

Joël Blit

Associate Professor of Economics
University of Waterloo

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Languages: Fluent in English, French, and Spanish

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, 2010

Department of Economics, University of Toronto.

Dissertation: *Multi-location firms as a medium for the geographic diffusion of knowledge*

Committee: Daniel Trefler, Chair (Rotman School of Management)

Ajay Agrawal (Rotman School of Management)

Ignatius Horstmann (Rotman School of Management)

Joanne Oxley (Rotman School of Management)

M.A., Economics, 2003

Department of Economics, University of Western Ontario.

Thesis: *Impact of tuition on medical school accessibility: discrimination through parental subsidies.*

M.B.A. (with Distinction, Dean's List), International Strategy, 2002

INSEAD, Fontainebleau Campus, Singapore Exchange.

M.A.Sc., Electrical and Computer Engineering, 1999

Faculty of Engineering, University of Waterloo.

Thesis: *Direct models for online stock trading.*

B.A.Sc. (Honours), Engineering Science, 1997

Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering, University of Toronto.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2019-Pres. Associate Professor of Economics
Department of Economics
University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON.

2011-2019 Assistant Professor of Economics
Department of Economics
University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON.

2010-2011 Assistant Professor of Economics and International Affairs
Elliott School of International Affairs and Department of Economics
George Washington University, Washington, DC.

AFFILIATIONS

2018-pres. UW Artificial Intelligence Institute
2015-pres. Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI), Senior Fellow
2015-pres. Interdisciplinary Centre on Climate Change
2016-2020 UW Problem Lab, Advisor
2013-2017 Creative Destruction Lab, Member of Advisory Board

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Economics of Innovation, AI strategy, Future of Work, Intellectual Property, Economic Geography, Immigration

RESEARCH GRANTS

2019-24 Principal Investigator, Microsoft Canada Research Grant (Co-PI Mikko Packalen)
Title: “A machine learning analysis of the locus and barriers to cutting-edge innovation”
Grant amount: \$39,000

2019-21 Co-Principal Investigator, Premise Data Corp. Research Grant (PI: Anindya Sen, co-PI: Horatiu Rus)
Title: “Sense and sentiments: public goods provision and political instability”
Grant amount: \$18,500

2020 Co-Investigator, Region of Waterloo Planning, Development and Legislative Services
Title: “The implications of COVID-19 for the Region of Waterloo”
Grant amount: \$25,000 (\$3000 for my subproject)

2016-19 Principal Investigator, Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada
Insight Development Grant (Co-PI: Mikal Skuterud).
Title: “The potential for a selective immigration policy to increase innovation; evidence from Canada”
Grant amount: \$60,731

2014-16 Principal Investigator, Institute for New Economic Thinking/Centre for International
Governance Innovation Research Grant (Co-PI: Chris Liu)
Title: “Environment and dynamics of regional innovation”
Grant amount: \$48,635

2014-15 Principal Investigator, UW SSHRC 4A Research Grant (Co-PI: Mikal Skuterud)
Title: “Can a selective immigration policy raise innovation? Evidence from the
Canadian Points System”
Grant amount: \$8000

- 2013-14 Principal Investigator, UW LITE Research Grant
Title: "Platform for experiential learning of game theory"
Grant amount: \$4250
- 2012-14 Principal Investigator, Centre for International Governance Innovation Research Grant
Title: "Benefits to the international governance of intellectual property; intellectual property rights and private sector R&D in a globalised world"
Grant amount: \$8750, most of which went to graduate student support
- 2011-12 Co-Principal Investigator, GW Center for International Business Education and Research (PI: Wenjie Chen)
Title: "External knowledge sourcing through domestic and foreign acquisitions; impact of M&As on target and acquirer innovation"
Grant amount: \$14,937
- 2011 Principal Investigator, George Washington Institute of Public Policy Research Scholar
Title: "Intellectual property rights and firm R&D in a globalized world"
Grant amount: \$10,000
- 2011 Principal Investigator, GW Center for International Business Education and Research
Title: "Do stronger intellectual property rights induce more innovation? Evidence that the intellectual property rights regime of trade partners impacts domestic firm innovation"
Grant amount: \$9447
- 2011 Principal Investigator, GW Institute for International Economic Policy Research Grant
Title: "Does firm R&D respond to the IPR regime of its export markets?"
Grant amount: \$3414
- 2010-11 Principal Investigator, NBER Innovation Policy Group Research Grant
Title: "Entrepreneurship and patent data"
Grant amount: \$20,000

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2018 Outstanding Performance Award, University of Waterloo
- 2011 Finalist for Barry M. Richman Award for Best Dissertation in Intl Management
- 2009 Dorothy J. Powell Graduate Scholarship, University of Toronto
- 2006 Harry B. Eastman Award (outstanding 2nd year paper in International Econ)
- 2005-08 SSHRC Canadian Graduate Scholarship (\$105,000)
- 2004 Ontario Graduate Scholarship
- 2004,03 Royal Bank Graduate Fellowship in Public and Economic Policy
- 2001 Sasakawa Foundation Scholarship for Cross-Cultural Leadership
- 2001 INSEAD Canadian Foundation Scholarship
- 1997-99 NSERC Graduate Scholarship
- 1994-99 Academic All-Canadian
- 1993-97 Canada Scholar
- 1996 Engineering Athlete of the Year
- 1993 High School Athlete of the Year
- 1993 Toronto Francophone School Board Student of the Year
- 1993 Governor General's Medal

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

“Automation and reallocation: will COVID-19 usher in the future of work?” *Canadian Public Policy*, Special issue on COVID-19, 46(S2): S192-202. 2020.

