



Best and Worst Practices in Economics Departments: A Brunch and Workshop for Department Chairs

*January 4th at 10:15 am—12:15 pm
Hilton Union Square, Continental Ballroom 1&2*

The event is sponsored by the American Economic Association Committee on Equity, Diversity, and Professional Conduct (CEDPC) and the AEA Committee on the Status of Women in the Economics Profession (CSWEP), with generous support from the Co-Impact Foundation.



**Chairs'
Conference**

2025

Best and Worst Practices in Economics Departments: A Brunch and Workshop for Department Chairs

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Agenda

Welcome and Introduction

Linda Tesar, Alan V. Deardorff Collegiate Professor of Economics, University of Michigan and Joshua Rosenbloom, Professor of Economics and Chair of the Department of Economics, Iowa State University

Opening Remarks

Janet Currie, President of the AEA, Henry Putnam Professor of Economic and Public Affairs, Princeton University

Remarks by AEA Ombuds

Nnena Odim, Mediator, Ombuds, Attorney, Trainer, and Consultant, MWI

Discussion of Chair Survey Results

Donna Ginther, Roy A. Roberts and Regents Distinguished Professor of Economics and the Director of the Institute for Policy and Social Research, University of Kansas

Best and Worst Practices in Economics Departments (Part I)

Amanda Bayer, Franklin and Betty Barr Professor and Chair of the Economics Department, Swarthmore College

Break

Fireside Chat with Kerwin Charles, Indra K. Nooyi Dean and Frederick W. Beinecke Professor of Economics, School of Management, Yale University

Led by Renee Bowen, Dean's Professor, McDonough School of Business and Walsh School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University

Best and Worst Practices in Economics Departments (Part 2)

Amanda Bayer, Franklin and Betty Barr Professor and Chair of the Economics Department, Swarthmore College

Open Discussion and Close

Linda Tesar, Alan V. Deardorff Collegiate Professor of Economics, University of Michigan

Organizers and Speakers



Amanda Bayer, AEA Executive Committee

Amanda Bayer is Chair of the Economics Department and Franklin and Betty Barr Professor at Swarthmore College, where she teaches courses in advanced microeconomic theory, game theory, and race, ethnicity and gender in economics, as well as in microeconomic and macroeconomic principles. She is a visiting senior adviser at the Federal Reserve Board of Governors and holds a B.A. in economics and psychology from Williams College and an M.Phil. and Ph.D. in economics from Yale University.

Professor Bayer is a member of the AEA Executive Committee and chairs the AEA's Advisory Committee on Editorial Appointments. She previously served as a longtime member of the AEA's Committee on Equity, Diversity, and Professional Conduct and the Committee on the Status of Minority Groups in the Economics Profession. She is the lead author of the AEA's [Best Practices for Economists: Building a More Diverse, Inclusive, and Productive Profession](#), co-author of the [AEA Professional Climate Survey](#), and the creator and editor of [Diversifying Economic Quality](#).

Other relevant scholarship by Professor Bayer includes “Diversity in the Economics Profession: A New Attack on an Old Problem” (with Cecilia Rouse, *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 2016), “How You Can Work to Increase the Presence and Improve the Experience of Black, Latinx and Native American People in the Economics Profession” (with Gary Hoover and Ebonya Washington, *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 2020), “Does Simple Information Provision Lead to More Diverse Classrooms?” (with Syon Bhanot and Fernando Lozano, *AEA Papers and Proceedings* 2019), and “Expanding and Diversifying the Pool of Undergraduates who Study Economics” (with Gregory Bruich, Raj Chetty, and Andrew Hoxby, *The Journal of Economic Education* 2020).



Renee Bowen, Chair, AEA Committee for Equity, Diversity and Professional Conduct (CEDPC)

Renee Bowen is an Economist and Dean's Professor of International Business and Global Affairs at Georgetown University. She is jointly appointed in the McDonough School of Business and the Walsh School of Foreign Service. She has held previous academic positions at the Stanford Graduate School of Business, UC San Diego's Department of Economics and School of Global Policy and Strategy (GPS). In 2019 she founded the Center for Commerce and Diplomacy at UC San Diego, and served as its Director until 2023. She is an Economic Theory Fellow at the Society for the Advances in Economic Theory, a Council Member of the Game Theory Society, has published in top economics journals including the *American Economic Review*, and the *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, and is on the editorial boards of the *American Economic Review: Insights*, *Journal of Economic Literature* and the *Review of International Organizations*. Her professional memberships include the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) and a Board member of the Pacific Council on International Relations. She has held

other positions at the Hoover Institution, the World Bank, J.P. Morgan Securities, the Inter-American Development Bank, and is currently a member of the California Governor's Council of Economic Advisors, where she chaired the Workforce Development Subcommittee. She holds a PhD in Economics from Georgetown University, and a BSc in Civil Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Her recent research examines the design of global multilateral institutions and formation of political beliefs in societies.



