

Saku Aura

Contact

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Personal

Born: 1/6/1971. Gender: Male. Citizenship: Finland. Permanent Resident of the United States.

Academic

- 9/1997–9/2001** Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Ph.D. in Economics. Thesis title: Essays in the Economics of Retirement Income Security and Household Decision-Making. Thesis Committee: Peter Diamond and Jonathan Gruber.
- 9/1996–5/1997** University of Helsinki. M.A. in Economics.
- 9/1992–5/1996** University of Helsinki. B.A. in Economics.

Research Fields Public Economics, Household Decision-Making, Urban Economics.

Current Affiliations

- From 9/2002** University of Missouri. Associate Professor of Economics (from 9/2009). Assistant Professor of Economics (9/2003–8/2009). Visiting Assistant Professor of Economics (9/2002–8/2003).
- From 7/2002** CESifo. Research Fellow (from 2019). Research Affiliate (2002-2019).

Past Affiliations

- 10/2003-6/2017** University of Missouri. Faculty Fellow, Center of Excellence in Aging.
- 6/2015–8/2015** VATT Institute for Economic Research. Visiting Research Professor
- 9/2012–8/2015** University of Missouri - Economic & Policy Analysis Center (EPARC). Associate Director
- 7/2010–12/2010** Aalto University. Visiting Professor of Economics.

- 8/2006–12/2006** Joe Shoong Visiting Professor of Business, Haas School of Business, University of California-Berkeley.
- 4/2004–4/2006** Finnish Business and Policy Forum EVA. Junior Fellow.
- 9/2001–7/2002** L'università Commerciale Luigi Bocconi. Assistant Professor of Economics.
- 6/1998–8/1998** Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Research Assistant to Professor Peter Diamond.
- 10/1996–8/1997** University of Helsinki. Researcher at the Research Unit for Economic Structures and Growth.
- 3/1996–9/1996** Government Institute for Economic Research. Researcher.
- 5/1995–8/1995** Government Institute for Economic Research. Researcher.

Refereed Publications

- 2016** “Why Doesn’t the Hong Kong Government Sell More Public Land” Joint with Francis Cheung and Shawn Ni. *Frontiers of Economics in China* 11:3, p. 367-389.
- 2012** “An Analysis of Constrained Property Taxes in a Simple Optimal Tax Model” Joint with Thomas Davidoff. *CESifo Economic Studies* 58:3, p. 525–543.
- 2010** “Costs of Living for US Veterinarians in Food Animal Practice Compared to other Practice Categories and the Effect on Adjusted Income” Joint with Jeff W. Tyler (lead author) and Loren G. Schultz, *The Bovine Practitioner*, 44:1, p. 77–82.
- 2010** “What’s in a Name?” Joint with Gregory Hess, *Economic Inquiry* 48:1, p. 214–227.
- 2008** “Supply Constraints and Housing Prices” Joint with Thomas Davidoff, *Economics Letters* 99:2, p. 275–277.
- 2005** “Does the Balance of Power Within a Family Matter? The Case of the Retirement Equity Act” *Journal of Public Economics* 89:9–10, p. 1699–1717.
- 2002** “Savings and Portfolio Choice in a Two-Period Two-Asset Model” Joint with Peter Diamond and John Geanakoplos, *American Economic Review* 92:4, p. 1185–1191.
- 2000** “Statistical Inference for Lorenz Curves Using Simulated Critical Values” *Journal of Income Distribution* 9:2, p. 199–213.

Scholarships, Fellowships, Awards and Honors

- 2010** University of Missouri - Provost’s Award for Leadership in International Education.
- 2000–2001** Boston College Center for Retirement Research Dissertation Fellowship.

- 1997–2001** Yrjö Jahnsson Foundation Fellowship.
- 1997–2000** Emil Aaltonen Foundation Fellowship.
- 1997–2001** Finnish Cultural Foundation Fellowship.
- 1996** Yrjö Jahnsson Foundation Award for Excellent Undergraduate Thesis.
- 1996** Faculty of Social Sciences Award for Excellent Undergraduate Thesis

Seminars and Presentations

- 2015** Finnish Economics Summer Meeting (University of Jyväskylä); VATT Institute for Economic Research
- 2012** Taxing Cross-Border Commuters Workshop - Uppsala
- 2010** University Bank of Finland; Finnish Doctoral Program in Economics Public Economics Workshop; CESifo Conference on Public Economics; University of Turku; Government Research Institute for Economic Research, Helsinki; Labour Research Institute, Helsinki; University of Jyväskylä; HECER Workshop, Helsinki; University of British Columbia - Urban Economics and Real Estate Summer Symposium; CESifo Conference on Public Economics, Munich.
- 2009** Oberlin College; University of Nebraska.
- 2008** CESifo Conference on Public Economics, Munich; University of Ottawa.
- 2007** University of Kentucky; University of St. Andrews; American Real Estate and Urban Economics Association (AREUEA), Annual Meeting, Chicago; Haas School of Business (UC Berkeley).
- 2006** University of Helsinki; UC Berkeley (Economics).
- 2005** NBER Summer Institute; University of Kansas.
- 2004** Haas School of Business (UC Berkeley); Clemson University; Missouri Economics Conference, Columbia; Midwest Economics Association, Chicago.
- 2003** Missouri Economics Conference, Columbia; Midwest Economics Association, St Louis; University of Wisconsin-Madison; American Economic Association, Annual Meeting, Washington, DC.
- 2002** University of Missouri-Columbia; Illinois State University; European Society for Population Economics, Bilbao; CESifo Conference on Public Economics, Munich.
- 2001** HEC Lausanne; University of Bologna; University of Helsinki; Texas A&M; Syracuse University; Bocconi University; Université Catholique de Louvain; University of Toronto.

