Dietrich E. Vollrath

Houston, TX 77204-5019

Department of Economics E-mail: devollrath@uh.edu

University of Houston

220B Science Building

Web: http://www.growthecon.com
Office: 713-743-3806

Office: 713-743-3806 Fax: 713-743-3798

PROFESSIONAL Chair, Dept. of Economics, University of Houston, 2019-present

Affiliations Professor, University of Houston, 2017-present

Associate Professor, University of Houston, 2011-2017 Assistant Professor, University of Houston, 2005-2011

Visiting Professor, Dartmouth College, (Summers) 2011-2019

EDUCATION Brown University, Ph.D., Economics, 2005

Brown University, M.A., Economics, 2004

University of Michigan, B.A., Economics, 1994

BOOKS **D. Vollrath**, Fully Grown: Why a Stagnant Economy is a Sign of Success, University of Chicago Press, 2020.

C. I. Jones and **D. Vollrath**, *Introduction to Economic Growth*, W.W. Norton and Co., New York, NY.

- 4th edition, 2023.
- 3rd edition, 2013.

Working Papers

Fiszbein, M., Y. Jung, **D. Vollrath**, "Agrarian origins of individualism and collectivism," NBER working paper W29643, 2022.

Publications

- **D. Vollrath**, "The elasticity of aggregate output with respect to capital and labor," *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics*, forthcoming.
- T. R. Johnson, **D. Vollrath.** "The role of land in temperate and tropical agriculture," *Economica*, 87(348):901-937, 2020.
- R. Jedwab, **D. Vollrath.** "The urban mortality transition and poor country urbanization," *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics*, 11(1):223-75, 2019.
- M. Eberhardt, **D. Vollrath.** "The effect of agricultural technology on the speed of development," World Development, 109:483-496, 2018.
- D. Gollin, R. Jedwab, **D. Vollrath.** "Urbanization with and without industrialization," *Journal of Economic Growth*, 21(1):35-70, 2016.
- R. Jedwab, **D. Vollrath.** "Urbanization without growth in historical perspective," *Explorations in Economic History*, 58(C):1-21, 2015.
- S. G. Craig, E. C. Hoang, **D. Vollrath.** "Household response to government debt: Evidence from life insurance holdings," *Journal of Money, Credit and Banking*, 47(5):819-845, 2015.

- **D.** Vollrath. "The efficiency of human capital allocations in developing countries," Journal of Development Economics, 108:106-118, 2014.
- I. Hoxha, S. Kalemli-Ozcan, D. Vollrath. "How big are the gains from international financial integration?" Journal of Development Economics, 103(C):90-98, 2013.
- D. Vollrath. "Measuring aggregate agricultural labor effort in dual economies," Eurasian Economic Review, 3(1):39-58, June 2013.
- **D. Vollrath.** "Inequality and school funding in the rural united states, 1890," Explorations in Economic History, 50(2):267-284, 2013.
- **D.** Vollrath. "Land tenure, population, and long-run growth," Journal of Population Economics, 25(3):833-852, July 2012.
- **D. Vollrath.** "The agricultural basis of comparative development," Journal of Economic Growth, 16:343-370, 2011.
- **D.** Vollrath. "The dual economy in long-run development," Journal of Economic $Growth,\ 14(4):287-312,\ 2009.$
- **D.** Vollrath. "How important are dual economy effects for aggregate productivity?" Journal of Development Economics, 88(2):325-334, 2009.
- O. Galor, O. Moay, **D. Vollrath.** "Inequality in landownership, the emergence of humancapital promoting institutions, and the great divergence," Review of Economic Studies, 76(1):143-179, 2009.
- **D. Vollrath.** "Land distribution and international agricultural productivity," American Journal of Agricultural Economics, 89(1):202-216, 2007.

BOOK CHAPTERS A. Adeyinka, S. Salau, D. Vollrath. "Structural change and the possibilities for future growth in Nigeria," In M. McMillan, D. Rodrik, C. Sepulveda, editors, Structural Change, Fundamentals, and Growth: A Framework and Case Studies. IFPRI, 2017.

POPULAR PRESS

Growth Economics Blog, 2013-present

The Grandchildren of Keynes, Interneconomics, 2023, 58(6):347-348.

Why isn't the whole world rich?, Asterisk Magazine, Dec. 2022.

Economic growth is stagnating, but there's more to the story, Pairagraph, Nov. 2020.

Why a new wave of economists are championing slow growth, On Point (NPR), Feb. 2020.

The tech revolution hasn't revolutionized economic growth. The Hill, Jul. 2018.

Slumping productivity: We're victims of our own success. The Hill, Jun. 2017.

Evolving research on growth and development. Development Policy Review, 34(6), 907-910, Nov. 2016.

There's no limit to Google's market power. New York Times Room for Debate, April 28th, 2016.

A brief history of economic growth. Perspectives, King's College London, Fall 2015.

