

Poverty and Policy

Understanding the causes, consequences, and current programs to address poverty in Montana and the U.S.

A conference sponsored by the Montana State University Initiative for Regulation and Applied Economic Analysis

April 7, 2017 | Procrastinator Theater, Montana State University, Bozeman, MT

Speaker Biographies

Joseph Antos is the Wilson H. Taylor Scholar in Health Care and Retirement Policy at AEI, where his research focuses on the economics of health policy — including the Affordable Care Act, Medicare, the uninsured, and the overall reform of the health care system and its financing. He also studies the impact of health care expenditures on federal budget policy. Before joining AEI, Dr. Antos was assistant director for health and human resources at the Congressional Budget Office (CBO). He has also held senior positions in the US Department of Health and Human Services, the Office of Management and Budget, and the President's Council of Economic Advisers. He recently completed a seven-year term as health adviser to CBO and two terms as a commissioner of the Maryland Health Services Cost Review Commission. In 2013, he was also named adjunct associate professor of emergency medicine at George Washington University. Dr. Antos has a Ph.D. and an M.A. in economics from the University of Rochester and a B.A. in mathematics from Cornell University.

Patrick M. Barkey is Director of the Bureau of Business and Economic Research at the University of Montana, a sixty year old organization with a distinguished record of timely, relevant research and information on the state and regional economies. He has been involved with economic forecasting and policy research for more than 30 years, both in the private and public sector. Before coming to Montana he served as Director of the Bureau of Business Research at Ball State University in Indiana for fourteen years. His recent research has been on the economic impact of energy development, the property tax treatment of the telecommunications industry, and the economic impact of trade with Canada. He attended the University of Michigan, receiving a B.A. ('79) and Ph.D. ('86) in economics.

Peter Buerhaus is a nurse and a healthcare economist who is well known for his studies and publications focused on the nursing and physician workforces in the United States. He is a Professor of Nursing and Director of the Center for Interdisciplinary Health Workforce Studies at the College of Nursing, Montana State University. Prior to moving to Montana, Dr. Buerhaus was a professor of Nursing and Professor of Health Policy at Vanderbilt University (2000-2015), and assistant professor of health policy and management at Harvard School of Public Health (1992-2000). During the 1980s he served as assistant to the Vice Provost for Medical Affairs, the chief executive officer of the University of Michigan Medical Center. In 2003, Dr. Buerhaus was elected into the National Academies Institute of Medicine and since 1994 has been a member of the American Academy of Nursing. Professor Buerhaus has published 120 peer-reviewed articles with five publications designated as "Classics" by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) Patient Safety Network. He currently serves on the Board of Directors for AcademyHealth, the nation's premier association of researchers conducting health services and policy research. On September 30, 2010, Dr. Buerhaus was appointed Chair of the National Health Care Workforce Commission. Created under the Affordable Care Act, the Commission (once funded) will advise Congress and the Administration on health workforce policy.

Kevin C. Corinth is a research fellow in economic policy studies at AEI, where he focuses on homelessness and poverty. He has studied the effectiveness of homelessness policies, the treatment of shared housing arrangements in safety net programs, the role of community in economical rental housing, and ways of improving social services through competition and technology. Before joining AEI, Dr. Corinth was a lecturer at the University of Chicago. He has also worked as a research analyst with the Analysis Group in Boston. He has a bachelor's degree in economics and political science from Boston College and a master's degree and doctorate in economics from the University of Chicago.

Stacy Dean As Vice President for Food Assistance Policy, Dean works extensively with program administrators, policymakers, and non-profit organizations to improve SNAP and provide eligible low-income families easier access to its benefits. She focuses on nutrition programs, immigrant issues, the federal budget, and cross program integration. Dean started at the Center in April 1997 as a Senior Policy Analyst working on national policy issues such as the federal budget, SNAP, and benefits for immigrants. Before joining the Center, Dean worked as a budget analyst at the Office of Management and Budget where she worked on policy development, regulatory and legislative review, and budgetary process and execution for a wide variety of income support programs. In 1999, Dean spent seven months in the United Kingdom as an Atlantic Fellow in Public Policy, examining the integration of benefit and tax policy for low-wage workers. Dean received both her B.A. and Masters in Public Policy from the University of Michigan.

