

ISABELLE SIN

Fellow, Motu Economic and Public Policy Research, Wellington, New Zealand
Principal Investigator, Te Pūnaha Matatini Centre of Research Excellence, New Zealand
Email: isabelle.sin@gmail.com • Webpage: <https://sites.google.com/site/isabellesin/>
June 2016

EDUCATION

Stanford University, Stanford, CA

Ph.D., Economics 2005 – 2011

Dissertation: Insights from book translations on the international diffusion of knowledge

Advisors: Ran Abramitzky (primary advisor), Nick Bloom, Avner Greif

University of Canterbury, New Zealand

B.Sc. (Hons), First Class, Economics 1999 - 2002

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Marsden Fund Fast-Start Grant, Royal Society of New Zealand (2016-19)

Research Committee member, Te Pūnaha Matatini Centre of Research Excellence (2015, 2016)

A.R. Bergstrom Prize in Econometrics (2012)

RBNZ-NZESG Award in Econometrics (2012)

B.F. Haley and E.S. Shaw Fellowship for Economics (2010/11)

John E. Rovensky Fellowship for dissertation research in American business and economic history (2010/11)

Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, Stanford Department of Economics (Fall 2008/09)

Ric Weiland Graduate Fellowship, Stanford University (2008)

Sean Buckley Memorial Award for best second year research paper, Stanford Department of Economics and SIEPR (2008)

Stanford University Economics Department two year Ph.D. Fellowship (2005)

Motu Economic and Public Policy Research Ph.D. Scholarship (2005)

University of Canterbury Senior Scholarship (2002)

Reserve Bank of New Zealand University Scholarship (2002)

NZFUW Canterbury Branch Trust Board Scholarship (2001)

Economic Society Prize (2001)

Page Memorial Prize for academic achievement in Mathematics (2001)

Archibald Charles Callaway Prize in Economics (2000)

NZEST Scholarship exams: 8th in New Zealand over five subjects (first in economics, third in biology) (1998)

EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Senior Lecturer, Victoria University of Wellington, January 2016 – present

Principal Investigator, Te Pūnaha Matatini Centre of Research Excellence, January 2015 – present

Instructor, Australia and New Zealand School of Government, March-April 2015
Research Affiliate, Productivity Hub, November 2014 - present
Principal Advisor IDI (secondment), Tertiary Education Commission, October 2013 – June 2015
Fellow, Motu Economic and Public Policy Research, Wellington, New Zealand, January 2012 - present
Research Assistant for Ran Abramitzky, Assistant Professor, Economics Department, Stanford University, April 2007 - June 2011
Head Teaching Assistant for Econ 50, Intermediate Microeconomics, Economics Department, Stanford University, September 2008 - December 2008
Research Assistant for Lawrence Goulder, Professor, Economics Department, Stanford University, September 2006 - November 2007
Research Analyst, Motu Economic and Public Policy Research, Wellington, New Zealand, November 2003 - July 2005
Economic Analyst, Policy Team, Reserve Bank of New Zealand, Wellington, New Zealand, January 2003 - November 2003
Teaching Assistant for third year undergraduate core macroeconomics and core microeconomics, Economics Department, University of Canterbury, New Zealand, February 2002 - November 2002
Summer Intern, Reserve Bank of New Zealand, Wellington, New Zealand, November 2001 - February 2002

