



Committee on National Statistics Public Seminar: Modernizing Poverty Measurement

Friday, September 29, 2023

**The Keck Center of the National Academies
500 5th St. NW, Washington, DC 20001**

**Conference Room 100
3 – 5 p.m. (ET)**

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

Melissa C. Chiu

Melissa Chiu is director of the Committee on National Statistics (CNSTAT) at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. CNSTAT advises the U.S. federal government and the nation on the knowledge and practices that will lead to improved statistical methods and information upon which to base public policy. Studies evaluate specific programs and as well as address system-wide and cross-cutting issues such as data infrastructure and principles and practices for federal statistical agencies. Before joining CNSTAT, she spent 15 years leading data policy, governance, analytics, and production in the U.S. federal government at the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Census Bureau, and briefly in the Office of Management and Budget's Statistical and Science Policy Branch (Office of the Chief Statistician of the United States).

Katharine G. Abraham

Katharine Abraham is a distinguished university professor in the Department of Economics at the University of Maryland, College Park. Her published research includes papers on the work and retirement decisions of older Americans; how government policies affect employers' choices concerning employment and hours over the business cycle; the effects of financial aid on the decision to attend college; discrepancies in alternative measures of employment, wages, and hours; and the measurement of economic activity. She served as commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics from 1993 through 2001 and as a member of the President's Council of Economic Advisers from 2011 through 2013. Professor Abraham currently serves on standing academic advisory committees convened by the Congressional Budget Office, Bureau of Economic Analysis, and Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. She is a research associate of the National



Bureau of Economic Research and a research fellow of the IZA, a member of the National Academy of Sciences and of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a distinguished fellow of the American Economic Association, and an elected fellow of the American Statistical Association and of the Society of Labor Economists. Professor Abraham received her Ph.D. in economics from Harvard University in 1982 and her B.S. degree in economics from Iowa State University in 1976.

James P. Ziliak

James Ziliak is a professor and Carol Martin Gatton endowed chair in microeconomics in the Department of Economics at the University of Kentucky and founding director of the Center for Poverty Research. He is also chair of the Economics Department and university research professor, both at the University of Kentucky. His research interests focus on tax and welfare policy, poverty, and food insecurity. Professor Ziliak serves as an elected member of the National Academy of Social Insurance, on the advisory board of the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) Centre for the Microeconomic Analysis of Public Policy, as a research fellow of the Institute for Fiscal Studies, and as a faculty affiliate of the University of Kentucky Center for Health Equity Transformation. He is also co-editor of *Fiscal Studies*, a member of the American Economic Association, the Econometric Society, and the Society of Labor Economists. Professor Ziliak has served on several National Academies' committees, including, chair of the Workshop on an Agenda for Child Hunger and Food Insecurity Research, and as a member of the Committee on the Examination of the Adequacy of Food Resources and SNAP Allotments. Dr. Ziliak has a Ph.D. degree in economics from Indiana University.

Bruce D. Meyer

Bruce Meyer is the McCormick Foundation professor of public policy in the Harris School of Public Policy Studies at the University of Chicago. Prior to this appointment, he was a professor in the Economics Department at Northwestern University, where he taught for seventeen years. His current research includes studies of poverty and inequality; government safety net programs; welfare policy; unemployment insurance; workers' compensation; disability; the health care safety net; labor supply; and the accuracy of household surveys. Professor Meyer has also served as a visiting faculty member at Harvard University, University College London, and Princeton University. He is a research associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research and a member of the National Academy of Social Insurance and the Conference on Research on Income and Wealth. Professor Meyer has served as an advisor to the U.S. Department of Labor, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, Human Resources Development Canada, Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation, and Mathematica Policy Research. He has an M.A. degree from Northwestern University, and a Ph.D. from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, both in economics.