“The pandemic and short-run changes in output, hours worked and labour productivity: Canadian evidence by industry.” *International Productivity Monitor*, 39: 16-32. 2020. (with Mikal Skuterud and Michael Veall)

“Can skilled immigration raise innovation? Evidence from Canadian cities.” *Journal of Economic Geography*, 2020. (with Mikal Skuterud and Jue Zhang)

“Foreign R&D satellites as a medium for the international diffusion of knowledge.” *Canadian Journal of Economics*, 51(4): 1118-1150, 2018.

“An analysis of the patenting rates of Canada’s ethnic populations.” *Canadian Public Policy*, Special issue on Information and Communications Technologies Talent: The Skills We Need, 44(S1): 125-145, 2018. (with Mikal Skuterud and Jue Zhang)

“Automation and the future of work: scenarios and policy options.” *Centre for International Governance Innovation Policy Papers*, No. 174, 2018. (with Samantha St. Amand and Joanna Wajda)

“Learning remotely: R&D satellites, intra-firm linkages, and knowledge sourcing.” *Journal of Economics and Management Strategy*, 26(4): 757-81, 2017.

“Optimal patent regimes in a globalized world: lessons for Canada,” *Centre for International Governance Innovation Policy Papers*, No. 120, 2017.

“What goes on beneath the surface of reconfiguration? The impact of redeployment via activity addition and subtraction on firm scope and turnover.” *Advances in Strategic Management*, Special issue on resource redeployment and corporate strategy, 35: 185-216. 2016. (with Chris Liu and Will Mitchell)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

“[Canada’s planned \\$2.4-billion artificial intelligence investment is already mostly obsolete.](#)” Op-Ed in **The Globe and Mail**, May 19, 2024.

“[Canada’s \\$2.4-billion artificial intelligence bet: a missed opportunity.](#)” Op-Ed in **The Globe and Mail**, April 11, 2024.

“[Canada’s productivity is in decline. Here’s why we need AI to reverse the economic slump.](#)” Op-Ed in **The Toronto Star**, March 23, 2024.

“[A year after ChatGPT launched, its real legacy is beyond technology.](#)” Op-Ed in **The Toronto Star**, December 23, 2023.

[“AI will transform the labour market.”](#) Article in **Maclean’s Magazine**, October 12, 2023.

[“Recent outcry to halt AI research is wrong and dangerous for democracy. Here’s why.”](#) Op-Ed in **The Toronto Star**, May 14, 2023.

[“ChatGPT can enhance worker productivity and Canada’s spot on the world stage.”](#) Op-Ed in **The Toronto Star**, April 1, 2023.

[“ChatGPT is an AI inflection point – Canadians must embrace it.”](#) Op-Ed in the **Financial Post**, March 12, 2023.

[“To foster domestic innovation, Canada needs less intellectual property rights, not more.”](#) Op-Ed in **The Hill Times**, October 25, 2021.

[“Time for Canada to catch up on technological transformation.”](#) Op-Ed in **The Hill Times**, March 24, 2021.

[“Why innovation and technology adoption need to top the agenda.”](#) **Centre for International Governance Innovation**, March 3, 2021.

[“Federal wage subsidies ended up costing taxpayers \\$188,000 a year for every job saved – maybe we should try a different approach.”](#) Op-Ed in **The Toronto Star**, January 18, 2021.

[“COVID-19 will accelerate automation – and we must embrace it.”](#) Op-Ed in **The Hill Times**. October 26, 2020.

[“Re-opening and re-closing the economy strategically.”](#) **C.D. Howe Institute Intelligence Memo**. August 21, 2020. (with Chuanmo Jin and Mikal Skuterud)

[“COVID-19 will transform our economy – If we get our policies right.”](#) **C.D. Howe Institute Intelligence Memo**. July 16, 2020.

“COVID-19-Induced automation and reallocation: impacts on Waterloo Region.” Report prepared for Waterloo Region. 2020.

[“Toward an optimal patent regime for Canada.”](#) Article in **New Thinking on Innovation Special Report**. **Centre for International Governance Innovation**. April 26, 2017.

[“Are patents really necessary?”](#) Article in **New Thinking on Innovation Special Report**. **Centre for International Governance Innovation**. April 25, 2017.

