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Curriculum Vitae  
**DONALD O. PARSONS**

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Economics Department  
George Washington University  
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*Home*

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Washington, DC 20007

PERSONAL: Born October 22, 1944

EDUCATION: University of Chicago: Ph.D. in Economics, 1970  
Duke University: A.B. in Economics, 1966

**PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS:**

PERMANENT

The George Washington University: Professor, Jan 1998- ; Department Chair, July 2003-2006; Director, Research Program in Labor and Social Insurance, Center for Economic Research, September 1998-August 2003, September 2004-present.

The Ohio State University: Professor Emeritus, 1995-; Professor, 1977-95; Associate Professor, 1973-77; Assistant Professor, 1970-73

OTHER

Fellow, Global Labor Organization, 2017 to present

Research Fellow, IZA Bonn, 2006 to present.

Public Policy Scholar, George Washington Institute for Public Policy, September 2002-June 2003

Distinguished Foreign Scholar, Soong Sil University (Seoul, Korea), Brain Korea 21 Project, May-June 2001

Visiting Professor, Copenhagen Business School, Feb-Dec 1997

Visiting Scholar, Centre for Socio-legal Studies, Wolfson College, Oxford University (United Kingdom). April-June 1993.

Siena Chair in Economics-Fulbright Scholar Distinguished Lecturing Award, University of Siena (Italy), March-June 1991.

Research Fellow, National Bureau of Economic Research, 1975-76.

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

HONORS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND GRANTS

Who's Who in Economics, Mark Blaug, ed. 1983, 1986, 1999.

"Best Article in Economic Inquiry 1989" (Western Economics Association) for "Parental Altruism and Self-Interest: Child Labor Among Late Nineteenth Century American Families" (with Claudia Goldin), Economic Inquiry 27, October 1989: 637-659.

University of Chicago: Woodrow Wilson Fellowship, 1966-67; University Fellowship, 1967-69; Ford Foundation Dissertation Year Fellowship, 1969-70.

Duke University: Magna Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa

*Major Grants and Contracts:*

"Earnings Loss Study: Musculoskeletal Parts of VA Schedule for Rating Disabilities (ELS-M)" Principal Investigator Robert Burke, GW School of Public Health and Health Services, December 2010 to May 2012.

"Teenage Decision Making, Schooling, and Fertility," National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, 1988-1992.

"Aging and Income Security," National Institute on Aging, 1985-1987.

"Health, Labor Market Activity, and Income Security," National Institute on Aging, 1983-1985.

"The Industrial Demand for Retirement Aged Workers," U.S. Department of Labor, 1981-82.

"The Work Behavior of Retirement Age Males", National Institute on Aging, 1979-1981.

"Economic Responses to Poor Health in Older Males," National Center for Health Services Research, 1977-79.

"Household Formation, Fertility, and Market Activity" with Belton M. Fleisher, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, 1974-1977.

