

Gigi Foster

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Citizenship	Dual USA-Australia
Dissertation	“Social Effects on College Achievement”
Education	<i>PhD</i> , Economics, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 2003 <i>B.A.</i> , Ethics, Politics and Economics (magna cum laude), Yale University, New Haven, CT, 1996 <i>Diploma</i> , Phillips Exeter Academy, Exeter, NH, 1992
Awards and Funding	<p><i>ARC Discovery Project Grant</i> - AUD\$221,000 awarded over three years (2009-2011) by the Australian Research Council (2008) for project entitled <i>Should Rational Individuals be Optimistic? Theory, Survey Evidence, Experimental Evidence, and Policy Implications</i> with Paul Frijters and Benno Torgler</p> <p><i>Division of Business Research Excellence Award (Early Career Researcher category)</i> - AUD\$5000 awarded by the University of South Australia (2007)</p> <p><i>ARC Discovery Project Grant</i> - AUD\$89,740 awarded over three years (2008-2010) by the Australian Research Council (2007) for project entitled <i>Distributional Consequences of Mass-Market Higher Education in Business</i></p> <p><i>Division of Business Australian Research Council Application Support Grant</i> - AUD\$5000 awarded by the University of South Australia (2006)</p> <p><i>Division of Business Teaching and Learning Grant</i> - AUD\$5000 awarded by the University of South Australia (2006) for project entitled <i>Student Attrition from Divisional Core Courses: What do we know, and what can we do?</i></p> <p><i>Division of Business Small Research Grant</i> - AUD\$5789 awarded by the University of South Australia (2005) for project entitled ‘<i>Can I Work with My Friend?</i>’ <i>The educational and social consequences of group formation</i></p> <p><i>Division of Business Seed Grant</i> - AUD\$2700 awarded by the University of South Australia (2004) for project entitled <i>An Investigation of Peer Effects on Student Outcomes in First-year Economics: The impact of randomly-assigned study groups</i></p> <p><i>Division of Business and Enterprise Seed Grant</i> - AUD\$2800 awarded by the University of South Australia (2003) for project entitled <i>Is There a Link between Environmental Education and Resource Conservation?</i></p> <p><i>Dissertation Fellowship</i> - USD\$20,000 awarded by the Spencer Foundation (Chicago, IL) for research related to education (2002-2003)</p> <p><i>Melville J. Ulmer Scholarship</i> awarded by University of Maryland Economics Department for research assistantship support (2000)</p> <p><i>University Fellowship</i> awarded for doctoral study in economics at the University of Maryland (1998)</p> <p><i>PIER (Program in International Educational Resources) Fellowship</i> awarded at Yale (1996)</p> <p><i>NSEP (National Security Education Program) Scholarship</i> awarded for study abroad (1995)</p> <p><i>Boston University Merit Scholarship</i> awarded for study abroad (1995)</p>

Employment

Senior Lecturer 2009-present
University of New South Wales, Australian School of Business, School of Economics, Sydney, New South Wales

Senior Lecturer 2007-2009
Lecturer 2003-2006
University of South Australia, Division of Business, School of Commerce, Adelaide, South Australia

Teaching responsibilities:

Developed (2004) and coordinate (2004-present) a third-year undergraduate course entitled Applied Business Econometrics, drawing roughly 50 students once per year. Textbook: Wooldridge, "Introductory Econometrics: A Modern Approach," 4th edition.

Assisted in teaching or overseeing (2004-2008) a second-year undergraduate course entitled Forecasting and Business Analysis, drawing roughly 100 students once per year. Textbook: Koop, "Analysis of Economic Data," 2nd edition.

Supervision history:

2 Honours student completions (Matthew Giro and Fei Qiao; both completed 2005)

1 PhD student completion (associate supervisor to Matthew Leach; completed 2005)

Research Assistant 1998-2002
Economics Department, University of Maryland, College Park.

Research assistant to Dr. Judith Hellerstein, Summer 2000 - Summer 2002. Assisted with labor economics-related research projects involving a large, confidential employer-employee matched data set at the Census Bureau's Center for Economic Studies.

Research assistant to Dr. Jonah Gelbach, Fall 1998 - Spring 2000. Assisted with public finance-related research projects involving advanced SAS and Stata programming in a Unix environment.

Research Analyst 1996-1998
William M. Mercer, Inc., Human Capital Strategy Team, New York, NY.

Worked as member of a team of economists and psychologists in the development and implementation of a new service that statistically models internal labor market events and firm-level productivity, using large databases from client firms and SAS software. Was personally responsible for developing research methods and models regarding employee heterogeneity and its relation to performance measures.

