



Canadian Labour Market and Skills Researcher Network (CLSRN) Newsletter

The CLSRN: Supporting Labour Market Research and Scholarly Development since 2006

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Special points of interest:

- CLSRN 5th Annual Conference and Call for Papers
- Summer School to be held in Summer 2011
- Keith Banting: New Research Director at the Mowat Centre
- Thomas Lemieux: appointed to the Royal Society
- CLSRN 2010-2011 PhD Fellows

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CLSRN 5th Annual Conference: Vancouver, BC: April 30, 2011

The Canadian Labour Market and Skills Researcher Network (CLSRN) will hold its fifth annual conference on April 29-30, 2011 at the Fairmont Hotel Vancouver during the sixteenth annual meetings of the Society of Labor Economists (SOLE). The conference is a broad academic conference covering all aspects of labour market behaviour and skills development, broadly defined. The highlights of the SOLE conference include the presidential address by David Card (University of California at Berkeley), a luncheon policy address by Alan Krueger (Princeton University), and the Albert Rees lecture by Thomas Lemieux (University of British Columbia). Note that CLSRN conference participants will be required to register for the SOLE meetings.

The travel and accommodation expenses of individuals presenting papers at the conference (one presenter per paper in the event of co-authored papers) will be reimbursed by CLSRN. There are also some funds available for travel grants to help researchers who are at an early stage of their career to attend the conference. Information on travel and accommodation grants is forthcoming at the CLSRN website.

Individuals wishing to present a paper at the CLSRN fifth annual conference should submit it, or an abstract, by Monday, November 15, 2010. Submissions should be sent to: clsrn@interchange.ubc.ca. The announcement of accepted papers will be made by Wednesday, December 15, 2010.

The CLSRN is a network of academic and government researchers interested in

CLSRN Summer School: Summer 2011

Following on its hugely popular "What's New in Econometrics?" Summer School of 2008, the CLSRN is pleased to announce that it will be holding another "school" event in the Summer of 2011. Details will follow on the CLSRN Website, and will also be posted to the CLSRN Twitter Feed: www.twitter.com/CLSRN

strengthening our understanding of the Canadian labour market. Funding for the CLSRN is provided by an SSHRC Strategic Research Cluster grant. The Director of CLSRN is Craig Riddell of the University of British Columbia.

This year's keynote speaker is: Jeffrey Smith (University of Michigan)

The Program Committee for this year's conference is:

Michael Baker, Economics, University of Toronto
Nicole Fortin, Economics, University of British Columbia (Chair of Program Committee)
Guy Lacroix, Economics, Université Laval
Lance Lochner, Economics, University of Western Ontario
Shelley Phipps, Economics, Dalhousie University

For further information, please contact Katherine Meredith at: clsrn@interchange.ubc.ca



Jeff Smith presenting at the 4th Annual Conference 4th Annual CLSRN conference in Quebec City, May 2010

CLSRN Affiliates: Outstanding Achievements

Dr. Keith Banting: Research Director—Mowat Centre



Dr. Keith Banting
(Queen's University). Dr. Banting
was invested as a member of the
Order of Canada in 2005.

The CLSRN is pleased to note that CLSRN affiliate Dr. Keith Banting was made Research Director of a newly-formed *Task Force on Modernizing Employment Insurance* at the Mowat Centre for Policy Innovation at the University of Toronto in the Spring of 2010.

Dr. Banting notes that "Controversy has swirled around Employment Insurance and the wider system of income protection for the unemployed for years. And the recession has represented a stress test, which reveals the strengths and weaknesses of these programs even more clearly. The Mowat Centre project offers us an opportunity to draw on the best research available and to develop recommendations for a system that reflects contemporary economic and social realities of Canada."

On the experience of being Research Director of the task force, Dr. Banting notes that "Taking on the role of research director engages me with leading researchers in the field, many of them members of CLSRN."

