



SGE ANNUAL CONFERENCE on Monday, September 21, 2009

Co-Sponsored with The George Washington Univ., Economics Dept., Center for Economic Research

George Washington University, Marvin Center, 800 21st Street, NW, Washington, DC 20052
(Corner of 21st and H Streets, only 3 blocks from the Foggy Bottom Metro Stop)

SGE's annual conference is open to *everyone who is interested in any aspect of government economics*.
The conference fee is \$45, which includes breakfast and lunch and a one-year membership to the Society of Government Economists (or extended membership for existing members).

Students and faculty members are welcome to attend the presentations without registering, but would need to register to join us for the breakfast and lunch. The conference is open to members of the media, without a registration requirement, for all events that begin on, or after, 9:00 AM.

To guarantee a seat at the breakfast and lunch, register by September 15th at <http://www.sge-econ.org/>.

This year's distinguished speakers will include:

Dr. Richard Brown, Chief Economist at the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. Dr. Brown is responsible for developing and communicating the FDIC's perspective on a wide range of economic and risk management issues, and he is frequently interviewed by the Wall Street Journal, Fortune, Business Week, CNBC, and other news media. His presentation will be on **"The Role of Economists in Prudential Supervision of Banks."**

Dr. J. Steven Landefeld, Director of the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis. BEA's economic statistics, which provide a comprehensive, up-to-date picture of the U.S. economy, are key ingredients in critical decisions affecting monetary policy, tax and budget projections, and business investment plans. Dr. Landefeld will speak on *GDP and Beyond: Measuring Economic Progress and Sustainability*.

Professor Deirdre McCloskey, Distinguished Professor of Economics, History, English, and Communication; University of Illinois at Chicago. Author of over twenty books and three hundred scholarly articles, she is best known for *How to Be Human Though an Economist* (2000), *The Bourgeois Virtues: Ethics for an Age of Commerce* (2006), and *The Rhetoric of Economics* (1998). Professor McCloskey will speak on her new book, *Bourgeois Dignity and Liberty: Why Economics Can't Explain the Modern World*.

Professor Thomas Schelling, 2005 Nobel Laureate in Economics, and Distinguished Professor at the University of Maryland School of Public Policy. Among his many distinctions, he was a government economist who served for the White House and participated in the global warming debate while chairing a commission for President Carter. Dr. Schelling's presentation will be on **"Institutional Requirements for International Action on Climate Change."**

*The George Washington University proudly welcomes Dr. Richard Brown back
to the campus where he received his Doctorate in Economics!*

The SGE/GWU Conference will also include several break-out sessions with presentations from leading economists from: Abt Associates, American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Congressional Budget Office, Department of Homeland Security, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Department of Transportation, Economic Research Service (USDA), Faculty of Economic Studies and Management of Tunis, Federal Highway Administration, Federal Reserve Board, George Washington University, Georgetown University, Government Accountability Office, Indiana University, International Monetary Fund, Kate McGovern Associates, SUNY-Binghamton, UC-San Diego, University of Denver, US Society for Ecological Economics, Wells Fargo Securities, and The World Bank.

Preliminary Schedule for the Society of Government Economists Annual Conference

All events from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM will take place in the Continental Ballroom (Third Floor)

- 7:30 – 8:00** **Registration (Outside the Continental Ballroom)**
8:00 – 8:30 **Breakfast (and Registration)**
- 8:30 – 9:00** **Opening Remarks by:**

 Professor Fred Joutz (GWU Economics Department)
 Steven Payson (SGE President)
- 9:00 – 10:00** **Dr. Richard Brown; Chief Economist, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation**
 “The Role of Economists in Prudential Supervision of Banks”
- 10:00 – 11:00** **Dr. J. Steven Landefeld; Director, Bureau of Economic Analysis**
 “GDP and Beyond: Measuring Economic Progress and Sustainability”
- 11:00 – 11:15** **Break**
- 11:15 – 12:15** **Professor Deirdre McCloskey; University of Illinois at Chicago**
 “Bourgeois Dignity and Liberty: Why Economics Can't Explain the Modern World”
- 12:15 – 12:45** **Break / Queuing for Buffet Lunch / Taking Seats**
- 12: 45 – 1:45** **Professor Thomas Schelling; University of Maryland**
 “Institutional Requirements for International Action on Climate Change”
- 1:45 – 2:00** **Exiting the Ballroom**

For the sessions listed below, some session chairs and several paper discussants are still undetermined at this time.

