

Sean Yuji Sylvia

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EDUCATION:

- Ph.D. Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of Maryland, College Park, MD (expected Spring 2014).
- M.S. Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 2012.
- B.A. Economics and International Studies, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL, 2006, *summa cum laude*. Minor in Chinese language.

DISSERTATION:

Title: “Supply-Side Performance Incentives in Public Service Delivery: Evidence from Rural China”

Committee: Drs. Vivian Hoffman (Chair), Kenneth Leonard, Scott Rozelle, Grant Miller

RESEARCH AND TEACHING FIELDS:

Primary: Development Economics, Health/Education, Economic Development of China
Secondary: Organizational Economics, Behavioral Economics

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:

Visiting Doctoral Student, Food Security and the Environment (FSE), Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies, Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA, Supervisor: Scott Rozelle, November 2012-present

Visiting Researcher, Chinese Center for Agricultural Policy, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China, Supervisor: Dr. Linxiu Zhang, 2011-2012.

The World Bank, Washington DC: Consultant to Dr. Don Larson, Project: “A Green Revolution in Africa,” DECRG, 2010-2011.

Research Assistant, University of Maryland, College Park, MD. Project: “Conservation Program Enrollment Mechanisms using Auctions: What Can Laboratory Experiments Tell Us About the Use of Imprecise Cost Information?” Supervisor: Dan Hellerstein (USDA Economic Research Service)

Research Assistant, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, Supervisor: Dr. Vivian Hoffmann, 2009-2010.

Visiting Researcher, Northwest Socioeconomic Development Research Center,
Northwest University, Xi'an, China, Supervisor: Dr. Yaojiang Shi, 2007-2008.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Teaching Assistant, "World Hunger, Population, and Food Supplies." University of
Maryland, College Park, MD. Supervisor: Dr. Kenneth Leonard, Fall 2009

Visiting Lecturer, "Impact Evaluation Methods (*in Chinese*)." Northwest Socioeconomic
Development Research Center, Northwest University (Xi'an). Periodic, ongoing.

JOB MARKET PAPER:

"Managerial Incentives in Public Service Delivery: Evidence from School-based
Nutrition Programs in Rural China," Stanford University, Palo Alto, September
2013. (with Renfu Luo, Grant Miller, Scott Rozelle and Marcos Vera-Hernandez)

PUBLICATIONS:

Sylvia, Sean, Renfu Luo, Linxiu Zhang, Yaojiang Shi, Alexis Medina, and Scott Rozelle
(2013), "Do You Get What You Pay for With School-based Health Programs?
Evidence from a Child Nutrition Experiment in Rural China," *Economics of
Education Review*, 37, 1-12.

Miller, Grant, Renfu Luo, Linxiu Zhang, Sean Sylvia, Yaojiang Shi, Patricia Foo, Qiran
Zhao, Reynaldo Martorell, Alexis Medina, and Scott Rozelle (2012),
"Effectiveness of Provider Incentives for Anaemia Reduction in Rural China: a
Cluster Randomised Trial," *BMJ: British Medical Journal*, 345.

PAPERS UNDER REVIEW:

Li, Liying, Renfu Luo, Sean Sylvia, Alexis Medina, and Scott Rozelle (2013), "The
Prevalence of Anemia In Central And Eastern China: Evidence From The China
Health And Nutrition Survey," Revise and Resubmit, *Southeast Asian Journal of
Public Health*, March.

Sylvia, Sean, Yaojiang Shi, Hao Xue, Xin Tian, Huan Wang, Qingmei Liu, Alexis
Medina and Scott Rozelle (2013), "Survey using Incognito Standardized Patients
Shows Poor Quality Care in China's Rural Clinics," Submitted to *Health Policy
and Planning*, August.

Yang, Yunfan, Huan Wang, Linxiu Zhang, Sean Sylvia, Renfu Luo, Yaojiang Shi, Wei
Wang and Scott Rozelle (2013), "The Han-Minority Achievement Gap, Language
and Returns to Schools in Rural China," Submitted to *Economic Development and
Cultural Change*, April.

