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Education

University of Chicago, B.A. (Economics), 1982
University of California, Los Angeles, M.A. (Economics), 1984
University of California, Los Angeles, Ph.D. (Economics), 1987

Employment

Professor, Department of Economics, Ohio State University, 2005 – present.

Other Ohio State University affiliations:

- Faculty Associate, Institute for Population Research, 2000 – 2025.
- Faculty Associate, Center for Human Resource Research, 1995 – 2015.

Associate Professor, Department of Economics, Ohio State University, 2000 – 2005.

Visiting Researcher, Department of Policy Studies, UCLA School of Public Policy and Social Research, January – March 2003.

Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Ohio State University, 1995 – 2000.

Research Scientist, Center for Human Resource Research and Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Ohio State University, 1993 – 1995.

Visiting Scholar, Hoover Institution, Stanford University, 1992 – 1993.

Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, SUNY Stony Brook, 1987 – 1992.

Journal Publications

“Explaining the Gap in Upward Transfer Rates Between Economically Advantaged and Disadvantaged Community College Students” (with Sydney Schreiner Wertz). *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis* (forthcoming, 2026).

“Heterogeneity in STEM Coursework Within and Across College Majors: Do College Graduates’ Earnings Depend on Major, STEM Credits, or Both?” (with Sydney Schreiner Wertz). *Education Economics* 33 (December 2025): 904-928.

“Should English Majors Take Computer Science Courses? Labor Market Benefits of the Occupational Specificity of Major and Nonmajor College Credits” (with Sydney Schreiner Wertz). *Economics of Education Review* 88 (June 2022): Article 383747656.

“College Major, College Coursework, and Post-College Wages” (with Sydney Schreiner). *Economics of Education Review* 73 (December 2019): Article 101935.

“Moving Beyond the STEM/Non-STEM Dichotomy: Wage Benefits to Increasing the STEM-Intensities of College Coursework and Occupational Requirements” (with Apoorva Rama). *Education Economics* 27 (August 2019): 358-82.

- “Predicting Educational Attainment: Does Grit Compensate for Low Levels of Cognitive Ability?” (with Peter Nencka). *Learning and Individual Differences* 70 (February 2019): 142-54.
- “Business Ownership vs. Self-Employment” (with Robert Munk). *Industrial Relations* 57 (July 2018): 435-468.
- “Does Employer Learning Vary by Schooling Attainment? The Answer Depends on How Career Start Dates Are Measured” (with Andrew McGee). *Labour Economics* 32 (January 2015): 57-66.
- “Employer Learning and the ‘Importance’ of Skills” (with Andrew McGee). *Journal of Human Resources* 50 (Winter 2015): 72-107.
- “Determinants of Long-Term Unions: Who Survives the ‘Seven Year Itch’?” (with Yoshiaki Omori). *Population Research and Policy Review* 32 (December 2013): 851-891.
- “Can Long-Term Cohabiting and Marital Unions be Incentivized?” (with Yoshiaki Omori). *Research in Labor Economics* 36 (November 2012): 241-283.
- “Fixed Effects Maximum Likelihood Estimation of a Flexibly Parametric Proportional Hazard Model with an Application to Job Exits” (with Yoshiaki Omori). *Economics Letters* 116 (August 2012): 236-239.
- “Divorce as Risky Behavior” (with Taehyun Ahn). *Demography* 46 (November 2010): 895-921.
- “Interpreting Degree Effects in the Returns to Education” (with Alfonso Flores-Lagunes). *Journal of Human Resources* 45 (Spring 2010): 439-467.
- “Identifying Race and Ethnicity in the 1979 National Longitudinal Survey of Youth” (with Alita Nandi). *Population Research and Policy Review* 26 (April 2007): 125-144.
- “Measurement Error in Schooling: Evidence from Samples of Siblings and Twins” (with Alfonso Flores-Lagunes). *Contributions to Economic Analysis and Policy* 5 (issue 1, 2006).
- “Job Mobility and Wage Growth: Evidence from the NLSY79.” *Monthly Labor Review* 128 (February 2005): 33-39.
- “Why Parents Play Favorites: Explanations for Unequal Bequests” (with Kathleen McGarry). *American Economic Review* 94 (December 2004): 1669-1681.
- “Living Arrangements, Marital Status, and the Economic Well-being of Mothers: Evidence from Brazil, Chile and the United States.” (with Manuelita Ureta). *Journal of Family and Economic Issues* 25 (Fall 2004): 301-334.
- “Who Receives the College Wage Premium? Assessing the Labor Market Returns to Degrees and College Transfer Patterns” (with Wayne Strayer). *Journal of Human Resources* 39 (Summer 2004): 746-773.
- “Gender Differences in the Marriage and Cohabitation Income Premium.” *Demography* 41 (May 2004): 263-284.
- “Unemployment Insurance and Job Quits” (with Yoshiaki Omori). *Journal of Labor Economics* 22 (January 2004): 159-188.
- “From Bakke to Hopwood: Does Race Affect College Attendance and Completion?”