Research

Publications

- Foster, Gigi** (2009). "A Diagrammatic Exposition of Regression and Instrumental Variables for the Beginning Student." *Journal of Economic Education* 40(3): 278-296.
- Foster, Gigi** (2008). "Names Will Never Hurt Me: Racially identifiable names and identity in the undergraduate classroom." *Social Science Research* 37(3): 934-952.
- Kalenkoski, Charlene M. and Gigi Foster** (2008). "The Quality of Time Spent with Children in Australian Households." *Review of Economics of the Household* 6: 243-266.
- Shanahan, Martin P., Gigi Foster and Jan H.F. Meyer** (2008). "Associations among Prior Acquisition of Threshold Concepts, Learning Dimensions, and Examination Performance in First-year Economics." In Land, R., Meyer, J. H. F. and Smith, J. (eds.), *Threshold Concepts within the Disciplines*. Rotterdam and Taipei: Sense Publishers.
- Foster, Gigi** (2006). "It's Not your Peers, and It's Not your Friends: Some progress toward understanding the educational peer effect mechanism." *Journal of Public Economics* 90: 1455-1475.
- Shanahan, Martin P., Gigi Foster and Jan H.F. Meyer** (2006). "Operationalising a Threshold Concept in Economics: A first attempt using multiple choice questions on opportunity cost." *International Review of Economics Education* 5(2): 29-57.
- Leach, Matthew, Jan Pincombe and Gigi Foster** (2006). "Clinical Efficacy of Horsechestnut Seed Extract in Venous Leg Ulcer Management." *Journal of Wound Care* 15(4): 159-167.
- Leach, Matthew, Jan Pincombe and Gigi Foster.** (2006). "Using Horsechestnut Seed Extract in the Treatment of Venous Leg Ulcers: A cost-benefit analysis." *Ostomy/Wound Management* 52(4): 68-78.
- Foster, Gigi.** (2005). "Making Friends: A nonexperimental analysis of social pair formation." *Human Relations* 58 (11): 1443-1465.

Works in review

- "Estimating Spillovers using Panel Data, with an Application to the Classroom." Joint with Peter Arcidiacono, Natalie Goodpaster and Josh Kinsler. Revise and re-submit at *Econometrica*.
- "Teacher Effects on Student Attrition and Performance in Mass-market Tertiary Education." Revise and resubmit at *Higher Education*.
- "The triumph of hope over regret: A note on the utility value of good expectations." Joint with Paul Frijters and David Johnston.
- "Are there complementarities in educational peer effects?" Joint with Paul Frijters.

Works in progress

- "The educational consequences of selection: New quasi-experimental evidence for heterogeneous undergraduate students."
- "The multi-tasking of household production." Joint with Charlene Kalenkoski.
- "Time diary data: Are two days better than one?" Joint with Charlene Kalenkoski.
- "Survival of the optimists: An expectations-based explanation for persistent heterogeneity in risk aversion." Joint with Paul Frijters.
- "Threshold concepts and attrition in first-year economics." Joint with Martin Shanahan and Jan H.F. Meyer.

Conference presentations of sole- and co-authored works

IZA/SOLE Transatlantic Meeting of Labor Economists (2009)
Western Economic Association International annual meeting (2009)
International Association for Research in Economic Psychology (IAREP) and Society for the Advancement of Behavioral Economics (SABE) joint conference (2009)
Econometrics Society of Australasia annual meeting (2008)
Allied Social Sciences Associations meetings (2004, 2005, 2007)
Population Association of America annual meeting (2007)
International Association of Time Use Research meetings (2007, 2008)
Society of Australasian Psychologists annual meeting (2006)
Society of Labor Economists annual meeting (2005)
NBER Higher Education meeting (2004)
Australasian Labour Econometrics Workshop (2004)

Popular press coverage and articles in trade journals

“Creating Real Higher Education.” *Directions in Education* (published by the Australian Council for Educational Leaders), 17(6): 18 April 2008.
“Embracing Undergraduate Attrition.” *Directions in Education* (published by the Australian Council for Educational Leaders), 16(3): 23 February 2007.
“Let the Weakest Drop Out,” *The Australian*, Wednesday, January 31, 2007 (Higher Education section, p. 23).

Invited research presentations since 2004

The Australian National University (2004, 2006, 2007); University of Melbourne (2005, 2007, 2009); University of New South Wales (2009); Yale University (2004; work presented by coauthor); University of Technology Sydney/CHERE (2005); LaTrobe University (2007); University of Wollongong (2008); University of Sydney (2008); Queensland University of Technology (2006, 2009); Royal Melbourne University of Technology (2004); Monash University (2006, 2007); Macquarie University (2006); The Ohio State University (2007)

Service

Academic review

Editorial board member for *Economic Analysis and Policy* and *Our Economy*
Canadian Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council international external reviewer
Referee for *Journal of Public Economics*, *Journal of Labor Economics*, *Journal of Human Resources*, *Journal of Population Economics*, *Social Science Review*, *Economics of Education Review*, *Health Economics*, *Economic Inquiry*, and *Australian Bulletin of Labour*

Conference organization

Creator, co-host, and academic program committee for the Economic Design Network-sponsored workshop, *Managing Selection in the Analysis of Economic Outcomes* (July 2008)
Host and academic program committee for the 9th Annual Australasian Labour Econometrics Workshop (August 2006)

School, university, and community service

Initiator (in 2004) and coordinator (2004-2008) of weekly research seminars by scholars within and outside of the School of Commerce at UniSA
Economics Discipline Leader and representative on School Executive (academic advisory body to the Head of School), UniSA (2005-2008)
Service on UniSA's Academic Board and Early Career Researcher Advisory board (2003-2006)
Service on Division of Business Level B Promotion Committee (2007-2009)
Yale University Alumni Schools Committee interviewer (2006-2008) and Director for Australia (2008-present)

Technical Skills

Software: Stata, SAS, Matlab, Nlogit, aML, L^AT_EX, emacs, WinEdt, Xara, MS Office suite
Operating Systems: Windows, Unix
Languages: English (native), French (intermediate), Russian (basic)