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Associate Professor
Department of Economics
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Personal

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Education

Ph.D 2007 (Economics), University of Melbourne.
Thesis topic: Aspects of Propensity Score Matching
Advisors: Jeff Borland, Chris Skeels
External examiners: Michael Lechner (St. Gallen), James Powell (Berkeley)
M.A. 1997 (Economics), University of Michigan.
(Completed Ph.D coursework, Ph.D theory prelims, and third-year paper requirement).
B.A., 1995 (Economics, *summa cum laude*), Colby College.
Visiting student, Harvard University, Semester 2, 1993-1994.

Fields of Interest

Applied micro-econometrics, health and labour economics, program evaluation.

Professional Experience

Director, China Business and Economic Research Centre (CBERC), Deakin University (Jan 2016 – Dec 2017).
Co-Director, Centre for Economics and Financial Econometrics Research, Deakin University (Jan 2015 – Dec 2015).
Director of Research, Department of Economics (Nov 2014 – Aug 2016).
Associate Professor, Deakin University (May 2012 – present).
Senior Lecturer, RMIT University. (Jan 2010 – May 2012).
Research Fellow. Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA), Bonn. (December 2011 – present).
Research Fellow. Melbourne Institute, University of Melbourne. (Jan 2006 – Jan 2010).
Visiting Researcher. Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA), Bonn. (April 2009 – June 2009).

Research Affiliate. Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA), Bonn. (August 2008 – November 2011).
Senior Analyst. Abt Associates Inc., Bethesda, Maryland. (Jun 2000 – Jun 2003).
Analyst. Abt Associates Inc., Bethesda, Maryland. (Jan 1998 – May 2000).
Graduate Student Instructor for “Principles of Microeconomics.” University of Michigan (Sep 1996 – Dec 1997).
Research Assistant. Abt Associates Inc., Cambridge, Massachusetts. (Jan 1995 – Jun 1995).
Research Assistant. Economics Department. Colby College. (Jan 1992 – Dec 1994).
Research Intern. The Carson Group, New York City, New York (Jan 1993 and Jun – Aug 1993).

Fellowships, Prizes and Awards

Lawrence R. Klein award for best paper published in *Empirical Economics*, 2012-2013.
RMIT University, Early Career Researcher Publication Grant, 2010.
RMIT University, Partnership Fund Grant, 2010.
RMIT University, School of Economics, Finance and Marketing Research Grant, 2010.
University of Melbourne, Faculty of Economics and Commerce, Faculty Research Grant 2008.
University of Melbourne, Early Career Researcher Grant 2008.
University of Melbourne, Faculty of Economics and Commerce, Faculty Research Grant 2007.
Abt Associates Inc. Dan McGillis Development and Dissemination Grant award, 2000.
University of Michigan summer research fellowship, summer 1997.
University of Michigan tuition waiver scholarship, 1995-1996.
Phi Beta Kappa (elected junior year of college).
Breckenridge prize in economics (awarded for highest undergraduate GPA in major).
Julius Bixler Scholar, 1992-1994 (undergraduate scholarship).

Journal Publications

Lee, W., C. Mihalopoulos, M. Chatterton, G. Chambers, N. Highet, V. Morgan, E. Sullivan and M-P Austin. (2018) “Policy Impacts of the Australian National Perinatal Depression Initiative: Psychiatric Admission in the First Postnatal Year,” forthcoming in *Administration and Policy in Mental Health and Mental Health Services Research*.

Lee, W. and T. McKinnish. (2018). “The Marital Satisfaction of Differently-Aged Couples,” *Journal of Population Economics*, 31, pp. 337-362.

Lee, W. (2017). “Big and Tall: Does a Height Premium Dwarf an Obesity Penalty in the Labor Market?” *Economics and Human Biology*, 27, pp. 289–304.

Caliendo. M., W. Lee and R. Mahlstedt. (2017). “The Gender Wage Gap and the Role of Reservation Wages: New Evidence for Unemployed Workers,” *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, 136, pp. 161–173.

Lee, W. and Z. Zhao. (2017). “Height, Weight and Well-Being for Rural, Urban and Migrant Workers in China,” *Social Indicators Research*, 132, pp. 117–136.