[“Brexit leavers are right to feel aggrieved.”](#) Op-Ed in **The Toronto Star** and syndicated media, July 5, 2016.

[“The U.K. rejected one of humanity’s greatest achievements.”](#) Op-Ed in **The Toronto Star** and syndicated media, June 28, 2016.

[“The case for intellectual property rights: should patents be strengthened, weakened, or abolished altogether,”](#) Centre for International Governance Innovation Policy Brief, November 25, 2015, No. 70.

“The value of the use of the CSI repertoire by online music services.” Expert report for the **Copyright Board of Canada**. 2013, 44. (with Paul Audley and Marcel Boyer)

WORKING PAPERS

“A machine learning analysis of the geographic localization of knowledge flows.” (with Mikko Packalen)

“Where do Canadians patent?” (with Chris Earle).

"The impact of patent protection on R&D. Evidence using export markets." (with Mauricio Zelaya).

“Automation and reallocation: the lasting legacy of COVID-19 in Canada.” Canadian Labour Economics Forum Working Paper #31

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Canada’s brain drain and brain gain: evidence from the university of Waterloo,” Canadian Economics Association Annual Conference, May 31, 2024.

“Canada’s brain drain and brain gain: evidence from the university of Waterloo,” McMaster Mini-Conference on Productivity, May 6, 2024.

“Canada’s brain drain and brain gain: evidence from the university of Waterloo,” Bank of Canada Productivity Conference, April 29, 2024.

“Where do Canadians patent? Implications for Canada’s patents regime,” 5th Annual IP Data and Research Conference, Canadian Intellectual Property Office, March 23, 2022.

“Where do Canadians patent? Implications for Canada’s patents regime,” Canadian Economics Association Annual Conference, June 3, 2021.

“A machine learning analysis of the localization of knowledge flows,” Future of Growth Conference, Research Centre for Economic Analysis, May 20, 2021.

“A machine learning analysis of the localization of knowledge flows” Northwestern/USPTO Conference on Innovation Economics. Chicago, June 2019.

“Optimal Patents. The Canadian Case.” Canadian Economics Association Conference, Banff, May 2019.

“Automation and the future of work. Scenarios and policy options,” Summit for Responsible Innovation. Waterloo, 2019.

“A machine learning analysis of the localization of knowledge flows,” Canadian Economics Association Conference, Montreal, May 2018.

“The impact of patent protection on R&D. Evidence using export markets.” SEARLE Conference on Innovation Economics. Chicago, June 2017.

“The impact of patent protection on R&D. Evidence using export markets,” Rimini Conference in Economics and Finance, Waterloo, September 2016.

“Can a selective immigration policy boost innovation,” Canadian Economics Association Conference, Toronto, May 2015.

“An equilibrium theory of regional change,” Canadian Economics Association Conference, Vancouver, May 2014.

“Intellectual property rights and firm R&D in a globalized world,” Société canadienne de science économique, Ottawa, May 2014.

“International development through multinationals: R&D subsidiaries, knowledge diffusion, and indigenous innovation,” Canadian Economics Association Annual Meeting, Ottawa, 2011.

“Learning remotely: R&D satellites, intra-firm networks, and knowledge sourcing,” Academy of Management Annual Meeting, Montreal, 2010.

“Learning remotely: R&D satellites, intra-firm networks, and knowledge sourcing,” CCC’s Annual Colloquium for Doctoral Student Research, Copenhagen, 2009.

“Learning remotely: R&D satellites, intra-firm networks, and knowledge sourcing,” Canadian Economics Association Conference, Toronto, 2009.

“Learning remotely: R&D satellites, intra-firm networks, and knowledge sourcing,” Strategic Management Society Annual International Conference, Washington, DC. 2009.

INVITED CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

“Artificial intelligence and technological change,” Advanced Faculty Colloquium, Harvard Law School Institute for Global Law and Policy and Centre for International Governance Innovation, May 17, 2024.

“How to disrupt an industry using generative AI.” [Big Data and AI Conference](#), October 19 2023, Toronto.

“Economics of data,” Privacy and Security Conference, Master of Public Service, Waterloo February 28 2020.

“Automation and the future of work: scenarios and policy options,” OECD Global Forum on Productivity, Ottawa, June 2018.

“Do patents promote innovation,” Intellectual property rights and innovation in the fourth industrial revolution conference, Toronto, March 2016.

“Do stronger intellectual property rights promote firm R&D. Evidence using export markets,” Seminar speaker, McMaster University Economics Seminar, 2015.

“Multi-location firms as a medium for the geographic diffusion of knowledge,” Academy of Management Annual General Meeting, International Management Division Dissertation Award Finalist, San Antonio, 2011.

“Learning remotely: R&D satellites, intra-firm networks, and knowledge sourcing,” University of Maryland, 2011.

“Learning remotely: R&D satellites, intra-firm networks, and knowledge sourcing,” Cornell University, 2011.

“Learning remotely: R&D satellites, intra-firm networks, and knowledge sourcing,” York University, 2011.

