

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM
Annual Retirement Research Conference
Sponsored by the Office of Policy, Social Security Administration
and the Retirement Research Consortium

National Press Club – 529 14th Street, NW, 13th Floor
Washington, DC 20045
August 10-11, 2009

Day One - Monday, August 10th

Coffee and Registration

Welcoming Remarks

Introduction of Center Directors

John Laitner, University of Michigan Retirement Research Center
Alicia H. Munnell, Center for Retirement Research at Boston College
David A. Wise, NBER Retirement Research Center

Panel 1: Longevity and Old-Age Consumption

Causes of Lagging Life Expectancy at Older Ages in the US
Samuel Preston, University of Pennsylvania
Discussant: TBD

How Do Pension Changes Affect Retirement Preparedness? The Trend to Defined Contribution Plans and the Vulnerability of the Retirement Age Population to the Stock Market Decline of 2008-2009
Alan Gustman, Dartmouth; Thomas Steinmeier, Texas Tech; and Nahid Tabatabai, Dartmouth
Discussant: Andrew Samwick, Dartmouth

The Impact of Medicare Part D on the Consumption, Labor Supply and Well-Being of the Elderly
Gary V. Engelhardt, Syracuse University and Jonathan Gruber, MIT
Discussant: Jeffrey Kling, Congressional Budget Office

Panel 2: Financial Literacy and Social Security

Financial Literacy and Financial Sophistication: Evidence from the 2008 HRS
Annamaria Lusardi, Dartmouth
Discussant: Scott Weisbenner, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Social Security Literacy and Retirement Well-Being
Hugo A. Benítez-Silva, Stony Brook; Berna Demiralp, Old Dominion University; and
Zhen Liu, University at Buffalo
Discussant: Justine Hastings, Yale

Information and Retirement Behavior: Stepwise Introduction of the Social Security Statement
Giovanni Mastrobuoni, Colegio Carlo Alberto and CeRP (Steven H. Sandell Scholar)
Discussant: Alan Gustman, Dartmouth

LUNCHEON SPEAKER: The Honorable Lawrence H. Summers
Assistant to the President for Economic Policy
Director, National Economic Council

Panel 3: Housing, Other Assets, and Retirement Security

How Do Seniors Consume Their Savings in Retirement?

Karen Smith & Rudolph Penner, Urban Institute

Discussant: Karl Scholz, University of Wisconsin

The Wealth of Older Americans and the Sub-prime Debacle

Barry Bosworth, The Brookings Institution

Discussant: Todd Sinai, University of Pennsylvania

Medicaid and the Housing and Asset Decisions of the Elderly: Evidence from Estate Recovery

Nadia Greenhalgh-Stanley, Syracuse University (Dissertation Fellow)

Discussant: Norma Coe, Center for Retirement Research at Boston College

Panel 4: Alternative Approaches to Retirement Security

Propagation and Spreading of Risk in Alternative Social Security Programs

Alan Auerbach and Ronald Lee, University of California, Berkeley

Discussant: Laurence Kotlikoff, Boston University

Fund Choices in a Private Accounts System: Implications for Disparities in Wealth at Retirement

Justine Hastings, Yale University

Discussant: Brigitte Madrian, Harvard

Portfolio Choice in Retirement: Health Risk and the Demand for Annuities, Housing & Risky Assets

Motohiro Yogo (Steven H. Sandell Scholar)

Discussant: Jeffrey Brown, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Reception

Day Two - Tuesday, August 11th

Panel 5: Health and Retirement Well-Being

Impact of Employer-Sponsored Health Care Coverage on Retiree Wealth

Alicia H. Munnell and Courtney Monk, Center for Retirement Research at Boston College

Discussant: Kristine Brown, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

The Level and Risk of Out-of-Pocket Health Care Spending

Michael Hurd and Susann Rohwedder, RAND Corporation

Discussant: TBD

Spending Shocks and the Draw-Down of Retirement Assets

James Poterba, MIT; Steven Venti, Dartmouth; and David Wise, Harvard

Discussant: TBD

Panel 6: Disability

Out of Pocket Medical Expenditures and Retirement Security in the United States

Kathleen McGarry and Jonathan Skinner, Dartmouth

Discussant: Mark Duggan, University of Maryland

Reconciling Findings on the Employment Impact of Disability Insurance

John Bound, University of Michigan & Timothy A. Waidmann, Urban Institute

Discussant: Bruce Meyer, University of Chicago

Work Disability and Labor Force Status in Europe and the US

Arie Kapteyn, James P. Smith and Arthur van Soest, RAND Corporation

Discussant: TBD

LUNCHEON SPEAKER: Sylvester Schieber

Chair, Social Security Advisory Board

Panel 7: Labor Mobility and Retirement Well-Being

Economic Well-Being of the Elderly Immigrant Population

George Borjas, Harvard

Discussant: TBD

Impact of Immigration on the Distribution of Well-Being

Gary Burtless, the Brookings Institution

Discussant: John Laitner, University of Michigan Retirement Research Center

Does Migration Improve Retirement Well-Being?

Esteban Calvo, Kelly Haverstick and Natalia A. Zhivan, Boston College

Discussant: Darren Lubotsky, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Closing Remarks: David Wise