- Islam, A. and W. Lee. (2016). "Bureaucratic Corruption and Income: Evidence from the Land Sector in Bangladesh," *Journal of Development Studies*, 52, pp. 1499–1516.
- Lee, W. (2016). "Body Fatness Charts Based on BMI and Waist Circumference," *Obesity*, 24, pp. 245–249.
- Güven, C. and W. Lee. (2015). "Height, Ageing and Cognitive Abilities across Europe," *Economics and Human Biology*, 16, pp. 16–29.
- Lee, W. and C. Güven. (2013). "Engaging in Corruption: The Influence of Cultural Values and Contagion Effects at the Micro Level," *Journal of Economic Psychology*, 39, pp. 287–300.
- Johnston D and W. Lee. (2013). "Extra Status and Extra Stress: Are Promotions Good for Us?" *Industrial and Labor Relations Review*, 66, pp. 32–54.
- Caliendo, M. and W. Lee. (2013). "Fat Chance! Obesity and the Transition from Unemployment to Employment," *Economics and Human Biology*, 11, pp. 121–133.
- Güven, C. and W. Lee. (2013). "Height and Cognitive Function at Older Ages: Is Height a Useful Summary Measure of Early Childhood Experiences?" *Health Economics*, 22, pp. 224–233.
- Lee, W. (2013). "Propensity Score Matching and Variations on the Balancing Test," *Empirical Economics*, 44, pp. 47–80.
- Johnston D and W. Lee. (2012). "Climbing the Job Ladder: New Evidence of Gender Inequity," *Industrial Relations: A Journal of Economy and Society*, 51, pp. 129–151.
- Johnston, D and W. Lee. (2011). "Explaining the Female Black-White Obesity Gap: A Decomposition Analysis of Proximal Causes," *Demography*, 48, pp. 1429–1450.
- Lee, W. and S. Suardi. (2011). "Minimum Wages and Employment: Reconsidering the Use of a Time-Series Approach as an Evaluation Tool," *British Journal of Industrial Relations*, 49, pp. s376–s401.
- Lee, W. (2011). "Comparative Case Studies of the Effects of Inflation Targeting in Emerging Economies," *Oxford Economic Papers*, 63, pp. 375–397.
- Lee, W. and M. Coelli (2010). "The Labour Market Effects of Vocational Education and Training in Australia," *Australian Economic Review*, 43, pp. 389–408.
- Buddelmeyer, H., W. Lee and M. Wooden (2010). "Low-Paid Employment and Unemployment Dynamics in Australia," *Economic Record*, 86, pp. 28–48.
- Lee, W. and S. Suardi (2010). "The Australian Firearms Buyback and Its Effect on Gun Deaths," *Contemporary Economic Policy*, 28, pp. 65–79.
- Johnston, D and W. Lee. (2009). "Retiring to the Good Life? The Short-Term Effects of Retirement on Health," *Economics Letters*, 103, pp. 8–11.

Kalb, G. and W. Lee. (2008). "Childcare Use and Parents' Labour Supply In Australia," *Australian Economic Papers*, 47, pp. 272–295.

Lee, W. and U. Oguzoglu. (2007). "Income Support and Stigma Effects for Young Australians," *Australian Economic Review*, 40, pp. 369–384.

Kalb, G. and W. Lee. (2007). "The Effect of an Alternative Childcare Subsidy on Labour Supply: a Policy Simulation," *Australian Journal of Labour Economics*, 10, pp. 39–57.

Lee, W., E. Beecroft, and M. Shroder. (2005). "The Impacts of Welfare Reform on Recipients of Housing Assistance," *Housing Policy Debate*, 16 (3-4), pp. 433–468.

Fein, D. and W. Lee (2003). "The Impacts of Welfare Reform on Child Maltreatment in Delaware," *Children and Youth Services Review*, 25 (1-2), pp. 83–111.

Working Papers

Lee, W. and B. Li. Early Life Weather and Longevity: Evidence from The Chinese Elite 1 – 1840.

Lee, W. and T. McKinnish. Couple Differences in Locus of Control and Marital Satisfaction.

Islam, A., W. Lee and A. Nicholas. More Sense or Sensibility? Experimental Evidence from Teaching Children Chess in Bangladesh.

Lee, W. and Z. Zhao. Assortative Mating by Hukou and the Wellbeing of Couples in China.

Government Reports

Johnston, D., W. Lee, C. Shah, M. Shields and J. Spinks. (2014). Are Neighbourhood Characteristics Important in Predicting the Post-School Destinations of Young Australians? Report to the National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER).

Lee, W. and Polidano, C. (2010). "Measuring the Quality of VET using the Student Outcome Survey," Report to the National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER).

Lee, W. and M. Van Zijll De Jong. (2010). "Successful and Unsuccessful Pathways to Employment," commissioned by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR).

Black, D. and W. Lee. (2009). "Experiences of Income Support Recipients with a Mental Illness," commissioned by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR).

Lee, W. and M. Coelli. (2008). "Analysis of Private Returns to VET," report prepared for the National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER).

Kalb, G. and W. Lee. (2007). "Labour Supply and the Australian Population: Using Data from 1994 to 2004," report for the Australian Treasury.

Buddelmeyer, H., W. Lee, M. Wooden and H. Vu. (2007). "Low Pay Dynamics: Do Low-Paid Jobs Lead to Increased Earnings and Lower Welfare Dependency Over Time," commissioned by the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR).