Sanders Korenman

Sanders Korenman is a professor in the Austin W. Marxe School of Public and International Affairs, Baruch College, City University of New York (CUNY). At CUNY, he also holds appointments on the doctoral faculty in the CUNY Graduate Center and as faculty associate in the CUNY Institute for Demographic Research. Prior to joining CUNY, professor Korenman held positions at the University of Minnesota and Princeton University. He serves as a research associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research. His research interests focus on public policy, public finance, and health economics. With support from the Russell Sage Foundation and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, he and Dahlia Remler have developed a poverty measure that includes a basic need for health care and incorporates health insurance benefits. They are using this measure to assess the impact of health insurance benefits on poverty, particularly under the Affordable Care Act. Professor Korenman was a member of the National Academies Committee on Promoting Child and Family Well-being through Family Work Policies from 2001 to 2004 and a member of the Board on Children, Youth, and Families from 1998 until 2003. He has a Ph.D. in economics from Harvard University.

Ingrid Gould Ellen

Ingrid Gould Ellen is the Paulette Goddard professor of urban policy and planning and faculty director at the Furman Center for Real Estate and Urban Policy at New York University. She teaches courses in microeconomics, urban economics, and urban policy research. Professor Ellen's research interests center on housing and urban policy. She is associate editor of *Housing Policy Debate* and the *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management* and serves on the editorial board of several publications including the *Journal of Urban Economics* and the *Journal of Housing Economics*. She has written numerous peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters relating to housing policy, community development, and school and neighborhood segregation. Professor Ellen has held visiting positions at the Department of Urban Studies and Planning at MIT, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Urban Institute, and the Brookings Institution. She is a member of numerous professional organizations including the American Economic Association, the Urban Economic Association, and the American Planning Association. She has a Ph.D. in public policy from Harvard University.

Sarah E. Bohn

Sarah Bohn is vice president of research and senior fellow at the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC), where she also holds the John and Louise Bryson chair in policy research. She is also a member of the PPIC Higher Education Center. As vice president of research, professor Bohn works with PPIC staff to bring high quality, nonpartisan research to important policy issues in California. Her own research focuses on the role of social safety net policy and education policy in alleviating poverty and enhancing economic mobility. Her other areas of research interest and expertise, include:



immigration policy; labor economics; workforce skills gap; California's economy; and inequality and mobility. Professor Bohn's work has been published in major academic journals, including: the *American Economic Review*; *Demography*; *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*; and *The Review of Economics and Statistics*. She has a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Maryland, College Park.

David S. Johnson

David Johnson is a senior program officer with the Committee on National Statistics at the National Academies. Prior to this, he was research professor in the Survey Research Center at the Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan, and research professor in public policy at the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy. Dr. Johnson's research interests include the measurement of inequality and mobility (using income, consumption, and wealth); the effects of tax rebates; equivalence scale estimation; poverty measurement; and price indexes; and his research focuses primarily on inequality and poverty measurement, equivalence scale estimation, and consumption. He is a member of numerous organizations, including: Association of Public Policy Analysis and Management; American Economic Association; Population Association of America; and the Conference on Research in Income and Wealth, National Bureau of Economic Research. Dr. Johnson has a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Minnesota.

Liana Fox

Liana Fox is the assistant division chief in the economic characteristics social, economic, and housing statistics division at the U.S. Census Bureau. She oversees the U.S. Census Bureau's branches responsible for processing, analyzing, and publishing poverty, income and program participation estimates collected in the Current Population Survey Annual Social and Economic Supplement, the American Community Survey, and the Survey of Income and Program Participation. Dr. Fox is also responsible for research on alternative methods of measuring poverty and experimental estimates of income, poverty and well-being incorporating administrative records and commercial data with survey data. She has published numerous papers developing and analyzing historical extensions to the Census Bureau's Supplemental Poverty Measure research as well as extensions of the SPM to the ACS and SIPP. Prior to joining the Census Bureau, Dr. Fox completed her post-doctoral work at the Swedish Institute for Social Research and worked at the Columbia Population Research Center and the Economic Policy Institute. She has a Ph.D. in social welfare from Columbia University, an M.A. degree in labor studies from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, and a B.A. degree in industrial and labor relations from Cornell University.