“Multi-location firms as a medium for the geographic diffusion of knowledge,” University of Waterloo, 2011.

“Learning remotely: R&D satellites, intra-firm networks, and knowledge sourcing,” University of British Columbia, 2010.

“Learning remotely: R&D satellites, intra-firm networks, and knowledge sourcing,” Carnegie Mellon University, 2010.

“Learning remotely: R&D satellites, intra-firm networks, and knowledge sourcing,” George Washington University, 2010.

“Learning remotely: R&D satellites, intra-firm networks, and knowledge sourcing,” Canadian Department of Finance, 2010.

“Learning remotely: R&D satellites, intra-firm networks, and knowledge sourcing,” IESE Business School, 2010.

“Learning remotely: R&D satellites, intra-firm networks, and knowledge sourcing,” George Washington University, 2010.

“Learning remotely: R&D satellites, intra-firm networks, and knowledge sourcing,” University of Western Ontario, 2010.

“Learning remotely: R&D satellites, intra-firm networks, and knowledge sourcing,” University of Victoria, 2009.

“Learning remotely: R&D satellites, intra-firm networks, and knowledge sourcing,”
Copenhagen Business School, 2009.

KEYNOTE ADDRESSES, PUBLIC LECTURES, INDUSTRY AND GOVERNMENT TALKS

“Understanding technological change: opportunities in the age of AI disruption.” Invited Lecture, MEDJCT Policy Forum (over 500 Ontario public servants). June 19, 2024.

“Understanding technological change: opportunities in the age of AI disruption.” Keynote, Ontario Chamber of Commerce AI Hub Kick-Off. June 10, 2024. Toronto.

“AI Replace, Reimagine and Recombine. Where will the value be generated?” Keynote, Round13 Capital Limited Partners Meeting, June 6, 2024.

“Understanding technological change: opportunities in the age of AI disruption.” Keynote, Evaluerve Banking Executives Exchange, May 2, 2024. Toronto.

“Understanding technological change: opportunities in the age of AI disruption.” [Waterloo Innovation Summit](#). April 25, 2024. Toronto.

“From past tech to present AI; How AI will transform the economy and society.” Invited Presentation, Inter-Parliamentary Union, February 15, 2024.

“From past tech to present AI; Leveraging technology to transform your business.” Keynote, Mazars International Partners Meeting, December 6, 2023, Montreal.

“Understanding technological change: opportunities for Canada in the age of AI disruption.” Invited Presentation, [Canadian Digital Regulators Forum](#), November 28 2023.

“Technology collisions: leveraging technology to transform your business.” [Tech Horizons Executive Forum](#), Invited Presentation, November 8 2023, Toronto.

“From past tech to present AI: how our economy is set to be disrupted.” Keynote, IARIW-CIGI Valuation of Data Conference, November 2 2023, Waterloo.

“Understanding technological change; opportunities for Canada in the age of AI disruption.” Invited Presentation, Ontario Universities Strategic Communications Council. Oct 31 2023.

“Understanding technological change; opportunities for Canada in the age of AI disruption.” Invited Presentation, [Parliamentary Caucus on Emerging Technologies](#), (non-partisan group of MPs and Senators focused on understanding emerging technologies and to building consensus on the role of government around these technologies. October 12, 2023.

“Understanding technological change; opportunities for Canada in the age of AI disruption.” Invited Presentation, [Business + Higher Education Roundtable](#) Member’s Meeting, October 5 2023, Toronto.

“How to disrupt an industry using generative AI.” Keynote, [MINDS](#) Conference, October 4, 2023. Waterloo.

“[The future of AI lies in trust.](#)” Moderator, WatSpeed Executive Webinar with Alex Wong, September 19, 2023.

“Societal Impact of AI.” Public debate on whether AI will be transformational. CBC’s Glenn Gould Studio. Toronto. June 28, 2023.

“How to disrupt an industry using generative AI.” Master Class at [Collision Conference](#), Toronto, June 27, 2023.

“Understanding technological change.” Certificate Program in Public Sector Leadership and Governance, Centre for International Governance Innovation, June 9, 2023.

“ChatGPT: what executives need to know.” Briefing for Argus Executive Leadership Team, May 2, 2023.

“[ChatGPT: what executives really need to know.](#)” Moderator, WatSpeed Executive Webinar with Jimmy Lin, February 16, 2023.

“Strategy in the age of technological disruption,” CEO Virtual Roundtable: building the capabilities to manage ongoing technology disruptions,” WatSpeed, Nov. 22, 2022.

“Canada’s innovation gap and how we might address it,” WatSpeed Dinner, Institute of Public Administration of Canada Conference, Feb. 24, 2022.

“[COVID-19 and the future of work: working from home, reallocation, and automation.](#)” The workplace revolution: envisioning the future of employment,” Research Talks, Waterloo, Nov. 24, 2021

“Automation and the future of work,” Mitsubishi Robotics and Automation Workshop, RoboHub, Waterloo, Nov. 24, 2021.

