



C. Lowell Harriss Fellowship Symposium

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Cambridge, MA

Presenter Biographies

Tina Beale is a lecturer in the land economy and valuation surveying division at the University of Technology, Jamaica. Her areas of specialization are real estate investment and appraisal, land management, and property taxation. She is an educator with a nine-year track record in teaching and research. She has publications centering on the practices of professionals in Jamaica's real estate industry and expropriation in the Caribbean. She has also received outstanding academic awards. In April 2015, Tina became a joint recipient of a David C. Lincoln Fellowship in Land Value Taxation. That fellowship was awarded for a proposal to conduct research on the attitudes and behaviour of Jamaican property taxpayers. Tina was the lead researcher for the study. In July 2015, Tina also received a Commonwealth Scholarship from the Commonwealth Secretariat in the United Kingdom to pursue doctoral studies in real estate and planning at the University of Reading, Whiteknights. Tina has presented at international conferences in the Caribbean, North America, Europe, and Asia. It is Tina's goal to use research as a vehicle to improve the lives of others.

Peter Jones is a Ph.D. candidate in the department of economics at the University of California, Berkeley who will be on the job market next January. His research aims to identify circumstances in which, and to understand how, established cognitive tendencies affect individual decision-making, leveraging theory motivated by psychology to bring new insight to economic choices and behavior. Currently, his work primarily relates to household and consumer finance, as well as taxation. Previously, he worked at the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco and the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston. Originally from Chicago, he graduated from Colby College with a B.A. in economics and mathematics in 2013.

Patrick Kilfoil is trained in political science and urban and regional planning. He conducts research on urban policy, policy learning, urban governance, and the institutional determinants of urban and regional development, including land use planning practices and governance structures. Patrick is currently a Ph.D. candidate in the School of Urban Planning at McGill University. His doctoral research project looks at innovation districts, focusing on the dissemination of the policy idea in North America and its variegated implementation in several cities. He is also conducting research on metropolitan fragmentation in Canada, as well as the impact of land use planning on economic development. Outside of academia, he is a father, husband, avid hockey player, and food aficionado.

Jingran Sun is a doctoral candidate in the department of public administration at the University of North Texas. Sun's research involves the effects of property tax exemptions and municipalities' fiscal behavior. He has published one peer-reviewed article and has written four working papers. In 2015, Sun received UNT's Global Citizen Award and a Chardean Newell Fellowship.

Francis Wong is a fifth-year Ph.D. candidate in the department of economics at the University of California, Berkeley. His interests focus on public and consumer finance. Before beginning his Ph.D. at Berkeley, Francis studied mathematics and economics at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He is originally from Greensboro, North Carolina.

Tianren Yang is a doctoral candidate and Cambridge Trust Scholar at the Martin Centre for Architectural and Urban Studies at the University of Cambridge. He is interested in developing applied urban models to provide a scientific understanding of urban dynamics and their relationship with policy input. He serves as a convenor of the Applied Urban Modelling symposia (2018-). Tianren's Ph.D. research capitalises on novel online data and builds a new theoretical model for understanding land value capture (LVC) options in planning new city centres. This would materially improve local governments' abilities to explore LVC options not only as a financing instrument within current property hotspots but also as part of a wider policy toolkit to promote social equity, environmental sustainability, and business productivity in a city region at present characterised by an overcrowded core and low-growth suburban centres.