



Society of Government Economists

Annual Conference 2013

Program and Information

Co-sponsored by the Economics Department of
The George Washington University



Department of Economics
The George Washington University Washington, DC

Marvin Center, George Washington University
800 21st St. NW, Washington, DC.

Wednesday, November 6, 2013

SGE's annual conference is a unique forum for applied research on economic policy. The conference is attended by government economists as well as those working in the private and non-profit sectors, academia, and other organizations.

To register, please visit our website at www.sge-econ.org

Additional Sponsors: IZA and the Nonprofit Research Project

Information for Participants

Registration

Registration will begin at 7:30 AM. Please arrive early so as not to be in a line when the sessions begin at 8:30 AM. Registration can be done at any time during the conference, but it will be much easier in the morning before sessions begin, since more volunteers will be able to help.

Conference attendees including presenters must register for the conference in order to attend, regardless of the amount of time spent at the conference. Please go to <http://www.sge-econ.org> to register. Registration prior to arriving at the conference is greatly encouraged. Though walk-in registration will be possible, it may require a delay in waiting in line. Speakers who were invited by the SGE to give a plenary presentation or a presentation in the training seminar on the first day of the conference are automatically registered at no cost. In addition, all George Washington University (GWU) students and faculty may attend the conference at no cost (GWU students and faculty are asked to come to the registration desk on the first day of the conference).

Location

The Marvin Center of George Washington University on 21st and I St., NW, in Washington, DC. It is only three blocks from the Foggy Bottom metro stop. Please arrive early, especially if you are driving, because traffic may be problematic in downtown Washington in the morning, and parking may be difficult to find. (Private parking garages will likely be the only places with parking for the day.)

Schedule

The general schedule for the day is shown below. Because of limited seating, the Nonprofit Research Project Training Workshop sessions are only available to those who registered specifically for the training. However, non-registrants may attend if extra seating is available. Lunch in the Ballroom is provided for conference registrants and is included in the price of the registration.

Breakout Sessions. Some of the breakout sessions were proposed to the SGE as organized sessions; others were constructed by the SGE from papers that were submitted individually. For those sessions that were proposed to the SGE, organizers are responsible for establishing the presentation time limits and schedules for the session.

For those sessions that were put together by the SGE, the following is requested: (1) Paper presentations for sessions with four papers should be limited to 15-20 minutes and discussant talks for four-paper sessions should be limited to 5-8 minutes. (2) Based on the above time restrictions, ample time should be made available for questions from the audience. (3) SGE has been seeking volunteers among the session participants to chair the session in cases where a chair has not been assigned, and similarly to serve as discussants in cases in which presented papers have not yet been given a discussant. If no discussant is found, it is hoped that sufficient time would be allocated in the session in any case to solicit and obtain feedback from the audience and from other paper presenters about the paper that is absent a discussant.

All of the breakout rooms will have projectors, but SGE and the session organizers of the proposed, accepted sessions are expected to provide laptops for the presentations and ensure that people who have PowerPoint presentations are able to upload them to their laptops. The SGE is therefore asking all session organizers to confirm that they have secured laptops for their sessions.

Summary of Conference Schedule

	Location									
Timeslot	Ballroom (Third Floor)	Room 301	Room 308	Room 311	Room 402	Room 403	Room 404	Room 407	Room 413	Room 414
8:00 - 8:30	Breakfast									
8:30 - 10:15		1. Monetary Policy	Nonprofit Research Project Training Workshop I (registrants only)	2. Labor Economics I	3. Political Issues		4. Income Inequality I	5. IZA: Migration	6. Trade Conflicts	
10:30- 12:30		7. Studying Behavior	Nonprofit Research Project Training Workshop II (registrants only)	8. Labor Economics II	9. Challenges in Measurement and Forecasting		10. Public Economics	11. IZA: Skills of the Young	12. Energy and the Environment I	13. Economic Development
12:30-1:30	Lunch with Presentation by Robert Samuelson: "Did Economists Cause the Financial Crisis?"									
1:45-3:15		14. Improvements in US Statistics	Nonprofit Research Project Training Workshop III (registrants only)		15. Labor in Recessions	16. Science and R&D	17. Credit Issues	18. Secure Incomes	19. Income Inequality II	20. International Trade and Migration
3:30-5:30			Nonprofit Research Project Training Workshop IV (registrants only)		21. Budgets and Fiscal Policy	22. Finance and Property Values	23. Challenges to Conventional Perspectives	24. IZA: Quality of Education	25. Presenting Data	26. Retirement
After 5:30	Happy Hour and Dinner Events (See Conference Program for More Details)									

For sessions that were built by the SGE from individual papers submitted, the SGE is seeking volunteers willing to bring their own laptop and allow their laptop to be used for the session. Those willing to do this should contact us as soon as possible. Questions about the conference should be sent in one email message to both steve.payson@sge-econ.org and marvin.ward@dc.gov.

