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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Assistant Professor, Harris Graduate School of Public Policy Studies, The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL. (July 2004 – present)

Member, University Committee on Education

Faculty Affiliate, Center for Human Potential and Public Policy

Faculty Affiliate, National Opinion Research Center's (NORC) Population Research Center

Faculty Research Fellow, National Bureau of Economic Research, April 2009 – present.

Visiting Scholar, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, July 2005 – present.

Scholar in Health Policy Research, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, University of California-Berkeley, August 2002 – July 2004.

EDUCATION

Princeton University

Ph.D., Economics, November 2002

Dissertation: "Experimental Evaluations of Public Policy"

M.A., Economics, November 1999

Fields: Labor, Development, and Econometrics

Wellesley College

A.B., *magna cum laude*, Economics and Religion, June 1995

JOURNAL ARTICLES

"Inside the War on Poverty: The Impact of the Food Stamp Program on Infant Outcomes," with Douglas Almond and Hilary Hoynes. Accepted subject to minor revisions, *Review of Economics and Statistics*.

"Consumption Responses to In-Kind Transfers: Evidence from the Introduction of the Food Stamp Program," with Hilary Hoynes. Forthcoming, *American Economic Journal – Applied Economics*.

"Left Behind by Design: Proficiency Counts and Test-Based Accountability" with Derek Neal. Forthcoming, *Review of Economics and Statistics*.

"Time Use and Food Consumption," with Marianne Bertrand. *American Economic Review: Papers & Proceedings* May 2009 99(2):170-176.

"The Impact of Children's Health Insurance Expansions on Educational Outcomes," with Phillip B. Levine. *Forum for Health Economics & Policy* 12(1): Article 1. 2009.

"Selection Bias in College Admissions Test Scores," with Melissa Clark and Jesse Rothstein. *Economics of Education Review*, 28(2009): 295-307.

"Do School Lunches Contribute to Childhood Obesity?" *Journal of Human Resources*, 44(3): 684-709.

"The Economic Costs of Childhood Poverty in the United States," with Harry Holzer, Greg Duncan and Jens Ludwig, *Journal of Children and Poverty*, 14(1): 41-51, March 2008.

“Resource and Peer Impacts on Girls’ Academic Achievement: Evidence from a Randomized Experiment,” *American Economic Review: Papers & Proceedings*, May 2005 95(2): 199-203.

“The Effect of Attending a Small Class in the Early Grades on College-Test Taking and Middle School Test Results: Evidence from Project STAR,” with Alan B. Krueger, *Economic Journal*, 111(468): 1-28. January 2001.

“The Impact of Welfare Reform on the AFDC Caseload,” with Phillip B. Levine, *National Tax Association Proceedings – 1997*. Washington, DC: National Tax Association, pp. 24–33.

REVISE AND RESUBMIT

“What Are Food Stamps Worth?” Princeton University Industrial Relations Section Working Paper #468. Revise and resubmit, *American Economic Journal – Economic Policy*.

BOOK CHAPTERS

“The Economics of Class Size,” forthcoming in the *Economics of Education*, Patrick McEwan and Dominick Brewer (eds), in *International Encyclopedia of Education*, Barry McGaw, Penelope Peterson, Eva Barker (eds). Amsterdam: Elsevier.

“Child Disadvantage and Obesity: Is Nurture Trumping Nature?” with Patricia Anderson and Kristin Butcher, in ed. Jonathan Gruber, *An Economics Perspective on the Problems of Disadvantaged Youth*, NBER conference volume.

“What Have Researchers Learned from Project STAR?” *Brookings Papers on Education Policy*, 2007.

“Would Smaller Classes Help Close the Black-White Achievement Gap?” with Alan Krueger, in John E. Chubb and Tom Loveless, ed, *Bridging the Achievement Gap*. Washington: Brookings Institution Press, November 2002.

UNDER SUBMISSION AND WORKING PAPERS

Related to the Impact of School Inputs on Child Outcomes

“First in the Class? Age and the Education Production Function,” with Elizabeth Cascio, NBER Working Paper #13663. Under submission.