Robert Doar is the Morgridge Fellow in Poverty Studies at AEI, where he studies and evaluates how free enterprise and improved federal policies and programs can reduce poverty and provide opportunities for vulnerable Americans. Before joining AEI, Mr. Doar worked for Mayor Michael Bloomberg as commissioner of New York City's Human Resources Administration, where he administered 12 public assistance programs, including welfare, food assistance, public health insurance, and help for people living with HIV/AIDS. Before joining the Bloomberg administration, Mr. Doar was New York State commissioner of social services, helping make New York a model for the implementation of welfare reform.

Joseph P. Gone, Ph.D., is Professor of Psychology (Clinical Area) and American Culture (Native American Studies) at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. In his interdisciplinary research, he explores the cultural foundations of mental health and psychological well-being in American Indian communities, with special attention to the development of helping services that bridge psychotherapy and indigenous traditional healing. Building on more than two decades of collaboration with tribal communities, Gone has published over 60 scientific articles and chapters on these topics. During this time, he has received recognition in his fields through several fellowships and career awards, including a year-long residency at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University. A Fellow of the Association for Psychological Science and of seven divisions of the American Psychological Association, Gone has served on the editorial boards of seven scientific journals and reviewed manuscripts for more than 65 additional journals in the behavioral and health sciences. In 2014, he was named a Fellow of the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation.

Heather Grenier is the President and CEO for Bozeman's local Community Action Agency, HRDC. HRDC has been fighting the war on poverty since 1975 and operates a family of services aimed at moving the needle on poverty across early childhood care and education, housing and homelessness, energy savings and weatherization, transportation, senior independence, food and nutrition, economic wellness, and community development activities. Heather is one of 200 nationally certified Results Oriented Management and Accountability (ROMA) instructors. Heather has more than 17 years of experience advocating in the Non-Profit and Community Action arena. Heather was born and raised in Missoula, Montana and is an alumni of Montana State University.

Ron Haskins is the Cabot Family Chair of Economic Studies at the Brookings Institution in Washington, DC, and a senior consultant at the Annie E. Casey Foundation. Formerly, he was a senior adviser for welfare policy to President George W. Bush, a senior staffer for the House Committee on Ways and Means, and a research professor at the Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute at the University of North Carolina. Dr. Haskins is a developmental psychologist.

George Haynes is an Agricultural Policy Specialist with the Department of Agricultural Economics and Economics at Montana State University. Prior to his current position, George was a professor with the MSU Department of Health and Human Development. George earned a doctorate in consumer economics and housing from Cornell University in 1993. His contributions to the field of consumer finance and economics have been in the area of family business finance. These lines of research have produced over 45 refereed journal articles, five book chapters, over 50 presentations and over 85 other reviewed monographs. An important contribution of George's family business finance work has been examining the intermingling of family and business financial resources. This research has been supported by funding from the National Science Foundation, U.S. Small Business Administration, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Montana Agricultural Experiment Station.

Carla Javits is President and CEO of REDF, a California-based, national nonprofit venture philanthropy and intermediary that is leading the pioneering effort to create jobs and employment opportunities for people facing very significant barriers to work. Through her stewardship, REDF has expanded from the SF Bay Area throughout the US, helping impact the lives of thousands of people in need of jobs by investing capital and expertise in social enterprises - mission-driven businesses focused on hiring and assisting people who are willing and able to work, but have the hardest time securing employment. Inspired by REDF's founder, George R. Roberts of KKR, Carla focuses on achieving measurable results by building the partnerships and systems to provide a business solution to joblessness among those overcoming the most significant challenges. Before coming to REDF, Carla was the President and CEO of the Corporation for Supportive Housing, a national intermediary and community development financial institution (CDFI). She was previously with the California Office of the Legislative Analyst and the San Francisco Department of Social Services, and prior to that worked in hospitality. Carla holds a BA and Master's in Public Policy from UC Berkeley. She serves on the Board of Directors of the Social Enterprise Alliance and the Melville Charitable Trust and on the National Advisory Council of the Center for the Advancement of Social Entrepreneurship at the Fuqua School of Business at Duke University. She is a member of the Advisory Committee of The Philanthropic Initiative as well as the Insight Center for Community Economic Development National Advisory Board.