Concurrent Sessions (2:00 -3:45 PM)

SI. US Migration and Travel Issues

Chair: Bryan Roberts, Department of Homeland Security
Room 308

“India-US Migration and ‘Temporary’ Labor Programs: Select Contrasts in Policies and Trends in the United States and Receiving Countries in the European Union”

Mary E. Breeding, Institute for the Study of International Migration at Georgetown University

“The 9/11 Terrorist Attack and Travel to the United States: Initial Impacts and Longer-Run Recovery”

Bryan W. Roberts and Derekh Cornwell, Office of Immigration Statistics, Department of Homeland Security

Discussant: Katie Foreman, Policy Office, Department of Homeland Security

“Trends in Foreign Student Admissions to the United States: Policy and Competitive Effects”

B. Lindsay Lowell, Georgetown University

Discussant: Katie Foreman, Policy Office, Department of Homeland Security

“Identifying Rate of Emigration in the United States using Administrative Earnings Records”

Jon Schwabish, Congressional Budget Office

S2. *New Approaches to Measuring and Studying Capital and Depreciation*

Chair: Brent Moulton, Bureau of Economic Analysis

Room 309

“Intangible Capital and Structural Change: Theory and Evidence”

Natasha Xingyuan Che, Georgetown University

“New Treatment of Disasters in the GDP Accounts”

David Wasshausen, Bureau of Economic Analysis

Discussant: Susan McIntosh

“Are Non-fundamental Solutions Learnable in a New-Keynesian Monetary Model with Capital?”

Joy Guanghua Zhao, State University of New York at Binghamton

S3. *Rural and Agricultural Labor Markets and Immigration Policy Reform*

Chair: Mary Ahearn, Economic Research Service, USDA

Room 310

“Trends in Rural Employment”

Timothy Parker, Economic Research Service, USDA

“Labor Use on America’s Farms and Ranches”

Mary Ahearn, Economic Research Service, USDA

“Modeling the Potential Economic Impact of Immigration Reform on the Labor Market for Foreign-born Farm Workers”

Steven Zahniser and William Kandel, Economic Research Service, USDA

S4. *Fiscal Policy, Government Debt, and Welfare Experiments*

Room 402

“Sensitivity of Treatment on Treated Effects in the Housing Vouchers Welfare Experiment to Alternative Measures of Compliance”

Mark D. Shroder, Department of Housing and Urban Development; Daniel Gubits, Abt Associates.

“Fiscal Crisis, Pseudo Cuts and the Promise of Administrative Conservatorship”

Kate McGovern, Kate McGovern Associates.

“Revisiting Government Debt: A DSGE Approach”

Shu-Chun S. Yang, Congressional Budget Office; and Nora Traum, Indiana University

“Sovereign Risk Premia, Fiscal Limits, and Fiscal Policy”

Huixin Bi, Indiana University

S5. *Advances in Economic Thought by Members of AIRLEAP (Association for Integrity and Responsible Leadership in Economics and Associated Professions)*

Chair: Jessica Lee, Federal Reserve Board

Room 403

“Moldova: Child Poverty and the Absence of Parents”

Menahem Prywes and Stefenia Rodica Cnobloch, World Bank

Discussant: Mark Regets, National Science Foundation

“The Economist as Social Engineer, and the Case for Professional Economic Ethics”

George DeMartino, University of Denver (Presented by Brian Sloboda, US Postal Service)

Discussant: W. Charles Sawyer, Texas Christian University

Response to, and Additional Comments on the Case for Professional Ethics and Responsible Leadership in Economics

Deirdre McCloskey; Chair, AIRLEAP’s Board of Directors

3:45 – 4:00

Break

Concurrent Sessions (4:00-5:45 PM)