RESEARCH

- “The effect of trial periods in employment on firm hiring behaviour,” with Nathan Chappell, *New Zealand Treasury Working Paper* (forthcoming).
- “The effect of student allowances on postgraduate study,” with Eyal Apatov and David C. Maré (2015).
- “The Gravity of Ideas: How distances affect translations,” (2015).
- “Economic Liberalisation and the Mobility of Minority Groups: Evidence from Māori in New Zealand,” with Steven Stillman, *IZA Journal of Migration*, (2016), 5:4.
- “Exporting, Innovation, and the Role of Immigrants,” with Richard Fabling, Adam Jaffe, David C. Maré, and Lynda Sanderson, *Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment Working Paper*, (2014).
- “Book Translations as Idea Flows: The effects of the collapse of Communism on the diffusion of knowledge,” with Ran Abramitzky, *Journal of the European Economic Association*, (2014), 12(6): 1453-1520.
- “Diffusion of Green Technology: A Survey,” with Corey Allan and Adam B. Jaffe, *International Review of Environmental and Resource Economics*, (2014), 7: 1-33.
- “The Dynamics of Adverse Selection in the Market for Slaves,” (2008).
- “The Likely Regional Impacts of an Agricultural Emissions Policy in New Zealand: Preliminary Analysis,” with Emma Brunton, Joanna Hendy and Suzi Kerr, *Motu Working Paper 05-08* (2005).
- “The Geographical Mobility of Maori in New Zealand,” with Steven Stillman, *Motu Working Paper 05-05* (2005).
- “Taxes vs Permits: Options for Price-Based Climate Change Regulation,” with Suzi Kerr and Joanna Hendy, *New Zealand Treasury Working Paper 05/02* (2005).

“Maori Incomes: Investigating Differences Between Iwi,” with David C. Maré, *Motu Working Paper* 04-06 (2004).

“Bartercard?” *University of Canterbury Honours Thesis* (2002).

OTHER WRITING

“Youth pathways through education, the labour market, and welfare,” Report for the Tertiary Education Commission (2014).

“Issues in Tertiary Education,” Report for the Tertiary Education Commission (2013).

“Insights from Book Translations on the International Diffusion of Knowledge,” *Asymmetric Information* 43 (2012).

“The Adoption of Environmentally Friendly Technologies in Agriculture,” *Motu Research Note* 12 (2012).

Review of *How Many Languages Do We Need? The Economics of Linguistic Diversity*, by Victor Ginsburgh and Shlomo Weber, in *The Journal of Economic History*, vol 72(1), March 2012, pp 282-283.

INVITED SEMINARS AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2016: The Productivity Commission, Wellington, New Zealand (scheduled)

2016: Victoria University of Wellington, Economics Department, Wellington, New Zealand

2016: Auckland University of Technology, New Zealand Work Research Institute, Auckland, New Zealand

2015: Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment and the New Zealand Treasury, Wellington, New Zealand

2015: New Zealand Association of Economists 56th Annual Conference, Wellington, New Zealand

2014: Centre for Mathematical Social Sciences Summer Workshop, plenary talk, Auckland, New Zealand

2014: Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Wellington, New Zealand

2014: Tertiary Education Commission, Wellington, New Zealand

2014: University of Waikato, Department of Economics, Hamilton, New Zealand

2013: Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Wellington, New Zealand

2013: New Zealand Association of Economists 54th Annual Conference, Wellington, New Zealand

2013: Callaghan Innovation, Lower Hutt, New Zealand

2012: University of Otago, New Zealand: Economics Department Seminar

2012: New Zealand Institute of Economic Research, Wellington, New Zealand

2012: New Zealand Association of Economists 53rd Annual Conference, Palmerston North, New Zealand

2012: New Zealand Econometric Study Group Meeting 2012, Wellington, New Zealand

2011: UC Irvine: Theory, History and Development Seminar, Economics Department

2011: Motu Economic and Public Policy Research Public Policy Seminars, Auckland and Wellington

2011: The Association for the Study of Religion, Economics & Culture (ASREC) Annual Meeting 2011, Washington DC

2011: University of Maryland: Development, Trade, Institutions and Politics Seminar,
Economics Department
2011: Population Association of America 2011 Annual Meeting, Washington DC
2011: Motu Economic and Public Policy Research, Wellington, New Zealand
2011: Northwestern University: Economic History Seminar, Economics Department
2010: SF Fed Applied Micro Conference, Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco
2010: Cliometrics Conference, University of Wisconsin – La Crosse
2009: University of Canterbury, New Zealand: Economics Department Seminar
2009: All-UC Group in Economic History Graduate Student Workshop, UCLA
2009: Stanford University: Economic History Seminar, Economics Department

STUDENTS

Matthew Welch (Honours, current), Victoria University of Wellington
Michelle Poland (Ph.D., current), University of Otago
Sherry Wu (Honours, 2015), University of Auckland