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Current Appointment

Irma M. and Robert D. Morris Professor of Economics, Hamilton College, 2020 – present

Former Appointments

Lecturer, Princeton University, 1999-2000

Assistant Professor of Economics, Hamilton College, 2000 – 2006

Associate Professor of Economics, Hamilton College, 2006 – 2012

Professor of Economics, Hamilton College, 2012 – 2020

Education

Brown University, Sc.B., Applied Mathematics-Economics, 1995

Princeton University, M.A., Economics, 1997

Princeton University, Ph.D., Economics, 2000

Research Interests

Health and Economic Status

Subjective Well-Being

Higher Education

Behavioral Economics

Environmental Economics

Recent Courses Taught

Introduction to Economics

Economic Statistics

Microeconomic Theory

Health Economics

Economics of Higher Education

Behavioral Economics

Labor Economics

Economics of Happiness

Senior Research Seminar

Honors, Grants, and Collaborations

Omicron Delta Epsilon Honor Society, Brown University, 1994

Magna Cum Laude, Brown University, 1995

Association of Princeton Graduate Alumni Teaching Prize, Princeton University, 1999

Lucas Grant, Hamilton College, 2001

Faculty Collaborator, Freeman Grant in Asian Studies, Hamilton College, 2005

Faculty Collaborator, Levitt Fellowship, Hamilton College, 2004, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2021

Faculty Collaborator, Emerson Fellowship, Hamilton College, 2010, 2013

Dean's Scholarly Award for Notable Year Achievement, Hamilton College, 2011, 2021

Publications and Working Papers

“Forecasting Job Placements of Economics Graduate Students,” (with Alan Krueger), Journal of Economic Education, Winter 2000, 31(1): 81-94.

“Adapting to Heart Conditions: A Test of the Hedonic Treadmill,” Journal of Health Economics, July 2001, 20(4): 495-508.

“The Effects of Health Events on the Economic Status of Married Couples,” Journal of Human Resources, Winter 2003, 38(1): 219-230.

“Sickness and Preventive Medical Behavior,” Journal of Health Economics, July 2003, 22(4): 675-689.

“Portfolio Choice and Health Status,” (with Harvey Rosen), Journal of Financial Economics, June 2004, 72(3): 457-484, reprinted in Michael Haliassos, Ed., Household Finance, Volume 1, 2015.

“Fatalistic Tendencies: An Explanation of Why People Don’t Save,” B.E. Journals in Economic Analysis and Policy: Contributions to Economic Analysis and Policy, 2005, 4(1): Article 11, 1-21.

“Where do Faculty Receive their PhDs? A Comparison Across Six Disciplines,” Academe, July/August 2005, 91(4): 53-54.

“Recent Publishing Trends at the AER, JPE and QJE,” Applied Economics Letters, January 2007, 14(1): 59-63.

“The Search for Economics Talent: Doctoral Completion and Research Productivity,” (with Wayne Grove), American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings, May 2007, 97(2): 506-511.

“Is Trade Good for Your Health?” (with Ann Owen), Review of International Economics, September 2007, 15(4): 660-682.

“Financial Shocks and Worry about the Future,” (with Ann Owen), Empirical Economics, November 2007, 33(3): 515-530.

“Objective Confirmation of Subjective Measures of Human Well-Being: Evidence from the USA,” (with Andrew Oswald), Science, January 2010, 327(5965): 576-579.

“Early Decision and College Performance,” (with Elizabeth Jensen), Economics of Education Review, August 2010, 29(4): 517-525.

“Identity and Environmentalism: The Influence of Community Characteristics,” (with Ann Owen and Julio Videras), Review of Social Economy, December 2010, 68(4): 465-486.

“Fatalism and Savings,” (with Joel Shapiro), Journal of Socio-Economics, October 2011, 40(5): 645-651.

“Well-being Across America: Evidence from a Random Sample of One Million Americans,” (with Andrew Oswald), Review of Economics and Statistics, November 2011, 93(4): 1118-1134.

“Dark Contrasts: The Paradox of High Rates of Suicide in Happy Places,” (with Mary Daly, Andrew Oswald, and Daniel Wilson), Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, December 2011, 80(3): 435-442.

“Factors Influencing Student Performance in Economics: Class and Instructor Characteristics,” (with Wayne Grove), International Handbook on Teaching and Learning Economics, December 2011.

“The Influence of Social Relationships on Pro-Environment Behaviors,” (with Julio Videras, Ann Owen, and Emily Conover), Journal of Environmental Economics and Management, January 2012, 63(1): 35-50.