Prizes for Best Papers Presented

This year the Society for Government Economists (SGE) will present two prizes for the most outstanding papers delivered at its November 6th conference, one for the top paper by a government economist and another for the top paper by a nongovernment economist. Each of the award winners will receive a \$500 prize. The basis for both awards will be the quality and policy relevance of the economic analysis in the final papers. All presenters who wish to apply for the award are invited to submit their completed papers to the SGE to qualify for the award. **In order to accommodate revisions, the deadline for submitting the final paper to the SGE board is December 20, 2013.** Both awards will be announced by March 1, 2014. The two award winners will be honored at the Fall 2014 SGE Conference. Send your proposed paper to Marvin Ward (marvin.ward@dc.gov).

Conference Program

7:30 AM **Registration Begins (Hallway in 3rd Floor, in Front of the Ballroom)**

8:00 AM – 8:30 AM **Breakfast (Ballroom)**

8:30 AM – 10:15 AM **Concurrent Sessions 1-6**

Nonprofit Research Project Training Workshop I (registrants only)—Room 308
See the Workshop Agenda on Page 15.

Session #1 Monetary Policy and Its Effects (Room 301)

Quantitative Easing, Consolidation and Financial Economic Stability: An Historical Perspective
Steven Isberg; University of Baltimore

The Effects of Monetary Policy Announcements at the Zero Lower Bound
Natsuki Arai; Johns Hopkins University

Session #2 Labor Economics I (Room 311)

Firm Dynamics and Assortative Matching
Leland Crane; UMD College Park

The Price Elasticity of Higher Education for Military Spouses
Charles Baschnagel

Can Parents' Right to Work Part-Time Hurt Childbearing-Aged Women? A Natural Experiment with Administrative Data
Daniel Fernandez-Kranz
Nuria-Rodrigues-Planas, IZA

Session #3 Political Issues (Room 402)

Voting with Behavioral Heterogeneity
Youzong Xu; Washington University in St. Louis

Revolutions
Brian Scholl; IZA

Will Global Warming Cure Obesity?
Stephen Popick; George Washington University
Anthony Yezer; George Washington University

Session #4 Income Inequality I (Room 404)

Trends in Intergenerational Economic Mobility Over Three Cohorts of Men
Scott Winship; Manhattan Institute

Levels and Trends in United States Income and Its Distribution: A Crosswalk from Market Income Towards a Comprehensive Haig-Simons Income Approach
Philip Armour; Cornell University
Richard Burkhauser; Cornell University & University of Melbourne
Jeff Larrimore; Joint Committee on Taxation

Perspectives on Income Mobility, Inequality and Turnover at the Top
Gerald Auten; U.S. Treasury Department
Discussant: Robert Lerman

Session #5 IZA: Migration (Room 407)

Chair: Amelie F. Constant; IZA, Temple University, and George Washington University

A New (and Old Way) of Measuring the Effect of Poorly Educated Immigration on Poorly Educated Natives
Harriet Duleep; College of William and Mary and IZA

Determinants and Persistence of Immigrant Ranking Across Occupational Groups in the US
Agnieszka Postepska; Georgetown University
Francis Vella; Georgetown University and IZA

Immigration and Metropolitan Areas' Economic Growth -- A Spatial Panel Approach
Xiaochu Hu; George Mason University

Discussants: Agnieszka Postepska; Georgetown University
Harriet Duleep; College of William and Mary and IZA

Session #6 Trade Conflicts (Room 413)

Why do Solvent Countries Default?
Warren Carnow; George Washington University

Retaliation: symmetric vs asymmetric
Aleksandr Vashchilko; American University of Iraq

Trade Preferences and Political Conflicts Associated with Trade Liberalization
Shoya Ishimaru; University of Tokyo
Soohyun (Catherine) Oh; KIEP
Seung-Gyu Sim; University of Tokyo

10:30 AM – 12:30 PM Concurrent Sessions 7-13

Nonprofit Research Project Training Workshop II (registrants only)—Room 308
See the Workshop Agenda on Page 15.

