



Program Evaluation, Human Capital, and Labor Market Public Policy: A Research Conference in Honor of Mark C. Berger

**October 7–8, 2004
Lexington, KY**

Sponsors:

**The W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research
University of Kentucky Center for Poverty Research (UKCPR)
University of Kentucky Center for Business and Economic Research (CBER)
University of Kentucky Department of Economics
University of Kentucky Gatton College of Business and Economics
University of Kentucky Office of the Executive Vice President for Research**

Thursday October 7, 2004

8:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast
8:30 a.m. Welcome and Opening Comments, Jim Ziliak & Frank Scott

Personnel Economics

8:45 a.m. **John Barron**, Purdue University; **Dan Black**, Syracuse University ; and **Mark Berger**, “Counteroffers: When Will They Occur?”
Discussant: John Garen, University of Kentucky

9:45 a.m. **Donald Parsons**, George Washington University, “Nonperformance of Employment Contracts: The Case of Severance Pay.”
Discussant: John Barron, Purdue University

10:45 a.m. Break

11:00 a.m. **Stephen Woodbury**, Michigan State University, “Layoffs and Experience Rating of the Unemployment Insurance Payroll Tax: Dynamic Panel Estimates from Employer Data.”
Discussant: Bruce Meyer, University of Chicago

12:00 p.m. Lunch

Human Capital I

- 1:15 p.m. **James Heckman, Jora Stixrud, and Sergio Urzua** University of Chicago, “The Effects of Cognitive and Non-Cognitive Skills on Labor and Behavioral Outcomes.”
Discussant: Tom Kniesner, Syracuse University
- 2:15 p.m. **Donald Kenkel, Dean Lillard, and Alan Mathios**, Cornell University, “Schooling and Health: The Role of Smoking Cessation.”
Discussant: Glenn Blomquist, University of Kentucky
- 3:15 p.m. Break
- 3:30 p.m. **Barry Hirsch**, Trinity University and **Chris Bollinger**, University of Kentucky, “Match Bias Due to Earnings Imputation: When Does It Matter?”
Discussant: JS Butler, University of Kentucky
- 4:30 p.m. **V. Joseph Hotz**, UCLA and **Marigee Bacolod**, University of California, Irvine, “Did the Returns to the Early School and Work Experiences of Young Adults Change over the Last 40 Years?”
Discussant: Seth Sanders, University of Maryland
- 5:30 p.m. Adjourn
- 6:30 p.m. Reception and Dinner (Invitation Only)

Friday October 8, 2004

- 8:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast

Low-Income Populations

- 8:45 a.m. **Amitabh Chandra** and **Katherine Baicker**, Dartmouth College, “The Labor Market Effects of Rising Health Insurance Premiums: Evidence from the Medical Malpractice Crisis.”
Discussant: Aaron Yelowitz, University of Kentucky
- 9:45 a.m. **James P. Ziliak**, University of Kentucky, “Relative Prices and Substitution Across Wage, Welfare, and Disability Income.”
Discussant: Steven Haider, Michigan State University
- 10:45 a.m. Break

11:00 a.m. **Kenneth Troske**, University of Missouri-Columbia; **Andrew Dyke**, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; **Carolyn Heinrich**, University of Wisconsin; and **Peter Mueser**, University of Missouri-Columbia, “The Effect of Welfare-to-Work Program Activities on Labor Market Outcomes.”
Discussant: Randy Eberts, W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research

12:00 p.m. Lunch

Human Capital 2

1:00p.m. **Jeffrey Smith**, University of Maryland; **Dan Black**, Syracuse University; and **Kermit Daniel**, The Monitor Group, “College Quality and the Earnings of Young Men.”
Discussant: Derek Neal, University of Chicago

2:00p.m. **Joshua Angrist**, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and **Jonathan Guryan**, University of Chicago, “Does Teacher Testing Raise Teacher Quality? Evidence from State Certification Requirements.”
Discussant: Douglas Staiger, Dartmouth College

3:00p.m. Adjourn