**PUBLICATIONS:**

- "The Simple Analytics of Job Displacement Insurance," Journal of Risk and Insurance, forthcoming. Draft available at <http://ftp.iza.org/dp9823.pdf>
- "Job Displacement Insurance" in James Wright, ed. International Encyclopedia of the Social and Behavioral Sciences, 2nd edition, Vol 12. Oxford: Elsevier. pp. 819–832. March 2015. Draft available at <http://ftp.iza.org/dp8223.pdf>
- "Understanding Severance Pay," Cuadernos de Economía (Spanish Journal of Economics and Finance) Elsevier. v.36, no, 106 Sept-Dec, 2013: 155-165. Draft available at <http://ftp.iza.org/dp7641.pdf>
- "Mandated Severance Pay and Firing Cost Distortions: A Critical Review of the Evidence," Chapter 3 in Robert Holzmann and Milan Vodopivec, eds., Reforming Severance Pay: An International Perspective, Washington, DC: World Bank, 2012, 121-157. Draft available at <http://ftp.iza.org/dp5776.pdf>
- "The Firing Cost Implications of Alternative Severance Pay Designs" Chapter 4 In Robert Holzmann and Milan Vodopivec, eds., Reforming Severance Pay: An International Perspective, Washington, DC: World Bank, 2012, 159-176. Draft available at <http://ftp.iza.org/dp4967.pdf>
- "Minimum Wages," (Original by Donald O. Parsons; revised by Bruce Weinberg) The New Palgrave Dictionary of Economics, Second Edition, Steven N. Durlauf and Lawrence E. Blume, eds., London: Macmillan Press, 2008.
- "Wage Insurance: A Policy Review," in Research in Employment Policy, 2, 2000, 119-140.
- "Federal Administrative Cost Allocations to State Unemployment Insurance Agencies: Mechanism Design," in Research in Employment Policy, 2, 2000, 251-265.
- "Imperfect `Tagging' In Social Insurance Programs," Journal of Public Economics 62, 1996, 183-207.
- "Retirement Age and Retirement Income: The Role of the Firm," in Eric A. Hanushek and Nancy J. Maritato, eds., Assessing Knowledge of Retirement Behavior, Washington, D.C.: National Academy Press, 1996, 149-194.
- "Recent Trends in Pension Coverage Rates," in Richard Hinz, John Turner, and Phyllis Fernandez, eds., Pension Coverage Issues For the 90s, Washington: U.S. Department of Labor, 1994.
- "The Internal Distribution of Union Rents: An Empirical Test of the Voting Power Model", Review of Economics and Statistics 74, August 1992, 439-445.
- "The Distribution of Worker Rents in Union and Strategically Unorganized Work Places", Research in Labor Economics, V.12, Ronald G. Ehrenberg, ed, 1991, 191-212.
- "The Health and Earnings of Rejected Disability Insurance Applicants: Comment", American Economic Review 81, December 1991, 1419-1426.
- "The Job Search Behavior of Employed Youth", Review of Economics and Statistics, November 1991, 597-604.

- "Male Retirement Behavior in the United States, 1930-1950", Journal of Economic History 51, September 1991, 657-674.
- "Self-Screening in Targeted Public Transfer Programs", Journal of Political Economy 99, August 1991, 859-876.
- "The Decline in Private Pension Coverage in the United States", Economics Letters 36, August 1991, 419-423.
- "Measuring and Deciding Disability", in Carolyn L. Weaver, ed., Disability and Work, Washington, D.C.: American Enterprise Institute, 1991, 72-82.
- "The Firm's Decision to Train", Research in Labor Economics, Vol. 11, Laurie J. Bassi and David L. Crawford, eds., 1990: 53-75.  
*[also in Commission on Workforce Quality and Labor Market Efficiency, Investment in People: Strategy to Address America's Workforce Crisis, Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Labor, 1989: 259-300.]*
- "Parental Altruism and Self-Interest: Child Labor Among Late Nineteenth Century American Families" (with Claudia Goldin), Economic Inquiry 27, October 1989: 637-659.  
*[Awarded Prize as "Best Article in Economic Inquiry in 1989"]*
- "Minimum Wages," The New Palgrave: A Dictionary of Economics, John Eatwell, Murray Milgate, and Peter Newman, eds., London: Macmillan Press, 1987, 476-478.
- "The Employment Relationship: Job Attachment, Work Effort, and the Nature of Contracts" in Orley Ashenfelter and Richard Layard, eds. Handbook of Labor Economics, Vol. II, North Holland Press, 1986, 789-848.
- "Wage Determination in the Post-Schooling Period: The Market for On-the-Job Training," in Pathways to the Future, Vol. VI, Chapter 7, Center for Human Resource Research, The Ohio State University, 1985.
- "Disability Insurance and Male Labor Force Participation: A Reply to Haveman and Wolfe," Journal of Political Economy 92, June 1984, 542-549.
- "On the Economics of Intergenerational Control," Population and Development Review 10, March 1984, 41-54.  
*[reprinted in Nancy Folbre, ed., The Economics of the Family. Elgar Reference Collection. International Library of Critical Writings in Economics, vol. 64. Cheltenham, U.K.: Elgar; distributed by Ashgate, Brookfield, Vt., 1996, pp. 400-413.]*
- "Primogeniture and Fertility," Research in Population Economics, T. Paul Schultz and Kenneth I. Wolpin, Editors, 1984, 167-84.
- "The Male Labor Force Participation Decision: Health, Reported Health and Economic Incentives," Economica 49, February 1982, 81-91.
- "Demographic Effects on Public Charity to the Aged," Journal of Human Resources 17, Winter 1982, 144-152.
- "Black-White Differences in Male Labor Force Participation" in Herbert Parnes, ed., Work and Retirement, MIT Press, 1981, 132-154.

