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**“Development Traps and
Escaping Development Traps”**

Thursday, April 14, 2016 | Panel Presentation | 2 p.m.

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About the Panelist

Daniel Yoo is a graduate student in the Department of Political Science at the University of Washington. He specializes in the political economy of finance, with research interests in the politics of financial regulation and state-owned banking. He is also actively involved in several projects with the World Bank. His work has been published in *World Politics*, and he obtained his Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Toronto and Master of Arts from the University of Chicago.

About the Panel

What explains political and economic underdevelopment—and how countries either become ensnared in development traps or have managed to escape them? This Panel investigates several possibilities. In terms of entering development traps, one possibility is that weak states with low capacity turn to crony capitalism, financial repression, policies with a sharp urban bias, and the plundering of their natural resource sectors to generate quick and easy revenues when they cannot count on a diversified and vibrant economy because they lack the rule of law and professional and competent tax bureaucracies. We also explore if underdevelopment is a byproduct of political failures, and most specifically political capture by the rich and special interests. Finally, we outline an explanation about how to improve development outcomes through political incumbents’ strategic reform of the bureaucracy and the adoption of measures that improve transparency.



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