S6. *New Approaches to Monetary Policy*

Room 308

“Monetary Policy in Tunisia: Towards a Post-Keynesian Perspective on Inflation Targeting”

Radhouan Ben Chalba and Borgen Trigui, Faculty of Economic Studies and Management of Tunis (Letter)

“Simple Monetary Rules under Fiscal Dominance”

Ricardo.P.Nunes, Federal Reserve Board; Michael Kumhof, International Monetary Fund; and Irina Yakadina, International Monetary Fund

“The Market-Perceived Monetary Policy Rule”

James D. Hamilton, University of California at San Diego; Seth J. Pruitt, Federal Reserve Board; and Scott Borger, University of California at San Diego

S7. *Studies on Climate Change Policies and Ecological Economics*

Room 309

“The Positive Economics of Climate Change Policies: The Importance of Including Both Costs and Benefits in Policy Assessments”

John A. (“Skip”) Laitner, American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy

Response to Skip Laitner’s Paper: “Externalities Count in the Economics of Climate Change: Be Master, Not Servant, of the Market”

Martin Apple, Council of Science Society Presidents

“Ecological Economics – The Science of Sustainability”

Sabine U. O’Hara, United States Society for Ecological Economics

S8. *Employment, Population, and Neighborhood Studies*

Room 310

“Agglomeration in Small Urban Areas”

Leo Sveikauskas and Joel Elvery, Bureau of Labor Statistics

“Delinquency Rates and Unemployment Rate : Is There Something Missing?”

Azhar Iqbal and Mark Vitner, Wells Fargo Securities, LLC

Discussant: Kee Nam Cheung, Department of Housing and Urban Development

“Neighborhood Patterns of Racial Steering of Subprime Mortgage Lending”

John A. Karikari, Government Accountability Office

“Job Losses and Perceptions of Globalization”

Michael E. Hoffman, Government Accountability Office

Discussant: Catherine Sveikauskas, Consultant

S9. *Energy and Transportation Studies*

Chair: Jack Wells, US Department of Transportation

Room 402

“The Financial Market Impact of Terrorism and Risk Mitigation Policy on Transportation”

Anthony Homan, US Department of Transportation

“Creating an Environmentally Sustainable, Financially Feasible, High Performance Metropolitan Transportation System”

Patrick DeCorla-Souza, Federal Highway Administration

“Do Energy Companies Benefit from Volatile Oil Prices?”

Tom Littlefield, Consultant

S10. *“Bringing Back the Band”: A Special Brainstorming, Reminiscing, and Strategizing Session among Leaders (Past and Present) of the Society of Government Economists*

Chair: Steven Payson

Room 403

Sharing ideas and learning from the experiences and advice of former SGE leaders.

Past and Present SGE leaders who have already expressed an interest in attending include:

Stephen Baldwin (Board Member 1988-90, Vice President 1995-96)

Anthony Barkume (Board Member 1997-99 and 2006-07)

Alan Bird: (Board Member 1981-82, Vice President 1982-83, President 1983-84)

Harvey Bronstein (Executive Secretary 1985-86, Vice President 1999-00, President 2000-01)

Ann Dunbar (Treasurer 1993-95, Executive Secretary 1995-96)

Jules Lichtenstein (Board Member 1988-89, Vice President 1996-97, President 1997-98)

Steven Payson (Executive Secretary 2007-08, Vice President 2008-09, President 2009-10)

Sara Rix (Executive Secretary 2002-04, Treasurer 2004-05)

Robert Shackleton (Vice President 2000-01, President 2001-02)

Brian Sloboda (Treasurer 2005-07 and 2009-10, Vice President 2007-08, President 2008-09)

Other current and former leaders are encouraged to attend to share their experiences.

This Session is open to all conference attendees.

5:45 – 6:00 Conclusion of the Conference, and Exiting the Marvin Center

6:30 – 8:30 SGE Happy Hour and Dinner Gathering {Location to be determined.}

Happy Hour open to all; dinner gathering for current and former SGE leaders and their guests by invitation only.