- (with Wayne Strayer). *Review of Economics and Statistics* 84 (February 2002): 34-44.
- “In-School Work Experience and the Returns to Schooling.” *Journal of Labor Economics* 19 (January 2001): 65-93.
- “Determinants of College Completion: School Quality or Student Ability?” (with Wayne Strayer). *Journal of Human Resources* 35 (Spring 2000): 299-332.
Reprinted in Clive R. Belfield and Henry M. Levin (editors), *International Library of Critical Writings in Economics: The Economics of Higher Education*, Edward Elgar Publishing, 2003.
- “High School Employment, High School Curriculum, and Post-School Wages.” *Economics of Education Review* 18 (June 1999): 291-309.
- “Job Change Patterns and the Wages of Young Men” (with Kathleen McGarry). *Review of Economics and Statistics* 80 (May 1998): 276-286.
- “Estimating Returns to Schooling: When Does the Career Begin?” *Economics of Education Review* 17 (February 1998): 31-45.
- “Hazard Model Estimates of the Decision to Reenroll in School.” *Labour Economics* 2 (December 1995): 381-406.
- “The Effects of Interrupted Schooling on Wages.” *Journal of Human Resources* 30 (Summer 1995): 472-502.
- “Early-Career Work Experience and Gender Wage Differentials” (with Manuelita Ureta). *Journal of Labor Economics* 13 (January 1995): 121-154.
- “Interpreting Panel Data on Job Tenure” (with James N. Brown). *Journal of Labor Economics* 10 (July 1992): 219-257.
- “Panel Estimates of Male and Female Job Turnover Behavior: Can Female Nonquitters Be Identified?” (with Manuelita Ureta). *Journal of Labor Economics* 10 (April 1992): 156-181.
- “Gender Differences in Wages and Job Turnover Among Continuously Employed Workers” (with Manuelita Ureta). *American Economic Review* 80 (May 1990): 293-297.

Monographs

New Evidence on School Desegregation (with Finis Welch). Washington, D.C.: United States Commission on Civil Rights, 1987.

Unpublished Research Papers

- “The Job Market Signaling Role of College Majors.” Working Paper, August 2025; under review.
- “Determinants of Asset Accumulations Across the Income Distribution.” Working Paper, last updated June 2025; under review.
- “Determinants of Household Wealth at Age 50: Evidence from the NLSY79” (with Kathleen McGarry). Working paper, October 2016; last revised May 2018.
- “Economic Incentives and Family Formation” (with Yoshiaki Omori). Working paper, March 2005; last revised February 2009.