2000 Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Graduate Student Advising

2015 Sean McCrary, MA (Main Advisor).

2014 Nguyen Doan, Phd (Main Advisor).

2013 Tang Xing, MA (Main Advisor).

2013 Dung Nguyen, MA (Main Advisor).

2013 Ryan Flugum, MA (Co-Advisor).

2013 Yanjun Jia, MA (Advisor).

2013 Dong Won Shin, MA (Advisor).

2009 Joshua Welker, MA (Main Advisor).

2007 Myung Woon Kim, PhD (Main Advisor).

2007 Hyunggun Kim, PhD (Main Advisor).

2007 Arya Putubaya, MA (Main Advisor).

2006 Yau-jr (Tristan) Liu, PhD (Main Advisor).

2004 Oleksandr Gnatyuk, MA (Main Advisor).

2003-Present Member of several MA and PhD Committees.

Other Professional Activities

Finnish Economic Papers: Associate Editor, from 2003.

Referee for B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis & Policy, CESifo Economic Studies, Economic Journal, Economica, Economics of Education Review, Finnish Economic Papers, International Tax and Public Finance, Journal of Economic Geography, Journal of Housing Economics, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Labor Economics, Journal of Pension Economics and Finance, Journal of Population Economics, Journal of Public Economic Theory, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Risk and Insurance, Journal of Systems Science and Systems Engineering, Journal of Urban Economics, Ministry of Finance (Finland), National Science Foundation, National Tax Journal, Review of Economic Studies, Review of Economics and Statistics, Review of Economics of the Household, Review of Income and Wealth, Review of Law and Economics, Scandinavian Journal of Economics, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (Canada) and University of Missouri Research Board.

University of Missouri - Tuition Policy Subcommittee: Member (2017-2018), College of Arts & Science Grants Committee: Member (2017-2018) & Chair (2018-2019), College of Arts & Science Study Abroad

Committee: Member (2016-2017), Campus Writing Board: Member (2011-2014) & Subcommittee Chair (AY 2013/14), Research Council: Member (2011-2014).

Teaching Experience

University of Missouri Intermediate Microeconomics: Fall 2002, Spring 2012, Spring 2013, Fall 2013, Spring 2015, Spring 2016 and Spring 2017 – Graduate Public Economics: Spring 2003, Spring 2004, Spring 2005, Spring 2006, Spring 2007 and Spring 2008 – Undergraduate Public Economics: Spring 2003, Fall 2003, Spring 2004, Fall 2004, Spring 2005, Fall 2005, Spring 2006, Spring 2007 (Writing Intensive), Fall 2007 (Writing Intensive), Spring 2008, Fall 2008, Spring 2008 (Writing Intensive), Fall 2009, Spring 2010 (Writing Intensive), Fall 2011 (Writing Intensive), Spring 2012, Fall 2012 (Writing Intensive), Spring 2013, Fall 2013 (Writing Intensive), Fall 2014, Spring 2015 (Writing Intensive), Fall 2015 (Writing Intensive), Fall 2016 (Writing Intensive), Spring 2017 (Writing Intensive) and Fall 2018 (Writing Intensive)– Honors Proseminar: Fall 2008, Spring 2009, Fall 2009 and Spring 2010 – Master’s Research Seminar: Fall 2008, Spring 2009, Fall 2009, Spring 2010, Spring 2018 and Spring 2019 – Topics in Microeconomic Policy Analysis (Graduate Course): Spring 2010 – Mathematics for Economics (Graduate Course): Fall 2011, Fall 2012, Fall 2013, Fall 2014, Fall 2015, Fall 2016, Fall 2017 and Fall 2018 – Mathematics for Economics (Online Graduate Course): Fall 2018 – Urban Economics: Spring 2016 (Writing Intensive), Spring 2017 (Writing Intensive), Spring 2018 (Writing Intensive) and Spring 2019 (Writing Intensive).

Aalto University Design of Tax Systems: Fall 2010.

L’università Commerciale Luigi Bocconi Introductory Microeconomics: Spring 2002.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology Teaching assistant for Ph.D. level course in Public Economics: Fall 2000.

(Updated March 2019)