Loyalka, Prashant, Yue Qu, Sean Sylvia, and Scott Rozelle (2013), “‘Absolute’ versus ‘Comparative’ Advantage: Consequences for Gender Gaps in STEM and College Access in Emerging Economies,” Submitted to *The Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)*, October.

SELECTED WORKS IN PROGRESS:

“Self-selection Mechanisms and Information in the Promotion of Health Goods in Developing Countries: Short and Medium Term Evidence,” draft paper, Stanford University, Palo Alto, August 2013. (with Matt Boswell, Xiaochen Ma, and Scott Rozelle)

“Teacher Contract Status, Centralization and Student Achievement in Rural China,” draft paper, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, September 2013. (with Natalie Johnson, Guangrong Ma, Scott Rozelle, and Enyan Yang)

“Does the Health of Classroom Peers Affect Student Achievement?” draft paper, Stanford University, Palo Alto, August 2013. (with Renfu Luo, Alexis Medina, Scott Rozelle, Chu Yang, and Linxiu Zhang)

“Charitable Giving Among Married Couples: A Framed Field Experiment,” University of Maryland, College Park, November 2012. (with Vivian Hoffmann and Charles Towe)

“Post-Marital Residence and Child Health: Evidence from China,” draft paper, University of Maryland, College Park, July 2010.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS/REPORTS:

Sylvia, Sean (2013), “Book Review: Prosper or Perish: Credit and Fiscal Systems in Rural China by Lynette H. Ong.” Forthcoming in the *Journal of Asian Studies*.

PRESENTATIONS:

- 2013: Chinese Economist Society Annual Conference, Chengdu, China
- 2012: Tsinghua University, Department of Economics Seminar Series; Chinese Economist Society Annual Conference, Kaifeng, China; Northwest Socioeconomic Development Research Center – IFP Conference, Xi’an, China
- 2011: Northeast Universities Development Consortium (NEUDC), Yale University; Minding the Gap: 3ie Impact Evaluation Conference, Cuernavaca, Mexico
- 2008: West China Development Conference, Xi’an, China

FUNDING:

Co-Principal Investigator. “Designs for Teacher Incentives” Funded by the Ford Foundation, Xu Family Charitable Foundation and REAP. ~\$350,000 (with Prashant Loyalka, Scott Rozelle and Yaojiang Shi)
Stanford Center for International Development (SCID) Grant. ~\$50,000

AWARDS:

Fulbright Fellowship, China, 2007-2008
Phi Beta Kappa National Honor Society
Murray Haven Award in Economics, University of Alabama, 2006
Randall Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Research, University of Alabama, 2006
National Science Foundation REU Scholarship, 2005
Economics Faculty Excellence Award, University of Alabama, 2005
Outstanding Arts and Sciences Student Award, University of Alabama, 2005

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE:

Referee: Economic Development and Cultural Change

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:

American Economic Association; Association of Environmental and Resource Economists; Agricultural and Applied Economics Association; Association for Asian Studies; Chinese Economists Society; Human Capital and Economic Opportunity Global Working Group, University of Chicago

SKILLS:

Software: Stata, R, LaTeX
Languages: English (Native), Mandarin (fluent), Japanese (fluent)

REFERENCES:

- Dr. Vivian Hoffmann (primary advisor), Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, 2200 Symons Hall, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 20742; (202) 862-8169; vivianh@umd.edu
- Dr. Scott Rozelle, Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies, Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA 94305; (650)742-6402; rozelle@stanford.edu
- Dr. Grant Miller, Center for Health Policy and Outcomes Research, Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA 94305; (650) 723-2714; ngmiller@stanford.edu
- Dr. Linxiu Zhang, Chinese Center for Agricultural Policy, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China; +86-13701008925; lxzhang.ccap@igsnrr.ac.cn
- Dr. Ken Leonard (teaching reference), Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, 2116A Symons Hall, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 20742; (301) 405-8589; kleonar2@umd.edu