

Kul Bhatia:

Kul Bhatia is interested in fiscal policy issues, especially in general equilibrium analyses of tax policies. He has also worked on rural-urban migration and income distribution in developing countries. Currently, he is participating in a trans-disciplinary project on eco-system health, a joint venture between Western and Egerton University, Kenya. His papers have appeared in the *American Economic Review*, the *Journal of Public Economics*, and *Public Finance/Finances Publiques*.

Audra Bowlus:

Audra Bowlus specializes in applied labour economics with a particular emphasis on search models. Within the search framework she has studied the school-to-work transition, gender wage differentials, discrimination, displaced workers, and long-run inequality. She has also conducted research on job match quality, the cyclical nature of wages, the measurement of human capital, and the economics of domestic violence against women. Her research has an international dimension utilizing data from several countries including Canada, the U.S., the U.K., France, Germany, China and Costa Rica, and has been funded by SSHRC, SRDC, CIDA, the Law Commission of Canada and the United Nations. Audra's research has been published in the *Review of Economic Studies*, *International Economic Review*, *Journal of Labor Economics*, *Journal of Development Economics*, *Canadian Journal of Economics* and the *Journal of Applied Econometrics*.

Elizabeth Caucutt:

Elizabeth Caucutt is interested in a wide range of topics in Macroeconomics. Her current research includes: understanding the importance of rural-urban migration for the origins of social security; studying the interaction of early and late human capital investments when there are borrowing constraints, and evaluating how valid models of multiple equilibria are for explaining stagnation in sub-Saharan Africa. In the past, Elizabeth has worked on (among other things) the effects of school vouchers on inequality when there are peer effects, why women are choosing to have children later, and the effects of various policies on education attainment in sub-Saharan Africa. Elizabeth's research has been supported by SSHRC, and has been published in such journals as the *International Economic Review*, *The Review of Economic Dynamics*, *Economic Theory*, *The Journal of Public Economic Theory*, and *The Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control*.

Tai-Yeong Chung:

Tai-Yeong Chung's research has focused on a number of topics in the economic analysis of law. His main research interest is to understand both functions and limitations of contracts and contract law. Specifically, he has investigated the efficiency property of alternative damages for breach of contract, and the extent to which incomplete contracts create efficient incentives for specific investments. He has also studied other legal institutions such as the settlement of litigation and a tort dispute between an injurer and a victim. His research has been published in such journals as *American Economic Review*, *Canadian Journal of Economics*, *Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization*, *Journal of Legal Studies*, *RAND Journal of Economics*, and *Review of Economic Studies*.

Tim Conley:
TBA

James Davies:

Jim Davies specializes in public economics and is interested in topics ranging from tax policy to the distribution of wealth. He does theoretical work on inequality measurement, modeling the processes that generate distributions of income and wealth, and optimal tax design. Recently, with the support of the UN's World Institute for Development Economics Research in Helsinki, he and an international team of co-authors provided the first estimate of the world distribution of wealth. Currently he is investigating implications of international migration for fiscal policy. Jim was the editor of *Canadian Public Policy*, Canada's leading academic journal on policy, from July 2005 to June 2010, and is the director of our Economic Policy Research Institute. His publications have appeared in many books and journals, including the *American Economic Review*, *Canadian Journal of Economics*, *Economic Journal*, *International Economic Review*, *Journal of Economic Theory*, *Journal of Political Economy*, *Journal of Public Economics*, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, and the *Scandinavian Journal of Economics*. His research has been supported by the SSHRC, Finance Canada, the C.D.Howe Institute, the IDRC, the World Bank and Credit Suisse.

Maria Goltsman:

Maria Goltsman is interested in Microeconomic Theory. Her current research is focused on game-theoretic models of information transmission. She is modeling communication between parties whose interests, decision-making power and available information differ (such as, for example, communication between a lobbyist and a politician, or a financial adviser and a client). She has also worked in contract theory, in particular, on the design of optimal disclosure policies in a trade relationship and in a promotion tournament. Her research has been supported by the SSHRC and published in the *Journal of Economic Theory*, *Journal of Labor Economics* and *Games and Economic Behavior*.

John Knight:

John Knight has research interests in the general areas of theoretical econometrics and financial econometrics. In particular, he is currently working on several projects with co-authors and students which involve the modelling of financial volatility, the statistical properties associated with mean-variance analysis, the estimation of continuous time financial processes and the use of Independent Component Analysis in economics and finance. His research has been published in many of the leading journals including *Econometrica*, *Journal of Econometrics*, *Journal of Business and Economics Statistics*, *Econometric Theory* and *Journal of Financial Econometrics*. In 2002 he was awarded the Plura Scripsit Award by the journal, *Econometric Theory*. He has been continuously funded by NSERC since 1988 and has successfully supervised twelve PhD dissertations with another two currently under way. His former students all have successful jobs in academia, government or the financial industry.