“More Information Isn’t Always Better: The Case of Voluntary Provision of Environmental Quality,” (with Ann Owen and Julio Videras), Economic Inquiry, July 2012, 50(3): 585-603.

“Heat Waves, Droughts, and Preferences for Environmental Policy,” (with Ann Owen, Emily Conover, and Julio Videras), Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, Summer 2012, 31(3): 556-567.

“Social Comparisons and Life Satisfaction across Racial and Ethnic Groups: The Effects of Status, Information and Solidarity,” (with Lewis Davis), Social Indicators Research, July 2014, 117(3): 849-869.

“Happiness as a Driver of Risk-avoiding Behaviour: Theory and an Empirical Study of Seatbelt Wearing and Automobile Accidents,” (with Jan-Emmanuel DeNeve, Robert Goudie, Sach Mukherjee, and Andrew Oswald), Economica, October 2014, 81(324): 674–697.

“Criminal Records and The Labor Market for Professional Athletes: The Case of the National Football League,” (with Kendall Weir ’12), Journal of Sports Economics, December 2014, 15(6): 617-635.

“Are Pregnant Women Happier? Racial Differences in the Relationship Between Pregnancy and Life Satisfaction,” (with Paul Hagstrom), Review of Economics of the Household, September 2016, 14(3): 507-527.

“The Effects of Cueing and Framing on Attitudes Towards Gun Control and Gun Rights”, Social Sciences, February 2018, 7(2), 29.

“The Taste for Status in International Comparison” (with Lewis Davis), Journal of Happiness Studies, August 2020, 21(6): 2237-2256

“Leadership Matters: Police Chief Race and Fatal Shootings by Police Officers”, Social Science Quarterly, January 2021, 102(1): 407-419.

“The Wellbeing of Refugees in the United States: Evidence from Utica, NY,” (with Paul Hagstrom and Javier Pereira), Journal of Refugee Studies, March 2021, 34(1): 614-633.

“Religion and Refugee Well-Being: The Importance of Inclusive Community” (with Stephen Ellingson, Paul Hagstrom, and Jaime Kucinkas), Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion, June 2021, 60(2): 291-308.

“Sharing Common Roots: Student-Graduate Committee Matching and Job Market Outcomes” (with Qi Ge and Chenyu Zhou), Southern Economic Journal, October 2021, 88(2): 828-856.

“Assessing the Relationship Between Health and Household Portfolio Allocation,” Financial Planning Review, December 2021, 4(4): e1128.

“Income Improves Well-Being: Evidence from South Africa” (with Mo Alloush), forthcoming at Economic Development and Cultural Change

“How Do You Say Your Name? Difficult to Pronounce Names and Labor Market Outcomes” (with Qi Ge)

“Priming Past Experiences and Preferences for Redistribution” (with Jeffrey Cross and Wei Zhan)

“Religiosity, Religious Attendance, and Well-Being Across Different Religions”

Selected Media MentionsName Pronunciation and Job Outcomes

Inside Higher Ed: <https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2022/06/29/new-paper-finds-evidence-name-discrimination-phds>

Marginal Revolution: <https://marginalrevolution.com/marginalrevolution/2022/06/difficult-to-pronounce-names-and-labor-market-outcomes.html>

Police Chief Race and Fatal Police Shootings

Time Magazine: time.com/5858739/police-shootings-race-chief/

Wall Street Journal: [wsj.com/articles/in-diverse-north-charleston-where-most-police-are-white-a-black-chief-tries-to-bridge-the-divide-11593777603](https://www.wsj.com/articles/in-diverse-north-charleston-where-most-police-are-white-a-black-chief-tries-to-bridge-the-divide-11593777603)

Washington Post: [washingtonpost.com/opinions/2022/04/13/black-police-know-racism-law-enforcement/](https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2022/04/13/black-police-know-racism-law-enforcement/)

COVID-19

CNN: [cnn.com/2020/04/19/us/reopening-country-discussion-risks-benefits/index.html](https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/19/us/reopening-country-discussion-risks-benefits/index.html)

Newsweek: [newsweek.com/donald-trump-tax-cuts-coronavirus-cares-stimulus-1502504](https://www.newsweek.com/donald-trump-tax-cuts-coronavirus-cares-stimulus-1502504)

