Wyss House, Soldiers Field
Boston, MA 02163
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Samuel Justin Võ Lite

Education

2016– Present **Ph.D Business Economics**
Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
Primary fields: Industrial Organization, Econometrics, Health Care
Coursework includes: Industrial Organization I, II; Advanced Topics in Industrial Organization; Applied Econometrics; Topics in Econometrics; The Econometrics of Machine Learning; New Econometric Methods

2010–2014 **AB Economics** *summa cum laude*
Princeton University, Princeton, NJ
Minors: Applied & Computational Mathematics; Italian Language & Culture

Professional Experience

2015–2016 **Deployment Strategist** Palantir Technologies
Optimized promotional advertisement placements for media client using estimates of the causal effect of promotion on television program viewership. Conducted analysis using Python and Java with a database containing hundreds of millions of records

2014–2015 **Analyst** *Strategic Advisory Analytics* Goldman Sachs
Corporate finance and risk management advisory for technology, media, and pharmaceutical clients

2013 **Summer Analyst** *Financial Institution Analytics* Morgan Stanley
Built detailed stress testing model for financial services clients

2012 **Summer Analyst** Analytics Operations Engineering, Inc.
Strategy and operations for retail client

Research Experience

2018 Research Assistant for Prof. Ariel Stern

2014 Senior Thesis *Princeton University*
Estimated structural model of entry in the US airline industry to predict the competitive effects of a merger

Honors & Awards

2018 Invited discussant, NBER Young Scholars Workshop on the Economics of Artificial Intelligence

2014 2014 Daniel C. Rubinfeld '67 Prize for the best senior thesis in empirical economics

2014 *Summa cum laude* in Economics

2011 Program in Plasma Science and Technology Fellowship

Computer Skills

- Python, R, Matlab, Java, SQL

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September 22, 20187

Dear Ben, Kate, and Jon,

It is a joy to warmly recommend **Samuel Lite** (3rd year doctoral student in Business Economics at Harvard) for the 2018 Health Economics Research Boot Camp for Graduate Students.

I have had the pleasure of working with Sam for the past half-year in the capacity of a research project exploring the impact of the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act of 2009 on innovation in health care IT.

Sam is truly a talented young researcher: he has a gift for understanding the intuition and execution of empirical research and can thoughtfully discuss its policy implications at a level that is comparable with final-year doctoral students. At a technical level, Sam's programming and data management skills are outstanding. His work at Palantir prior to graduate school and a natural talent for analytic thinking have given Sam a top-notch set of statistical programming skills in R and Python, which are already serving him well and will undoubtedly help him execute novel, high-quality research moving forward.

With respect to this year's planned boot camp, Sam is *precisely* the type of student who would benefit most from this type of opportunity. Sam's primary fields of study during his PhD coursework were econometrics and industrial organization, which have already provided him with a strong basis for applied research. At the end of his second year, Sam took an interest in topics related to health care and innovation, which is how we first met. Sam has since worked hard to learn as much as possible about health care, devouring papers and books related to our project, however he would still benefit from a broader contextual understanding of current topics in health care economics.

Finally, I believe that Sam is the type of student who would contribute positively to the community and intellectual environment of the Boot Camp. He is sociable and collaborative by nature and works well with others. This summer, he was thoughtful about helping me to manage data collection being done by an undergraduate research assistant. Sam's involvement with the undergraduate RA was impressive and he demonstrated both a knack for mentorship and a clear sense of how to prioritize tasks in an early-stage research project. In short, Sam is insightful, friendly, patient, and works well with others, features that are likely to make him an excellent addition to any group.

If I can provide any further information, please do not hesitate to get in touch. I can be reached at astern@hbs.edu or (617) 495-2332.

Sincerely,



Ariel Dora Stern
Assistant Professor and Hellman Faculty Fellow
Harvard Business School
433 Morgan Hall
Boston, MA 02163

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Application to NBER Health Economics Research Boot Camp

Recommendation writer: Ariel Stern (astern@hbs.edu)

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Today's health care system is at an inflection point: a complicated policy and competitive environment, changes in payment structures, rapid technological advancement and pharmaceuticals innovation all have the potential to fundamentally alter how individuals interact with the health care system. Understanding these forces and developing policy responses is the central challenge facing health economists. As an aspiring health economics researcher, I am interested in confronting these challenges. To that end, I am eager to attend the NBER's Health Economics Research Boot Camp. An intensive workshop where I can be exposed to state of the art research in health economics would provide the perfect complement to my prior coursework and will hopefully be a excellent jumping off point for a career as a health economist.

My graduate coursework thus far has focused on gaining the tools I will need to conduct my future research. In addition to Harvard's core microeconomics and econometrics sequences, I have pursued industrial organization and econometrics as my field specializations. As part of an industrial organization class, I began a project based on the model described in a recent paper by Hackmann, Kolstad, and Kowalski (2015) analyzing health insurance companies' activity in the Affordable Care Act exchanges. Motivated by the observation that there is substantial variation in the number of insurers active in each marketplace, including a large number of counties at risk of becoming "bare counties" with no active insurers, my project looks to extend the model in Hackmann, Kolstad, and Kowalski (2015) to include an extensive margin for insurers. Current administration activity notwithstanding, a better understanding of insurers' entry decisions should help policymakers design optimal penalty and subsidy schemes in order to expand coverage to the remaining uninsured.

In addition, I am interested in understanding the role of technology and innovation in

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health care delivery. To that end, I have begun an exploration of the relationship between venture capital investment and hospital and physician adoption of electronic health records along with Professor Ariel Stern. The HITECH Act, which was passed as part of the Obama administration's stimulus package in 2009, created large incentive programs for hospitals and physicians to adopt electronic medical record systems. What effect did these incentive programs have on innovation and investment? How did they effect the market for EHRs? What effect did they have on the broader health care system?

While a grounding in structural modeling and econometrics is a solid foundation for beginning research in health economics, I have noticed an acute gap in my familiarity with the health care system and health economics writ large. Progress on a third project two coauthors and I began over the summer analyzing differences in clinical outcomes and managerial practices at publicly traded hospitals has gone quite slowly as we worked to familiarize ourselves with the most important data sets and financial and clinical metrics. Speaking with faculty members about this project has made clear to me the vastness of the background and institutional knowledge that I have not been exposed to.

By attending the Health Economics Boot Camp, I hope to fill in many of these gaps. From learning about common data sources to interesting regulatory or behavioral quirks, discussing canonical research to the state of the art and open questions in the field, this workshop promises to be an excellent opportunity for me to accelerate my research on the health care system.