Kalb, G. and W. Lee. (2006). "A Note on the Microsimulation Modelling Results of the 'Working Model': An Alternative Policy for Alleviating the Cost of Care Developed by the Taskforce on Care Costs," commissioned by the Taskforce on Care Costs.

Kalb, G. and W. Lee. (2006). "Childcare Demand and Household Labour Supply after 2000," commissioned by the Australian Government Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaCSIA).

Yong, J., W. Lee and A. Palangkaraya. (2006). "The Long-term Impact of Informal Care Giving on Carers," a project, comprising a series of four reports, commissioned by the Australian Government Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaCSIA).

Mavromaras, K., W. Lee and D. Black. (2006). "An Examination of Welfare Transitions Using the First Three Waves of the HILDA Survey," commissioned by the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR).

Beecroft, E., W. Lee, D. Long, P. Holcomb, T. Thompson, N. Pindus, C. O'Brien, and J. Bernstein. (2003). "The Indiana Welfare Reform Evaluation: Five-Year Impacts, Implementation, Costs and Benefits," Abt Associates Inc., Bethesda MD.

Lee, W., E. Beecroft, J. Khadurri, and R. Patterson. (2003). "Impacts of Welfare Reform on Recipients of Housing Assistance: Evidence from Indiana and Delaware," Abt Associates Inc., Bethesda MD.

St. Pierre, B., A. Ricciuti, F. Tao, C. Creps, J. Swartz, A. Parsad and W. Lee. (2002). "Third National Even Start Evaluation: Report on Program Outcomes," Abt Associates Inc., Bethesda MD.

Fein, D. and W. Lee. (2001). "The ABC Evaluation: How Have They Fared? Outcomes After Four Years for the Earliest ABC Clients," Abt Associates Inc., Bethesda MD.

Fein, D., D. Long, J. Behrens and W. Lee. (2001). "The ABC Evaluation: Turning the Corner: Delaware's A Better Chance Welfare Reform Program at Four Years," Abt Associates Inc., Bethesda MD.

Fein, D. and W. Lee. (2000). "The ABC Evaluation: Impacts of Welfare Reform on Child Maltreatment," Abt Associates Inc., Bethesda MD.

Fein, D., W. Lee and C. Schofield. (1999). "The ABC Evaluation: Do Welfare Recipients' Children Have a School Attendance Problem?," Abt Associates Inc., Bethesda MD.

Fein, D. and W. Lee. (1999). "The ABC Evaluation: Enrollment of Families in Delaware's A Better Chance Program: A Report on the First Three Years," Abt Associates Inc., Bethesda MD.

Fein, D. and W. Lee. (1999). "The ABC Evaluation: Carrying and Using the Stick: Financial Sanctions in Delaware's A Better Chance Program," Abt Associates Inc., Bethesda MD.

Fein, D., E. Beecroft, W. Lee, W. Hamilton, P. Holcomb, T. Thompson and C. Ratcliffe. (1998). "The Indiana Welfare Reform Evaluation: Program Implementation and Economic Impacts After Two Years," Abt Associates Inc., Bethesda MD.

Hamilton, W., E. Beecroft, D. Brown and W. Lee. (1998). "The Indiana Welfare Reform Evaluation: Identifying and Serving the Most Dependent Cases," Abt Associates Inc., Bethesda MD.

Other Publications

Lee, W. and J. Tay. (2012). "A Fingerfehler? Slav Defence - Alapin Variation 7.f3 Bb4 - SL 4.3." *New in Chess Yearbook* 104, Alkmaar: Netherlands. ([link](#))