Robert Lerman is an Institute fellow in the Center on Labor, Human Services, and Population at the Urban Institute as well as professor of economics at American University and a research fellow at IZA in Bonn, Germany. A leading expert on apprenticeship, he recently established the American Institute for Innovative Apprenticeship. His current research focus is on skills, employer training, apprenticeship programs in the United States and abroad, and housing policies. Lerman's published research covers employment issues, earnings and income inequality, family structure, income support, and youth development, especially as they affect low-income populations. In the 1970s, he worked as staff economist for both the Congressional Joint Economic Committee and the US Department of Labor. He was one of the first scholars to examine the patterns and economic determinants of unwed fatherhood, and to propose a youth apprenticeship strategy in the United States. He served on the National Academy of Sciences panel on the US postsecondary education and training system, and on the Maryland Task Force on Economic Development and Apprenticeship. Lerman has testified before congressional committees on youth apprenticeship, child support policies, and the information technology labor market. Lerman earned his AB at Brandeis University and his PhD in economics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Lawrence M. Mead is Professor of Politics and Public Policy at New York University, where he teaches public policy and American government. He is also an Adjunct Scholar at the American Enterprise Institute in Washington. He has been a visiting professor at Harvard, Princeton, and the University of Wisconsin, and a visiting fellow at Princeton and at the Hoover Institution at Stanford. Professor Mead is an expert on the problems of poverty and welfare in the United States and other Western countries. Among academics, he was the principal exponent of work requirements in welfare, the approach that now dominates national policy. He is a leading scholar of the politics and implementation of welfare reform and also work programs for men. His many books and articles on these subjects have helped shape social policy in the United States and abroad. He often testifies on poverty and welfare in Congress and comments on these subjects in the press. He is currently writing a book on American power and culture.

Jennifer L. Noyes is Associate Director of Programs and Management as well as a Distinguished Researcher with the Institute for Research on Poverty at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Her recent research focuses on the integration of services and programs designed to enhance the employment prospects and economic well-being of low-income families and children; the implementation of policies and programs related to welfare, child support, and child welfare; and the collaboration of the research and practitioner communities in order to improve policy and practice. She currently serves as the Project Director of the Child Support Noncustodial Parent Employment Demonstration evaluation. Noyes has considerable experience in the administration and evaluation of social programs, having served as a program evaluator in both the legislative and executive branches of Wisconsin state government; a senior fellow with the Hudson Institute; and a senior administrator in Wisconsin's Department of Workforce Development with responsibility for Wisconsin Works (W-2), the state's welfare replacement program. She has consulted with and provided technical assistance to the National Governors Association's Center for Best Practices, the National Conference of State Legislatures, and members of Congress. Dr. Noyes received her doctorate in Social Welfare from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Angela Rachidi is a research fellow in poverty studies at AEI, where she studies the effects of public policy and existing support programs on low-income families, continuing the work she did for the New York City Human Resources Administration for almost a decade. A former deputy commissioner for policy research and evaluation for the Department of Social Services in New York, Dr. Rachidi oversaw a team of analysts working on studies that were used to help local officials make informed policy decisions on how work, family, and public policy can reduce poverty and improve the economic situation of poor families. She has a Ph.D. in social welfare policy from the New School's Milano School of International Affairs, Management, and Urban Policy.

