

JAMES R. THOMPSON

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Email: james@uwaterloo.ca
Web: <http://www.arts.uwaterloo.ca/~james/>
Tel: +1 519-888-4567 ext. 38601 (office)
Address: School of Accounting and Finance, University of Waterloo
200 University Avenue West
Waterloo, Ontario, N2L 3G1, Canada
Citizenship: Canadian

Appointments

Co-Director, Computing and Financial Management, Department of Computer Science and School of Accounting and Finance, University of Waterloo
June 2019–
Associate Professor of Finance, School of Accounting and Finance, University of Waterloo, July 2015–
Assistant Professor of Finance, School of Accounting and Finance, University of Waterloo, July 2009–June 2015
Visiting Assistant Professor of Finance, Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, Jan–July 2012
Lecturer, School of Accounting and Finance, University of Waterloo, July 2008–July 2009

Education

Ph.D. in Economics, Queen's University, 2008.
Masters in Economics, Financial Specialization, Queen's University, 2003.
Bachelors Honours in Computer Science and Economics, University of Western Ontario, 2002.

Research Interests

→ Credit Risk Markets, Banking, Financial Stability
→ Insurance, Regulation, Contract Theory

Publications

“Counterparty Risk in Financial Contracts: Should the Insured Worry about the Insurer?” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, August 2010.
→ Winner of The Northern Finance Association Best Student Paper Award.
→ Winner of the Annual Toronto CFA Society Finance and Economics Award.
“CDS As Insurance: Leaky Lifeboats in Stormy Seas”, with Eric Stephens.
Journal of Financial Intermediation, July 2014.

“Separation Without Mutual Exclusion in Financial Insurance”, with Eric Stephens. *Journal of Risk and Insurance*, December 2015.

“Information Asymmetry and Risk Transfer Markets”, with Eric Stephens. *Journal of Financial Intermediation*, October 2017.

“Variable Pay: Is It For The Worker Or The Firm? ”, with Jason Allen. Accepted *Journal of Corporate Finance*, July 2019.

Working Papers and Work in Progress

“Who Participates in Risk Transfer Markets? The Role of Transaction Costs and Counterparty Risk”, with Eric Stephens. March 2014.

“Credit Risk Transfer: To Sell or To Insure”. February 2014.

“An Efficient Market for Information”, with Douglas Gale (NYU) and Frank Milne (Queen’s), Draft: September 2008.

Invited Seminar and Conference Presentations

2017, University of British Columbia, Southern Finance Association (Key West)

2016, Financial Management Association (Las Vegas), Northern Finance Association (Quebec City), Bank of Canada.

2015, Financial Intermediation Research Society (Iceland), Queen’s University, Risk Theory Society (Cornell), Canadian Economics Association.

2014, Western Finance Association (Monterey Bay), Federal Reserve Bank of New Zealand, Northern Finance Association.

2013, Vanderbilt Owen School, McMaster University, University of Waterloo.

2012, Georgia State (RMI), Wharton School, Federal Reserve Board, Federal Reserve Bank of New Zealand, Center for Economics Studies (Munich).

2011, Western Finance Association (Sante Fe), Risk Theory Society (Little Rock), LSE Paul Wooley Centre Conference, Duke (Fuqua).

2010, University of Toronto, Canadian Economics Association.

2009, Western Finance Association (San Diego), University of Pennsylvania (Wharton), Finance Innovation - Risk Management and Financial Crises (Paris), Financial Intermediation Research Society (Prague), WatRISQ (Waterloo).

2008, Bundesbank-CFS-CEPR Conference on Risk Transfer Mechanisms (Frankfurt), FDIC-JFSR Fall Banking Research Conference (Washington), University of Toronto, Bank of England, London School of Economics, HEC Montréal, Concordia University, University of Windsor, University of Waterloo, University of Calgary, University of Guelph, Midwest Theory Association Meetings (Urbana-Champaign), Midwest Economics Association Meetings (Chicago), Northern Finance Association Meetings (Kananaskis).
Frontiers of Mathematics and Economics, University of British Columbia. (Three week course), Canadian Economics Association Meetings (Montreal).

Awards Received

SSHRC Insight Grant, Principal Investigator, 2014–2017.
David C. Higginbotham PwC Fellow, 2011–2014.
C.A. Curtis Award, Queen's University, 2010.
Ernst Meyer Prize of the Geneva Association, 2009.
Canadian Securities Institute Research Foundation Academic Research Grant, 2008–2011.
Northern Finance Association Best Student Paper Award, 2008.
Toronto CFA Society Fellowship in Finance and Economics, 2008.
Ontario Graduate Scholarship, Government of Ontario, 2007–2008.
SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, 2005–2007.
E. Gay Mitchell Graduate Fellowship in Finance, Queen's University, 2006–2007.

Academic Experience

Instructor

The University of Pennsylvania
FNCE 726: Advanced Corporate Finance (MBA), Winter 2012.

Instructor

The University of Waterloo, School of Accounting and Finance
AFM 271: Managerial Finance, Summer 2009, 2010.
AFM 272: Mathematical Corporate Finance, Summer 2010.
AFM 274: Managerial Finance II, Summer 2013, 2015, 2016, 2017.
AFM 372: Mathematical Corporate Finance II, Summer 2016, Winter 2017, Summer 2017.
AFM 373: Cases in Corporate Finance, Fall 2018, Winter 2019.
AFM 476: Advanced Corporate Finance, Winter 2019.

Instructor

The University of Waterloo, Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science
ACTSCI 471: Corporate Finance for Actuarial Science, Winter 2019

Instructor

Queen's University
Econ 255: Introduction to Mathematical Economics, Fall 2006.
Introduction to Computing for MA's and PhD's, Fall 2006, 2007.

Departmental/University Committees

Co-director, Computing and Financial Management

University of Waterloo, 2019–.

Program Champion/Director, PhD in Finance

University of Waterloo, 2017–.

Arts Faculty Council Deputy Chair

University of Waterloo, 2013–2015.

Seminar Series Co-organizer

University of Waterloo, 2008–2010.

Graduate Student Executive, Queen's University

President, 2004–2005.

Ph.D Representative, 2003–2004.

Students

Kaleab Mamo (PhD Candidate, Committee Member, First Placement: Wilfrid Laurier)

Yu Chen (PhD Economics, Committee Member, First Placement: University of Calgary)

Ishmael Sharara (PhD Actuarial Science, Committee Member)

Computing Skills

Programming Languages: Java, C, Matlab, Fortran 90/95, Stata, PHP with MySQL, SPARC Assembly.

Professional Affiliations

Finance Theory Group, Risk Theory Society, American Finance Association, Western Finance Association, American Economics Association, Northern Finance Association, Canadian Economics Association.

Refereeing

Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Economic Studies, Review of Financial Studies, Journal of Economic Theory, Journal of Financial Intermediation, Management Science, Review of Finance, Journal of Risk and Insurance, International Journal of Central Banking, B.E. Journal of Theoretical Economics, Canadian Journal of Economics, Journal of Business Ethics, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 European Finance Association Meetings Program Committee, 2009, 2012, 2013, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 Northern Finance Association Meetings Program Committee.