SERVICE ACTIVITIES

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences strategic planning committee, 2022–2023

Associate Graduate Director, Department of Economics, 2014–2019

Graduate admissions director, Department of Economics, 2013–2019

Macroeconomic Hiring Committee, Department of Economics, 2007, 2013, 2014, 2016, 2019

Executive Committee, Department of Economics, 2012–2014, 2015–2017

Dissertation Fellowship Committee, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, 2012

Ross Lence Teaching Award Selection Committee, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, 2013, 2015, 2016

Professional Activities

Co-Editor, Economic Inquiry, 2015-present

Associate Editor, Journal of Development Economics, 2015-present

Associate Editor, Economic Inquiry, 2009–2012

Member, American Economic Association

Referee, American Economic Review, Journal of Political Economy, American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics, Economic Journal, Journal of Economic Growth, Review of Economics and Statistics, Review of Economic Studies, Journal of Development Economics, Macroeconomic Dynamics, Review of Development Economics, American Journal of Agricultural Economics, Agricultural Economics, Economica, Resource and Energy Economics, Journal of Public Economics, Review of Economic Dynamics, Scandinavian Journal of Economics, Canadian Journal of Economics, Economic Inquiry, Journal of the European Economic Association, World Bank Economic Review, World Development, European Economic Review, Oxford Economic Papers

Advising

Dissertation Advisor: Mike Hsu (2016, Hamilton College), Nadya Abramava (2016, Hanover Research), Edson Sobrinho (2015, Office of the Presidency of Brazil), Mahboobeh Asghari (2015, Winona State), Doruk Ilgaz (2013, FactSet), Elisabetta Gentile (2012, National University Singapore)

Dissertation Committee: Mehedi Hasan Oni (2024), Yewande Olapade (2019), Celine Boulenger (2017), Subash Khatry (2017), Amrita Dhar (2016), Volodymyr Korsun (2015), Wen Long (2015), Jarrod Hunt (2014), Emiliano Luttini (2014), Sine Tepe (2014), Lena Ogrokhina (2013), Gokcen Ogruk (2013), Shreyasee Das (2012), Teodora Stoica (2012), Edward Hoang (2010), Amelie Carlton (2010), Roberto Coronado (2010), Indrit Hoxha (2009), Sreenath Majumder (2009), Parul Mathur (2009), Cahit Guven (2008), Mayank Guatam (2007), Levent Bulut (2007)

Undergraduate Thesis: Sean Soares (2013), Monalisa Chandra (2008), Shreyasee Das (2007)

Teaching

Intermediate Macroeconomics (Undergraduate, UH), 2005–2012

Econometrics (Undergraduate, Dartmouth), 2011–2019

Economic Growth (Undergraduate, UH), 2014–2024

American Economic Growth (Undergraduate, UH), 2022

Macroeconomics I (Graduate, UH), 2006, 2007, 2009–2015, 2017–2019

Growth and Development (Graduate, UH), 2007, 2008, 2011–2019, 2023

3rd Year Research Workshop (Graduate, UH), 2014-2018

HONORS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

Smith Richardson Foundation, PI, "The Contingent Economy", \$111,000, 2023

Economist Books of the Year (for Fully Grown), 2020

Winner, Ross Lence Teaching Award, 2010

Finalist, Provost Teaching Award, 2010

Finalist, Ross Lence Teaching Award, 2009

University of Houston New Faculty Grant, 2006

Dissertation Fellowship, Brown University, 2004-2005

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development Fellowship, 2002-2004

Invited Presentations

2023: World Bank, Technology Enabled Disruption Conference (Richmond Fed), Verein

f. Socialpolitik keynote (Regensburg) 2022: Colorado State

2021: Iowa State, Clark

2020: UNC-Asheville, Southern Methodist U., Texas Tech

2019: Sewanee (Georgescu-Roegen Lecture)

2018: Dalhouise University, York University, Southern Economic Association

2017: Deep-rooted Factors in Comparative Development (Brown), Texas A&M Ag Econ, George Washington University

2016: McGill University, CESIfo (Munich), DEGIT (U. of Nottingham)

2015: George Mason University, Clemson, LSU, Southern Economic Association

2014: Historical Persistence in Comparative Development (Williams College)

2013: NBER Growth Meeting (San Francisco), World Bank Agriculture and Poverty workshop

2012: South Florida University, World Bank Structural Change Conference, University of Oklahoma, Southern Economic Association Meetings

2011: Texas A&M University, Indiana University, Williams College, NBER Growth Meeting (discussant)

2010: NBER Growth Meeting (San Francisco), Center for Study of African Economies Conference (Oxford), World Bank Land Conference, CEPR Workshop on Sustained Economic Growth (Barcelona)

2009: Northeast University Development Conference (NEUDC), University of Michigan

2008: IEFS Winter Meetings, Southern Economic Association Meetings, University of Copenhagen

2007: NBER IFM Summer Meeting, NBER EFG Summer Meeting, Baylor University

2006: Rice University

 $2005:\ University\ of\ Chicago\ Graduate\ School\ of\ Business,\ Clemson\ University,\ University$

of Houston, Hunter College (CUNY), United States Naval Academy

2004: Northeast University Development Conference (NEUDC), International Monetary

Fund, Brown University

WORK Andersen Consulting, 1995-1997

EXPERIENCE PriceWaterhouseCoopers Consulting, 1997-1999

Independent computer systems contractor, 1999-2000

Personal Married, two children

Citizenship: US

Languages: English (native), German (surprisingly poor)