Pregnancy and Happiness

Time Magazine: time.com/37992/black-women-dont-get-happier-when-pregnant/

Character Concerns in the National Football League

New York Times: [nytimes.com/2014/05/05/us/manning-or-leaf-a-lesson-in-intangibles.html](https://www.nytimes.com/2014/05/05/us/manning-or-leaf-a-lesson-in-intangibles.html)

NPR Morning Edition: [npr.org/2014/12/18/371597757/research-examines-character-concerns-versus-performance-in-the-nfl](https://www.npr.org/2014/12/18/371597757/research-examines-character-concerns-versus-performance-in-the-nfl)

Suicide Rates and Happiness

New York Times: [well.blogs.nytimes.com/2011/04/22/happiest-places-post-highest-suicide-rates/](https://www.well.blogs.nytimes.com/2011/04/22/happiest-places-post-highest-suicide-rates/)

Youth Attitudes on the Economy

CBS News: [cbsnews.com/news/poll-black-teens-more-optimistic-than-peers/](https://www.cbsnews.com/news/poll-black-teens-more-optimistic-than-peers/)

Salon.com: [salon.com/2010/04/29/us_optimism_schism_singleton/](https://www.salon.com/2010/04/29/us_optimism_schism_singleton/)

Happiness Across the United States

Wall Street Journal: [wsj.com/articles/SB126152663510002187](https://www.wsj.com/articles/SB126152663510002187)

New York Times: [nytimes.com/2009/12/22/nyregion/22nyc.html](https://www.nytimes.com/2009/12/22/nyregion/22nyc.html)

New York Public Radio: [wnyc.org/story/59774-highs-and-lows/](https://www.wnyc.org/story/59774-highs-and-lows/)

Predicting Publishing Success in Academia

Inside Higher Ed: [insidehighered.com/news/2007/01/09/defining-what-makes-economist](https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2007/01/09/defining-what-makes-economist)

Invited Presentations

American Economic Association Annual Meetings, Princeton University, Vassar College, Binghamton University, Syracuse University, Cornell University, Wayne State University, NBER Higher Education Working Group Meetings, University of Albany, Oberlin College, Union College, Western Economic Association Annual Meetings, Williams College

Professional Service

Co-editor: International Journal of Wellbeing, 2012-2017

Associate Editor: Financial Planning Review, 2019-present

Editorial Board Member: International Journal of Wellbeing, 2010-present

Editorial Board Member: Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics, 2013-present

Referee: American Journal of Agricultural Economics, Applied Economics, B.E. Journals in Economic Analysis and Policy, Canadian Journal of Economics, China Economic Review, Contemporary Economic Policy, Criminal Justice Review, Eastern Economic Journal, Economic Inquiry, Economics Bulletin, Economics of Education Review, European Journal of Psychology, Financial Planning Review, Finance Research Letters, Health Economics, Health Psychology, International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, Journal of Aging and Health, Journal of Applied Econometrics, Journal of Applied Economics, Journal of Banking and Finance, Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics, Journal of Consumer Affairs, Journal of Economic Education, Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization, Journal of Economic Growth, Journal of Economic Psychology, Journal of Economic Surveys, Journal of Happiness Studies, Journal of Health Economics, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Labor Economics, Journal of Labor Research, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Socio-Economics, Kyklos, Management Science, National Science Foundation, Nature and Human Behavior, Preventive Medicine, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Quarterly Review of Economics and Finance, Review of Economic Studies, Review of Economics of the Household, Review of Social Economy, Science Advances, Social Indicators Research, Social Science and Medicine, SSM-Mental Health, Social Sciences, Social Services Review, Sociological Inquiry, Southern Economic Journal, World Development

Departmental and College-Wide Service

Information Technology Committee (2002-2003)

Faculty Committee on Admissions and Financial Aid (2003)

Dean of Admissions Search Committee (2003-2004)

Director of Financial Aid Search Committee (2004-2005)

Arthur Levitt Center for Public Affairs Council (2004-2006, 2012, 2016-2018)

Health Professions Advisory Committee (2005-2006)

Presidential Advisory Group (2005-2006)

Economics Department Chair (2007-2011)

Middle States Accreditation Committee (2009-2010)

Assessment Committee (2009-2015, 2018-2021, 2022-present)

Planning Committee (2012)

Faculty Appeals Board (2012-2016, 2022-present)

Committee on Academic Policy (2013-2016)

Presidential Search Committee (2015)

Strategic Planning Steering Committee (2017)

Committee on Appointments (2017-2020)

Education Studies Program Committee (2018-present)

Committee on the Evaluation of Teaching (2019-2022)

Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Search Committee (2021-2022)