Session #7 Studying Behavior (Room 301)

Regulating Consumer Financial Products: Evidence from Credit Cards

Souphala Chomsisengphet; Office of the Comptroller of the Currency

Johannes Stroebel; Stern School of Business

Neale Mahoney; University of Chicago Booth School of Business

Sumit Agarwal; Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago

One Step at a Time: How to Achieve Voluntary Coordination through Gradualism?

Plamen Nikolov; Harvard University

The Effects of Fiscal Stimulus on Crime

Filippos Petroulakis; University of Maryland

Optimistic About the Future? The Importance of Uncertainty and Sentiment about the Future for Optimal Consumer Behavior

Justin Johnson Kakeu Kengne; Morehouse College

Session #8 Labor Economics II (Room 311)

The Impact of State and Local Taxes on Effective Marginal Tax Rates

Tracy Foertsch; US Treasury Department

The Employment and Earnings Effects of the Georgia Job Creation Tax Credit: A Regression Discontinuity Approach

Daniel Kuehn; American University

State Variation of Student Loan Debt and Performance

Wenhua Di; Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas

Kelly Edmiston; Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City.

9. Challenges in Measurement and Forecasting (Room 402)

Biases in U.S. Government Forecasts

Neil Ericsson; Federal Reserve Board

Stedman Hood; Federal Reserve Board

Frederick Joutz; George Washington University

Tara Sinclair; George Washington University

H. O. Stekler; Department of Economics

The Social Cost of Carbon in Federal Rulemaking

Elizabeth Kopis, National Center for Environmental Economics, EPA

Discussant: Robert Nelson; University of Maryland

Session #10 Public Economics (Room 404)

Chair: Steven Payson, AIRLEAP

The United States Grant System

Howard Chernick; Hunter College

Economics of Federal Law Enforcement

Bryan Roberts; Econometrica, Inc.

Molly Valdes-Dapena; Institute for Defense Analyses

John Whitley; Institute for Defense Analyses

International Trade Policies

Charles Sawyer; Texas Christian University

Government Support for Public Transit Systems

Brian Sloboda; University of Phoenix

Session #11 IZA: Skills of the Young (Room 407)

Chair: Robert Lerman; American University and IZA

Expanding Apprenticeship: An Evidence-Based Policy to Increase Earnings

Robert Lerman; American University and IZA

One Size Does Not Fit All: Re-Thinking the Role of Abilities on College Attendance and Labor Market Outcomes

Maria Prada; University of Maryland

Sergio Urzua; University of Maryland and IZA

Bullying and Cyberbullying in Teenagers: The Role of Cognitive and Non-Cognitive Skills

Miguel Sarzosa; University of Maryland

Sergio Urzua; University of Maryland and IZA

Discussants: Maria Prada; University of Maryland

Sergio Urzua; University of Maryland and IZA

Session #12 Energy and the Environment (Room 413)

Welfare Effects of Nonlinear Electricity Pricing

Jung S. You; Rice University

Perverse Incentives in Vehicle Emissions Testing: Estimating the Effect of Inspection and Maintenance Programs on Air Quality

Nicholas Sanders; College of William & Mary
Ryan Sandler; Federal Trade Commission

Auctioning Federal Leases for Offshore Oil and Gas: New Options

Radford Schantz; Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

Environmental R&Ds and Synergistic Effects of Multiple Policy Instruments.

Valerica Vlad; Pennsylvania State University-Erie

Session #13 Economic Development (Room 414)

The Impact of Service Liberalization on Chinese Manufacturing Performance-A Computable General Equilibrium Analysis

Lin Jones; U.S. International Trade Commission
Marinos Tsigas; U.S. International Trade Commission

