

## Thomas B. Singh

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CV - NOVEMBER 2015

### Senior Lecturer

Department of Economics  
University of Guyana (UG)  
Turkeyen  
Guyana

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Blog: *Economics and Development: An Insider's View*, at <http://guyana-economics.blogspot.com/>

*Date of Birth:* May 27, 1963

*Nationality:* Guyanese

Married with two children

### EDUCATION

Institution	Degree	Date
University of Kent, Canterbury, UK	PhD	2010
Temple University, Philadelphia, PA	MA	1991
University of Guyana	BSocSc	1986

**Dissertation Title:** *To Trust or Not to Trust Others: Norms, Interactions and Institutions*

**Supervisor:** Prof. Roger Vickerman

### FIELDS OF INTEREST

Economic Development; Trust, Social Capital and Growth; Behavioural and Experimental Development Economics; New Institutional Economics; New Political Economy; Economics of Climate Change and Climate Finance; Migration, Remittances and International Adjustment; Economics of Social Dynamics and Development.

### AWARDS

- Sept. 2012 – Commonwealth Academic Fellowship, School of Economics, University of Kent  
Dec. 2012 (An Experimental Investigation into Culture, Institutions and Economic Behaviour)
- 2007-2009 Ph.D. Scholarship Award  
*Fondation pour l'aide au protestantisme réformé*, Geneva, Switzerland.
- 2007-2008 University of Kent Overseas Scholarship

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

#### MAIN ACADEMIC

- Sept. 2014 – Sept. 2015 **Head of Department, Dept. of Economics, UG**  
Achievements included the development and introduction of a new degree in Business Economics; development of a course in the Economics of Innovation; review and updating of several courses; and introduction of an Academic Advising Panel for academic guidance and supervision and student formation issues.
- Sept. 2011 – present **Lecturer II, Dept. of Economics, UG**  
Courses Taught: Introductory Econometrics, Environmental Economics, Intermediate Micro-Economics, Industrial Organisation, Principles of Economics

(Micro & Macro), and Mineral Resources Utilisation (up to June 2013, *Dept. of Geology, UG*)

Sept. 2009 – Aug. 2011 **Coordinator**, *Institute of Development Studies*, and **Lecturer II**, *Dept. of Economics, UG*  
Courses Taught: Environmental Economics, Intermediate Micro-Economics, Industrial Organisation, Principles of Economics (Micro and Macro), and Mineral Resources Utilisation (*Dept. of Geology, UG*)

Feb. 2000 – Sept. 2006 **Researcher II**, *Institute of Development Studies*  
Courses Taught: Public Economics (*Dept. of Economics*), Public Finance Issues (*School of Graduate Studies*)

#### OTHER ACADEMIC

Jan. 2007 – July 2009 **Pre-Master's Lecturer**, *Cambridge Arts and Sciences (CATS)*, Canterbury, UK  
Courses Taught: Business Studies

1994 **Lecturer**, *Philadelphia College of Textiles and Sciences*, USA  
Courses Taught: Principles of Macroeconomics, Public Finance

Jan. 1989 – May 1992 **Teaching Assistant**, *Temple University*, Philadelphia  
Courses Taught: Principles of Microeconomics & Macroeconomics

1991 **Lecturer**, *Penn State University*  
Courses Taught: Principles of Microeconomics

#### GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY

July 1998 – July 1999 **Head of Policy and Planning**, *Guyana Forestry Commission*

July 1997 – July 1998 **Senior Economist**, Policy & Regulatory Issuances Dept, *Bank of Guyana*

Oct. 1995 – July 1997 **Senior Economist**, Research Department, *Bank of Guyana*

March 1995 – Sept. 1995 **Financial Analyst**, *Privatisation Unit*, Georgetown, Guyana

July 1992 – Jan. 1994 **Economist and Project Manager**, *JACA Corporation*, Fort Washington, Pennsylvania