- "Racial Trends in Male Labor Force Participation," American Economic Review 70, December 1980, 911-920.
- "The Marriage Market and Male/Female Consumption Shares," Journal of Mathematical Sociology 7, December 1980, 113-138.
- "Unemployment, the Allocation of Labor, and Optimal Government Intervention," American Economic Review 70, September 1980, 626-635.
- "The Decline in Male Labor Force Participation," Journal of Political Economy 88, February 1980, 117-134.
- Poverty and the Minimum Wage, Washington, D.C.: American Enterprise Institute, 1980.
- "The Autocorrelation of Earnings, Human Wealth Inequality, and Income Contingent Loans," The Quarterly Journal of Economics, Vol. 92, No. 4 (Nov., 1978), pp. 551-569.
- "Intergenerational Wealth Transfers and the Educational Decisions of Male Youth: The Mother's Home Time Hypothesis" 92, Quarterly Journal of Economics, August 1978, 521-524.
- "Health, Family Structure, and Labor Supply," American Economic Review 67, September 1977, 703-712.
- "Intergenerational Transfers in Social Security" (with Douglas R. Munro) in The Crisis in Social Security, Michael Boskin, ed., 1977, 65-86.
- "Models of Labor Turnover: A Theoretical and Empirical Survey" in Research in Labor Economics, Ronald Ehrenberg, ed., 1977, 185-224.
- "Intergenerational Wealth Transfers and the Educational Decisions of Male Youth," Quarterly Journal of Economics 89, November 1975, 603-617.
- "The United State Steel Consolidation: Creation of Market Control" (with Edward John Ray), Journal of Law and Economics 18, April 1975, 181-219.
- "Time Series Changes in Personal Income Inequality: A Comment on a Paper by Chiswick and Mincer" (with Aba Schwartz), Journal of Political Economy, 82, September 1974, 1027-1032.
- "Cost of School Time, Foregone Earnings and Human Capital Formation," Journal of Political Economy 82, March 1974, 251-266.
- "Quit Rates Over Time: A Search and Information Approach," American Economic Review 63, June 1973, 390-401.
- "Asset Adjustments and the Labor Supply of Older Workers" (with Belton Fleisher and Richard Porter) in Glen Cain and Harold Watts, eds., Income Maintenance and Labor Supply, 1973, 279-327.
- "Specific Human Capital: Layoffs and Quits," Journal of Political Economy 80, November 1972, 1120-43.

#### **COMMENTS AND BOOK REVIEWS:**

Comments:

"Comment" on Minimum Wage Contracts and Individual Wage Formation: Theory and Evidence from Danish Panel Data; L.Pedersen, N.Smith and P.Stephensen - in Torben Andersen, Svend E. Hougaard Jensen, Ole Risager, Macroeconomic Perspectives on the Danish Economy, MacMillan: London 1999

"Discussion" of "Changing Health of the Older Working-Age Population and Retirement Patterns over Time" by Eileen M. Crimmins and Marie T. Pramaggiore, in Issues in Contemporary Retirement, Rita Ricardo-Campbell and Edward P. Lazear, eds., Stanford, Cal.: Hoover Institution Press, 1988: 153-159.

#### Book Reviews of:

Ronald Schettkat, ed. The Flow Analysis of Labour Markets, Journal of Economic Literature, 36 (June 1998), 77-978.

Robert A. Hart and Thomas Moutos, Human Capital, Employment and Bargaining, Industrial and Labor Relations Review, 51 (April 1998), 533-535.

Douglas L. Kruse, Profit Sharing: Does It Make a Difference, in Journal of Economic Literature 33 (September 1995), 1373-1374.

