conference, University of Western Australia 2012.

The Political Economy of Migration in China, 8th Annual Conference on Economic Growth and Development, New Delhi, 2012.

The Microfinance Puzzle, 8th Annual Conference on Economic Growth and Development, New Delhi, 2012.

The Political Economy of Migration in China, Asian Meeting of Econometric Society, New Delhi, 2012.

The Microfinance Puzzle, Asian Meeting of Econometric Society, New Delhi, 2012.

Take-Offs, Landing and Economic Growth, XXIIInd Annual Conference on Contemporary Issues in Development Economics, Kolkata, 2013.

The Microfinance Puzzle, XXIIInd Annual Conference on Contemporary Issues in Development Economics, Kolkata, 2013.

The Microfinance Puzzle, Australasian Development Economics Workshop, ANU, 2013.
The Microfinance Puzzle, Econometric Society Australasian Meeting, Sydney, 2013.
The Microfinance Puzzle, 8th IZA/World Bank Conference, Bonn, Germany, 2013.
Happiness Assimilation amongst Migrants: Evidence from Australia, Hilda Research Survey Conference, October, 2013.
Happiness Assimilation amongst Migrants: Evidence from Australia, Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur, August 2013.
Happiness Assimilation amongst Migrants: Evidence from Australia, Behavioural Science Centre, April 2014.
Microcredit Program Participation and Household Food Security in Rural Bangladesh, 10th Annual Conference on Economic Growth and Development, New Delhi, 2014.
The Political Economy of Migration in China, Conference on Markets, Labor and Regulation organized by Cornell University, Columbia University, DFID and World Bank, December 17-18, 2014.
Microcredit Program Participation and Household Food Security in Rural Bangladesh, South Asian Economic Development: The Way Forward, An International Conference from the Perspective of Young Researchers, South Asian University, New Delhi, April 9-10, 2015.
Peer Effects in Indian Education: Evidence from Kolkata 5th IGC West Bengal Conference, December 26-27, 2015.
Takeoffs, Landing and Economic Growth: International Conference on Middle Income Trap in Asia and PRC New Economic Normal organized by Asian Development Bank Institute and China and World Economy, 13th-14th April 2016 in Beijing, China.

Media Publications and columns

Dr Debayan Pakrashi's article "Can microcredit improve food security among the rural poor?" (with Asadul Islam, Chandana Maitra and Russell Smyth) appeared on the Ideas for India website in September 2015 [Link](#) and on the Monash Business School website in October 2015. [Link](#)

Dr Debayan Pakrashi's article on physical activities and weight (with Grace Lordan from the London School of Economics) was widely publicized in the United Kingdom by the media. See [Link 1](#) [Link 2](#) [Link 3](#) [Link 4](#) [Link 5](#) [Link 6](#) [Link 7](#) [Link 8](#) [Link 9](#)

Invitations to Seminars and Conferences:

Session chair at the Health Economists Study Group Meeting, January 2013.
Discussant at the Fourth Australasian Workshop on Econometrics and Health Economics, April 2013.
Discussant at the Labour Econometrics Workshop, August 2013.
Invited to the 3rd European Research Conference on Microfinance 10-12 June, 2013.
Can we select the right peers? Australasian Development Economics Workshop, Monash, 2015.

Professional Responsibilities

Member of the organizing committee of the Annual PhD Conference in Economics and Business hosted by the University Of Queensland School Of Economics.
Member of the School of Economics, Ethical Clearance Review Committee, 2011-Present.
Member of Computer and Web Committee, 2014-15.

Member of Departmental Faculty Recruitment Committee, 2015-16.
Member of PUGC, 2016-Present.

Referee:

Review of World Economics
Health Economics
Review of Income and Wealth

References:

Professor Paul Frijters, School of Economics, University of Queensland, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia, Tel: +61 7 3346 3483 E-mail: p.frijters@uq.edu.au

Professor Asadul Islam, Department of Economics Monash University Caulfield Campus, Victoria, Australia, Tel: +61 3 9903 2783 E-mail: asadul.islam@monash.edu

Professor Arun K Sharma, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur, India. Tel: (Home) +91-512-2598336; (Office) +91-512-2597946 Fax: +91-512-2597510 Email: arunk@iitk.ac.in

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