## GRANTS AND PROJECTS

- 2014 University of Guyana Science and Technology Support Project, **World Bank**  
Principal Investigator, *An Experimental Approach to Economic Behaviour, Culture and Institutions in Support of Low Carbon Development* (US\$30,000)
- 2011 Governance Enhancement Project, **USAID**  
Project Manager, *Elections and Political Processes Evaluation* (US\$66,800)
- 2011 Framework for Action for the Caribbean Region, **French Development Agency/ECLAC**  
Co-author, *A Review of Selected Areas of Research on the Caribbean Region since the 2000s: Identifying the Main Research Gaps*
- 2010 Replicable Local Poverty Linkages Project, **UNDP**  
Consultant, *Adjusted Management Model, Project Results Framework and Annual Workplan*
- 2003 Caribbean Regional Trade Policy Responsive Fund, **CIDA**  
Principal Project Writer and Coordinator, *Issues in Trade Development and Poverty Reduction* (Can\$115,000)

## GUEST PRESENTATIONS AND LECTURES

- June 2013 Walter Rodney Memorial Symposium, *National Unity in Perspective: 750K People, Many Nations, No Destiny?* Georgetown, Guyana
- Sept. 2011 Guyana Institute of Historical Research 2011 Annual Conference, *General Elections and Ethnic Relations in Guyana (1953 – 2006)*, Georgetown, Guyana
- March 2011 Reformed Churches of Guyana, *In a Life Without Values, Life Has no Value: A Social Interactions Perspective on Violence*, Georgetown, Guyana
- May 2006 University of Guyana, 40<sup>th</sup> Independence Conference on “Sugar in the Caribbean: Challenges and Prospects,” *The Economics of Sugar Reform in Guyana*, University of Guyana, Turkeyen
- Aug 2005 Walter Rodney 25th Anniversary Commemoration Conference, *Imagination and Development: Brief Notes*, University of Guyana and Faculty of Humanities and Education, UWI, University of Guyana, Turkeyen
- Jan 2005 Global Development Network, 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Development Conference on “Developed and Developing Worlds: Mutual Impact,” *Local Public Goods Insecurity, Conflict and Remittances: There is a (Decentralised) Balm in Gilead for Poor, Troubled Societies!* Dakar, Senegal. Finalist, *Conflict, Human Security and Migration* Category of Research Medals Competition.

## MAIN CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2012 School of Economics, University of Kent: “An Experimental Investigation of Social Interactions,” (with Edward Cartwright, Lead Researcher); *Academica Senica*, 2012 *Public Economic Theory* Conference, Taipei, Taiwan: “Trust as Choice with Endogenous Interactions”
- 2011 Faculty of Social Sciences Seminar Series, University of Guyana: “Guyana’s

- 2009 Low Carbon Development Strategy: Problems and Prospects”  
The Santa Chiara Graduate School and Pro.M Chair in Bioeconomics, University of Siena, Darwin Bicentenary Conference on Evolution: Intersecting Natural and Social Sciences: “Social Norms and Interpersonal Trust”; Scottish Economic Society 2009 Annual Conference: “Interpersonal Trust as Individual Choice with Social Interactions”; Royal Economic Society 2009 Annual Conference: “Interpersonal Trust as Individual Choice with Social Interactions”; Centre for Experimental Economics, Dept. of Economics, University of Copenhagen, 3rd Nordic Conference on Experimental and Behavioral Economics: “Interpersonal Trust as Individual Choice with Social Interactions”
- 2006 Dublin City University and the Development Cooperation Ireland, 2006 Development Education Conference, Dublin City: “Imagination and Development”
- 2004 Clark Atlanta University and the University of Guyana, Conference on ‘Governance, Conflict Analysis and Conflict Resolution,’ Georgetown: “Poverty, Economics and Conflict Management”
- 2003 Caribbean Centre for Monetary Studies, XXXV Annual Monetary Studies Conference, St. Kitts: “Development Assistance, Rudimentary Financial Markets and Relatively Rapid Goods Market Adjustment”

#### **SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP**

##### ***Current***

Member of the national *Tax Reform Committee* that will make recommendations to the Minister of Finance on tax reform.

