CONFERENCE ON
NEW APPROACHES TO INTERGENERATIONAL MOBILITY

December 11-12, 2020
Virtual

Organized by
Steven Durlauf and
Esfandiar Maasoumi
Dear colleagues,

Welcome to our virtual conference on New Approaches to Intergenerational Mobility, hosted by the Human Capital and Economic Opportunity Global Working Group (HCEO).

Research on intergenerational mobility has advanced rapidly in recent years and has captured much attention of policy makers and thought leaders. At the same time the explosion of empirical work on mobility remains relatively unconnected from the methodological frontiers in econometrics and economic theory. In our judgment methodological aspects of mobility warrant deeper and more rigorous development. This conference brings together researchers who emphasize these foundational aspects and help to provide a deeper analysis of the empirical findings, and related measures and concepts.

We thank our funder – The Institute for New Economic Thinking – as well as the Center for the Economics of Human Development for their support of the Human Capital and Economic Opportunity Global Working Group. We are glad you are able to join us for this conference and we hope you find it a valuable and enriching experience.

Best,

Steven Durlauf and Esfandiar Maasoumi
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<td>Estimating Intergenerational Food Security Mobility in the Presence of Misclassification</td>
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Barbara Biasi is Assistant Professor of Economics at the Yale School of Management, a Faculty Research Fellow at NBER, and a Research Affiliate at the IZA Institute of Labor Economics.

Her research is in the areas of labor economics and applied microeconomics, with a focus on education and creativity. Some of her recent research investigates the effects of changes in teachers’ compensation (salaries and pensions) on teachers’ labor markets and the effects of school finance equalization on long-run children’s outcomes, as well as the links between mental health and career outcomes and the links between copyright policies and the diffusion of scientific knowledge.

Biasi obtained her Ph.D. from Stanford University.

Sandra E. Black is Professor of Economics and International and Public Affairs at Columbia University. Black is a Research Associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), a Research Affiliate at IZA, and a Nonresident Senior Fellow at Brookings Institution. She served as a Member of President Obama’s Council of Economic Advisers from August 2015–January 2017. Previously, she worked as an economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, and an Assistant, Associate, and ultimately Professor in the Department of Economics at UCLA, and held the Audre and Bernard Centennial Chair in Economics and Public Affairs in the Department of Economics at the University of Texas at Austin. She is currently an Editor of the Journal of Labor Economics and was previously a Co-Editor and Editor of the Journal of Human Resources. Her research focuses on the role of early life experiences on the long-run outcomes of children, as well as issues of gender and discrimination.

Black received her B.A. from UC Berkeley and her Ph.D. in Economics from Harvard University.
HCEO Director Steven N. Durlauf is the Steans Professor in Educational Policy at the Harris School, University of Chicago. His research spans many topics in microeconomics and macroeconomics, with substantive contributions in the areas of poverty, inequality, and economic growth. Much of his research attempts to integrate sociological ideas into economic analysis. He helped pioneer the application of statistical mechanics techniques to the modelling of socioeconomic behavior and has developed identification analyses for the empirical analogs of these models. He is a Fellow of the Econometric Society and the Society for the Advancement of Economic Theory, a Research Associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research, and a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He served as Economics Program Director of the Santa Fe Institute from 1996–1998. He was general editor of The New Palgrave Dictionary of Economics, revised edition, published in 2008.

Durlauf earned a B.A. in Economics from Harvard University and a M.Phil., M.A., and Ph.D. in Economics from Yale University.

Andros Kourtellos, an MIP network member, is an Associate Professor of Economics at the University of Cyprus. He is also a Senior Fellow of the Rimini Centre for Economic Analysis (RCEA) of the University of Bologna, a member of the academic council of the Economic Research Centre (ERC) of the University of Cyprus, and an EU Marie Skłodowska–Curie Fellow working on the Econometrics of Intergenerational Mobility. His primary research interests are econometrics, inequality, social mobility, economic growth, and macroeconomics. In general, his work focuses on issues of model uncertainty, parameter heterogeneity, nonlinearity, and mixed frequencies. His findings highlight the difficulty in evaluating causal claims when theory provides insufficient guidance for econometric specification, as is typically the case in empirical economic growth.

