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EDUCATION

- 2018 **The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania**
PhD in Finance, expected 2018
Committee: Jules van Binsbergen (Chair), David Musto, and Nikolai Roussanov
- 2012 **University of Pennsylvania**
MS in Telecommunication and Networks
- 2010 **Shanghai Jiao Tong University**
BS in Electrical Engineering

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Empirical Corporate Finance, Innovation, Institutional Investors, Investment, Industrial Organization

JOB MARKET PAPER

“Social Capital and Innovation: Evidence from Connected Holdings”

presented at WINDS 2017

This paper investigates how social capital affects innovation. I measure a firm’s social capital with connected holdings, which is the fraction of equity of a particular firm held by mutual funds whose managers are connected to the firm’s board members through educational networks. I use plausibly exogenous variation in the size of board members’ networks as an instrument for connected holdings. I find higher connected holdings lead to larger number of patents granted, more patent citations, and higher firm value created by patents. Connected holdings foster innovation by helping to reduce short-term capital market pressures and to increase management job security.

WORKING PAPER

“Marketing Mutual Funds” with Nikolai Roussanov and Yanhao Wei

presented at ESSFM Gerzensee, LBS, LSE, UT Dallas, BU, Australian National University, University of Sydney, the 39th Annual Marketing Science Conference, Wharton Applied Econ, and Wharton Finance

Marketing and distribution expenses constitute a large fraction of the cost of active management in the mutual fund industry. We investigate their impact on the allocation of capital to funds and on returns earned by mutual fund investors by estimating a structural model of costly investor search and fund competition with endogenous marketing expenditures. We find that marketing is nearly as important as performance and fees for determining fund size. Restricting the amount that can be spent on marketing by funds substantially improves investor welfare, as more capital is invested with passive index funds and price competition drives down fees on actively managed funds. Average alpha increases as active fund size is reduced, and the relationship between fund size and fund manager skill net of fees is closer to that implied by a frictionless model.

“Why Has Corporate Investment Been So Weak?” with Joao Gomes and Vito Gala

We use a dynamic stochastic model of firm investment to investigate quantitatively the causes behind the collapse of investment during the Great Recession and its ongoing slump. Our analysis focuses on three of the most commonly proposed explanations: (i) a secular decline in productivity growth; (ii) a tightening of financial constraints; and (iii) an increase in policy uncertainty. We find that all three factors are important to account for the sharp decline in investment during the Great Recession. By contrast, below trend productivity alone provides the best account for the slow investment recovery.

WORK IN PROGRESS

“Should Student Loans Default Be Allowed?” *Preliminary draft available on request*

In the United States, households have the option to discharge all other liabilities when declaring personal bankruptcies, with one exception: student loans. In this paper, I study the positive and normative implications of allowing default in the student loans market. I build a heterogeneous agent life-cycle model with income volatility. I show that allowing default significantly increases both the interest rate of student loans and the default rate. However, consumption and welfare of college dropouts and college graduates increase.

“Estimating Subjective Alpha Using Mutual Fund Trades” with Jules van Binsbergen and Ran Xing

We find mutual fund’s trading costs significantly predict future realized stock alpha in short horizons for up to 60 days.

TEACHING ASSISTANT EXPERIENCE

Behavioral Finance (UD & MBA), *Prof. Nikolai Roussanov, 2016*

Investment Management (UD & MBA), *Prof. Donald Keim, 2016*

Advanced Corporate Finance (UD & MBA), *Prof. Vito Gala, 2015*

Macroeconomics & Global Economy (UD), *Prof. Mathieu Taschereau-Dumouchel, 2014*

Macroeconomics & Global Economy (UD & MBA), *Prof. Joao Gomes, 2013–2014*

AWARDS & GRANT

University of Pennsylvania Dean’s Fellowship for Distinguished Merit, 2012–2016

Mack Institute for Innovation Management Grant, 2016

Jacobs Levy Equity Management Center for Quantitative Financial Research Grant, 2016

Rodney L. White Center for Financial Research Grant, 2016

PRESENTATIONS

Mack Institute, 2017

Wharton Innovation Doctoral Symposium (WINDS), 2017

Finance Department, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, 2017

European Summer Symposium with the Center for Economic Policy Research Gerzensee, 2017*

39th Annual ISMS Marketing Science Conference, 2017*

*indicates presentation by co-author

OTHER POSITIONS

Founding Member, xeeho.com (an online P2P loan platform), 2014

Equity Analyst Intern, TX Investment, Beijing, China, 2011

SERVICE

Ad hoc referee for *Economics Letters*, *Journal of Empirical Finance*

LANGUAGES & SKILLS

English (*fluent*), Chinese (*native*)

Programming: Stata, Python, Matlab, C++, Java, Objective-C

REFERENCES

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