

## Citation for Professor Markus Brueckner for the ESA Young Economists' Award: 2019

Professor Markus Brueckner is an outstanding, indeed extraordinary, young economics researcher employed at the ANU. His fields are Macroeconomics, International Economics, Economic Development, and Growth and Political Economy. We believe that his research and publication accomplishments in these areas are exemplary and very much worthy of the ESA YEA. It is unimaginable that any other YEA nominee could come close to matching his record.

The quality and number of journal publications is the key to an understanding of the excellence of all economists, and for this we refer to the most authoritative and comprehensive record, REPEC. REPEC includes over 56,000 economists in the world and records the number of publications and, critically, gives a large weight to citations in its overall assessment of research performance. Professor Brueckner's data are astonishing, not just for a young economist, but in comparison to all the world's best researchers. He is currently ranked:

- (i) In the top 5 (not per cent, the top 5) of the 2010 PhD cohort internationally;
- (ii) In the top 4 per cent internationally of all REPEC economists; and
- (iii) In the top 2 per cent in Australia.

Professor Brueckner's publication record, less than 10 years after being awarded his PhD, would be of great envy for all of us in Australian universities, irrespective of age:

- (i) More than 30 international journal publications; and
- (ii) A majority of publications in the very best journals in the world, including *Econometrica*, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, *International Economic Review*, *Economic Journal* (5 times), *Journal of Economic Growth* (3 times), *Journal of International Economics* (3 times), *Journal of Development Economics* (3 times), *Journal of Public Economics* and *Journal of Urban Economics*

There are three other aspects of Professor Brueckner's contribution which have encouraged us in this nomination. First, his work – like the focus of the best economists – is always big picture, and not with uninteresting technical contributions. He has chosen some of the major issues of our time: the effectiveness of fiscal policy during times of financial crisis; the economic determinants of civil war; and economic issues related to democratic transitions. Second, his research has attracted the attention and citation of some of the world's top economists, in the very best journals. Third, he has made a significant impact on policy through numerous projects with the World Bank, covering diverse topics across the globe, including Latin America, the Middle East, the Russian Federation, East Africa, South-East Asia and the Pacific.

Professor Brueckner's contributions are uniquely impressive. The YEA for him will provide important testimony of the remarkable potential there is for scholarship for all of us.