John Creamer

John Creamer is the team lead of the U.S. Census Bureau Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM) in the Social, Economic, and Housing Statistics Division. Dr. Creamer's team is responsible for producing annual estimates and conducting research on improving poverty measurement using the Current Population Survey Annual Social and Economic Supplement (CPS ASEC). He has authored numerous papers assessing the role of health insurance in poverty measurement, the relationship between bank account ownership and poverty, and other research on poverty measurement. Dr. Creamer has a Ph.D. in economics from Heriot-Watt University.

Thesia I. Garner

Thesia Garner is a senior research economist in the Division of Price and Index Number Research at the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. She has authored numerous articles on such topics as: consumption measurement; consumer behavior; the consumer expenditure survey; poverty measure; and household incomes. Dr. Garner has a Ph.D. in consumer economics from the University of Maryland, College Park, and an M.A. degree in consumer economics from Purdue University.

Indivar Dutta-Gupta

Indivar Dutta-Gupta is president and executive director of the Center for Law and Social Policy in Washington, DC. Prior to this, he was co-executive director of the Georgetown Center on Poverty and Inequality (GCPI), where he worked to develop and advance policy recommendations to alleviate poverty and inequality; he also served as an adjunct professor of law. Mr. Dutta-Gupta is a board member of several advisory groups, including: Indivisible Civics; the National Academy of Social Insurance; the Aspen Institute's Benefits 21 Leadership Advisory Group; and the Liberation in a Generation's Advisory Group. Previously, he was senior policy advisor at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities and served as professional staff in the U.S. House of Representatives for the Subcommittee on Income Security and Family Support. Mr. Dutta-Gupta has served as the Bill Emerson national hunger fellow, consultant to the Poverty Task Force at the Center for American Progress, and as a food stamp outreach specialist at DC Hunger Solutions. He was named a Champion for Children by the First Focus Campaign for Children and was awarded the Congressional Hunger Center Alumni Leadership Award in 2016. He has a B.A. degree in law, letters, and society from the University of Chicago.

Robert A. Moffitt

Robert Moffitt is the Krieger-Eisenhower professor of economics at Johns Hopkins University where he holds a joint appointment with the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Professor Moffitt has Ph.D. and M.A. degrees in economics from Brown University, and a B.A. degree in economics from Rice University. Professor Moffitt's research focuses on the economics of poverty and welfare programs for the poor and the



economics of the labor market. He is a past Guggenheim fellow, a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the National Academy of Sciences, a fellow of the Econometric Society, a recipient of a MERIT Award from the National Institutes of Health, and is a past chief editor of the flagship *Journal of the American Economic Association*, and the *American Economic Review*.

David Brady

David Brady is professor of public policy in the School of Public Policy at the University of California, Riverside, where he teaches classes in quantitative methods, poverty, inequality, and social policy. He also serves as visiting research professor on inequality and social policy at the WZB Berlin Social Science Center. Professor Brady investigates a variety of research questions related to poverty, racial inequality, social policy, health, and immigration. He has written extensively on such topics as: poverty in the U.S.; ethno-racial inequality; immigration; social policy; and income and wealth. Professor Brady has a Ph.D. in sociology and public affairs from Indiana University.

Melissa Boteach

Melissa Boteach is vice president for income security and child care/early learning at the National Women's Law Center (NWLC) in Washington, DC. She oversees NWLC's advocacy, policy, and public education strategies to ensure all women and families have the income and support they need to thrive. Prior to joining NWLC, Ms. Boteach spent nearly a decade at Center for American Progress (CAP), where she founded and led the Poverty to Prosperity Program. At CAP, she established projects to center the voices of low-income families; led the team's message and narrative to changing work; oversaw intersectional advocacy campaigns; and developed bold ideas to cut poverty and expand opportunity that resulted in new legislation, executive actions, and other progress. Ms. Boteach has served as policy editor on *The Shriver Report*, a book and multimedia platform by Maria Shriver and Center for American Progress on the 1 in 3 U.S. women on the financial brink, and solutions to help them push back. She has testified before Congress and frequently serves as a media spokesperson on issues relating to economic opportunity. Ms. Boteach has an MPP from The George Washington University, an M.A. degree in equality studies from the University College Dublin, and a B.A. degree in government and Spanish from the University of Maryland, College Park.