Peter B. Doeringer, Bridges to Retirement: Older Workers in a Changing Labor Market, in Industrial and Labor Relations Review, 45 (July 1992), 824-825.

Reynolds Farley and Walter R. Allen, The Color Line and the Quality of Life in America, in Journal of Economic Literature, 29 (March 1991), 113-114.

John D. Owens, Working Lives: The American Work Force since 1920, in Journal of Economic Literature, 25 (June 1987), 793-794.

## OPINION

### *Economics*

"Income Security for the Aged", Looking Ahead (National Policy Association) Special Issue on "Pension Reform and Aging Populations: North American and European Perspectives" 20 (April 1999), 21-22.

"As in 1974, Minimum Wage Won't Win War on Poverty", Wall Street Journal, May 25, 1989.

### *Local*

"Viewpoint: DCPS [District of Columbia Public Schools] Turning Its Back on School Quality," Northwest Current, April 16, 2014, p.9

### *GWU Governance*

***Annual GW Debt Report***, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition. Spring 2016. 1<sup>st</sup> Edition (Spring 2014) 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition (Spring 2015).

### ***Building vs Educating***

- “Transforming GW’s School of Public Health,” GW Hatchet February 4, 2010
- “GW's Lost Decade,” GW Hatchet November 13, 2008
- “Elite Students at GW,” GW Hatchet September 8, 2008
- “Four-by-four Focuses Too Heavily on Bottom Line: Switch should occur after new president joins GW,” GW Hatchet November 6, 2006.
- “Where Has Your Tuition Gone?” GW Hatchet February 27, 2006
- “Restoring Educational Excellence at GW,” GW Hatchet November 14, 2005.
- “Issues of Fiscal and Academic Management at George Washington University,” Ad Hoc Committee of Concerned Faculty, May 2, 2005 ([http://www.gwu.edu/%7Efacsen/faculty\\_senate/pdf/AcadBudgetIssue.pdf](http://www.gwu.edu/%7Efacsen/faculty_senate/pdf/AcadBudgetIssue.pdf))

### ***How Not to Build a Science Center***

- “GW Needs to Reconsider Expensive New Center,” GW Hatchet September 9, 2010
- “The Knapp Era Begins in Earnest,” GW Hatchet April 15, 2010
- “Close the Engineering School,” GW Hatchet March 25, 2010
- “Culture War in Rice Hall?” GW Hatchet April 27, 2009
- “S&E Complex Will Benefit the Highest Bidders?” GW Hatchet April 6, 2009
- “A Better Way to Spend \$10 Million” GW Hatchet March 3, 2009
- “Cologne Cathedral on 23<sup>rd</sup> Street?” GW Hatchet February 2, 2009
- “GW’s Great White Whale,” GW Hatchet May 19, 2008

## **WORK IN PROGRESS:**

### **Job Displacement Insurance**

“Job Displacement Insurance: *A Policy Typology*” IZA Discussion Paper No. 9865. (April 2016). Available at <http://ftp.iza.org/dp9865.pdf>

### **Unemployment Insurance**

“The UI Taxable Wage Base Mystery,” George Washington University, April 2017

“First-Best Unemployment Insurance,” IZA Discussion Paper No. 9824. (March 2016). Available at <http://ftp.iza.org/dp9824.pdf> *Revised January 2017*

Voluntary Public Unemployment Insurance (with Torben Tranæs and Helene Bie Lilleør) IZA Discussion Paper No. 8783. (January 2015). Available at <http://ftp.iza.org/dp8783.pdf>

### **Severance Pay**

“Employer-Provided Severance Pay: The Emergence of Job Displacement Insurance: Private Job Displacement Insurance, 1930-1954” mimeo, George Washington University, (Last Revised: September 2017).

“Employer-Provided Severance Pay in the United States: Unions and the Great Expansion, 1954-1979: Expansion and Innovation” mimeo, George Washington University, (Last Revised: September 2017).

“Voluntary Employer-Provided Severance Pay”. mimeo, George Washington University, (Last Revised: September 2017).