Renee A. Reijo Pera accepted the position of Vice President for Research and Economic Development at Montana State University in January, 2014. Previously, Dr. Reijo Pera was the director of Stanford University's Center for Human Pluripotent Stem Cell Research and Education and the Center for Reproductive and Stem Cell Biology as well as the doctoral program in stem cell biology and regenerative medicine. Reijo Pera has received numerous awards throughout her career, including being named one of 20 Influential Women in America by Newsweek magazine in 2006. In 2010, her work in imaging algorithms was recognized by Time magazine as one of the top 10 biomedical breakthroughs. She has been at Stanford since 2007. The university is consistently ranked as one of the top 10 research universities in the nation with a \$1.2 billion annual research portfolio.

In addition to her work as director of the two research centers and doctoral program, Reijo Pera was also George D. Smith Professor of Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine at Stanford's Institute for Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine and the departments of genetics and obstetrics and gynecology. Her research is aimed at understanding the genetics of human development and in characterizing the basic properties of normal and disease-bearing human pluripotent stem cells, especially their ability to differentiate to all cell types.

Reijo Pera's work has garnered more than \$28 million in research awards, including several ongoing grants from the National Institutes of Health. She has also served as a consultant, adviser, founder, or on the board of directors of numerous private, donor-backed initiatives that moved research discoveries into the field of medical applications.

Dr. Reijo Pera received a bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin at Superior, a master's degree in entomology from Kansas State University, a doctorate in molecular cell biology from Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y., and postdoctoral training in human genetics at the Whitehead Institute for BioMedical Research at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, Mass.

Diane Whitmore Schanzenbach is the director of The Hamilton Project and a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution. She is currently on leave from her position as a professor in the School of Education and Social Policy and the Department of Economics at Northwestern University. She is also a research associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research, and a research affiliate of the Institute for Research on Poverty. Diane studies issues related to child poverty, including education policy, child health, and food consumption. She graduated magna cum laude from Wellesley College in 1995 with a bachelor's degree in economics and religion, and received a doctorate in economics in 2002 from Princeton University. Much of her research investigates the longer-run impacts of early life experiences, such as the impacts of receiving SNAP benefits during childhood, the impacts of kindergarten classroom quality, and the impacts of early childhood education. She recently served on the Institute of Medicine's Committee on the Examination of the Adequacy of Food Resources and SNAP Allotments.

Jonathan Skinner is the James O. Freedman Presidential Professor in Economics at Dartmouth College and a professor at the Geisel School of Medicine's Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice. He is currently director of the Aging Program at the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), and a member of the National Academy of Medicine (formerly the IOM). He was associate editor of the *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, and the editor of the *Journal of Human Resources*. Skinner received his M.A. and Ph.D. in Economics from UCLA, and a B.A. in political science and economics from the University of Rochester. He has also taught at the University of Virginia, the University of Washington, Stanford University, and Harvard University.

Ann Stevens is a Professor of Economics at the University of California, Davis and the founding Director of the Center for Poverty Research (CPR). She has previously served as Interim Dean of the Graduate School of Management, Department Chair (economics), and Chair of Graduate Studies (economics) at UC Davis.

Dr. Stevens' research explores the patterns and consequences of job loss and employment dynamics, including the long-term effects of job loss on earnings, health, and human capital within and across generations. In addition, she is a leading expert on the dynamics of poverty in the U.S., helping to understand complex patterns of poverty across the course of individuals' lives. Her research has been supported by funding from the National Science Foundation, the Social Security Administration, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. She serves as a Research Associate with the National Bureau of Economic Research and served, from 2011 to 2016, as a member of the Technical Working Group on Welfare and Family Self-Sufficiency Research, at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation.

The mission of Center for Poverty Research at UC Davis is to support and disseminate interdisciplinary academic research on U.S. poverty and inequality, and to train and mentor students throughout the social sciences to produce the next generation of that research. CPR currently involves more than 50 faculty affiliates and numerous graduate and undergraduate students from departments across five colleges and divisions at UC Davis.

