

**THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT & MARKETING**

**DEPARTMENTAL RESEARCH SEMINAR**

**"Promise and peril on the road to employment:  
A diary study on job search and stress"**

**By**

**Dr Zhaoli Song  
National University of Singapore**

**Date: Wednesday, 06 Jun 2007**

**Time: 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**

**Venue: M1502**

**All interested are welcome**

# **Promise and peril on the road to employment: A diary study on job search and stress**

## **ABSTRACT**

Dr Zhaoli Song

National University of Singapore

This study examined the relationship between job search and stress using the daily diary method. Three models were tested using 100 unemployed job seekers: a direct causal model (examining the effect of job search on stress), a reversed causal model (assessing the impact of stress on job search), and a common factor model (testing the extent to which daily financial strain accounts for the relationship between job search and stress). Results offered support for both direct and reversed models. The common factor model was not supported. Negative job search experience mediated the direct effect of job search on stress. Using a repeated measures design, the study provides important information about the dynamic relationship between job search and stress.