“The Performance Limits of Employer-Provided Severance Pay” mimeo, George Washington University, (Last Revised: September 2017)..

“Severance Pay Mandates: Firing Costs, Hiring Costs, and Firm Avoidance Behaviors” IZA Discussion Paper No. 5876, July 2011. Available at <http://ftp.iza.org/dp5876.pdf>

“Insuring Displaced Workers: Human Capital Losses and Severance Pay Design” (with Shuaizhang Feng). (July 2006) IZA Discussion Paper No. 2238. Available at <http://ftp.iza.org/dp2238.pdf>

“Trends in Severance Pay Coverage in the United States, 1980-2001” (May 2004) (With John Bishow). Available at SSRN: <http://ssrn.com/abstract=878144>

### **Obesity**

“The Simple Analytics of Weight (BMI) Control”, mimeo George Washington University, May 2015

“Body Perception And Weight (BMI) Gain among Youth In their Teens and Twenties” (with Molly Jacobs) mimeo George Washington University, June 2015.

## **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND SERVICES**

Member: American Economic Association, Society of Labor Economists, American Risk and Insurance Association

Board of Editors: *Journal of Economics and Business*, 1979-1991

Referee: *Contemporary Economic Policy*, *Journal of Population Economics*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, *Economica*, *Scandinavian Journal of Economics*, *State and Local Government Review*, *Journal of Public Economics*, *Industrial and Labor Relations Review*,



*American Economic Review, Journal of Political Economy, Review of Economics and Statistics, Economic Inquiry, Southern Economics Journal, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Labor Economics; Ad Hoc NIH Grant Review Panels.*

## **EDUCATIONAL ADMINISTRATION**

### *GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY*

#### Department

Chair, Department, July 2003 through June 2006.  
 Member, Department Self-Study, 2016-present.  
 Member, Department Advisory Committee, 2015-2016.  
 Member, Undergraduate Studies Committee, 2010-2015. 2016-present  
 Member, Steering Committee, MA in Applied Economics, Summer 2015-present  
 Member, Negotiating team: Memorandum of Understanding MA in Applied Economics, Summer 2015.  
 Chair, Search Committee for Department Chair, September 2009 to December 2011.  
 Chair, Department Self-Study, July 2006 through April 2009.  
 Chair, Ph.D. Pre-Candidacy Committee, August-December 2002.  
 Chair, Ph.D. Candidacy (Post-Generals) Committee, September 1998-August 2001.

#### University

Member, University Faculty Senate, 2007-2015, 2016-present.  
 Member, Fiscal and Budget Planning Committee. University Faculty Senate, University Faculty Senate, 2006--present.  
 Member, Joint Senate Subcommittee of Professional Ethics & Academic Freedom and Fiscal Planning & Budgeting Committees, Non-compliance of Faculty Code by School of Public Health & Health Services, 2007-2011.  
 Chair, Senate Joint Subcommittee on Educational Quality, University Faculty Senate, 2008-2009.  
 Member, Special Senate Committee on the Science and Engineering Complex, University Faculty Senate, 2008-2009.  
 Chair, Educational Policy Committee, University Faculty Senate, 2007-2008.  
 Member, Steering Committee, GWU Faculty Association, 2015-2017  
 Member, GW Institute for Public Policy, Steering Committee, 2005-2013  
 Member, Presidential Search Faculty Consultative Committee (elected representative of the College of Arts and Sciences), 2006.

Member, University Budget Working Committee, March 2006 to May 2008.

*THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY*

Committee,

Department

Graduate,	1973-85
Chair	1976-85
Tenure and Promotions	1977-87, 1988-1993
Faculty Search	1971-85, 1986-87, 1992-93
Ad Hoc Advisory Committee	1993-94

College

Research	1972-74
Human Subjects Review	1974-75
Professional Leave	1978-80, 1982-84
Tenure and Promotions	1984-86
Search Committee for Chair of Department of Economics	1991
Advisory Committee on College Priorities	1993-95
Oversight Committee, Center for Human Resource Research	1994-95

University

Search Committee for Dean of College of Soc. and Behav. Sciences	1983, 1992-93
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