Kerwin Charles, AEA Committee for Equity, Diversity and Professional Conduct (CEDPC)

Kerwin joined Yale in 2019 as the Indra K. Nooyi Dean and Frederick W. Beinecke Professor of Economics, Policy, and Management at the Yale School of Management (SOM). He moved to Yale from the University of Chicago, where he was the Edwin A. and Betty L. Bergmann Distinguished Service professor. He has studied and published on a range of topics in labor and applied economics. Among other professional duties, he has served as the vice president of the American Economic Association and is on the Board of several academic and nonprofit entities. He is also a Research Associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research. He is an elected Fellow of the Society of Labor Economics; of the American Academy of Political and Social Science; and of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences.



Janet Currie, AEA President

Janet Currie is the Henry Putnam Professor of Economics and Public Affairs at Princeton University and the co-director of the Program on Families and Children at the National Bureau of Economic Research. Currie is a pioneer in the economic analysis of child development. Her current research focuses on socioeconomic differences in health, environmental threats to health, child mental health, and the long-run impact of child health. She has presented her work at universities around the world and in venues ranging from the White House to the European Investment Bank. She holds honorary degrees from the University of Lyon, the University of Zurich, and the Università della Svizzera Italiana and is a member of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Medicine, the American Academy of Art and Sciences, and the British Academy. She is the 2024 President of the American Economic Association. She is a distinguished CES Fellow, and a fellow of the Econometric Society, the Society of Labor Economists, and the American Academy of Political and Social Science. She was chosen as a NOMIS Distinguished Scientist in 2019 and won the Klaus J. Jacobs Research Prize in 2023. She was named one of the top 10 women in Economics by the World Economic Forum in 2015. Currie has served on the Board of Reviewing Editors of Science, as the Editor of the Journal of Economic Literature, and on the editorial boards of many other journals.



Donna Ginther, AEA Committee for Equity, Diversity and Professional Conduct (CEDPC)

Donna Ginther is the Roy A. Roberts & Regents Distinguished Professor of Economics and Director of the Institute for Policy & Social Research at the University of Kansas and a Research Associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research. Dr. Ginther has published in several journals, including *Science*, *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, *Demography*, *Psychological Science in the Public Interest*, and the *Papers and Proceedings of the American Economic Association*. She has also received research funding from the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, and the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation. Her research has been featured in several media outlets including the *Economist*, *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *USA Today*, *NPR*, and the *Boston Globe*.

Dr. Ginther testified before the Subcommittee on Research and Science Education of the U.S. House of Representatives on the *Fulfilling the Potential of Women in Academic Science and Engineering Act of 2008* and the Working Group on Women in the 21st Century Workforce, U.S. House of Representatives. She has also testified before the Kansas Legislature on several occasions about social safety net and tax policy. Dr. Ginther has advised the National Academies of Science, the National Institutes of Health, and the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation on the diversity and future of the scientific workforce. She is currently President-elect of the Southern Economic Association and previously served as Vice President and on its Board. She is a member of the American Economic Association Committee on Equity, Diversity and Professional Conduct and previously served on the Nominations Committee and the Board of the Committee on the Status of Women in the Economics Profession. Dr. Ginther received the Public Service Award from the American Society for Cell Biology in 2021 and was named a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 2023.



Gwyn Loftis, AEA CEDPC Committee Coordinator

Gwyn Loftis has worked at the AEA Nashville office for 25 years. She was the ASSA Annual Meeting Convention Manager for the last seven years until her retirement from that position last year. She now has a part-time role at the AEA as the committee coordinator for CEDPC.



