

Seminar

“High Performing Peers and Female STEM Choices in School”

(in English)



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Date: 6 February 2018 (Tuesday)

Time: 3:30pm – 4:45pm

Venue: WYL314, Dorothy Y. L. Wong Building

Abstract: Women have historically been underrepresented in STEM jobs. This paper uses administrative data from China to examine the extent to which the presence of high-performing peers in mathematics affects the likelihood that women choose a science track during high school. Results indicate that having a higher proportion of high-performing females increases STEM major choices by girls, while more high-performing males may decrease this likelihood. There is little evidence of peer effects for boys. Our results suggest that girls doing well in quantitative fields may have a role model or affirmation effect that encourages their female classmates to pursue a science track.

Biography: Dr Yaojing Wang got her PhD in economics from Texas A&M University in 2016. She is now a quantitative financial analyst at Bank of America. Her research paper is published at Journal of Labor Economics.

All Are Welcome

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