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Conference Programs

**Conference on Research in
Income and Wealth**

The Measurement of Economic and Social Performance, the proceedings of the November 1971 conference, was published in February 1974 as Volume 38 in *Studies in Income and Wealth*. The proceedings volume, *The Personal Distribution of Income and Wealth* (October 1972 conference) has recently been delivered to the printer. The papers prepared for the Conference on Household Production and Consumption (November 1973) are being edited for press.

Under the chairmanship of F. Thomas Juster, a conference on the Distribution of Economic Well-Being was held at Ann Arbor, Michigan, on May 15–17, 1974. The following papers were delivered and discussed:

- “Adding In-Kind Transfers to the Personal Income and Outlay Account: Implications for the Size Distribution of Income” by Maria Schmundt, Eugene Smolensky, and Robert Plotnick, University of Wisconsin, and Le-anna Stiefel, Michigan State University
- “The Distribution of Benefits from Public Housing” by Edgar O. Olsen, University of Virginia, and John Kraft, University of Florida
- “The Simple Politics of Distributional Preference” by James D. Rodgers, Pennsylvania State University, and Harold M. Hochman, The Urban Institute
- “The Anatomy of Earnings Behavior” by Richard and Nancy Ruggles, Yale University and National Bureau of Economic Research
- “The Incidence of Costs of Controlling Automotive Air Pollution” by A. Myrick Freeman III, Bowdoin College
- “The Distributional Implications of National Air Pollution Damage Estimates” by Henry M. Peskin and Leonard Gianessi, The Urban Institute, and Edward N. Wolff, Yale University
- “Black-White Income and Employment in the Sixties” by Finis Welch, The Rand Corpora-
tion, and James P. Smith, National Bureau of Economic Research
- “The Persistence of Male-Female Earnings Differentials” by Ronald L. Oaxaca, University of Massachusetts
- “Schooling, Ability, Non-Pecuniary Rewards, Socio-Economic Background and the Life-Time Distribution of Earnings” by Paul J. Taubman, University of Pennsylvania and National Bureau of Economic Research
- “Family Background and Lifetime Earnings” by C. Russell Hill and Frank P. Stafford, University of Michigan
- “The Intergenerational Transmission of Wealth” by James D. Smith, Stephen D. Franklin and Guy H. Orcutt, The Urban Institute
- “The Distribution of Earnings and Human Wealth in a Life Cycle Context” by Lee A. Lillard, National Bureau of Economic Research

A conference on price behavior is also scheduled for this year, November 21–23, in Washington. A committee under the chairmanship of Gregory Ingram is organizing a conference on the economics of residential location and urban housing markets for May 1975.

Members of the Executive Committee are Frank de Leeuw (chairman), Robert M. Coen, Robert E. Gallman, Martin L. Marimont, Geoffrey H. Moore, Dorothy S. Projector, James D. Smith, Eugene Smolensky, Dan Usher, Beatrice N. Vaccara, and Mildred E. Courtney (secretary).

Mildred E. Courtney

**Universities–National Bureau Committee
for Economic Research**

A conference on the Role of Health Insurance in the Health Services Sector was held May 31 to June 1, 1974, at the University of Rochester. Richard M. Rosett was chairman of the Conference Planning Committee, which also included Martin S. Feldstein and Michael Grossman. The

conference proceedings are being prepared for publication.

The proceedings of the November 1972 Conference on the Economic Analysis of Environmental Problems, co-sponsored by Resources for the Future, will be published this year. The editor of the volume is Edwin S. Mills. A new co-editor for the proceedings of the Conference on Education as an Industry has been appointed. He is Dean Jamison of the Educational Testing Service and one of the conference authors. The other editors who originally worked on the proceedings are Roy Radner and Joseph Froomkin.

A conference on the Economic Analysis of Political Behavior will be held in the Spring of 1975. The Planning Committee members are Melvin W. Reder (chairman), Thomas C. Schelling, and George J. Stigler.

The Universities-National Bureau Committee, at its annual meeting held in conjunction with the Conference on the Role of Health Insurance in the Health Services Sector, decided to convene two other conferences. One will be on the Causes and Economic Effects of Population Change in Less-Developed Countries, with Richard A. Easterlin as chairman of the Planning Committee, to be held in late 1975 or early 1976. The other conference will be on Low-Income Labor Markets, with Sherwin Rosen as chairman of the Planning Committee. The committee also selected two topics to be considered for future conferences: Economics of Crime—With Particular Emphasis on White-Collar Crime; and Taxation and Household Behavior.