Nnena Odim, AEA Ombuds

Nnena Odim is an experienced mediator, ombuds, attorney, trainer, and consultant with over 25 years of expertise in conflict resolution. As an Ombuds, she brings her skills to various clients, addressing complex issues and fostering productive dialogue. Nnena also serves as a Conference Ombuds, offering specialized support to large-scale professional organizations, including the American Economic Association (AEA), American Planning Association (APA), and the Coastal and Estuarine Research Federation (CERF). In her conference ombuds role, Nnena provides conflict resolution assistance, supports attendee well-being, and cultivates respectful and inclusive event environments. Her mediation experience, dating back to 1997, covers employment, housing, business, and family/domestic relations disputes. She has designed and led conflict management training for organizations such as the Boston Public Schools, Coca-Cola, and Netflix. She recently retired from her position as director and senior clinical instructor of the Family/Domestic Violence Law Clinic at Harvard Law School.



Orgul Ozturk, AEA Co-Impact Chairs' Conference Committee

Orgul Demet Ozturk is the James A. Morris Professor of Economics and Chair of the Department of Economics at the Darla Moore School of Business, University of South Carolina. She earned her Ph.D. (2006) and M.S. (2003) in Economics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and graduated with honors in Economics and Sociology (B.A., 2000) from Koç University in Istanbul.

Dr. Ozturk is affiliated with the Institute for Research on Poverty at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the Nutrition Consortium at the Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina. She serves as the Southern Representative for the American Economic Association's Committee on the Status of Women in the Economics Profession and is the founding Executive Director of the South Carolina Economic Policy and Innovation Center (EPIC).

As an applied microeconomist, Dr. Ozturk's research focuses on health, education, and social welfare policy. Her work has been published in leading academic journals, including the *Journal of Human Resources*, *Journal of Health Economics*, *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, *Food Policy*, and *Economics of Education Review*. Her research has also been featured in prominent media outlets such as *National Public Radio* and *The Wall Street Journal*.



Joshua L. Rosenbloom, AEA Co-Impact Chairs' Conference Committee

Joshua L. Rosenbloom is a Professor of Economics and Chair of the Department of Economics at Iowa State University. He is a Research associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research (Cambridge, MA) and an elected fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Cliometric Society and the Economic History Association. He joined Iowa State University in 2015, when he was appointed as Chair of

the Department of Economics. From 1988 until 2015 he was on the faculty at the University of Kansas. During that time he served as Associate Vice Chancellor for Research & Graduate Studies from 2006 to 2012, and as Interim Dean of Graduate Studies during the Fall of 2011. He earned his B.A. degree from Oberlin College in 1981, and his Ph.D. in Economics from Stanford University in 1988. His primary research interests include the economic history of the United States, labor economics and the economics of science, technology, and innovation. He is the author of more than 30 peer-reviewed journal articles in *Economic History*, *Labor Economics*, and *Science Policy*, and is the author or editor of three books. He earned an A.B. degree in History from Oberlin College in 1981 and a Ph.D. in Economics from Stanford University in 1988.

As Chair of the Iowa State University Department of Economics, Rosenbloom has had the privilege for the last nine years of convening the annual Department Chairs' Breakfast and Symposium at the ASSA meetings. This session has now shifted to a virtual format and no longer involves breakfast, but it provides an opportunity for department chairs to hear from representatives of a number of AEA committees, as well as the National Science Foundation, as well as to learn the results of the annual job market survey conducted by the University of Arkansas.



Linda Tesar, Chair, AEA Committee on the Status of Women in the Economics Profession (CSWEP)

Linda Tesar is the Alan V. Deardorff Collegiate Professor of Economics in the Department of Economics at the University of Michigan and the Senior Faculty Advisor to the Dean on Strategic Budgetary Affairs. She is the Co-Director of the International Finance and Macroeconomic Program at the National Bureau of Economic Research and Vice-President (2023) of the American Economic Association. Professor Tesar has served on the Academic Advisory Council of the Federal Reserve Banks of Chicago and New York. During 2014-15, Professor Tesar served as a Senior Economist on the Council of Economic Advisers. She was the Editor of the *IMF Economic Review* and is on the Advisory Board of the Carnegie-NYU-Rochester Conference on Public Policy. She is actively engaged in efforts to improve the climate for women and underrepresented groups in the economics discipline.

Professor Tesar's research focuses on issues in international finance, with particular interests in the international transmission of business cycles and fiscal policy, the benefits of global risksharing, capital flows to emerging markets, the determination of long-run interest rates, international tax competition, labor mobility, and the challenges facing the euro area. Some of her work has been published in the *American Economic Review*, the *Journal of International Economics*, and the *Journal of Monetary Economics*.

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