“Experimental Estimates of Peer Effects.” Mimeo.

“Assessing the Impacts on Students of Closing Persistently Failing Schools,” with Lisa Barrow and Kyung Park.

Related to the Effectiveness of Social Policy

“Work Incentives and the Food Stamp Program,” with Hilary Hoynes.

“The Effect of School Accountability Policies on Children’s Health,” with Patricia Anderson and Kristin Butcher.

“Is Being in School Better? Using School Starting Age to Identify the Impact of Schools on Children’s Obesity,” with Patricia Anderson, Kristin Butcher and Elizabeth Cascio.

“Teen Motherhood, Labor Market Involvement and the Receipt of Public Assistance,” with Phillip B. Levine, *Joint Center for Poverty Research Working Paper #84*, November 1997.

RESEARCH PAPERS IN PROGRESS

- “Identifying Behavioral Economics Factors Affecting Food Consumption,” with Marianne Bertrand.
- “The Impact of Small Schools in Chicago,” with Lisa Barrow.

- “The Disparity between Performance and Teacher Evaluations during Elementary School” with Ofer Malamud.
- “Explaining Inequality in Postsecondary Schooling: Experimental Evidence on the Role of Long-Term Investments in Human Capital,” with Susan Dynarski.
- “Experimental Estimates of the Barriers to Food Stamp Enrollment,” with Emmanuel Saez and Esther Duflo.

POLICY BRIEFS

- “Leaving children behind ... by design,” *Milken Institute Review* Quarter 1 2008, pp. 18-25.
- “Many U.S. Children are Left Behind by Design” with Derek Neal, VoxEU.org, August 2007.
- “Beneficiaries of Proposed Social Security-Related Tax Cut Have Significant Wealth,” with Robert Greenstein, *Center on Budget and Policy Priorities Policy Brief*, September 2000.

GRANTS AND FUNDED PROJECTS

Related to Education and Children

- Smith Richardson Foundation, Grant, “Assessing the Impacts on Students of Closing Persistently Failing Schools,” \$60,000, 2008-2009.
- Institute for Educational Sciences, Research on High School Reform Grant, “Assessing the Effectiveness of Chicago’s Small High School Initiative,” Principal Investigator, \$336,664, 2006-2008.
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Healthy Eating Research Grant, “The Effect of School Accountability Policies on Childhood Obesity,” Principal Investigator, \$74,995, 2006-2008.
- NICHD University of Chicago Population Research Center pilot award, “Does Accountability Promote General or Test-Specific Skills?” \$8000, 2005-2006.
- NAEP Secondary Analysis Grant, US Department of Education, “Advancing Education Improvement by Improving Child Health: An Analysis of NAEP Data,” Principal Investigator, \$99,912, 2005-2006.
- Innovative Awards Program recipient, Center for Human Potential and Public Policy at the University of Chicago, 2004-05, 2006-07.
- CHAS Seed Grant, University of Chicago, 2005.

Related to Social Policy

- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Changes in Health Care Financing and Organization, “Evaluating the Impact of SCHIP Expansions on Household Spending and Consumption using Consumer Expenditure Survey Data,” Co-Investigator, \$124,694, 2008-2009.
- Food Assistance and Nutrition Research Program (FANRP), US Department of Agriculture, “Identifying Behavioral Economics Factors Affecting Food Consumption,” Principal Investigator, \$399,773, 2007-2009.
- Research, Innovation, and Development Grant in Economics, US Department of Agriculture (administered by University of Wisconsin), “Measuring the Impacts of Stigma and Time Cost in the Food Stamp Enrollment Decision,” Principal Investigator, \$29,921, 2006-2007.
- Research, Innovation, and Development Grant in Economics, US Department of Agriculture (administered by University of Chicago), “The Introduction of the Food Stamp Program: Impacts on Food Consumption and Family Well-Being,” Principal Investigator, \$37,748, 2005-2006.

