

Title: “Modelling influences of external factors on agricultural productivity: implications for Australian farms in a region with variable climate ”

Speaker: **Dr. Nazrul Islam**

Professor, Department of Economics

Date: September 17, 2020. 1:00 pm -2:00 pm



Profile of the speaker:

Professor Nazrul Islam is a Visiting Professor from The University of Western Australia. His primary research focus is on food security and sustainability assessment; productivity and efficiency measurements; measuring supply chain and value chain competitiveness; R&D impact analysis; and setting strategic priorities for resource allocation. He has worked in various senior research and academic positions in several government, non-government, academic and international organisations in several countries. He has extensively written and published research papers in high ranking scientific journals, published books, book chapters, research monographs, policy reports, discussion papers, and many extension/dissemination publications. He has received several highly competitive research grants from Australian Research Council (ARC) and National Climate Change and Adaptation Research Facility (NCCARF), Australian Wool Innovations (AWI) and from other private and philanthropic R&D organisations. Prof Nazrul Islam was a Panel Member of the Australian National Experts for Agricultural Productivity Measurement.

Abstract:

We modified the stochastic frontier (SF) modelling approaches developed by Mastromarco and Zago (2012) to take account of the influence of external factors (such as environmental variables) on total factor productivity (TFP) growth of 250 broadacre farms in south-west region of Western Australia with 10 year panel data. Using the parameter estimates of the modified SF model we followed O'Donnell (2014) to decompose and investigate the factors influencing the TFP growth. The results reveal insights about the dynamic contribution of efficiency change components, as opposed to the environmental change components, on TFP.

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