

CHRISTOPHER JEPSEN

May 2016

School of Economics
University College Dublin
Belfield, Dublin 4, Ireland

office: +353 (0)1 716-8320
Email: christopher.jepsen@ucd.ie

Experience

Lecturer, School of Economics, University College Dublin, 2012-

Affiliate, The Geary Institute, University College Dublin, 2012-

Affiliate, Center for Business and Economic Research, University of Kentucky, 2012-

Research Fellow, IZA, 2015-

Associate Director, Center for Business and Economic Research, University of Kentucky,
2006-2012

Research Fellow, Public Policy Institute of California, 2000-2006

Education

Ph.D., economics, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, 2000

B.A. with honors, mathematics, Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA, 1993

Research Interests

Economics of education, labor economics, public economics, demographic economics

Refereed Journal Articles

“Labor-Market Returns to the GED Using Regression Discontinuity Analysis,” with Peter Mueser and Kenneth Troske, *Journal of Political Economy*, 124(3), 2016, pp. 621-649

“Class Size – Does It Matter for Student Achievement?” *IZA World of Labor* 190, 2015
(<http://dx.doi.org/10.15185/izawol.190>)

“The Effect of Sharing a Mother Tongue with Peers: Evidence from North Carolina Middle Schools,” with Thomas Ahn, *IZA Journal of Migration*, 4(5), 2015, pp. 1-21

“Earnings Differences in Same-sex Couples and Other Household Types,” with Lisa Jepsen, *Industrial Relations*, 54(1), 2015, pp. 109-130

“Estimating the Social Value of Higher Education: Willingness to Pay for Community and Technical Colleges,” with Glenn Blomquist, Paul Coomes, Brandon Koford, and Kenneth Troske, *Journal of Benefit-Cost Analysis*, 5(1), 2014, pp. 3-42

“Are Catholic Primary Schools More Effective Than Public Primary Schools?” with Todd Elder, *Journal of Urban Economics*, 80(1), 2014, pp. 28-38

Refereed Journal Articles (Continued)

- “The Labor-Market Returns for Community College Degrees, Diplomas, and Certificates,” with Kenneth Troske and Paul Coomes, *Journal of Labor Economics*, 32(1), 2014, pp. 95-121
- “Back to School: An Application of Human Capital Theory for Mature Workers,” with Mark Montgomery, *Economics of Education Review*, 31(1), 2012, pp. 168-178
- “Bilingual Education and English Proficiency,” *Education Finance and Policy*, 5(2), 2010, pp. 200-227
- “Does Homeownership Vary by Sexual Orientation?” with Lisa Jepsen, *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, 39(3), 2009, pp. 307-315
- “Class Size Reduction and Student Achievement: The Potential Tradeoff between Teacher Quality and Class Size,” with Steven Rivkin, *Journal of Human Resources*, 44(1), 2009, pp. 223-250
- “Miles to Go before I Learn: The Effect of Travel Distance on the Mature Person’s Choice of a Community College,” with Mark Montgomery, *Journal of Urban Economics*, 65(1), 2009, pp. 64-73
- “Multinomial Probit Estimates of College Completion at Two-Year and Four-Year Schools,” *Economics Letters*, 98(2), 2008, pp. 155-160
- “Positive Outcomes from Poor Starts: Predictors of Dropping Back In,” with Laura E. Hill, *Economics of Education Review*, 26(5), 2007, pp. 588-603
- “The Sexual Division of Labor within Households Revisited: Comparisons of Couples and Roommates,” with Lisa Jepsen, *Eastern Economic Journal*, 32(2), 2006, pp. 299-312
- “The Effects of Statutory Rape Laws on Nonmarital Teenage Childbearing,” with Lisa Jepsen, *Contemporary Economic Policy*, 24(1), 2006, pp. 35-51
- “Teacher Characteristics and Student Achievement: Evidence from Teacher Surveys,” *Journal of Urban Economics*, 57(2), 2005, pp. 302-319
- “The Effectiveness of Catholic Primary Schools,” *Journal of Human Resources*, 38(4), 2003, pp. 928-941
- “The Role of Aggregation in Estimating the Effects of Private School Competition on Student Achievement,” *Journal of Urban Economics*, 52(3), 2002, pp. 477-500
- “An Empirical Analysis of the Matching Patterns of Same-Sex and Opposite-Sex Couples,” with Lisa Jepsen, *Demography*, 39(3), 2002, pp. 435-453
- “Re-Examining the Effects of Parental Characteristics on Educational Attainment for a Minor Child,” with Lisa Jepsen, *Journal of Forensic Economics*, 14(2), 2001, pp. 141-154

Other Refereed Publications

“Transitions to Work for Racial, Immigrant, and Immigrant Groups,” with Deborah Reed and Laura E. Hill, in *Improving School-To-Work Transitions*, edited by David Neumark, New York: Russell Sage Foundation, 2007, pp. 24-58

“California’s Community College Students,” with Ria Sengupta, *California Counts: Population Trends and Profiles*, Volume 8, Number 2, Public Policy Institute of California, November 2006

Educational Progress Across Immigrant Generations in California, with Deborah Reed, Laura E. Hill, and Hans P. Johnson, San Francisco, CA: Public Policy Institute of California, September 2005

English Learners in California Schools, with Shelley de Alth, San Francisco, CA: Public Policy Institute of California, April 2005