The committee accepted the University of Maryland as a new member. There are now forty universities, together with the National Bureau, represented on the committee. The participating universities are:

Brown	Illinois
Buffalo	Indiana
California, Berkeley	Iowa State
California, Los Angeles	Johns Hopkins
Carnegie-Mellon	Maryland
Chicago	Massachusetts Institute
Columbia	of Technology
Cornell	McGill
Duke	Michigan
Harvard	Michigan State

Minnesota	Queens
New School for	Rochester
Social Research	Stanford
New York	Texas
North Carolina	Toronto
Northwestern	Vanderbilt
Ohio State	Virginia
Pennsylvania	Washington (Seattle)
Pittsburgh	Washington (St. Louis)
Princeton	Wisconsin
Purdue	Yale

Other members of the committee, elected as members at large for a four-year term, July 1, 1974, to June 30, 1978, are Irma Adelman, Daniel Creamer, Walter S. Salant, and George J. Stigler. Robert E. Lipsey is the representative from the National Bureau of Economic Research.

The members of the Executive Committee are Edwin S. Mills (chairman), Leonard W. Weiss (vice chairman), Irma Adelman, Richard Bird, Robert Eisner, Robert E. Lipsey, and Dudley G. Lockett. Christine Mortensen is secretary.

The conference program is assisted by a grant from the National Science Foundation.

Universities interested in membership on the Universities-National Bureau Committee for Economic Research should get in touch with the chairman of the committee. The criterion for acceptance of a university as a member of the committee is the extent and quality of economic research carried on at that university.

Universities wishing to be informed about proposals for future Universities-National Bureau Committee research conferences, and about the availability of conference papers before publication, should communicate with the secretary of the committee.

Christine Mortensen

Workshops on the Computer in Economic and Social Research

Four workshops were held during 1973 under the auspices of the Conference on the Computer in Economic and Social Research (CESR). The first two workshops were held jointly at Williamsburg, Virginia, on May 3-5, 1973. One on Prices and Consumer Expenditure Data was organized by Joel Popkin. Some of the topics discussed

were Incentive Payments and Data Collection, Improvement of Consumer Expenditure Data, and Improvement of Collection of Price Data. About seventy economists from academic institutions and government agencies attended the two-day meeting. The proceedings were published in the *Annals of Economic and Social Measurement*, Volume 3, No. 2, April 1974.

The second workshop was on the Matching and Merging of Data Sets. Ben Okner and Richard Ruggles were responsible for organizing the session, which was attended by forty to fifty economists and statisticians. The agenda included such topics as Statistical Confidentiality, Creation of a Synthetic Data Set, and Linking Records of the Canadian Survey of Consumer Finances with the Family Expenditure Survey of 1970.

The third workshop, on Stochastic Control Theory, was held June 7–9 at the University of Chicago, with the university's graduate business school as co-sponsor. It was organized by Professor Dov Pekelman of the business school with the cooperation of Michael Athans of MIT and Gregory Chow of Princeton. Over fifty economists and thirty control theorists attended the meeting. Among the topics discussed during the three-day conference were Kalman Filtering Methods for Economic Systems, Identification in Control and Econometric Systems, Optimal Policies for Monetary Control, Quantitative Analysis for Decisions at the Federal Reserve Board, Sequential Strategies in Duopoly and Dual Controls, Optimal Control, Instrument Instability, and Estimation of Economic Structure. Some of the papers given in this conference were published in a special issue of the *Annals of Economic and Social Measurement*, Volume 3, No. 1, January 1974.

A fourth workshop pertaining to Micro-Economic Simulation Teaching Games was held on October 26, 1973, at the National Bureau in New York. Some of the topics considered were Structural Variations in Model Building, Lags and Dynamic Multiplier, Simulation and Teaching Programs, and Evaluation Experiments. The workshop was organized by Professor Treney Dolbear, and about twenty persons participated.

Several workshops have been scheduled for 1974. One on Large-Scale Urban Simulation

Models, organized by Professor James Brown of Harvard University, was held on February 8 and 9, 1974, and was attended by about twenty-five economists.

A workshop on Documentation of Large Machine Readable Statistical Data Sets, organized by Charlotte Boschan, was held at New York University on April 18–20, 1974. Some of the topics discussed were Standards for Description of Storage Media, Documentation for Interactive Use of Time-Series Data Bases, and Potentials and Problems of Data Base Documentation in Machine Readable Form.