“Strategy in the age of artificial intelligence disruption,” AI Institute Industry Day, Waterloo, March 25, 2021.

“Automation and reallocation: COVID-19 and the future of work,” Waterloo Region, Aug. 2020.

“Toward an optimal Canadian patents regime,” Keynote Address, Association of University Technology Managers (AUTM) Canada Annual Meeting, Toronto, 2019.

“Automation and the future of work: scenarios and policy options,” AI Institute Annual Partner Meeting, Waterloo, Oct. 16, 2019.

“Automation and the future of work: scenarios and policy options,” Dean of Arts Public Lecture, Cambridge, March 2019.

“Automation and the future of work: scenarios and policy options,” Guelph Men’s Club, Guelph, Nov. 2019.

“Automation and the future of work: scenarios and policy options,” Summit for responsible innovation, Waterloo, 2019.

“Automation and the future of work: scenarios and policy options,” Dean of Arts Public Lecture, Kitchener Public Library, Kitchener, Nov. 2018.

PANELS

- 2024 Productivity Issues in Canada, Canadian Economics Association Annual Meeting
- 2024 How AI will impact the future of work, Employer Impact Conference, University of Waterloo, March 7, 2024.
- 2023 Entrepreneurial ecosystems, OECD Entrepreneurship Education, Collaboration and Engagement Network Roundtable
- 2023 Unlocking the power of generative AI: igniting transformation in government and beyond.” [Institute of Public Administration of Canada Annual Conference](#)
- 2020 Global Insights Panel on the Future of Work, Balsillie School of International Affairs
- 2020 Rise of robots in a post-pandemic world, UW Alumni Speaker Series
- 2020 Importance of 5G in a post-COVID-19 world, Rogers 5G Research Summit
- 2020 COVID-19: Rebooting the economy, University of Waterloo GEDI
- 2019 Innovation Ecosystems, Canada School of Public Service
- 2019 Will robots take your job? Waterloo Symposium on Technology and Society
- 2019 Is Canada losing the IP Game? Canadian Economics Association Annual Meeting
- 2019 Intellectual Property, Strengthening Canada’s Mining Innovation Ecosystem
- 2019 Intellectual Property, TerraCanada Science Cluster
- 2019 Economics and Social Responsibility of AI, UW AI Institute Partner’s Meeting
- 2019 Imagining Canada’s Future Cities, UW Alumni Event, Ottawa, ON
- 2019 Breadth of Artificial Intelligence. Waterloo Defence Research Forum
- 2018 Trust, Privacy, and Social Impacts of AI, UW AI Institute Partner’s Meeting

POLICY CONSULTATIONS AND WORKSHOPS

- 2024 AI Infrastructure meeting with Director General, Department of Finance Canada, June 17, 2024
- 2024 AI strategy meeting with Associate Deputy Minister, Innovation, Science and Economics Development Canada, June 7, 2024.
- 2024 AI presentation and meeting with Deputy Minister and Assistant Deputy Ministers, Ontario Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, June 6, 2024.
- 2024 Academia-Government Research Exchange, University of Toronto, May 30, 2024
- 2024 AI presentation and meeting with Associate and Assistant Deputy Ministers, Department of Finance Canada, May 29, 2024
- 2024 Briefing with Economics Research Division, Statistics Canada, May 29, 2024
- 2024 Innovation Policy Roundtable, Senior provincial policymakers, Toronto, April 25, 2024

- 2024 AI strategy meeting with Associate Deputy Minister, Innovation, Science and Economics Development Canada, March 22, 2024.
- 2024 AI Technology, Governance and Strategy. Working dinner with Deputy Ministers. Ottawa. (March 4, 2023)
- 2024 Submission to Intellectual Property Consultation, ISED, Canada (Jan 2024)
- 2023 Roundtable on Future Disruptions, Policy Horizons Canada (May 2, 2023)
- 2022 Expert witness before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Science and Research (May 19, 2022)
- 2022 Strategic Intellectual Property Program Review Consultation, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada.
- 2021 Expert witness before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Citizenship and Immigration (June 21, 2021)
- 2021 Hendrik Brakel, Director of Policy, Federal Official Opposition Leader's Office
- 2021 Department of Finance, Max Baylor, Senior Chief, Routine jobs and COVID-19
- 2021 Karan Dullat, Director of Economic Policy for Shadow Minister for Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship.
- 2021 Roundtable on Artificial Intelligence and Global Governance, Global Arena Research Institute and Balsillie School of International Affairs.
- 2020 Canada-US AI Symposium on Economic Innovation, CIFAR
- 2019 Consultation on use of AI in financial institutions, Office of Superintendent of Financial Institutions Canada
- 2018 Briefed the G7 Sherpas on Automation and the Future of Work
- 2018 Roundtable on "The Digital Economy: Jobs of the Future and the Emergence of a New Social Compact", IMF Spring Meetings
- 2018 Expert Roundtable on the Future of Work and the G7
- 2018 Expert Workshop on Canada and the Future of International Trade Governance
- 2018 Workshop on CETA and the Future of Canada-EU Relations
- 2018 Advised committee of high school teachers developing AI course curriculum
- 2017 Advised Chrystia Freeland, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Steve Verheul, Canada's Chief NAFTA Negotiator, on Canada's IP position in NAFTA negotiations
- 2017 Working lunch with Stuart Dwyer, U.S. Acting Ambassador to Canada
- 2017 Briefed Raj Saini, Member of Parliament and Member of Foreign Affairs Committee
- 2017 Consultation on Canada's new intellectual property strategy
- 2017 Consultation into the IP aspects of NAFTA and other trade negotiations
- 2016 Advised officials at Ontario Ministry of International Trade on innovation issues
- 2016 Towards an Innovation Strategy for Canada Workshop
- 2015 Advised the Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, on innovation and entrepreneurship
- 2015 Provided regional innovation data and figures for Waterloo Region Planning Group
- 2012 Forum on Early Stage Venture Capital

