Giang T. Thai

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Department of Applied Economics
University of Minnesota

Education

University of Minnesota 2021 - Present
PhD, Applied Economics

Research fields: Development, Labor, Agriculture, Gender

University of California, San Diego 2015 - 2017
M.A. in International Affairs, School of Global Policy and Strategy

Denison University 2009 - 2013
B.A., Economics *(cum laude)*

Peer-reviewed Publications

1. "An Investigation of the Decline in the Returns to Higher Education in Vietnam," (with Hang Banh, Trang Dao, Paul Glewwe) *Education Economics* 32(5): 665-685, 2024.
2. "Women Improving Nutrition Through Self-help Groups in India: Does Nutrition Information Help?," (with Neha Kumar, Kalyani Raghunathan, Agnes Quisumbing, Samuel Scott, Purnima Menon, Shivani Gupta, Carly Nichols, and the WINGS study team), *Food Policy* 128: 102716, 2024.
3. "Scale and Sustainability: The Impact of a Women's Self-Help Group Program in Household Economic Well-Being in India," (with Kalyani Raghunathan, Neha Kumar, Shivani Gupta, Samuel Scott, Avijit Choudhury, Madhu Khetan, Purnima Menon, and Agnes Quisumbing), *Journal of Development Studies* 59(4): 490-515, 2022.
4. "The Economic Costs of a Multisectoral Nutrition Programme Implemented Through A Credit Platform in Bangladesh," (with Amy Margolies, Aulo Gelli, Nasrin Sultana, Esther Choo, Neha Kumar, and Carol Levin), *Maternal and Child Nutrition* 19: e13441, 2022.

Working Papers

1. "Female Leaders and Women's Labor Market Dynamics." Job Market Paper.
2. "Gender Norms and the Division of Labor in the Household."
3. "Drought and Agricultural Adaptation: Land Reallocation and Labor Dynamics in Vietnam." (with Lifeng Ren, Khoa Vu, and Nguyen Vuong)
4. "Assessing the Population-level Impact of USAID's Feed the Future Initiative: Insights from Bangladesh Amidst Global Aid Reductions." (with Akhter Ahmed, Mehrab Bakhtiar, Daniel Gilligan)
5. "Subsidies and Product Assurance: Evidence from Agricultural Technologies." (with Daniel Gilligan, Naureen Karachiwalla)

Work in Progress

1. "Non-Economic Costs in Women's Labor Supply: Intra-household Bargaining and Employer Beliefs," Fieldwork planning stage.
2. "Impacts of Upstream Dams on the Downstream Labor Market Dynamics: Evidence from the Mekong River," Data cleaning stage. (with Lifeng Ren, Khoa Vu, and Nguyen Vuong)

Research Grants

External Grants

1. Structural Transformation and Economic Growth, 2025. "Non-Economic Costs in Women's Labor Supply: Intra-household Bargaining and Employer Beliefs." (£15,000)
2. UNU-WIDER, 2025. "Drought and Agricultural Adaptation: Land Reallocation and Labor Dynamics in Vietnam." ($3,000)

University of Minnesota

1. College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, Graduate Student Board Research Grant, 2025. "Non-Economic Costs in Women's Labor Supply: Intra-household Bargaining and Employer Beliefs." ($290)
2. Center for International Food and Agricultural Policy Small Grant, 2024. "Impacts of Upstream Dams on the Downstream Labor Market Dynamics: Evidence from the Mekong River." ($5,000)
3. The Council of Graduate Students Research Grant, 2024. "Non-Economic Costs in Women's Labor Supply: Intra-household Bargaining and Employer Beliefs." ($500)
4. Minnesota Population Center Research Development Grant, 2023. "Non-Economic Costs in Women's Labor Supply: Intra-household Bargaining and Employer Beliefs." ($2,000)
5. Center for International Food and Agricultural Policy Small Grant, 2022. "Non-Economic Costs in Women's Labor Supply: Intra-household Bargaining and Employer Beliefs." ($25,000)

Fellowships and Awards

University of Minnesota

Exemplary Student Organization for Women in Applied Economics (served as Chair) 2024-2025
Jason M. Beddow Award for Outstanding Second-Year Paper 2023
Teaching Assistant Award for Undergraduate Level Courses 2023
Dr. Dale C. Dahl Memorial and Hsieh Fellowships 2021-2022

University of California, San Diego

Dean's Fellow 2016
Full-ride Merit Scholarship 2015-2017

Denison University

Leland Gordon Second Prize for Outstanding Paper in Economics 2012
Dean's List 2011-2012
Tyree/Parajon/Laing Endowed Scholarship 2009-2013

Research Experience

University of Minnesota 2022-Present
Research Assistant for Dr. Elizabeth Davis and Dr. Paul Glewwe

International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
Research Consultant 2021-2026
Research Assistant 2017-2021

University of California, San Diego 2017
Research Assistant for Big Pixel Initiative and Dr. Teevrat Garg

Innovations for Poverty Action, Sierra Leone 2016
Research Assistant Intern for Dr. Anne Karing

Teaching Experience

University of Minnesota

APEC 4821W: Business Economics and Strategy (Undergraduate level)	Spring 2024
PA 8302: Applied Policy Analysis (PhD level)	Fall 2023
APEC 3001: Intermediate Microeconomics (Undergraduate level)	Spring 2023

Other Skills

Software: Stata, R, Python; LaTeX; SurveyCTO, CSPro; ArcGIS, Google Earth Engine
Languages: Vietnamese (native), English (fluent)

References

Dr. Marc F. Bellemare
McKnight Presidential Chair in Applied Economics
Distinguished McKnight University Professor
Distinguished University Teaching Professor
Northrop Professor
Department of Applied Economics
University of Minnesota
Email: mbellema@umn.edu

Dr. Jason Kerwin
Associate Professor
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Dr. Paul Glewwe
Distinguished McKnight Professor
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Dr. Caroline Krafft
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University of Minnesota
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