

# THONG TRINH

University of California Berkeley

Berkeley School of Education

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## EDUCATION

**PhD in Education** **2024 – Present**

*University of California Berkeley*

- Berkeley Fellow
- Adviser: *Dr. Jennifer Delaney and Dr. Jose Eos Trinidad*

**EdM in Education Policy, Organization and Leadership** **2022 – 2024**

*(Transitioned from PhD)*

*University of Illinois Urbana – Champaign*

- Edwin J. O'Leary Fellow – Forum on the Future of Public Education
- Adviser: *Dr. Paul Bruno and Dr. Jennifer Delaney*

**MSc in Business Analysis and Consulting** **2022**

*University of Strathclyde, United Kingdom*

**BSc in International Business** **2019**

*Banking Academy of Vietnam, Vietnam*

## RESEARCH FOCUS

Higher Education, Higher Education Finance, Education Policy, Financial Aid, Student Loan Program, Quantitative Research, Quasi-Experimental Design

## PUBLICATIONS

### Peer-Reviewed Articles

*(Link to [Google Scholar](#) profile)*

1. **Trinh, T.M.**, Nguyen, T.T.H., Pham, O. and Pham, H.-H. (2025), "The financial sustainability of Vietnamese higher education institutions: unveiling the hidden factors", *Asian Education and Development Studies*, Vol. ahead-of-print No. ahead-of-print. <https://doi.org/10.1108/AEDS-07-2024-0136>
2. **Trinh, T.M.**, Le, T-T.K., Le, K-M, A., Nguyen, C., Tran, T. (2024): Shaping Choices: Factors Influencing Vietnamese High School Students' Transition to Higher Education, *High Educ*, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10734-024-01384-x>

3. **Trinh, T.M.** (2024): Can training doctoral students to participate in peer review alleviate the shortage of peer reviewers in academic publishing? *Science Editing*, 11(1), 73–76.  
<https://doi.org/10.6087/kcse.331>
4. **Trinh, T. M.** (2023): [Review of the book *A new moral vision: gender, religion, and the changing purposes of American higher education, 1837–1917*, by Andrea L. Turpin]. *Paedagogica Historica*, <https://doi.org/10.1080/00309230.2023.2218806>
5. Duong, A. C., Nguyen, H. N., Tran, A., **Trinh, T. M.** (2023): An investigation into teachers' occupational well-being and education leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic, *Frontiers in Education*, 8. <https://doi.org/10.3389/educ.2023.1112577>
6. Delaney, J.A., **Trinh, T. M.**, Odle, T.K. (2023): Direct Admissions – Policy and Principles. *College & University Journal*, 98(3), 75-80. <https://www.proquest.com/scholarly-journals/direct-admissions-policies-principles/docview/2864310621/se-2?accountid=14553>
7. **Trinh, T. M.** (2023): [Review of the book *Black Power on Campus: The University of Illinois, 1965-75*]. *Journal of American Ethnic History*, 42(4), 131-132.  
<https://doi.org/10.5406/19364695.42.4.13>
8. Le, T. T., Nguyen, T. L., **Trinh, T.M.**, Le, V. T., & Pham, H.-H. (2021). Investigating Vietnamese undergraduate students' willingness to pay for higher education under the cost-sharing context. *Policy Futures in Education*, 20(1), 19-43.  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/14782103211011898>
9. Le, T. T., Nguyen, T. L., **Trinh, T.M.**; Nguyen, M. H. ; Nguyen, M. P., & Pham, H.-H.(2021). Adopting the Hirschman–Herfindahl Index to Estimate the Financial Sustainability of Vietnamese Public Universities. *Humanities and Social Sciences Communications*, 8(1), 1-10  
<https://doi.org/10.1057/s41599-021-00927-2>

### Under Peer-Review Articles

1. Tran, V., Pham, O., Pham, H.-H., **Trinh, T.M.**, Nguyen, T.T.H., Dinh, H. (2025): Funding or Autonomy: Assessing Efficiency in Vietnamese Higher Education Using Two-Stage DEA Approach
2. **Trinh, T.M.**, Cao, P., Dang, C., Nguyen, C., Le, T-T.K., Tran, T. (2025): Decoding Signals: The Role of Institutional Tiers in Shaping College Choices
3. **Trinh, T.M.**, Kim, H., Hwang, J. (2024): Sustaining Financial Resilience: Exploring Income Diversification in South Korean Private Universities
4. **Trinh, T.M.**, Nguyen, M.L. (2023): Promoting Quality and Accessibility of Higher Education in Vietnam: A Case for Income Contingent Loan Programs.