MEDIA INTERVIEWS and MENTIONS (Selected)

Articles:

1. "[Ottawa puts up \\$50M in federal budget to hedge against job-stealing AI](#)," Anja Karadeglija, **The Canadian Press**, April 21 2024.
2. "[How artificial intelligence and automation are tackling the talent shortage](#)." Andrew Seale, **The Globe and Mail**, October 3, 2023.

3. [“Learn AI now or risk losing your job, experts warn.”](#) Angela Hennessy, CBC News, September 27, 2023.
4. [“The school-work skills gap: How can we better prepare the next generation work force?”](#) Andrew Seale, **The Globe and Mail**, September 19, 2023.
5. [“Solving Canada’s workplace productivity problem.”](#) Globe Content Studio, **The Globe and Mail**, July 10, 2023.
6. [“What is port automation – and why are striking workers concerned about it?”](#) Nick Logan, **CBC News**, July 8, 2023.
7. [“Google’s new AI search function is revolutionary – but don’t believe everything it says, experts say.”](#) Kevin Jiang, **The Toronto Star**, June 15, 2023.
8. [“AI will change how you invest – and what you invest in.”](#) Salmaan Farooqui, **The Globe and Mail**, June 3, 2023.
9. [“AI will revolutionize the way we work. Here’s how to adapt and protect your livelihood, according to experts.”](#) Kevin Jiang, **The Toronto Star**, May 27, 2023.
10. [“Is AI coming for your job? These are the workers who will be replaced first, according to experts.”](#) Kevin Jiang, **The Toronto Star**, May 23, 2023.
11. [“ChatGPT may reset the world of work as businesses rush to own artificial intelligence.”](#) Don Pittis, **CBC News**, February 9, 2023.
12. [“Staying relevant: the future-ready business benchmark.”](#) White Paper by **The Economist Intelligence Unit**, 2022.
13. [“How does Waterloo produce so many founders.”](#) Rose Simone, **University of Waterloo Magazine**, Spring 2022.
14. [“Technological revolution of work during pandemic shows promise but also inequality.”](#) Amy Smart, **The Toronto Star**, March 15, 2022.
15. [“Yes, robots are coming for your jobs, but you might like the new one more.”](#) Dallan Adams, **TechRepublic**, September 30, 2021.
16. [“The germ of innovation: the lessons from accelerated COVID-19 vaccine development.”](#) Emran Qureshi, **The Globe and Mail**, May 24, 2021.
17. [“The \\$33-billion question: how can Ottawa make the most of the rest of CEWS?”](#) Patrick Brethour, **The Globe and Mail**, May 14, 2021.
18. [“Bankrupt firms tapped federal wage subsidy despite long odds of survival.”](#) Tom Cardoso and Patrick Brethour, **The Globe and Mail**, May 13, 2021.

19. "[Los robots fomentan la polarizacion del empleo.](#)" Rufo Valencia, **Radio Canada Internacional**, April 26, 2021.
20. "[More robots are entering Canadian workplaces.](#)" **Cost of Living, CBC Radio**. April 25, 2021.
21. "[Strategic Innovation Fund failed to improve Canada's innovation performance.](#)" Mark Lowey, **Research Money**. April 21, 2021.
22. "[Robots threaten jobs less than fearmongers claim.](#)" **The Economist**, April 8, 2021.
23. "[How the pandemic will open the door to an AI and robotics revolution.](#)" Elizabeth Rogers, University of Waterloo **Global Impact Report**, February 8, 2021.
24. "[The 5-minute shopping spree: how robots are turbocharging your online orders.](#)" Mike Drolet and Kamyar Razavi, **Global News**, January 30, 2021.
25. "[The federal wage subsidies are harming innovation: economics professor.](#)" Ben Eppel, **CityNews Vancouver**, January 20, 2021.
26. "[Wage subsidies flow to companies with deep pockets, analysis shows.](#)" Patrick Brethour, **The Globe and Mail**, January 8, 2021.
27. "[The future of work: how the pandemic's 'awakening' will shape Canada's labour force.](#)" Anne Gaviola, **BNN Bloomberg**, December 18, 2020.
28. "[How will automation affect Canada's post-COVID economy?](#)" Kristina Urquhart, **Manufacturing Automation**, September 1, 2020.
29. "[Trump's plan to 'decouple' from China will require a robot revolution.](#)" Don Pittis, **CBC News**, September 9, 2020.
30. "[Why layoffs are still piling up, months after the pandemic started.](#)" Matt Lundy, **The Globe and Mail**, July 24, 2020.
31. "[Future of work about much more than technology, automation: report.](#)" Marcel Vander Weir, **Canadian HR Reporter**, April 17, 2019.
32. "[Canadian tech CEOs say they would have welcomed Amazon to their cities.](#)" Dan Healing, **The Globe and Mail**, January 21, 2018.
33. "[New job for Obama as music industry continues to struggle.](#)" Don Pittis, **CBC News**, Jan 11, 2017.
34. "[How do diversify an economy.](#)" Brian Milner, **The Globe and Mail**, Aug 26, 2016.