Member of the Planning Team of Experts, *Economic Growth, Equity and Stability in the English-Speaking West Indies* initiative of the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies, University of the West Indies (Mona) and the Latin American and Caribbean Institute, Florida International University.

Founding Director of the *Community Transformation Trust, Inc.*, which is a not-for-profit company that mobilises voluntary private contributions to local public goods provision by Guyanese migrants, matching diaspora networks with the communities from which they migrated.

Continuing President and Founding Director, *Epilepsy Foundation of Guyana*

Continuing Member, Academic Board, University of Guyana

Head, Department of Economics, University of Guyana, Sept. 2014 – Sept. 2015

Continuing Member, Board of Directors, St. Stanislaus College.

##### ***Past***

Member of the Advisory Group, Preparation of the *Strategic Plan for Regional Development (SPRD) of the Caribbean*, Caricom Secretariat, 2012-2011.

Member and Resource Person, *Guyana Coalition of Service Providers* (providing support in Trade Policy Negotiation and Formulation) and a Member of the team that prepared Guyana’s response to Offers in WTO negotiations, 2006.

Member, *Transparency Institute of Guyana*, 2012 – 2013.

Led the development of a proposal for a “Peacebuilding and Development Centre” at the University of Guyana on behalf of the *Community Transformation Trust, Inc.*

Convenor of the Constitutional Review Committee, Guyana Presbyterian Church; Chairman of the Board of managers, Burns’ Memorial Presbyterian Church, Guyana Presbyterian Church.

Member of the UG Operation Rescue Committee that is making submissions on reviewing the UG Act and Statutes to the Parliamentary Sub-Committee on the University of Guyana, 2013.

Member of the Committee that did the Midterm Review of the UG Strategic Plan, May 2011.

Technical Editor of the IDS journal *Transition*, 2000-2006.

Chairman, Guyana Volunteer Consultancy

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

“Trust as Choice with Endogenous Social Interactions Effects,” submitted to the *Indian Economic Review*, Delhi School of Economics. Under review, January, 2014.

“Salient Endogenous Social Interactions Effects: An Experimental Investigation,” coauthored with Edward Cartwright (Univ. of Kent). Available at SSRN: <http://ssrn.com/abstract=2371319> or <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.2371319>, December 2013.

“Imagination and Development,” IDS, UG, Special Working Paper Series, WP # 10-12.

Available at <http://idsguyana.org/publications/working-papers/136-working-paper-1012-imagination-and-development.html>, October 2013.

“Social Capital, the Culture of Trust and Economic Development,” co-authored with Edward Cartwright (Univ. of Kent) in *Economic Behaviour, Game Theory and Technology in Emerging Markets*, edited by Bryan Christiansen and Müslüm Basilgan, 2013, IGI Global.

“A Social Interactions Perspective on Trust and its Determinants,” *Journal of Trust Research*, Vol. 2, No. 2, 2012

“Getting and Staying Out of a Low Trust Trap: The Roles of Tipping and Institutional Reform,” *Social Science Research Network Accepted Paper Series*, February 2011. Available at SSRN: <http://ssrn.com/abstract=1756084>.

“Social Norms and Interpersonal Trust,” *Social Science Research Network Working Paper Series*, July 2009. Available at SSRN: <http://ssrn.com/abstract=1427089>.

“Interpersonal Trust as Individual Choice with Social Interactions,” *Social Science Research Network Working Paper Series*, November 20, 2008. Available at SSRN: <http://ssrn.com/abstract=1260758>.

“Review of Selected Areas of Research on the Caribbean Region since the 2000s: Identifying the Main Research Gaps,” with Clive Y. Thomas (lead author). Prepared for the *United Nations’ Economic Commission for Latin America*, March 2011.

