

# An Urgency for Evidence and Transparency in Economic Analysis and Policy

A Conference Organized by the AIRLEAP Midwest Office  
Association for Integrity and Responsible Leadership in Economics and Associated Professions, AIRLEAP.org

Hosted by  
Center for Economics and the Environment, Hammond Institute, Lindenwood University

Ameristar Casino Resort and Spa, Saint Charles, Missouri

October 13-14, 2017

## Friday, October 13, 2017

01:30 - 01:50     **Registration**

01:50 - 03:20     **Improving Standards and Beliefs in Economic Practice**

*Chair:* Cinzia Balit-Moussalli, Huntingdon College

*Virtue Ethics in Economics: How Our Obsession with Identity Could Transform Economics for the Better*

Katie Aldrich, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

*Discussant:* Steven Payson, Association for Integrity and Responsible Leadership in Economics (AIRLEAP)

*Ethics in Economic Consulting*

Scott Gilbert, Gilbert Economics

*Discussant:* Deborah Wright, Southeastern Community College

*The Relationship between Ethics, Economics, and Politics*

Brian W. Sloboda, University of Phoenix, and Chandrasekhar Putcha, California State University, Fullerton

*Discussant:* Steven Suranovic, George Washington University

03:20 - 03:30     **Break**

03:30 - 05:20     **Instilling Integrity in the Next Generation of Researchers: Project TIER and Beyond**

*Chair:* Richard Ball, Haverford College

*Purpose, History, and Future for the Project TIER*

Richard Ball, Haverford College

*Discussant:* Jan Hoeffler, Replication Wiki

*Programming and Reproducibility: Case Studies from the Classroom*

Michael O'Hara, St. Lawrence University

*Discussants:* Benjamin Wood, International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie)

*Copy-and-Paste to R Markdown: Integrating R Markdown into the TIER Protocol*

Simon Halliday, Smith College

*Discussants:* William Rogers, Lindenwood University

*Reproducible Research: Example Using HUD's Homelessness Counts*

William Rogers, Lindenwood University

*Discussants:* Simon Halliday, Smith College

05:30 - 06:00     **Reception**

06:00 - 07:30     **Dinner & Keynote Speaker I**

*Economics and Ethics: Is the Public Sector Way Ahead?*

Dr. Erica Groshen, Cornell University, Former Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, and Former Vice President of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York

## Saturday, October 14, 2017

08:00 - 08:30     **Networking Continental Breakfast**

08:30 - 09:50     **Forensic Economics: Candor and Transparency in Legal and Consulting Arenas**

*Chair:* Lane Hudgins, Lane Hudgins Analysis

*Learning from Forensic Economics—Irreparable Harm, Non-Compensable Harm, and the ethical status of Kaldor Hicks*

George DeMartino, University of Denver

Discussants: Paul Rothstein, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau; and John Ward, University of Missouri-Kansas City

*Economic Projections Made by Government Agencies and Their Use in Forensic Economic Analysis*

Lane Hudgins, Lane Hudgins Analysis

Discussant: David Tucek, Value Economics, LLC

09:50 - 10:00     **Break**

10:00 - 11:30     **Replication in Empirical Economics**

*Chair:* Areerat Kichkha, Lindenwood University

*Which tests not witch hunts: A diagnostic approach for conducting replication research*

Annette Brown, FHI 360; and Benjamin Wood, International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie)

Discussant: Areerat Kichkha, Lindenwood University

*Sharing replication material and its impact on citations*

Jan Hoeffler, Replication Wiki

Discussant: Richard Ball, Haverford College

*Push Button Replication: An exercise in futility or lesson learning*

Benjamin Wood, International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie), Rui Müller, University of Copenhagen, and Annette Brown, FHI 360

Discussant: Richard Anderson, Lindenwood University

11:45 - 01:15     **Lunch & Keynote Speaker II**

*Ethics Wars: The Empire Strikes Back!*

Professor George DeMartino, University of Denver

01:20 - 02:50     **Ethics in Economics Education and Practice**

*Chair:* Kenneth Chilton, Lindenwood University

*How Economics Professors Can Stop Failing Us: The Discipline at a Crossroads*

Steven Payson, Association for Integrity and Responsible Leadership in Economics (AIRLEAP)

Discussant: Steven Suranovic, George Washington University

*Flipping the Files: The Secondary Job Market in Economics*

William Charles Sawyer, Texas Christian University

Discussant: Anne Winkler, University of Missouri-St. Louis

*Creating Sustainability as a Cultural Norm: The Significance of Assumptions in the Teaching and Practice of Economics*

Madhavi Venkatesan, Bridgewater State University

Discussant: Max Gillman, University of Missouri-St. Louis

02:50 - 03:00     **Break**

03:00 - 04:30 **A: Current Methods of Economic Analysis and Policy Development**

*Chair:* Ben Simon, George Washington University

*Adaptive and Traceable Science and Policy Governance for Better Decisions*

Pierre D. Glynn, Collin B. Lawrence, and Carl D. Shapiro, U.S. Geological Survey, Science and Decisions Center

*Discussant:* Sajal Lahiri, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

*Behavioral Economists, Adaptive Analysis Plans and Research Transparency*

Kweku Opoku-Agyemang, Center for Effective Global Action, UC-Berkeley

*Discussant:* Lenin Balza, Inter-American Development Bank

*Monetary Sovereignty & National Subordination*

James Kennedy, ThREE Consulting,

*Discussant:* Richard Anderson, Lindenwood University

**B: Improving Understanding in Labor Economics, Big Data, and Small and Medium Sized Enterprises**

*Chair:* Brian Sloboda, University of Phoenix

*Why Economists Disagree: An Illustration of Irreconcilability Using the US State Level Unemployment Rate Data*

Hari Luitel, Algoma University

*Discussant:* Malay Dey, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

*Leveraging Big Data to understand Digital Life*

Mazin Al Hamondo, Lawrence Technological University; Fiona Sussan and Erik Bean, University of Phoenix

*Discussant:* Kevin McCarthy, Baker University

*A Review of Big Data Availability and Accessibility of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs)*

Brian Sloboda, Norris Krueger, and Fiona Sussan, University of Phoenix

*Discussant:* Cynthia Haliemun, Quincy University

06:00 – 08:30 **AIRLEAP Happy Hour and Dinner – Amerisports at the Ameristar**

This social gathering is a separate event after the conference.