Student and School Indicators for Youth in California’s Central Valley, with Anne Danenberg and Pedro Cerdán, San Francisco, CA: Public Policy Institute of California, September 2002

Class Size Reduction, Teacher Quality, and Academic Achievement in California Public Elementary Schools, with Steven Rivkin, San Francisco, CA: Public Policy Institute of California, June 2002

Selected Other Publications

“The U.S. and Kentucky Economies in 2010” When Will the Recovery ‘Really Start?’” with Kenneth R. Troske, in *Kentucky Annual Economic Report, 2011*, University of Kentucky, 2009, pp. 1-8

“The Aluminum Industry in Kentucky,” with John Garen and Frank Scott, in *Kentucky Annual Economic Report, 2009*, University of Kentucky, 2009, pp. 35-41

“An Examination of Incentives to Attract and Retain Businesses: Evidence from Kentucky,” with William H. Hoyt and Kenneth R. Troske, *National Tax Association, Proceedings of the 100th Annual Conference on Taxation*, 2008; reprinted in *State Tax Notes*, 47(9), 2008, pp. 705-713

“The Economy in 2007: Slowing Down but Still Going,” with Jenny Minier, in *Kentucky Annual Economic Report, 2008*, University of Kentucky, 2008, pp. 45-50

“Economic Report: Facts, Not Answers,” with William Hoyt and Kenneth Troske, *Lexington Herald-Leader*, Op-Ed, February 7, 2007

“Recent Economic Developments in the United States and Kentucky: Implications for 2007,” in *Kentucky Annual Economic Report, 2007*, University of Kentucky, 2007, pp. 51-55

Selected Other Publications (Continued)

“Focus on Helping Youths from Low-Income Families,” *Riverside Press Enterprise*, Op-Ed, June 11, 2006

“Basic Skills in California’s Community Colleges: Evidence from Staff and Self Referrals,” paper presented at American Educational Research Association conference, May 2006, San Francisco

“Federal Law Leaves Whole States Behind,” *Los Angeles Daily News*, Op-Ed, May 18, 2005 (also printed as “‘No Child Left Behind’ Leaving English Learners Behind?” *Contra Costa Times*, Op-Ed, May 8, 2005)

“Small Class Sizes a Luxury Districts Can’t Afford,” *Los Angeles Daily News*, Op-Ed, July 5, 2002

Works in Progress

“Self-Employment, Earnings, and Sexual Orientation,” with Lisa Jepsen, revised and resubmitted, *Review of Economics of the Household*

“Second Chance for High-school Dropouts? A Regression Discontinuity Analysis of Postsecondary Educational Returns to the GED,” with Peter Mueser and Kenneth Troske, under review, *Journal of Labor Economics*

“Labor-Market Returns to Vocational Postsecondary Education,” with Petri Böckerman and Mika Haapanen, under review, *Labour Economics*

“The Benefits of Alternatives to Conventional College: Labor-Market Returns to Proprietary Schooling,” with Peter Mueser

“Skills at Work: Labor-Market Returns to Higher Vocational Schooling,” with Petri Böckerman and Mika Haapanen

“Business Incentives and Employment: What Incentives Work and Where?” with William H. Hoyt and Kenneth R. Troske

“Hazard Model Analysis of U.S. Community College Outcomes,” with Darshak Patel

“Recent Public-Sector Pension Changes and Associated Changes in Employee Composition and Compensation,” with Marianne Bitler

Teaching Experience

Economics and Society – undergraduate

Labo(u)r Economics – undergraduate

Managerial Economics – MBA

Public Policy Economics – undergraduate economics and graduate public policy

Selected Grants and Fellowships

“Labor-market Returns to Postsecondary Education in Europe and the United States,” Marie Curie Career Integration Grant (European Commission), September 2013, €100,000

“European Wage Inequality: Likely Consequences and Potential Remedies” (PI with co-PI Elena Mazza), Irish Research Council Postgraduate Scholarship, July 2014, €47,239

“Are Catholic Primary Schools More Effective Than Public Primary Schools?” (PI with Co-PI Todd Elder), American Educational Research Association, March 2010, \$35,000

“Women’s Economic Returns from Obtaining a GED” (PI with Co-PIs Peter Mueser and Kenneth Troske), Spencer Foundation, July 2008, \$171,000

“A Proposal to Study Economic Growth in Kentucky: Why Does Kentucky Lag Behind the Rest of the South?” (Co-PI with PI Kenneth Troske), Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development, April 2007, \$86,000

“The Private, Regional, and State Economic Impacts of Kentucky Technical and Community Colleges” (Co-PI with PI Kenneth Troske), Kentucky Technical and Community College System, January 2007, \$299,847

“Feasibility Study of Jail Management Strategy” (Co-PI with Kenneth Troske), Kentucky Department of Corrections, August 2006, \$76,986

“Social Indicators of Central Valley Youth” (investigator with PI Deborah Reed), The James Irvine Foundation, March 2002, \$112,000

Dissertation Fellowship for Study of Nonprofits, National Bureau of Economic Research, July 1999, \$15,000

Refereeing and Reviewing Experience

American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, The B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis & Policy, Contemporary Economic Policy, Demography, Eastern Economic Journal, Economic Inquiry, Economic Journal, Economics of Education Review, Education Economics, Education Finance and Policy, Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Labor Economics, Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Urban Economics, Labour Economics, National Science Foundation, Regional Science and Urban Economics, Review of Economics and Statistics, Review of Economics of the Household, Sociology of Education, Southern Economic Journal