Vanessa Brown Calder

Vanessa Calder is director of opportunity and family policy studies at the CATO Institute in Washington, DC. Prior to joining CATO, Ms. Calder served as the executive director and staff director at the U.S. Congress Joint Economic Committee (JEC), where she led the committee's research and congressional hearing efforts under chairman and ranking member, Mike Lee (UT). She has also served as deputy director and senior policy advisor at JEC, policy analyst at Cato Institute, and graduate fellow in welfare studies at



The Heritage Foundation. Ms. Calder has published numerous articles in the *Wall Street Journal*, on CNN.com, *National Review Online*, *Governing*, and *Real Clear Health*. She has been featured in radio and television programs and policy briefings on Capitol Hill. She has an M.A. degree in public policy from the Harvard John F. Kennedy School of Government, and a B.Sc. degree in urban planning from the University of Utah.

Kevin Corinth

Kevin Corinth is senior fellow and deputy director of the Center on Opportunity and Social Mobility at the American Enterprise Institute (AEI) in Washington, DC., where he researches economic opportunity, social mobility, poverty, safety-net programs, and homelessness, among other issues. Prior to joining AEI, Dr. Corinth served as staff director of the Joint Economic Committee in Congress and chief economist in the White House's Council of Economic Advisers, where he previously served as chief economist for domestic policy and senior economist for poverty and social issues. He also served as executive director of the Comprehensive Income Dataset Project at the University Chicago and as research fellow at AEI. Dr. Corinth's research and policy work in these roles focused on income and poverty measurement, policies to promote economic opportunity, tax policy, housing and homelessness, social capital, and strengthening evidence-based policymaking. He is widely published, including in the *Washington Post*, the *New York Times*, the *Washington Examiner*, the *Hill*, and *RealClearPolicy*. In addition to book chapters, he has published numerous academic articles in scholarly journals and publications such as the *Journal of Regional Science*, *Journal of Housing Economics*, and *Tax Notes*. Dr. Corinth has a Ph.D. and an M.A. in economics from the University of Chicago, and a B.A. degree in economics and political science from Boston College.

Wendy Edelberg

Wendy Edelberg is director of The Hamilton Project and a senior fellow in economic studies at the Brookings Institution. She joined Brookings in 2020, after more than 15 years in the public sector. Most recently, she was chief economist at the Congressional Budget Office (CBO). Prior to working at CBO, Dr. Edelberg was executive director of the Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission, which released a report on the causes of the financial crisis in January 2011. She has also worked on issues related to macroeconomics, housing, and consumer spending at the President's Council of Economic Advisers during two administrations and on similar issues at the Federal Reserve Board. In 2021, Dr. Edelberg was appointed a member of the National Academies' planning committee on Strengthening the Evidence Base to Improve Economic and Social Mobility in the United States. She is a macroeconomist, whose research has spanned a wide range of topics from household spending and saving decisions to the economic effects of fiscal policy to systemic risks in the financial system. She has a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Chicago, an M.B.A. from the University of Chicago, and a B.A. degree from Columbia University.



Juan Manuel Pedroza

Juan Pedroza is assistant professor of sociology in the Sociology Department at the University of California, Santa Cruz, where he examines the changing landscape of immigration in the United States. Over the past decade, he has investigated the vast inequalities of immigrants' access to justice and the social safety net, and his research has examined how and where deportation and enforcement initiatives exacerbate these inequalities and leave imprints in our local communities. Professor Pedroza has received funding from the Russell Sage Foundation and the Institute for Research on Poverty. He has a Ph.D. in sociology from Stanford University, where he served as fellow at the Center for Poverty and Inequality and as a graduate research fellow at the Center for Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity. Professor Pedroza has a B.A. degree in history/conflict studies from DePauw University, and an M.P.A. in policy analysis/economic development from Indiana University, Bloomington.