Television:

1. The Street, "[Canada should have the range of France's AI investment: professor,](#)" **BNN Bloomberg**, May 22, 2024.

2. The Agenda with Steve Paikin, "[What is the state of entrepreneurship in Ontario,](#)" **TV Ontario**, April 17, 2024.
3. CBC News Network, "[Economics professor Joel Blit says AI investment is vital to Canada's future,](#)" **CBC News**, April 13, 2024
4. News at 6, "[Apple's Monopoly Power and the DOJ Case,](#)" **CBC News**, Mar 21, 2024
5. The National, "[Is ChatGPT coming for your job?](#)" **CBC News: The National**, March 3, 2023.
6. "[Son las patentes motores de la innovacion, o de la desigualdad?](#)" **Efecto Naim**. (30 million viewers across Latin America), NTN24. January 6, 2022.
7. The New Reality, "[Is Canada keeping up with automation?](#)" **Global News**, January 30, 2021
8. **Global National News**, How automation will impact Canada, November 4, 2020
9. **CTV News Kitchener**, Amazon's expansion in the KW Region, September 9, 2020
10. **Global Toronto News**, Mitigating economic impacts of second wave, September 1, 2020

Radio:

1. **CHED 630 Edmonton & QR107 Calgary**, The Shaye Ganam Show, "[Is Canada's \\$2.4B AI investment already obsolete?](#)" May 22, 2024.
2. **City News 957 Halifax**, The Todd Veinotte Show, "[Impact of AI on jobs.](#)" April 24, 2024.
3. **CHED 630 Edmonton & QR107 Calgary**, The Shaye Ganam Show, "[Canada's \\$2.4B Investment in AI.](#)" April 15, 2024.
4. **CBC Radio**, Ontario Today, "[Does artificial intelligence have you watching your back?](#)" August 9, 2023.
5. **QR107 Calgary Radio**, Mornings with Sue and Andy, Automation in the Canadian Economy, July 13, 2023.
6. **CBC Radio**, On the Coast with Gloria Macarenko, Automation and the BC Port Strike, July 10, 2023.
7. **CBC Radio**, Radio West with Sarah Penton, Automation and the BC Port Strike, July 10, 2023.
8. **CBC Radio**, All Points West with Jason D'Souza, Automation and the BC Port Strike, July 10, 2023.

9. **570 News**, The Mike Farwell Show, Regulating AI, April 6, 2023.
10. **CBC Radio** The Cost of Living, [Robots and Jobs](#), April 25, 2021
11. **570 News**, The Mike Farwell Show, Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy, January 19, 2021
12. **CBC Radio** Ontario Morning, Economic implications of second wave, July 14, 2020
13. **CBC Radio** London Morning, Economic implications of second wave, July 14, 2020
14. **CBC Radio** Morning Northon, Economic implications of second wave, July 14, 2020
15. **CBC Radio** Superior Morning, Economic implications of second wave, July 14, 2020
16. **CBC Radio** The Morning Edition KW, Economic implications of second wave, July 14, 2020
17. **CBC Radio** Windsor Morning, Economic implications of second wave, July 14, 2020
18. **570 News**, The Mike Farwell Show, AI and the labour market, November 5, 2019
19. **CBC Radio** The Morning Edition KW, Automation and future of work, November 30, 2018

Podcasts:

1. [Bridging the growth gap with AI innovation](#). The Disruptors Podcast, Dec 12 2023.
2. [Let's Talk AI](#), Waterloo Artificial Intelligence Institute, June 8, 2023.