Foreign-Currency Debt and Government Spending Shocks

Cheng-Ying Yang; University of Wisconsin

The Global Partnership for Inclusive Growth

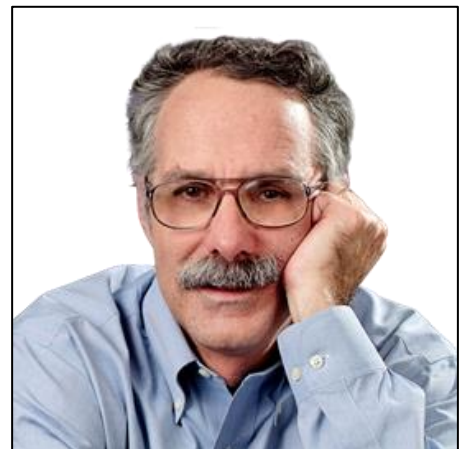
Yongfu Huang; United Nations University

12:30 – 1:30 PM

**Conference Lunch Presentation with Robert J. Samuelson
(Ballroom)**

Did Economists Cause the Financial Crisis?

Robert Samuelson is a columnist for *The Washington Post* and has previously served as an economics correspondent for *The National Journal* and a contributing editor at *Newsweek*. He is also the author of *The Good Life and Its Discontents: The American Dream in the Age of Entitlement, 1945-1995* (Time Books, 1995), *Untruth: Why the Conventional Wisdom is (Almost Always) Wrong* (2001), and *The Great Inflation and Its Aftermath: The Past and Future of American Affluence* (2008, revised paperback edition 2010).



1:45 PM – 3:15 PM Concurrent Sessions 14-20

Nonprofit Research Project Training Workshop III (registrants only)—Room 308
See the Workshop Agenda on Page 15.

Session #14 Improvements in U.S. Statistics (Room 301)

Comparing New Final Demand Producer Price Indexes with other Government Price Indexes
Jonathan Weinhagen; Bureau of Labor Statistics

Productivity Growth in Construction
Leo Sveikauskas; Bureau of Labor Statistics

Online Model Selection Forecasting with Panel Data
Brian Scholl; IZA

Session #15 Labor in Recessions (Room 402)

Trends and Cycles in U.S. Labor Market
Amy Guisinger; The George Washington University
Tara Sinclair; George Washington University

How Well Did Social Security Mitigate the Effects of the Great Recession?
William Peterman; Federal Reserve Board of Governors
Kamila Sommer ; Federal Reserve Board

Unemployment Persistence in the Recoveries from the Great Depression and the Great Recession
Gabriel Mathy; American University

Session #16 R&D and Science (Room 403)

Remaining as a Leader or Not? Technology Spillover and Technological Efficiency Answer
Hung Pin Lin; Shu-Te University

Organizational Capital, R&D Assets, and Offshore Outsourcing
Wendy Li; Bureau of Economic Analysis

Building an Empirical Basis for Science Policy
Rebecca Rosen; American Institutes for Research
Julia Lane; American Institutes for Research

Session #17 Credit Issues (Room 404)

Chair: Steven Payson; AIRLEAP

Government Ownership as Quality Certification? The Case of Rating Decisions for Hospital Municipal Bonds

Nathan Dong; Columbia University

Access to Credit in Indian Country

Valentina Dimitrova-Grajzl; Virginia Military Institute

Peter Grajzl; Washington and Lee University

A. Guse; Washington & Lee University

Richard Todd; Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis

Discussant: Andrew Felton, Federal Reserve Board of Governors

Credit rating, Post-Earnings-Announcement-Drift, and Arbitrage from Transient Institutions

Guanming He; Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

Session #18 Secure Incomes (Room 407)

Land Tenure Security and Agricultural Productivity in Cameroon: a Conditional Recursive Mixed Process Analysis

Niee Foning; University of Yaounde II

Power of Perceptions: Impacts of Perceived Conditionality in an Unconditional Cash Transfer Program

David Seidenfeld; American Institutes for Research

The Impact of a large Scale Poverty Program on Time Discounting

David Seidenfeld; American Institutes for Research

Session #19 Income Inequality II (Room 413)

Will Inequality Continue to Rise? Forecasting Income Inequality and Polarization in the United States

Marina Gindelsky; George Washington University

Trends in Income Inequality, Intertemporal Variability, and Mobility Risk in 30 Countries

Austin Nichols; Urban Institute

Insights from Statistical Physics into the Probability Distributions of Money and Income in the U.S. Economy

Victor Yakovenko; University of Maryland

Session #20 International Trade and Migration (Room 414)

Buyer-Seller Relationships in International Trade: Do Your Neighbors Matter?