Dr. Banting earned his B.A. (Hons) from Queen's University, and completed his doctorate at Oxford University. He taught for thirteen years in the Department of Political Science at the University of British Columbia, before returning to Queen's in 1986. In addition, he has been a visiting scholar at the London School of Economics, the Brookings Institution, Harvard University, Oxford University, the European University Institute and the University of Melbourne.

Professor Banting served as Director of the School of Policy Studies at Queen's University from 1993 to 2003. Prior to that appointment, he served as Associate Dean of Graduate Studies and Research at Queen's University. In 1983-85, he was a Research Coordinator for the Royal Commission on the Economic Union and Development Prospects for Canada. In 1986-92, he was a member of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, and in 1990 was elected vice-president of the Council. In 2005, Dr. Banting was invested as a member of the Order of Canada.

Thomas Lemieux: Appointed Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada

The CLSRN is pleased to note that affiliate Dr. Thomas Lemieux has been recently been appointed as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada!

Dr. Lemieux had the following thoughts to share regarding this milestone achievement:

Last summer, I was deeply honoured to learn that I had been appointed a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. As an MA student at Queen's University in the mid-1980s, I remember noticing that several of my professors had the title "FRSC" next to their names in the departmental directory. At the time, I did not know what FRSC stood for, and it took me years to realize that it was an acronym for "Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada". Having grown up in Quebec, I was not sure what to make of the "Royal" part of the title, but concluded that it was probably something prestigious and that I had been privileged to have the opportunity of learning under the guidance of some "FRSCs" back at Queens.

Well, time flies and it is hard for me to believe that I am now an FRSC myself! I am humbled by this honour and promise to do my very best to live up to the high standards set by other FRSCs I had the chance of interacting with, and learning from, over the last twenty five years.

Dr. Thomas Lemieux (B.A. Université Laval 1984; M.A. Queen's University, 1985; Ph.D. Princeton University, 1989) is a professor of Economics at University of British Columbia. Dr. Lemieux has held positions at MIT and the Université de Montréal prior to joining the faculty at UBC in 1999. He was a visiting professor at Princeton and Berkeley and a National Fellow at the Hoover Institution, and is a Research Associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research. Professor Lemieux received awards for his research including the Canadian Economic Association's Rae Prize, UBC's Killam Senior Research Prize, and the Minnesota Award. In addition to his recent appointment as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, he is also a fellow of the Society of Labor Economists, and a founding co-editor of the *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*. Dr. Lemieux has published over 40 articles and three books on a variety of topics in labour economics and applied econometrics including the underground economy, the impact of collective bargaining on wages and employment, the determination of wage differentials between ethnic groups and men and women, and the effect of education and occupational choice on earnings. Most of his recent research has focused on the causes and consequences of the increase in income inequality in industrialized countries.



Dr. Thomas Lemieux
(University of British Columbia). To
cap off a year of great
achievements, in October 2010, Dr.
Lemieux also ran his first marathon
in Victoria, BC!

CLSRN PhD Fellows: Where are they now?

Kelly Foley

Kelly Foley is an assistant professor in the economics department at the Copenhagen Business School. She earned a PhD in economics from the University of British Columbia in 2009. Prior to completing her PhD, Kelly was a Research Associate at the Social Research and Demonstration Corporation, where she worked on the evaluation of random assignment demonstration projects.

Kelly's research interests include labour economics and the economics of education. Her doctoral research focused on the determinants of educational attainment and included an examination of whether neighbourhood characteristics affect the probability that young Canadians attend university.



Kelly Foley (Copenhagen Business School)



Florian Hoffmann

Florian obtained his undergraduate degree from the University of Mannheim, Germany, in 2002 and subsequently visited the University of Toronto as an exchange student. After receiving his MA-degree from the University of Toronto in 2004 he directly transferred into the PhD program. He graduated in October 2010 under the supervision of Philip Oreopoulos, Shouyong Shi, and Victor Aguirregabiria with the thesis "Human Capital, Worker Mobility and Wage Dispersion".