The third workshop for the year, on Household Theory for Consumer Expenditure Data, was held at NBER–West, Palo Alto, California, on May 2 and 3. It was organized by Lester Taylor of the University of Michigan. Topics for discussion were Exercises in the New Theory of Demand and Consumer Budgeting, Estimation of Complete Systems of Demand Functions, and Theory of Cost of Living Indexes.

The fourth 1974 conference, again on Stochastic Control Theory, was held on May 29–31 in Washington, D.C. The conference was organized by Michael Athans, Gregory Chow, and James L. Pierce and jointly sponsored by the National Bureau and the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

A final workshop, planned for October 1974 on Computer Techniques in Data Analysis, will be held at the NBER Computer Research Center in Cambridge and will be organized by Paul Holland.

M. Ishaq Nadiri

Latin American Computer Workshops

The second workshop in this series, held July 23–25, 1973, in Sao Paulo, Brazil, focused on an examination of research on patterns of employment in Latin American economies. The workshop, co-sponsored by the Instituto de Pesquisas Economicas (IPE) of the University of Sao Paulo, was organized by Affonso Pastore of IPE and M. Ishaq Nadiri of the National Bureau. About fifty economists from Latin American countries and the United States participated in the workshop. A summary of proceedings will be submitted to the *Annals of Economic and*

Social Measurement. Some of the topics discussed were Labor Underutilization, Wage Structure in Selected Industries, Unemployment and Underemployment, Labor Supply Response, Issues Related to the Stock of Human Capital in Latin America, Income Distribution Models, and Underutilization of Resources in Some Latin American Economies. The discussion centered on the use of new techniques to explore these issues, the development of new data, and the development of appropriate policies to increase labor productivity, reduce income inequality, and promote full utilization of resources.

The third workshop of the series, organized by Richard and Nancy Ruggles, was held jointly with the International Association for Research in Income and Wealth in Rio de Janeiro on January 9–12, 1974. It dealt with the following topics: Statistical Data: Experience in Latin America and Some Proposals for the Future; Role of Microdata in the National Economic and Social Accounts; Classification Problems and Computerized Data Banks; International Comparison of Patterns of Consumption; and the Estimation of Household Wealth Portfolios.

A workshop on Capital Markets in Latin America was held on July 29–31, 1974, in Bogotá, Colombia. The workshop was co-sponsored by the Organization of American States (OAS). The topics discussed were Fiscal Incentives: Their Effect on Returns and Cost of Debt Markets; Monetary Correction: Its Effect on Real Returns and Financial Assets Demand; Regulatory Framework: Effect on Supply of Debt and of Credit by Intermediaries; Foreign Debt Market: Supply and Demand; and The Development of Capital Markets: Different Types of Debt and Their Effects on Income Distribution.

This series of workshops has been made possible by a grant from the IBM World Trade Corporation.

M. Ishaq Nadiri

Conference on Econometrics and Mathematical Economics (CEME)

This conference, which was created by a grant from the National Science Foundation in 1970, is designed to stimulate research at the frontiers of the state-of-the-art on topics in mathematical

economics and econometrics. The conference operates through a number of seminars, each of which meets periodically. The seminars and their leaders are:

General Equilibrium Models—Kenneth J. Arrow, Harvard University

Evaluation of Econometric Models—Saul Hymans and Harold T. Shapiro, University of Michigan

Comparison of Econometric Models—Lawrence R. Klein, University of Pennsylvania

Decision Rules and Uncertainty—Daniel L. McFadden, University of California, Berkeley

Decentralized Economic Planning and Programming—Roy Radner, University of California, Berkeley

Distributed Lags and Time-Series Analysis—Christopher Sims, University of Minnesota

Bayesian Inference in Econometrics—Arnold Zellner, University of Chicago

Quantitative Studies in Industrial Organization—George J. Stigler and Lester G. Telser, University of Chicago

Monetary and Fiscal Analysis—William C. Brainard, Yale University, and Franco Modigliani, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Analysis of Panel Microdata—James N. Morgan, University of Michigan

Public Economics and Nonmarket Decisions—Martin McGuire and Mancur Olson, University of Maryland

Ten seminar sessions were held during 1973, focusing on specific issues usually developed in papers circulated in advance. More than seventy such working papers have now been presented, many of which have subsequently been published. Also, the *International Economic Review* is devoting three issues to the work of the seminar on Comparison of Econometric Models.

At its fall 1973 meeting the Steering Committee of the conference discussed the possibility of participation by Soviet economists in CEME seminars. Subject to certain conditions, such participation was felt to be desirable and is expected to begin during 1974 under the auspices of the U.S.–U.S.S.R. Program on Scientific and Technical Cooperation.

Gary Fromm