



UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

and

PCED | Philippine Center for
Economic Development

present a seminar on

"Heterogeneous Effects of High School Peers on Educational Outcomes"

by

Alfredo R. Paloyo, PhD
University of Wollongong
06 October 2017, Friday
4:00-5:00 p.m. – Rm 303

Abstract:

We investigate the effect of peer ability on (i) high-stakes test scores at ages 16 and 18 and (ii) on the probability of university attendance. To account for endogeneity in peer ability, we use the average ability of the primary school peers of one's secondary school peers, excluding those from the same primary school of the individual, as an instrumental variable for average secondary school peer ability. Our results show that peers have a moderately positive effect on test scores, and that being in a school with a large proportion of low-quality peers can have a significantly detrimental effect on achievements. Furthermore, peer ability seems to have a stronger effect on students at the bottom of the grade distribution, especially at age 16.

About the author:

Alfredo R. Paloyo is a Senior Lecturer (Assistant Professor) at the School of Accounting, Economics, and Finance of the University of Wollongong. He is also a Research Fellow of the RWI, IZA, and GLO in Germany and the ARC Life Course Center in Australia. His research interest is in the microeconomic evaluation of treatment effects, particularly as it applies to human capital, development, and defense. He completed his doctorate at the Ruhr Graduate School in Economics in Germany, and is an alumnus of the University of the Philippines School of Economics.



Free and open to the public

For group attendance, please contact **Ms. Judy Avila**, UPSE Economics Research Center
Phone: 632-9205465, Email: research@econ.upd.edu.ph