### Op-Ed Articles

1. **Trinh, T.M.** (2025): Income share agreements: A game-changer for student finance? *University Word News*, <https://www.universityworldnews.com/post.php?story=20250325090340246>
2. **Trinh, T.M.**, Le, T-T.K., Le, K-M, A., Nguyen, C., Tran, T. (2025): Bước ngoặt đại học: Những yếu tố quyết định tương lai của học sinh phổ thông [College Turning Point: Factors That Determine High School Students' Futures], *Journal of Science and Development*, <https://bit.ly/41YmyHP>
3. **Trinh, T.M.** (2025): Thỏa thuận chia sẻ thu nhập: Một mô hình tài chính giáo dục đại học linh hoạt. Kỳ 2: Lý thuyết và thực tiễn [Income Share Agreement: A Flexible Financial Model for Higher Education, Part 3: Opportunities for the ISA Model in Vietnam], *Journal of Science and Development*, <https://bit.ly/4khrIFG>
4. **Trinh, T.M.** (2025): Thỏa thuận chia sẻ thu nhập: Một mô hình tài chính giáo dục đại học linh hoạt. Kỳ 2: Lý thuyết và thực tiễn [Income Share Agreement: A Flexible Financial Model for Higher Education, Part 2: Theory and Practice], *Journal of Science and Development*, <https://bit.ly/4biizsH>
5. **Trinh, T.M.** (2025): Thỏa thuận chia sẻ thu nhập: Một mô hình tài chính giáo dục đại học linh hoạt (Kỳ 1) [Income Share Agreement: A Flexible Financial Model for Higher Education (Part 1)], *Journal of Science and Development*, <https://bit.ly/43hyOEp>
6. **Trinh, T.M.** (2023): Loại bỏ yếu tố sắc tộc trong tuyển sinh đại học Mỹ: Tác động tới du học sinh Việt Nam [The end of Affirmative Action – Impacts on Vietnamese students], *Journal of Science and Development*, <https://bit.ly/3sJ8SRS>
7. **Trinh, T.M.** (2023): Tăng học phí đại học: Cần các biện pháp đi kèm [Increasing university tuition fees: Needing accompanying measures], *Journal of Science and Development*, <https://bit.ly/3LaIPt4>
8. **Trinh, T.M.** (2023): Tuition fees: Finding a balance between quality and access. *University Word News*. <https://www.universityworldnews.com/post.php?story=20230117141832985>
9. **Trinh, T.M.** (2023): Chương trình tín dụng sinh viên: Cần có cách làm sáng tạo hơn [Student Loan programs: A more creative implementation is needed], *Journal of Science and Development*, <https://bit.ly/3RzAyAG>
10. **Trinh, T.M.** (2022): Income Contingent Loan: Practice in some countries [Tín dụng sinh viên dựa trên thu nhập: Thực tế triển khai ở một số nước]. *Journal of Science and Development*, <http://bit.ly/3RAgqhU>
11. **Trinh, T.M.** (2022): Income Contingent Loan: Solution for the tuitionfee and access in higher education [Tín dụng sinh viên dựa trên thu nhập: Giải pháp cho bài toán học phí và cơ hội tiếp cận giáo dục]. *Journal of Science and Development*, <http://bit.ly/3X9oRSH>
12. **Trinh, T.M.** (2021): Free college education and overlooked resources [Miễn phí giáo dục đại học và những nguồn lực bị bỏ qua]. *Journal of Science and Development*, <http://bit.ly/3HIHl6G>

13. **Trinh, T.M.**, Nguyen, A.V. (2021): Why do entrepreneurs choose universities to sponsor? [Vì sao doanh nhân chọn trường đại học để tài trợ]. *Journal of Science and Development*, <http://bit.ly/3RzBDIK>
14. **Trinh, T.M.** (2021): The dual goals of Vietnamese higher education: Paradoxes and difficulties [Mục tiêu kép của giáo dục đại học Việt Nam: Những nghịch lý và khó khăn]. *Journal of Science and Development*, <http://bit.ly/3wWpcgT>