“Balance of Payments Adjustment in Guyana: Is There A Role for Informal Institutions?” in *Small Economies and Global Economics*, edited by J. Ram Pillarisetti, Roger Lawrey, Teo Siew Yean, Shamim A. Siddiqui, and Azman Ahmad (University of Brunei), Nova Science Publishers, 2008.

“Poverty, Economics and Conflict Management,” in *Governance, Conflict Analysis and Conflict Resolution*, edited by Cedric Grant and Mark Kirton, Ian Randle Publishers, 2007.

“On Interdependent Economic and Political Domains and Smart Constitutions,” Mimeo, IDS, UG.

“Local Public Goods Insecurity, Conflict and the State: A Paradoxical Proposal,” *Transition*, Vol. 34, 2005.

“Constitutional Design for Market Efficiency and Political Democracy in Small, Poor and Open Transition (SPOT) Economies,” in *Political Democracy, Social Democracy and the Market in the Caribbean*, by Jack Menke (ed.), Democracy Unit, Anton de Kom University of Suriname, 2004.

“Development Assistance, Rudimentary Financial Markets and Relatively Rapid Goods Market Adjustment,” *Transition*, Issue 32, October 2003.

“Rudimentary Financial Markets and Relatively Rapid Goods Market Adjustment in a Closed Economy: The Case of Fiscal Policy in Guyana,” *IDS Working Paper, IDSW 00-09*, University of Guyana, August 2002.

“Agency, Teacher Effort, Incentives and Teacher Compensation: A Review and Proposal,” *Transition*, Issue 30, 2001.

“Bank Liquidity Management, Prudential Regulation and Monetary and Exchange Rate Policy: A Reappraisal of the Liquid Asset Requirement,” *Money Affairs*, Vol. XII, No. 2, Jul.-Dec. 1999.

#### **POLICY REVIEWS/EVIDENTIAL SUBMISSIONS**

“Costs, Risks and Institutional Developments in Guyana’s Rice Sector,” November 2015, Mimeo. Available at <http://guyana-economics.blogspot.com/>

“Price and Tariff Determination and Regulation in the Telecommunications Bill 2011,” November 2015, Mimeo. Available at <http://guyana-economics.blogspot.com/>

“Review of ‘Creating Incentives to Avoid Deforestation (The McKinsey Report),’ Office of the President, Republic of Guyana, 2008,” Unpublished, January 2009.

“Comments on Ministry of Tourism, Trade and Industry Document ‘Enhancing Competitiveness,’ Prepared (with Prof. Clive Thomas) for the Guyana Coalition of Service Providers, September 2005.

“Comments on Guyana’s Poverty Reduction Strategy Progress Report, 2005,” Prepared for the University of Guyana Submission, July 2005.

“Memorandum on The VAT and Excise Tax Bills,” the Institute of Development Studies’ Submission to the *Parliamentary Sub-Committee on Finance*, May 2005.

“A Financial (And Institutional) Review of the Guyana Presbyterian Church,” Report to the Properties and Finance Committee, *Guyana Presbyterian Church*, Jan. 2002.

“Selective Review of the Draft Forests Act, 1998 (And the Associated Draft Forest Regulations),” *Policy and Planning Division, Guyana Forestry Commission*, April 1999.

“Principles of Rate of Return Regulation of Public Utilities: Why the Temporary Rate Increases Approved for Guyana Telephone & Telegraph Co. Warrant Review.” Evidence submitted to the *Public Utilities Commission* Public Hearing, February 1998.

“The Licensing of Additional Financial Institutions in Guyana - Efficiency and Growth Considerations,” *Research Department, Bank of Guyana*, May 1996.

“Aerospace Coatings: Economic Impact Analysis” (approved), *U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*, Dec. 1993.

Industry Profile for “Economic Analysis of Ferroalloys Industry Emission Standards” (approved), *U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*, Oct. 1993.