

FED Lunch Research Series 2015

Some Research Advances in Economics of Distance Education

Date & Time: 27 May 2015, 13:00 – 14:00 (Light lunch begins at 12:30pm)

Venue: Room 3038, Faculty of Education (E33)

Language: English

Audience: UM Staff / Postgraduate Students

Enquiries & Registration: Mr. Alan Chang (FED_Event@umac.mo); Tel: 8822-4109

** Complementary light lunch will be provided.*

Abstract

Distance education is an important part of the whole education system. It requires huge initial capital investment and hardly reaches the break-even point unless the number of users has reached a certain scale. Therefore, researchers and practitioners have paid great attention to the cost, profit, and cost-benefit analysis of distance education. However, it is surprising that few economic analyses of distance education were conducted empirically in the past three decades. In this talk, therefore, I would like to present a synthesis of past empirical findings regarding various aspects of distance education from an economic perspective, using economics theories and classical analytical frameworks (including but not limited to human capital theory, social capital theory, multi-product organization theory, education production function, cost-benefit analysis, and cost-effectiveness analysis).

Speaker

Dr. Li Fengliang is currently Associate Professor at Tsinghua University in Beijing, China. He possesses undergraduate qualification and master's qualification in educational technology from Beijing Normal University, and doctoral degree in economics of education from Peking University. Prior to joining Institute of Education, Tsinghua University, he was a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Nottingham from 2006-2007. His interests include: the relationship between education and the labour market; human capital and social capital; the economics of education; the economics of distance education. He has published two Chinese books, more than sixty Chinese articles and more than 10 English articles. In recent years, he has devoted great effort to the study of the economics of distance education, trying to apply economics theories and classical analytical frameworks to analyze distance education empirically.