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

1. **Trinh, T.M.**, Le, T-T.K., (2025): Future-Oriented Stress and Coping: Experiences of Vietnamese International Students in Canada [Poster Presentation], *American Educational Research Association (AERA) Conference*, Denver, CO
2. **Trinh, T.M.**, Kim, H., Hwang, J. (2025): Sustaining Financial Resilience: Exploring Income Diversification in South Korean Private Universities [Paper Presentation], *Comparative and International Education Society (CIES) Conference*, Chicago, IL.
3. **Trinh, T.M.**, Kim, H., Hwang, J. (2025): Sustaining Financial Resilience: Exploring Income Diversification in South Korean Private Universities [Poster Presentation], *Association for Education Finance and Policy (AEFP) Conference*, Washington, D.C.
4. **Trinh, T.M.**, Cao, P., Dang, C.N., Nguyen, C., Le, T-T.K., Tran, T. (2024): Decoding Signals: The Role of Institutional Tiers in Shaping Higher Education Choices [Paper Presentation], *Association for the Study of Higher Education (AHSE) Conference*, Minneapolis, MN.
5. **Trinh, T.M.**, Le, T-T.K., Nguyen, C., Le, K-M, A., Tran, T. (2024): Shaping College Readiness: Factors Influencing Vietnamese High School Students' Transition to Higher Education [Paper Presentation], *American Educational Research Association (AERA) Conference*, Philadelphia, PA
6. **Trinh, T.M.**, Kim, H., Hwang, J. (2024): Sustaining Financial Resilience: Exploring Income Diversification in South Korean Private Universities [Paper Presentation], *14th Annual National Education Finance Academy (NEFA) Conference*, Charlotte, NC
7. **Trinh, T.M.**, Cao, Y. (2024): Beyond Borders: The Evolution of Transnational Higher Education in China and Vietnam [Paper Presentation], *15th College of Education Graduate Student Conference*, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign
8. Castro, N., McDowell, J., **Trinh, T.M.**, Varner, A. (2024): Exploring Technology Readiness in Academia [Paper Presentation], *15th College of Education Graduate Student Conference*, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign
9. **Trinh, T.M.**, Hiep-Hung Pham (2023): The Financial Health of Higher Education Institutions: Unveiling the hidden factors [Paper presentation], *48th Annual Association for the Study of Higher Education (AHSE) Conference*, Minneapolis, MN.
10. Le, T. T., Nguyen, T. L., **Trinh, T. M.**, Le, V. T., & Pham, H.-H, (2019): The willingness and ability to pay tuition fees of undergraduate students in Vietnam public universities [Paper

Presentation]. *Financial policies for higher education development in the period 2021-2030: Theoretical issues and experience for Vietnam, Vietnam National University*

11. **Trinh, T. M.**, Nguyen, V.A., (2018): Belt and Road Initiative - Opportunities, Threats and Solutions for Vietnam [Paper Presentation]. *Undergraduate student conference - Banking Academy of Vietnam*

12. **Trinh, T. M.**, (2017): Integration of ASEAN Economic Community - Perspectives from Singapore logistics and logistic development of transportation business in Vietnam [Paper Presentation]. *Undergraduate student conference - Banking Academy of Vietnam*, <https://osf.io/pf7xq/>

## **RESEARCH AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **Graduate Student Researcher**

**01/2024 - Present**

*Berkeley School of Education, University of California, Berkeley*

- Collaborate on a research project focused on student loans and college admissions.
- Responsible for data collection, cleaning, merging, and conducting statistical analysis.
- Draft manuscripts for publication and supporting academic dissemination.
- Process the Institutional Review Board (IRB) application and compliance process.

### **Graduate Student Instructor**

**08/2024 - Present**

*Berkeley School of Education, University of California, Berkeley*

*Course: From Macro to Micro: Experiencing Education (In)Equality in and Beyond Schools*

- Led weekly discussion sections, fostering critical analysis and dialogue among students.
- Evaluate student papers and projects, providing constructive feedback to support academic growth.
- Offer individual and group tutoring to enhance student learning experiences.
- Proctor exams and maintained accurate student records.
- Apply expertise in education policy and finance while developing teaching and mentorship skills.

### **Research Fellow**

**05/2024 - 09/2024**

*Office of Illinois State Senator 51<sup>st</sup> District Chapin Rose*

- Conduct comprehensive research on higher education funding and governance models in Illinois.
- Collaborate with Senator Chapin Rose to develop innovative strategies to reduce administrative barriers and enhance efficiency in higher educational institutions.
- Analyze data and policy frameworks to provide evidence-based recommendations.

### **Graduate Student Assistant**

**08/2023 - 08/2024**

*Proposal Development Office, National Center for Supercomputing Applications, UIUC*

- Led a benchmarking project to enhance familiarity with ORCID and SciENcv.

- Initiated the creation of a searchable reference document for NCSA researchers, aiding in NSF proposal alignment.
- Assisted in database development for tagging research interests and methodologies, supporting NSF grant applications.
- Supported researchers in building ORCID profiles and using SciENcv effectively for NSF grant submissions.
- Actively participated in PDO and NCSA staff meetings, networking events, and mentoring sessions.
- Contributed to developing educational resources, including mentorship programs, to foster grant success.

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**

**08/2023 – 08/2024**

*Global Perspectives Course, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, UIUC*

- Facilitated engaging section discussions to encourage critical reflection among students participating in semester-length Study Abroad Programs.
- Conducted weekly meetings to provide guidance, address questions, and foster an inclusive learning environment.
- Responsibly graded and provided feedback on students' reflective assignments, ensuring academic growth and development.
- Actively participated in an introductory training program to enhance instructional effectiveness and course delivery.
- Collaborated in an asynchronous and online course setting, demonstrating strong interpersonal and organizational skills and the ability to work independently.
- Supported international and domestic MA and PhD students in narrating their own stories, exploring identities, and connecting their experiences to academic, personal, and professional growth.