Dr. Stevens holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Michigan, and a B.S. in Economics and Political Science from American University in Washington, D.C. Prior to joining the faculty at UC Davis, she held faculty positions at Yale and Rutgers Universities.

Wendy Stock is a professor of economics in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Economics (DAEE) at Montana State University, where her research focuses on the impacts of labor market policies, including disability, race, sex, and age discrimination legislation, as well as no-fault divorce and family leave policies. She also conducts research on effective economics education, and has recently begun a research program focused on the impact of policy and regulation on the health, education, and labor market outcomes of those with mental disorders. Her work has been published in the *Journal of Political Economy*, *Journal of Human Resources*, *American Economic Review*, *Economics of Education Review*, and other outlets. She served on the American Economic Association Committee on Economic Education from 2005-2011 and again beginning in 2017. She has won numerous teaching and research awards and her work has been funded by the National Institutes of Health, the Ford Foundation, the Spencer Foundation, the Calvin K. Kazanjian Economics Foundation, and the Charles Koch Foundation. She joined the DAEE in 2000 and served as the DAEE Department Head from 2006-2016. She earned M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in economics from Michigan State University, and a B.A. in economics from Weber State University.

Richard M. Todd is a Vice President at the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis who serves as an Advisor to the Center for Indian Country Development and in the areas of Community Development and monetary policy. His research currently focuses on the economic development of American Indian reservations. He joined the Bank in 1980 while completing his Ph.D. in Applied Economics at the University of Minnesota and has published on topics such as poverty, household finance and financial education, and macroeconomics. Dr. Todd is on the board of the North Central Regional Center for Rural Development and the advisory council for the University of Minnesota Crookston's Economic Development Center.

W. Bradford Wilcox is a visiting scholar at AEI, where he directs the Home Economics Project. Inaugurated in the fall of 2013, the research project explores the links between family structure and economic growth in 20 countries around the world — more specifically, how marriage and a strong family life foster free enterprise. Dr. Wilcox is also an associate professor in the department of sociology at the University of Virginia, where he directs the National Marriage Project. He is a fellow at the Institute for Studies of Religion at Baylor University and has been a research fellow at Yale University, a research associate at Princeton University, and a Civitas Fellow at the Brookings Institution.

Montana Duke Wilson is an enrolled member of the Gros Ventre tribe of the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation and is descendent of the Assiniboine and Sioux tribes of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation. Prior to receiving his bachelor degrees, Wilson held commissions as a criminal prosecutor and public defender for the Fort Peck Tribes.

Wilson's undergraduate education is a BA in Political Science, a BS in Economics, and a minor in Native American Studies from Montana State University. Wilson's education focuses on tribal governing institutions and how an individual's decision affects economic development policies. During his undergraduate career, Wilson served as a peer instructor for NASX 497: Study in Federal Indian Law & Policy for the MSU Department of Native American Studies. Furthermore, Wilson served as a research assistant and peer instructor for ECNS 105: The Study in the Economic Way of Thinking and ECNS 206: The Study in the Principles of Macroeconomics for the MSU Department of Agricultural Economics & Economics. In 2016, Wilson was awarded the national Udall Scholarship in the field of tribal public policy for his work on tribal economic development. Recently, Wilson won the Gates Cambridge Scholarship to pursue an MPhil in Development Studies at the University of Cambridge in England. Upon the success completion of his MPhil, Wilson plans to return to his reservation to pursue a career in economic development for his tribes.

Bill Yellowtail grew up on his family's cattle ranch on the Crow Indian Reservation. Holding a degree in geography from Dartmouth College, Yellowtail has been a rancher, educator, fishing guide, Montana State Senator and congressional candidate. He was appointed by the Clinton administration to serve as Regional Administrator for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, with responsibility for six western states and 27 Indian Tribes. Yellowtail was honored with an appointment as Katz Professor in Native American Studies at Montana State University, served as Director of Native American, and is an honorary alumnus of the College of Letters and Science. He now lives and works back on the family ranch.