Benjamin Lester:

Ben Lester is an applied theorist who focuses on issues in monetary economics, macroeconomics, and financial economics. He is particularly interested in the role that information plays in these markets. His most recent research analyzes the effects of increased

transparency on pricing decisions. In other current work, Ben considers the role of information acquisition and aggregation in generating asymmetries in the business cycle, paying particular attention to the anatomy of financial crises. He is a recent graduate from the University of Pennsylvania, where he was a recipient of the Lawrence Robbins prize, the Hiram C. Haney fellowship, the Sidney Weintraub Memorial Fellowship, and a University fellowship.

Igor Livshits:

Igor Livshits' research interests include consumer credit and consumer bankruptcy; foreign debt and sovereign default; political economy; sources of cross-country income differences; investment in human capital and productivity. His recent work includes constructing quantitative models of consumer bankruptcy for the purpose of policy analysis, accounting for the rise in consumer bankruptcies, study of prudential regulation in the presence of sovereign default risk, and studying the sources and implications of cross-country differences in labour market institutions. Igor was a Scholar in the Institutions, Organizations and Growth program of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research. Igor is the (off-site) Academic Director of the Berusian Economic Research and Outreach Center. Igor's research has been supported by SHRC and Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Fund, and has been published in the *American Economic Review*, the *American Economic Journal Macroeconomics*, the *Journal of Economic Theory*, the *Journal of Monetary Economics*, and the *Economics Letters*.

Lance Lochner:

Lance Lochner's research focuses on human capital and skill development over the lifecycle and on criminal behavior. He is currently interested in issues related to borrowing opportunities and access to higher education. This research aims to answer questions such as: Are youth from low-income families less likely to attend college because they are unable to borrow as much as they would like? How does the structure of government student loan programs (and private loan programs in the US) affect borrowing opportunities and, ultimately, post-secondary schooling for individuals of different abilities and socioeconomic backgrounds? Can governments improve their student loan programs to better enable low-income students to attend college without leading to dramatic changes in loan default rates? In related research, Lance analyzes the role of family income and borrowing opportunities in affecting earlier family investments in young children and the academic achievement of children at earlier ages. In other recent research, he has explored the relationship between education and crime and whether criminals update their beliefs about the probability they will be arrested if they engage in different types of crime as well as the extent to which those beliefs directly affect criminal behavior. His research has been published in such journals as the *American Economic Review*, *International Economic Review*, and the *Review of Economic Dynamics*.

Jim MacGee:

Jim MacGee is interested in a broad range of topics in macro and international economics. His recent research interests include using stochastic life-cycle models to disentangle what factors account for the significant increase in unsecured consumer borrowing and personal bankruptcies in Canada and the United States over the past 30 years. He is also working on understanding the role of wage rigidities and relative price shocks in the transmission and propagation of the Great Depression using multi-sector models. Jim MacGee received his Ph.D. in economics from the university of Minnesota. Jim has published in prestigious publications, including *American*

Economic Review, *Journal of Monetary Economics*, and *Review of Economic Dynamics*. His research has been supported by grants from the Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

Maria Ponomareva:

Maria Ponomareva's field of specialization is theoretical econometrics. Her current research projects address inference in partially identified models and misspecification of such models. She is also interested in panel data models, including linear panel data quantile regression models with fixed, random or correlated random effects.

David Rivers:

David Rivers is interested in a variety of topics in Empirical Microeconomics, in particular within Industrial Organization. His research interests include methods for measuring firm-level productivity. His current research examines the relationship between productivity and firm-level decision-making, in particular as it relates to International Trade. He is also interested in the economics of crime. Specifically, his research addresses the measurement of the deterrent effects of policies aimed at reducing various crimes.

Chris Robinson:

Chris Robinson studied economics at the London School of Economics and the University of Chicago, and has been a faculty member at the University of Western Ontario since 1977. His research has focused on human capital and wage issues including human capital specificity, labour supply, migration, and unions and he has published a wide range of articles on these topics in scholarly journals. From 1993 to 2003 he served as associate editor of the *Journal of Labor Economics*. From 2001 to 2010 he held the CIBC Chair in Human Capital and Productivity at the University of Western Ontario and was responsible for the overall direction of the CIBC Project in Human Capital and Productivity and CIBC Centre for Human Capital and Productivity. In 2010 he was awarded the H. Gregg Lewis Prize for the best paper published in the *Journal of Labor Economics* for 2008 and 2009.

