

Saku Aura

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

Studies

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.

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 10/2003 University of Missouri. Faculty Fellow, Center of Excellence in Aging.
From 7/2002 CESifo. Research Affiliate.

Past Affiliations

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

2008 “What’s in a Name?” Joint with Gregory Hess, *Economic Inquiry*, forthcoming.
2008 “Supply Constraints and Housing Prices” Joint with Thomas Davidoff, *Economics Letters* 99, 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, p. 1699–1717.

Refereed Publications (continued)

- 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, p. 199–213.

Current Research Projects

“Household Demand for Vehicle Miles Travelled: Role of Public Transit Supply and Income differences” Joint with Hyung-Gun Kim, *preliminary*.

“A Positive Theory of Government Land Sales ” Joint with Francis Cheung and Shawn Ni.

“Optimal Housing Policy and Redistribution in a Closed City ” Joint with Thomas Davidoff, *preliminary*.

“Optimal Commodity Taxation and Land Use Regulation Under Property Tax Constraints ” Joint with Thomas Davidoff.

“Uncommitted Couples: Some Efficiency and Policy Implications of Marital Bargaining”.

Other Research

- 2004 “Estate and Capital Gains Taxation: Efficiency and Political Economy Considerations”, CESifo Working Paper No. 1198.

Scholarships, Fellowships and Honors

- 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

- 2009 Oberlin College – University of Nebraska
- 2008 CESifo Conference in 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 in 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.

Other Professional Activities

Finnish Economic Papers: Associate Editor (from 2003).

Referee for *Economic Journal*, *Economica*, *Finnish Economic Papers*, *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 Systems Science and Systems Engineering*, *National Science Foundation*, *Review of Economic Studies*, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, *Review of Economics of the Household*, *Review of Income and Wealth* and *University of Missouri Research Board*.

Teaching Experience

University of Missouri

Intermediate Price Theory (Microeconomics): Fall 2002 – 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) and Fall 2009– Honors Proseminar: Fall 2008, Spring 2009 and Fall 2009 – Master’s Research Seminar: Fall 2008, Spring 2009 and Fall 2009.

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.

Graduate Student Advising

2009 Joshua Welker, MA (Main Advisor).

2007 Myung Woon Kim, PhD (Main Advisor).

2007 HyunGung 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.