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- Woodrow Wilson Fellowship, Princeton University, 2000–2002

- Peggy Howard Fellowship, Wellesley College, 2001
- National Science Foundation Traineeship in the Economics of Education, 1997–2000
- Social Science Research Council Program in Applied Economics, 1998

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Research Seminars and Conference Presentations

“The Impact of the Food Stamp Program on Infant Outcomes.” University of Chicago, Dartmouth College, American Society of Health Economists 2008 Annual Meeting, Society of Labor Economists 2008 Annual Meeting, University of Michigan.

“First in the Class? Age and the Education Production Function.” Case Western Reserve University, ASSA 2009 Annual Meeting (scheduled).

“Left Behind By Design: Proficiency Counts and Test-Based Accountability.” Stanford University.

“Selection Bias in College Admissions Test Scores.” Society of Labor Economists 2006 Annual Meeting.

“The Introduction of the Food Stamp Program: Impacts on Food Consumption and Nutrition.” Institute for Research on Poverty, University of Wisconsin; U.S. Department of Agriculture; University of Michigan; Cornell University.

“Experimental Estimates of Peer Effects.” University of Illinois at Chicago; Northwestern University; University of Chicago; University of South Florida; University of California-Berkeley, Wellesley College.

“Do School Lunches Contribute to Childhood Obesity?” University of California-Berkeley; Washington and Lee University; Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago; APPAM 2005 Annual Meeting; ASSA 2005 Annual Meeting; University of Illinois; Southern Economic Meetings; Princeton University; UNC Greensboro; Hamilton College; University of Maryland; Cornell University; University of California-Davis.

“What Are Food Stamps Worth?” Princeton University; Washington University; Syracuse University; Georgetown Public Policy Institute; Harris School of Public Policy at the University of Chicago; UC Davis; UC Santa Cruz; Public Policy Institute of California; University of Missouri – Columbia; Williams College; Texas A&M University; Baylor University; Southern Economic Meetings.

“Would Smaller Classes Help Close the Black-White Achievement Gap?” APPAM 2002 Annual Meeting; Princeton Theological Seminary; The Brookings Institution; Washington and Lee University.

“The Effect of Attending a Small Class in the Early Grades on College-Test Taking and Middle School Test Results: Evidence from Project STAR.” American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting; University of California Berkeley Labor Lunch; NBER West.

Other Presentations and Speaking Events

Radio Guest Commentator, WCHB-AM 1200 in Detroit MI. “Would Smaller Classes Help Close the Black-White Achievement Gap?”

Keynote Speaker, Quarterly Meeting of Consortium to Lower Obesity in Chicago’s Children (CLOCC), 9/2006. “The Impact of School Policies on Childhood Obesity”

Research Discussant

Society of Labor Economists (2007)
Allied Social Science Association (2007)
Midwest Economics Association (2006)
Center on Human Potential and Public Policy Annual Conference (2004, 2006)
Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Fall Conference (2004)

Referee: *American Economic Review, American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, The B.E. Journals in Economic Analysis and Policy, Canadian Journal of Economics, Developmental Psychology, Economic Inquiry, Economic Journal, Economics and Human Biology, Economics of Education Review, Economics Letters, Education Economics, Education Finance and Policy, Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis, Industrial and Labor Relations Review, Journal of Health Economics, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Labor Economics, Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, Journal of Political Economy, Journal of Public Economics, Labour Economics, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Economics and Statistics, Scandinavian Journal of Economics, Science, State and Local Government Review, Social Science Quarterly, Social Service Review, Southern Economic Journal.*

Grant Reviewer: U.S. Department of Agriculture; National Institutes of Health; National Science Foundation; Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Chicago (2004 to present)
Statistical Methods for Policy Research (Graduate course)
Economics of Education Policy (Graduate course)
Education Policy & Reform (Graduate course)

OTHER EMPLOYMENT

Economic Counselor, Sebago Associates, Inc., Santa Monica, CA, September 1998–August 2001.
Research Assistant, Council of Economic Advisers, Washington, D.C., April 1996–May 1997.
Research Assistant, Survey of Consumer Finances, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Washington, D.C., August 1995–April 1996.