MAJOR SERVICE ACTIVITIES

- 2024-.. Expert Panel, The State of Science, Technology, and Innovation in Canada, Council of Canadian Academies
- 2024-.. Research Advisory Board, AI Talent, Canadian Chamber of Commerce.
- 2024-.. Canadian IP Research Committee, Canadian Intellectual Property Office
- 2022-.. Director of Thought Leadership, Office of Commercialization and Entrepreneurship, University of Waterloo
- 2022-.. Chair of Council for Innovation Policy and Strategy, University of Waterloo
- 2021-.. Advisor to WatSpeed, University of Waterloo
- 2020-.. Founder and Lead of Economics of Innovation Area, Canadian Economics Association
- 2024 AI Workshop Co-Organizer and Presenter, Executive Council, University of Waterloo
- 2022 Lead of Economic Futures, Waterloo at 100. University of Waterloo.
- 2022 Research Selection Committee, 5th Annual IP Data and Research Conference, Canadian Intellectual Property Office.

2021 UW Faculty of Arts Strategic Plan Committee
2020 Member of President's Strategic Think Tank, University of Waterloo

PH.D. STUDENT SUPERVISION

Minna Hong, Accounting, University of Waterloo, 2021. Member of committee.
Jue Zhang, Economics, University of Waterloo, 2017. Member of committee.
Fazli Wahid, Management Science, University of Waterloo, 2015. Member of committee
Mauricio Zelaya, Economics, University of Waterloo, 2014. Co-supervisor
Artur Kolasa, Economics, George Washington University, 2013. Member of committee

M.A. STUDENT SUPERVISION

Burak Gulgen, University of Waterloo, 2024. Supervisor
Christopher Earle, University of Waterloo, 2021. Co-Supervisor
Yuanxiaohui Fang, University of Waterloo, 2018. Supervisor

COURSES TAUGHT

ECON673: Graduate Economics of Innovation and Artificial Intelligence
ECON673: Graduate Economics of Innovation
ECON674: Graduate Capstone Research Project
ECON212: Introduction to Game Theory
ECON232: Introduction to International Economics
ECON412: Game Theory
ECON432: International Trade
ECO2181: International Trade Theory and Policy (George Washington University)

EXECUTIVE COURSES

AI and Business Strategy, WatSpeed open enrolment, June 2024.
AI in Healthcare, Senior healthcare leaders, June 12, 2024. Toronto.
AI Adoption, Policy and Governance. Senior government leaders, May 28, 2024. Ottawa.
AI and Strategy Primer, Board and top executives of Insurance Company, April 23, 2024.
AI and Business Strategy, WatSpeed open enrolment, March 2024.

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

2013-2014 Expert Witness
SOCAN Tariff 22.A – Online Music Services (2011-2013), CSI Online Music Services (2011-2013), and SODRAC Tariff 6 – Online Music Services, Music Videos (2010-2013)

Retained by Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP on behalf of two music collectives (CMRRA/SODRAC Inc.) to co-author an expert report on the value of music in online music services and to testify before the Copyright Board of Canada

1999-2001 AMS Management Systems Inc. Toronto / Melbourne
Senior Consultant

Strategy

- Formulated the strategy for a US\$ 100M joint venture (Singaporean-Australian) start-up bank. Analyzed the Hong Kong market and developed the bank's value proposition. Received AMS Excellence Award for contributions.
- Evaluated the change management activities of a major Canadian retail bank and developed the structure for a sustained change management capability.
- Conducted market research to evolve AMS' market offering in financial services. Forecasted industry trends and recommended a market positioning to company vice president.

Team Management

- Managed the Customer Strategy Team of a major Canadian bank (a team of senior bank executives spanning all major functions). The team developed and prioritized strategic initiatives for moving the bank towards a customer-centric proposition.
- Assisted in the management of a CRM project team, consisting of consultants and client staff
- Reorganized strategy team efforts when the CRM program encountered unexpected resistance.
- Managed one of several teams developing the strategy for a start-up internet-led bank.

Customer Relationship Management (CRM)

- Developed client initiatives that systematically used customer information to implement customer-level strategies that maximize the value of each relationship.
- Supervised the definition of an initiative to differentiate prices based on customer behavior.
- Developed inbound and outbound "1 to 1" marketing initiatives for a major Canadian retail bank.
- Contributed to AMS and client intellectual capital through a "Principles of Differentiation" white paper that was distributed to senior bank executives.
- Developed a CRM strategy training course.

OTHER EXPERIENCE

1996 Defense Research Assistant, Ministry of Defense, Québec, PQ.

- 1994 Designed and implemented NATO battlefield optical identification system
Meteorology Assistant, Canadian Meteorological Centre, Montréal, PQ.
Developed, maintained and tested a new Agro-Météo Unix platform
- 1993 Senior Counselor, Camp Arowhon, Algonquin Park, ON.
- 1992-1993 Student Advisor to Ontario Minister of Education

AD HOC REFEREE

Canadian Journal of Economics (4)
Canadian Public Policy (3)
European Economic Review
Economic Inquiry (2)
Economics of Innovation and New Technology
Journal of Economics and Management Strategy (5)
Journal of International Economics (5)
Journal of Urban Economics
Management Science (7)
Research Policy
Review of Economics and Statistics
Review of International Economics
Scandinavian Journal of Economics