**Graduate Research Assistant**

**08/2022 – 08/2024**

*Forum on the Future of Public Education, UIUC*

- Performed literature review and quantitative research
- Performed data collection and analysis
- Collaborated with faculty in preparing publications

**Researcher**

**09/2019 – 08/2022**

*Center for Research and Practice on Education, Phu Xuan University*

- Performed quantitative research and completed five research projects for up to 20,000 USD.
- Performed data analysis and visualization, drafted and revised scientific manuscripts.

**Research Assistant**

**06/2019 – 12/2019**

*Vietnam Institute for Economic and Policy Research (VEPR)*

- Collected data for the research project in industrial zones in Vietnam.
- Executed research studies using both quantitative and qualitative approaches, implementing econometric models using SPSS and R toolkit.

### **Student Research Projects**

- *"Impact of FDI on economic growth in Hanoi"* (2018).
- *"Impact of Corporate social responsibility in Banking Sector to customers' behavior"* (2017).

### **INVITED ACADEMIC SERVICES AND MEMBERSHIP**

- Editorial Board (North America and Southeast Asia regions), *Journal of Comparative & International Higher Education*
- Rising Scholars Editorial Board, *Journal of Student Financial Aid*
- New Professional and Graduate Student Editorial Board, *Journal of Student Affairs Research and Practice*
- Chaired the sessions:
  - Institutional Approaches to Cost Management: Tuition and Financial Aid Policy - Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE) 2024 Conference
  - Policy Futures for K-12 and Higher Education: Advancing Policy and Broadening Participation – American Educational Research Association (AERA) 2024 Conference
  - Navigating College Stressors: Food Insecurity, Finances, and Well-Being - American Educational Research Association (AERA) 2024 Conference
  - Considering International Mobility: Potentialities and Problematics' at the Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE) 2023 Conference.
- Member of Certified STAR Scholars Program
- Reviewer: For the latest updates, see [Web of Science](#) | [ORCID ID](#)

Peer review done for *Journal of Applied Research in Higher Education, Humanities and Social Sciences Communications, Policy Futures in Education, Evaluation Review, Education Policy Analysis Archives, Journal of Student Financial Aid, Journal of Student Affairs Research and Practice, Journal of International Students, European Journal of Education, Journal of Comparative & International Higher Education, Journal of International and Comparative Education, Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies in Education, Journal of Asian Business and Economic Studies, Asian Journal of Business Research, Comparative and International Education Society Conference, American Educational Research Association (AERA) Conference, Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE) Conference.*

### **FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS**

- Berkeley Fellowship **2024-2029**
- Policy & Research Legislative **2024**
- Illinois International Graduate Achievement Award **2024**
- AERA Graduate Student Travel Award **2024**

- AERA Division J Travel Grant 2024
- Career Exploration Fellowship 2023
- Edwin J. O'Leary Fellowship 2023
- Edwin J. O'Leary Fellowship 2022
- SBS Deans' Excellence Scholarship, University of Strathclyde 2021
- Certificate of Merits for Valedictorian Mayor of Hai Phong 2019
- Chancellor's Commendation, Banking Academy of Vietnam 2019
- The State Bank of Vietnam Scholarship 2018
- Full-Ride scholarship, Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom 2018
- First Prize in Student Research Competition (University level) 2018
- First Prize in Student Research Competition (University level) 2017

## OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

### **Graduate Student Advisory Committee** 10/2020 – 08/2024

*Education Policy, Organization and Leadership Department, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign*

One of 10 students elected to assist the department head, associate head, co-directors of graduate studies, and the faculty advisory committee to make informed decisions about how departmental policies and practices affect graduate student experiences)

### **Delegate** 01/2019 – 02/2019

*WFUNA International Model United Nations Conference, United States.*

One of 200 delegates selected - Delegate of Colombia in the Commission on Population and Development with the topic "Changing Population Demographics and Sustainable Development".

### **Guest Speaker** 10/2018

*Les Entretiens de l'Excellence au Vietnam, Vietnam*

Acted as a speaker to share experiences and inspire 200 high school students in Hanoi.

### **President** 09/2017 – 09/2018

*International Business Club - Banking Academy of Vietnam, Vietnam*

Led teams of 50 members, made plans, and organized all the activities and events, especially the "Beyond The Case" Competition - the first competition for students interested in International Business in Hanoi that attracted 500 participants.

## STATISTICAL /ANALYTIC SOFTWARE

R, SPSS, STATA, EXCEL VBA, SIMUL8

*Updated in April 2025*