Fariha Kamal; Center for Economic Studies

Asha Sundaram; University of Cape Town

The Effects of US Experience on the Earnings of Returned Migrants in Mexico

Shan Li; The George Washington University

The Role of Intellectual Property in Value-Added Trade in Global Value Chains

Nikolas Zolas; Bureau of the Census

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM Concurrent Sessions 21-26

Nonprofit Research Project Training Workshop IV (registrants only)—Room 308
See the Workshop Agenda on Page 15.

Session #21 Budgets and Fiscal Policy (Room 402)

Fiscal Policies in a Search Model with Heterogeneous Households

Zhiming Fu; University of California, Riverside

Multiyear Budgets and Fiscal Performance: Panel Data Evidence

Francesco Grigoli; IMF

Zachary Mills; World Bank

Marijn Verhoeven; The World Bank

Razvan Vlaicu; University of Maryland

The Innovation and Diffusion of State Tax Expenditure Budgets: Examining Determinants of Adoption with Event History Analysis

Lori Metcalf; District of Columbia, Office of the Chief Financial Officers

Session #22 Finance and Property Values (Room 403)

How Does Home Equity Affect Mobility?

Tom Mayock; Office of the Comptroller of the Currency

Fredrik Anderson; Office of the Comptroller of the Currency

How Committed are Bank Corporate Line Commitments?

Irina Barakova; Office of the Comptroller of the Currency

Harini Parthasarathy; Office of the Comptroller of the Currency

A Study on Performance of Subprime and Alt A Mortgages in the Subprime Crisis

Kee Cheung; Department of Housing and Urban Development

Sea Level Rise and Property Prices in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed

Charles Griffiths; Environmental Protection Agency

Patrick Walsh; Environmental Protection Agency

Session #23 Challenges to Conventional Perspectives (Room 404)

Chair: Robert Nelson, University of Maryland

Bringing Religion into Economic Policy Analysis

Robert Nelson; University of Maryland

Why Does Theoretical Economic Literature Exist? An Economic and Sociological Critique

Steven Payson; AIRLEAP

Discussant: W. Charles Sawyer; Texas Christian University

Session #24 IZA: Quality of Education (Room 407)

Chair: Amelie Constant; IZA, Temple University, and George Washington University

What Kind of Teachers Are Schools Looking For? Evidence from a Randomized Field Experiment

Peter Hinrichs; Georgetown University

School and Drugs: Closing the Gap, Evidence from a Randomized Trial in the US

Nuria Rodriguez-Planas; IZA, IAE-CSIC, and Universitat Pompeu Fabra

Snooze or Lose: High School Start Times and Academic Achievement

Jeffrey Groen; Bureau of Labor Statistics

Sabrina Pabilonia; Bureau of Labor Statistics and IZA

Discussants: Sabrina Pabilonia; Bureau of Labor Statistics and IZA

Peter Hinrichs; Georgetown University

Session #25 Presenting Data (Room 413)

Visualizing Economic Data for Non-Experts

Catherine Mulbrandon; VisualizingEconomics.com

Giving Better Presentations: A Primer for Policy Analysts

Jonathan Schwabish; Congressional Budget Office

Data Visualization in Practice

Adam Coyne; Mathematica Policy Research

Session #26 Retirement (Room 414)

Retirement Replacement Rates and Retirement Wealth Inequality Among Baby Boomer and Other Birth Cohorts

John Gist; George Washington University

Interactions between Social Insurance Programs: The Impact of Medicare on the Characteristics of Petitioners for Bankruptcy

Megan Fasules; American University

Mary Hansen; American University

Does Household Debt Influence the Labor Supply and Benefit Claiming Decisions of Older Americans?