- “Identifying Causal Effects of Schooling on Job Turnover” (with Yoshiaki Omori). Working paper, November 2008; last revised April 2011.
- “Why Parents Play Favorites: Explanations for Unequal Bequests” (with Kathleen McGarry). NBER Working Paper W9745, June 2003.
- “Notes on the NLS Schooling Data.” Prepared for NLS Summer Workshop, Columbus OH, August 1995.
- “High School Employment.” U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics Discussion Paper 95-27, May 1995.
- “Transitions from School to Work: A Survey of Research Using the National Longitudinal Surveys.” U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics Discussion Paper 94-18, April 1994.

Research Grants

- National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, September 2011-August 2013. “Obesity, Marital Transitions and Economic Outcomes” (Principal Investigator).
- National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, June 2007-July 2009. “Computer Use and Child Outcomes” (Principal Investigator).
- Ohio State University Initiative in Population Research (seed grant), June 2007-September 2008. “Divorce as Risky Behavior” (Principal Investigator).
- Ohio State University Initiative in Population Research (seed grant), June 2005-June 2006. “Computer Use and Child Outcomes” (Principal Investigator).
- National Science Foundation, July 2004-June 2007. “Economic Incentives and Family Formation” (Principal Investigator).
- American Educational Research Association, June 2001-August 2001. “Transfer Decisions, Graduation Rates and Earnings of Four-year College Students” (Principal Investigator).
- Spencer Foundation, June 2000-October 2001. “College Transfer Decisions and their Effects on Future Earnings” (Principal Investigator).
- National Science Foundation, May 1996-August 1998. “A Competing Risks Model of Schooling and Job Turnover” (Principal Investigator).
- Ohio State University College of Social and Behavioral Science (seed grant), June-September 1994. “Schooling and Job Mobility” (Principal Investigator).
- Spencer Foundation, June-September 1993. “The Determinants of Discontinuous Schooling Among Young Men and Women” (Principal Investigator).
- National Science Foundation, June 1991-September 1993. “Fertility and the Labor Turnover of Women” (co-Investigator with Manuelita Ureta).
- U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, June 1988-August 1989. “Gender Differences in the Quit Behavior of Young Workers” (co-Investigator with Manuelita Ureta).

Other Grants and Contracts

- Committee on the Status of Women in the Economics Profession (CSWEP), August 2019; support for 2019 Midwest Econometrics Group Mentoring Workshop.

International Association for Applied Econometrics (IAEA), May 2019, support for 2019 Midwest Econometrics Group Mentoring Workshop.

U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2015-May 2019. “National Longitudinal Survey of Youth” (co-Investigator with Randall Olsen and Elizabeth Cooksey).

U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, March 2012-March 2015. “National Longitudinal Survey of Youth” (co-Investigator with Randall Olsen and Elizabeth Cooksey).

Kauffman Foundation, December 2010-April 2014. “Business Ownership Data in the 1979 National Longitudinal Survey of Youth” (Principal Investigator).

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, March 2009-July 2010. “NLS Workshop for New Researchers” (co-Investigator with Randall Olsen).

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, March 2007-March 2008. “NLS Workshop for New Researchers” (co-Investigator with Randall Olsen).

Awards and Academic Honors

1992-1993 H. Gregg Lewis Prize (with James N. Brown) for “Interpreting Panel Data on Job Tenure.” Awarded biennially to the outstanding paper in the *Journal of Labor Economics*.

Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Dissertation Fellowship, 1984-87.

University of California Fellowship, 1982-84.

Phi Beta Kappa, 1982.

Professional Activities

Co-organizer, 2019 Midwest Econometrics Group Mentoring Workshop.

Program Committee, Population Association of American annual meeting, 2012.

Senior Fellow, China Center for Human Capital and Labor Market Research, 2008 – 2015.

Principal Investigator, 1979 National Longitudinal Survey of Youth, 2005 – 2015; member of the Ohio State University National Longitudinal Surveys contract team, 1993-2015.

Society of Labor Economists Nominating Committee for the Sherwin Rosen Prize and Jacob Mincer Lifetime Achievement Award, 2003 – 2005.

Editorial Board, *Demography*, 2002 – 2004.