

ABOUT CHPAMS: FEATURED MEMBER

Shufang Zhang, MS, ScD Candidate



Shufang Zhang, MS

Shufang Zhang is a doctoral candidate in Health Economics at the Global Health and Population Department of Harvard School of Public Health (HSPH), and a Presidential Scholar of Harvard University. Prior to coming to HSPH, Shufang worked at the World Bank, managing training portfolios for senior Chinese government officials on poverty reduction and sustainable development. She worked in the World Bank Beijing Office on capacity building for policy makers in economic reforms, fiscal decentralization, education and corporate governance. Shufang also worked at the China Medical Board (CMB) on planning and managing of the CMB Tobacco Control Initiative and the advancement of the Lancet Series on Health of Southeast Asia, co-sponsored by CMB, *Lancet*, and Rockefeller Foundation. Shufang obtained her Master's degree in Environmental Economics and Policy from Duke University and

is a Leadership for Environment and Development Fellow. She has served on the Board of Directors of the Chinese Economists Society and the Corporate Environmental Advisory Council of Dow Chemical Company. At Harvard, Shufang has been engaged in multiple research projects on China's health system, including the study and management of Rural Mutual Health Care, a pilot rural health insurance scheme in western rural China initiated by Professor William Hsiao. Shufang's research interests include health care financing, health intervention monitoring and evaluation, health and labor productivity, and smoking behavior. Her doctoral thesis aims to evaluate the impact of anti-tobacco interventions on smoking behavior among older Americans using micro-level longitudinal data. Shufang recently co-edited the book "Investing in Human Capital for Economic Development in China". She is one of the CHPAMS's founding members.

If you had not entered your current profession, what would you have liked to do?

Being a medical doctor or biologist.

What is the best piece of advice you have received, and from whom?

Opportunities always favor those who are prepared. From a good friend.

How do you relax?

Dancing Argentine Tango because the beautiful melody and attentive connection bring you to a different space, where you just forget about everything.

What is your greatest regret?

Could not fly home early enough to see my mother before she passed away.

What is your worst habit?

To spend a lot of time and energy that can only perfect things marginally.

What apart from your family is the passion of your life?

To discover new places and cultures all over the world.

What is your greatest fear?

Loose my physical freedom to go wherever and do whatever I want.

What one discovery or invention would most improve your life?

A timer or similar device that will put me to sleep on time so that I do not end up going to bed too late every night.

What keeps you awake at night?

Thinking about the social inequality faced by farmers and their children in rural China.

If you knew you had a week to live, how would you live those days?

To have a vacation with all my family in Greece.