Youngki Shin:

Youngki Shin is interested in various topics in Econometric Theory and its Applications. His research has been focusing on semiparametric estimation methods in the area of Microeconometrics. Specifically, he has studied flexible model specifications such as monotone transformation models. His recent interests lie in nonseparable panel models in various contexts.

Jacob Short:

TBA

Terry Sicular:

Terry Sicular's field of interest is Development Economics with primary focus on the Chinese economy. She has worked on aspects of China's economy ranging from China's market reforms, rural labour supply, and capital flight to the political economy of revolution. Her current research examines inequality and poverty in China. Terry speaks Mandarin, travels frequently to China, and has in the past spent extended periods in the field with graduate students. Her research has been supported by agencies such as SSHRC, the U.S. National Science Foundation, and the Ford

Foundation. Her publications have appeared in various scholarly journals, including the *Journal of Political Economy*, the *Journal of Development Economics*, the *China Quarterly*, and the *Review of Income and Wealth*. A recent book on inequality and public policy in China, written collaboratively with scholars from China, Europe, Asia and North America, was published by Cambridge University Press.

Al Slivinski:

Al Slivinski's research is on a variety of issues in Public Economics and Political Economy. Much of it develops theoretical models of altruistic behavior in a variety of contexts, including individual donations to charity, voting for political candidates, and founding and managing nonprofit organizations. A recent project, aimed in a different direction, attempts to understand how the potential entry of new firms into an industry affects mergers among existing firms in that market. This project is in collaboration with his recently graduated PhD student, Bingyong Zheng, now a faculty member in China. Slivinski's work has been published in such outlets as *The Journal of Public Economics*, the *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, and the *Quarterly Journal of Economics*.

Todd Stinebrickner:

Todd Stinebrickner is interested in a wide range of topics in Labor and Education Economics. His current/recent research in the area of education examines issues related to educational attainment, peer effects, credit constraints, affirmative action admission policies, student time-use, and teacher labor supply. In other current work, he has used dynamic programming methods to model the labor supply decisions of older workers and to simulate the changes in behavior that would accompany certain counterfactual changes to, for example, social security policy. Todd is a National Bureau of Economic Research Fellow. His work has been supported by SSHRC, The U.S. National Science Foundation, The Mellon Foundation, The Spencer Foundation, and the U.S. National Institute of Health and has been published in such journals as the *American Economic Review*, *International Economic Review*, *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, *The Journal of Labor Economics*, *The Journal of Public Economics*, *The Journal of Econometrics*, and *The Journal of Human Resources*.

Peter Streufert:

Peter Streufert is currently studying the mathematical foundations of game theory. In particular, he is concerned with the counterfactual reasoning that players use when contemplating deviations from the equilibrium path. The matter is engaging because it concerns the other players' beliefs about the relative probabilities between zero-probability events, and his work in the area has produced a new characterization of the sequential equilibrium concept. His past work (on dynamic programming and the economics of poverty) has appeared in journals such as the *Review of Economic Studies*, the *Journal of Mathematical Economics*, *Economic Theory*, the *Journal of Public Economic Theory*, the *Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control*, and the *Journal of Mathematical Analysis and Applications*.

John Whalley:

John Whalley works in numerical simulation applied to a number of policy areas. His main focus is on global issues, with a current focus on post Kyoto global environmental negotiations and the global adjustments implied by continued growth in India and China. He is

best known for his work on general equilibrium computation and has published nearly 400 papers (around 100 in named refereed journals) and written or edited nearly 40 books. He is a fellow of the Econometric Society and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. He is also a foreign fellow of the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences. He is a research associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research and also directs the global economy research area for CESifo(Germany). He is at present appointed 50/50 with Western and the Centre for International Governance Innovation(CIGI) Waterloo where he is a distinguished fellow. He is involved with several CIGI supported projects which involve UWO graduate students.

Ronald Wintrobe:

Ronald Wintrobe is Professor of Economics at the University of Western Ontario, where he also codirects the Political Economy Research Group. Professor Wintrobe is the author of *Rational Extremism: The Political Economy of Radicalism* (Cambridge 2006), *The Political Economy of Dictatorship* (Cambridge 1998), and co –author of *The Logic of Bureaucratic Conduct* (Cambridge 1982). He is also coeditor of many other books, and has written many articles in leading professional journals in economics and political science. Recent papers include, “Extremism, Suicide Bombing, and Authoritarianism” which was awarded the Duncan Black prize for the best paper published in the *Journal Public Choice* in 2006, and “Analytical Approaches to Dictatorship” in the *Oxford Handbook of Political Science, Comparative Politics volume*, published in 2007. He has also written and narrated two radio programs (on dictatorship and on extremism) for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation’s *Ideas* series.

Charles Zheng:

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