Kourtellos earned a B.Sc. in Economics at the University of Cyprus in 1996, and an M.Sc. and Ph.D. in Economics at the University of Wisconsin–Madison in 2001.
Rasmus Landersø is a Senior Researcher at the Rockwool Foundation Research Unit in Denmark. An MIP network member, he has also been a visiting scholar at the University of Chicago, and he is an Associate Editor of the Journal of Human Capital. Landersø’s research interests include labor economics, the economics of education, the economics of crime, and applied microeconometrics. His work covers both studies of intergenerational mobility, welfare policies and the role of the public sector, skill formation, and criminal behavior.

Landersø received his Master’s in Economics from the University of Copenhagen and his Ph.D. in Economics from Aarhus University.

Adriana Lleras-Muney is a Professor of Economics at UCLA. Her research examines the relationships between socio-economic status and health, with a particular focus on education and income. Her most recent work investigates whether cash transfers to poor families improve poor children’s education, lifetime incomes and long term health. She is an associated editor for the Journal of Health Economics and she serves on the board of two other journals, Demography and the American Economic Journal-Economic Policy. Lleras-Muney is a faculty fellow at the California Center for Population Research, the Center for Economic and Social Research, and the National Bureau of Economic Research, and a member of the California Policy Lab. She is an elected member of the Executive Committee of the American Economic Association.

Lleras-Muney received her Ph.D. in Economics from Columbia University.
MIP network member Bhaskar Mazumder is a Senior Economist and Research Advisor in the economic research department at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. He also serves as the Executive Director of the Chicago Federal Statistical Research Data Center (FSRDC). Mazumder has done research on: intergenerational economic mobility; the long-term effects of poor health early in life; and black-white gaps in human capital development. His research has been published in academic journals such as the *Journal of Political Economy*, the *American Economic Review*, and the *Review of Economics and Statistics*.

Mazumder received a B.A. in Political Science from New York University, an M.A. in Economics from New York University, and a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of California at Berkeley.

Kjell Salvanes is Professor in Economics at Norges Handelshøyskole (the Norwegian School of Economics). He is the Research Director of Center for Empirical Labor Economics, and the Deputy Director of the Center of Excellence, FAIR at NHH, and a Research Associate at CEPR, IZA, HCEO, CESifo and CEE at LSE. He was a joint Managing Editor of *The Economic Journal* from 2013–2018. His main area of research is in labor economics including family economics and the economics of education. More specifically his research focus has been on intergenerational mobility, early investment in children and adult labor market outcomes, as well as long term effects of early schooling. He has published extensively in top economics journals like the *AER, JPE, QJE, RESTud, REStat, Economic Journal, JEEA*, and in top field journals like *JOLE, JPubE, JHR* as well as contributed in Elsevier’s *Handbook of the Economics of Education*. 
Xi Song is an Associate Professor of Sociology and a faculty member of the Graduate Group in Demography at University of Pennsylvania. An MIP network member, she is an external affiliate of the Population Research Center and a faculty affiliate of the International Max Planck Research School for Population, Health, and Data Science. She was an Assistant Professor of Sociology and the College at the University of Chicago from 2015 to 2019. Song is interested in the origin of social inequality from a multi-generational perspective. Her research uses demographic, statistical, and computational tools to study the rise and fall of families in human populations across time and place.

Song received her Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of California, Los Angeles in 2015.

Esfandiar (Essie) Maasoumi is the Arts and Sciences Distinguished Professor of Economics at Emory University. He is the author and co-author of more than 100 articles, reviews, and books, including special issues of the *Journal of Econometrics* and *Econometric Reviews*. He has written theoretical and empirical papers in both economics and econometrics and consults on law and economics issues. His current research interests include nonlinear time series, information theory, tests for stochastic dominance, neural networks, program evaluation, measures of welfare and mobility, and financial econometrics. Maasoumi is a Fellow of the Royal Statistical Society (FRS), a Fellow of the American Statistical Association, a Founding Fellow of International Association for Applied Econometrics (IAAE), Inaugural Fellow of Society for Economic Measurement, Fellow of Econometric Reviews, and several others.