Barbara Butrica; Urban Institute

Nadia Karamcheva; Urban Institute

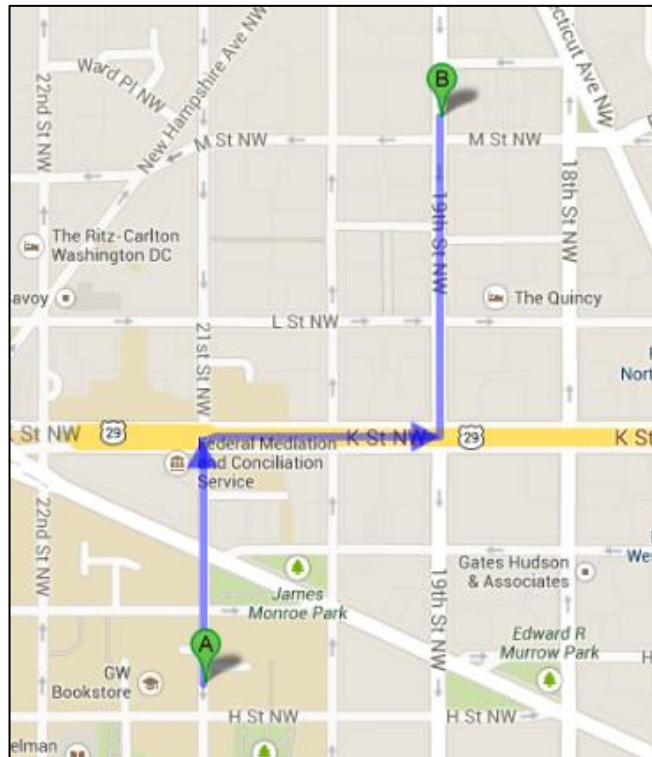
6:00 PM – 7:15 PM; 7:15 PM – 8:30 PM

AIRLEAP Invitation to a Happy Hour and Dinner Gathering

All SGE Conference attendees are invited to attend the AIRLEAP Happy Hour and Dinner Gathering that will be held at the Mai Thai Restaurant (1200 19th St., NW) which is only eight blocks (about a 10 minute walk) from the Marvin Center (from point A to B as shown).

The happy hour will run from 6:00 to 7:15 PM, and dinner from 7:15 to around 8:30. People may feel free to attend either or both, and are expected to pay for their own dinner and drinks.

AIRLEAP® is the Association for Integrity and Responsible Leadership in Economics and Associated Professions—a 501(c)(3) charitable and educational nonprofit organization since 2007, whose Board of Directors is chaired by Deirdre McCloskey. For more information about AIRLEAP and the gathering see <http://www.airleap.org> and <http://www.airleap.org/meetings.htm>.



NPRP TRAINING PROGRAM

EVALUATION, TAX DATA, AND COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS

Training Workshop for Nonprofits and Public Agencies in the Washington DC Metro Area

8:45 am - 9:00 am: Objectives of the Workshop (Quentin Wodon)

9:00 am - 10:15 am: Lecture I - Introduction to Cost Benefit Analysis (Warren Prunella)

10:15 am - 10:30 am: Coffee Break

10:30 am - 11:30 am: Lecture II - Introduction to Impact Evaluation (Laura Rawlings)

11:30 am - 12:30 pm: Panel I – Evaluation of Youth Programs

Session chair: Lindsey Buss

- (1) Evaluation of Urban Alliance Programs (Daniel Tsin and Brett Theodos)
- (2) Evaluation of Latin America Youth Center Programs (Tony Fujs and Brett Theodos)
- (3) Evaluation and Cost-Benefit Analysis for Youth Programs: A Teaching Case Study (Mattias Lundberg)

12:30 am - 1:30 pm: Buffet Lunch and Keynote Speaker

Keynote: Did Economists Cause the Financial Crisis? (Robert Samuelson)

1:45 pm – 3:15 pm: Panel II – Tax Data Analysis

Session chair: Farhad Niami

Impact of the Recession:

- (1) Impact of the Recession in DC: An Analysis Based on Tax Returns (Rhucha Samudra)
- (2) Trends in DC Charitable Tax Deductions for Nonprofits (Betty Alleyne)

Neighborhood Analysis:

- (3) Using Tax Data to Analyze Transitioning Neighborhoods in DC (Daniel Muhammad)
- (4) Local Development through Tax Increment Financing: DC USA (Deborah Freis)

3:15 pm – 3:45 pm: Coffee Break

3:45 pm – 5:15 pm: Panel III – Cost-Benefit Analysis

Session chair: Marvin Ward

- (1) Functional Family Therapy Programs to Reduce Juvenile Recidivism (John Roman)
- (2) Capital BikeShare: Cost Benefit Analysis of a PPP (Kristine Johnston)
- (3) Nonprofit Thrift Stores Funding Food Pantries: A Win-Win Strategy? (Quentin Wodon)

5:15 pm – 5:30 pm: Conclusion, Evaluation Forms, and Next Steps