



Nanyang Technological University
ECONOMICS AND ECONOMICS
GROWTH CENTRE Seminar Series

Economics and Economic Growth Centre invite you to a seminar by
Prof SUEN Wing

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- Speaker** : **Prof SUEN Wing**
Chair of Economics and Henry G. Leong Professor in Economics
Faculty of Business and Economics
The University of Hong Kong
- Topic** : **"Credibility of Crime Allegations"**
- Chairperson** : **Prof AU Pak Hung**
Assistant Professor
Division of Economics
School of Social Sciences
- Date** : **28 March 2018 (Wednesday)**
- Time** : **2:30pm to 3:30pm**
- Venue** : **HSS Meeting Room 4 (HSS-04-71)**
School of Social Sciences
14 Nanyang Drive, Singapore 637332
Nanyang Technological University

About the Speaker:

Prof Suen received his undergraduate education at the University of Hong Kong and obtained his Ph.D. at the University of Washington. After doing post-doctoral research at the University of Chicago, Prof Suen returned to his alma mater in 1989 and is now Henry G. Leong Professor in Economics at the School of Economics and Finance. Prof Suen had also held fellowship or teaching positions at Simon Fraser University, Harvard University, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, and Peking University.

Prof Suen's research interests center around applied microeconomic theory. He has done some work on efficiency and early contracting in two-sided matching markets. One of his current research areas looks at the transmission of information across individuals with divergent beliefs and motives. An application that is close to the heart of the college professor is the issue of grade inflation in higher education. Prof Suen argues that the college professor, in playing the dual role of advocate and judge for his students, is trapped in an inefficient equilibrium in which grades are too high.

Another example of this line of work explores the structure of social networks. Individuals with opposing viewpoints tend to believe that the other party is uninformed or misinformed. If people form social ties in order to obtain more information, they will rationally choose to be associated with like-minded peers. Will there be an equilibrium in which people with different viewpoints are segregated from one another? What are the consequences of this group formation process for the evolution of social beliefs?

Prof Suen also maintains an interest in the labor market of Hong Kong. He is an associate editor of the *Pacific Economic Review* and the program leader of the Human Resources Research Program of the Hong Kong Institute of Economics and Business Strategy. His current work in this area focuses on the effects of public housing on internal migration, travel-to-work patterns, and labor supply decisions. In 2011, he was appointed to serve on the Minimum Wage Commission of Hong Kong.

Abstract:

The lack of hard evidence in allegations about sexual misconduct makes it difficult to separate true allegations from false ones. We provide a model in which victims and potential libelers face the same costs and benefits from making an allegation, but the tendency for perpetrators of sexual misconduct to engage in repeat offenses allows semi-separation to occur, where a true victim reports with a higher probability than a libeler does. Our model also explains why reports about sexual misconduct are often delayed, and why the public rationally assigns less credibility to these delayed reports than to contemporaneous ones.

Keywords. corroboration; repeat offenses; delayed reporting; encouragement effect; information escrow

Reservation:

Admission is free. Please reply to e-egc@ntu.edu.sg for any enquiries.