Maasoumi received his B.Sc., M.Sc., and Ph.D. from the London School of Economics, United Kingdom.
Dr. Daniel Millimet is the Robert H. and Nancy Dedman Trustee Professor in the Department of Economics at Southern Methodist University, a Research Fellow at the Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA), Senior Co-editor of Advances in Econometrics, and Co-editor of Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists. An MIP network member, he is a former Associate Editor at Empirical Economics. His research focuses on the theory and application of microeconometric methods, particularly methods designed to estimate causal effects and deal with measurement error. His applications span a diverse set of topics in labor, environmental, and health economics, as well as international trade. His publications have appeared in many journals, including Journal of Econometrics, Journal of Applied Econometrics, Review of Economics and Statistics, Journal of Business Economics and Statistics, Economic Journal, and International Economic Review.

Dr. Millimet received his B.A. in Economics from the University of Michigan and his Ph.D. in Economics from Brown University.

Chih Ming Tan is the Page Endowed Chair and Professor in Applied Economics at the University of North Dakota’s Department of Economics and Finance. He also serves as the Associate Dean for Research as well as the Director of the Master of Science in Applied Economics and Predictive Analytics (MSAEPa) program. Tan’s primary research interests are in the areas of inequality and mobility, health, economic growth, and development. His work has documented the presence of substantial heterogeneity in redistribution preferences as well as nonlinearities in income mobility across social groups. His recent research has also investigated the long-run impact of early health shocks on later life cognitive development and mental health outcomes in a variety of settings (China, Ghana, and Mexico).

Tan received his B.Sc. and M.Sc. in Economics from the London School of Economics and Political Science, UK, in 1996 and 1997, respectively. He was awarded his Ph.D. in Economics by the University of Wisconsin–Madison in 2004.
Le Wang
University of Oklahoma

MIP network member Le Wang is Chong K. Liew Chair, President’s Associates Presidential Professor, and Professor of Economics at the University of Oklahoma. He also serves as a Co-Editor of China Economic Review and Journal of Labor Research, and Associate Editor of Econometric Reviews. His research interests are in inequality, econometrics, labor and applied microeconomics in general.

Wang received his B.A. in International Finance from Jinan University, Guangzhou, China in 2001 and his Ph.D in Economics from Southern Methodist University in 2006.
ABOUT HCEO

Founded in 2010, the Human Capital and Economic Opportunity Global Working Group (HCEO) is a collaboration of over 500 researchers, educators, and policy makers focused on human capital development and its impact on opportunity inequality. HCEO’s unique approach enables collaboration among scholars with varying disciplines, approaches, perspectives, and fields, and integrates biological, sociological, and psychological perspectives into traditionally economic questions. The result is innovative thinking and approaches to inequality and human capital development research.

HCEO is led by Nobel laureate James J. Heckman, the Henry Schultz Distinguished Service Professor of Economics at the University of Chicago; Steven N. Durlauf, Steans Professor in Educational Policy at the Harris School of Public Policy at the University of Chicago; and Robert H. Dugger, the co-founder of ReadyNation and Hanover Provident Capital.

HCEO focuses its efforts through six research networks that study the most pressing issues within human capital development and inequality: Early Childhood Interventions; Family Inequality; Health Inequality; Identity and Personality; Inequality: Measurement, Interpretation and Policy; and Markets. These networks produce one-of-a-kind conferences, research programs, and publications that highlight findings from the best science and the application of best practices. Through its networks and their resulting research, HCEO plays a vital role in understanding and addressing opportunity inequality around the world.

Impact

- Multidisciplinary networks result in new approaches to research and its application
- Relationships with governments and policy makers put best practices into action
- We have influenced numerous research studies and governmental policies
- Findings are being applied in one of the largest populations in the world—China

We Play a Vital Role

- Income and opportunity inequality is a global and growing problem
- Governments, private think tanks, and others each look at only a portion of the total problem in hopes of finding a lasting solution
- Only HCEO integrates biological, sociological, and psychological perspectives into traditionally economic questions addressed by multidisciplinary teams of experts
- Our research approach treats social science research as an empirical endeavor, resulting in rigorously tested public policy directions and solutions
- Our research provides insights and directions on how to best foster human flourishing and improve economic productivity
The Inequality: Measurement, Interpretation, and Policy Network (MIP) seeks to enhance the development of the theory and application of policy evaluation for those policies designed to reduce inequality and boost individual flourishing. Further, this network will enrich theoretical and empirical research by identifying dimensions of analysis that are particularly policy-relevant.
HCEO is run by the Center for the Economics of Human Development, and funded by the Institute for New Economic Thinking.