Presentations at Conferences and Professional Meetings

6th China Meeting of the Econometric Society, Shanghai (China), June 15-17, 2018.
17th IZA/SOLE Transatlantic Meeting of Labor Economists, Buch/Ammersee (Germany), May 3-6, 2018.
9th Workshop on the Economics of Health and Wellbeing, Hepburn Springs, Victoria, Feb 7-9, 2018
1st Asian and Australasian Society of Labour Economics, Canberra, Dec 7-9, 2017.
20th Labour Econometrics Workshop, University of Auckland, August 18-19, 2017.
8th Australasian Workshop on Econometrics & Health Economics, Airlie Beach, Queensland, May 1-3, 2017 (discussant).
8th Workshop on the Economics of Health and Wellbeing, Werribee, Victoria, Feb 22-23, 2017 (discussant).
3rd Annual Workshop on Natural Experiments in History: Labour, Institutions, Health, Dec 15, 2016 (discussant).
9th Research Symposium for Chinese PhD Students and Scholars (CPS) in Australia, Nov 12, 2016.
7th Workshop on the Economics of Health and Wellbeing, Hepburn Springs, Victoria, Feb 1-3, 2016.
6th Workshop on the Economics of Health and Wellbeing, Yarra Glen, Victoria, Feb 1-3, 2015.
7th IZA/CIER Annual Workshop on Research in Labor Economics, Beijing, October 16-17, 2015.
Annual Conference of the European Society for Population Economics, Braga (Portugal), June 18-21, 2014.
1st Singapore Health Economics Association conference, Singapore, Apr 17, 2014.
5th Workshop on the Economics of Health and Wellbeing, Hepburn Springs, Victoria, Feb 17-19, 2014.
Annual Conference of the European Society for Population Economics, Aarhus (Denmark), June 12-15, 2013.
14th IZA/CEPR European Summer Symposium in Labour Economics, Buch/Ammersee (Germany), September 12-16, 2012.
Annual Conference of the European Society for Population Economics, Hangzhou (China), June 16-18, 2011.
3rd Annual IZA Conference on the Economics of Risky Behaviors, Bonn (Germany), April 15-17, 2011.
Australian Health Economics Conference, Hobart, October 1-2, 2009.
12th Labour Econometrics Workshop, QUT, Brisbane, August 7-8, 2009.
3rd International Symposium on Labor Economics, WISE, Xiamen (China), December 11-12, 2008.
Australasian Meeting of the Econometric Society, Wellington (New Zealand), July 9-11, 2008.
Far Eastern Meeting of the Econometric Society, Singapore, July 16-18, 2008.

3rd Annual IZA Conference on the Evaluation of Labor Market Programs, Bonn (Germany), October 19-20, 2007.

Australasian Meeting of the Econometric Society, Brisbane, July 3-6, 2007.

Annual Conference of the European Association of Labour Economists, Oslo (Norway), September 20-22, 2007.

3rd Conference on Policy Evaluation, ZEW, Mannheim (Germany), October 27-28, 2006.

Australasian Meeting of the Econometric Society, Alice Springs, July 4-7, 2006.

Ph.D conference in Economics and Business, Perth, November 2-4, 2005.

National Association for Welfare Research and Statistics (NAWRS) conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico, August 25-28, 2002.

Association for Public Policy and Management (APPAM) conference in Dallas, Texas, November 7-9, 2002.

National Association for Welfare Research and Statistics (NAWRS) conference in Scottsdale, Arizona, July 29-August 2, 2000.

Association for Public Policy and Management (APPAM) conference in New York City, October 29-31, 1998.

Media

'The Marital Satisfaction of Differently-Aged Couples'

- Received international media coverage including [MSN \(US\)](#), [MSN \(Canada\)](#), [Yahoo \(UK\)](#), [Huffington Post \(UK\)](#), [Huffington Post \(Canada\)](#), [ABC News \(Australia\)](#), [Daily Mail \(UK\)](#), [Science Daily](#), [Phys.org](#), [Medical Daily](#), [Medical News Today](#), [South China Morning Post](#), [Times of India](#), [Hindustan Times](#), [Marie Claire \(Australia\)](#).
- Radio interviews: ABC Radio Melbourne (Breakfast show Richelle Hunt and Brian Nankervis), ABC Radio Sydney (Drive with Richard Glover).

'The Australian Firearms Buyback and Its Effect on Gun Deaths.'

- Interviewed on the ABC Illawarra Breakfast Show on Sep 23, 2008.

'Extra Status and Extra Stress: Are Promotions Good for Us?'

- Received coverage on the Wall Street Journal blog in July 2012 ([link](#)).

Grant Income

2013. "The Australian perinatal mental health reforms: using population data to evaluate their impact on service utilisation and related cost effectiveness." (2012-15 NHMRC grant. CI: Marie Paul-Austin, UNSW). I was awarded \$101,221 in research support income to help evaluate the impact of the National Perinatal Depression Initiative implemented in 2009. Although I was not part of the original team that submitted the proposal, my expertise has been sought to address an important research question in the project.

2002. "Impacts of Welfare Reform on Recipients of Housing Assistance: Evidence from Indiana and Delaware." Project Director. Awarded US\$102,000 by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

PhD Theses Examined

Chandarany Ouch (Monash University). “Three essays on the long-term effects of civil conflicts in Cambodia.”

Refereeing

Applied Economics, Australian Economic Review, Australian Journal of Labour Economics, Economics and Human Biology, Economics Letters, Economic Record, Health Economics, Housing Studies, Industrial Relations, IZA World of Labor, Journal of Development Studies, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Journal of Economic Policy Reform, Journal of International Trade and Economic Development, Journal of Population Economics, Social Indicators Research.

Software

Stata, SAS, R.

Other

Awarded title of National Master (NM) in Chess by the Singapore Chess Federation in 1990. Current FIDE chess rating: 2227 (inactive). [\(link\)](#)