Florian's research interests are in Labour Economics, Macroeconomics, Applied Econometrics and Computational Economics. He is currently working on projects that explore the extent to which labour market outcomes are driven by worker skills and luck, how important labour market imperfections are in shaping individual career trajectories, and if (and why) business cycle fluctuations alter workers' earnings prospects in the long run. He also studies the causes of the minority achievement gap on the post-secondary schooling level.

Florian is an avid pianist (he almost studied music instead of economics). He is also a fan of outdoor activities, such as hiking, rock-climbing, and skiing.

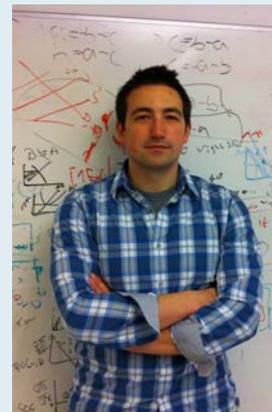
Ben Sand

Ben Sand is an Assistant Professor in the economics department at the Copenhagen Business School. Ben earned his PhD in Economics at the University of British Columbia in 2009. Following his PhD, Ben visited the University of California at Berkeley as a Postdoctoral Visiting Research Scholar at the Institute for Research on Labor and Employment.

Ben's research interests include Labour, Public Economics, and Applied Econometrics. His doctoral research focused on various aspects of local wage determination. In particular, Ben's research demonstrates that attracting high paying sectors to localities can have important spill-over effects on wages in other sectors.

Jiong Tu

Jiong Tu became a CLSRN PhD fellow in 2008 when he was a PhD candidate at McMaster University. He completed his degree in economics in 2010 under Professor Stephen Jones's supervision. Jiong is currently a Research Advisor in the Research and Data Development Division of HRSDC - Labour Program. He is also an IZA Research Affiliate. His primary research areas are in the Economics of Immigration, and Labour-Management Relations. His papers have been presented at the CEA conferences, Statistics Canada Socio-economic Conference, and the CERIS research seminar.



Ben Sand (Copenhagen Business School)



Jiong Tu (HRSDC)



The Canadian Labour Market and Skills Researcher Network (CLSRN)

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The CLSRN (www.clsrn.econ.ubc.ca) is a network of academic researchers interested in strengthening the understanding of the Canadian labour market. Based at the University of British Columbia, and national in scope, the CLSRN consists of established scholars and promising new researchers from the fields of economics, industrial relations, political science, sociology, business, history, policy studies and labour studies. The CLSRN was established three years ago as a multipartite partnership between academic researchers, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) and Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC).



Lihui Zhang (University of Regina)

CLSRN PhD Fellows: Where are they now? (...con't)

Lihui Zhang

Lihui Zhang, 2008 recipient of a CLSRN PhD fellowship, is currently an Assistant Professor in the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy at the University of Regina. Her PhD thesis consists of three empirical essays on the determinants of criminal behaviour by children and youth. An earlier version of her research entitled "Learning Violence Young" was featured in the *Vancouver Sun* in June 2008. In addition to her continuing interest in economics of crime, Lihui's research focus also includes several other policy-relevant areas on population health and well-being, for example, intergenerational mobility and inequality and comparative study on aboriginal and non-aboriginal population well-being.

CLSRN 2010–2011 PhD Fellows

The CLSRN is proud to support the development and training of promising new labour market scholars. In 2010-2011, the CLSRN is pleased to be supporting the following PhD Fellows:

Kelly Chen (Dalhousie University)
Guido Matias Cortes (University of British Columbia)
Ioana Dan (University of Toronto)
Donna Feir (University of British Columbia)
Andrew Hill (University of British Columbia)
Sacha Kapoor (University of Toronto)
Edward Koning (Queen's University)
Byron Lee (University of Toronto)
Phil Leonard (McMaster University)

Hugh Macartney (University of Toronto)
Sarah MacPhee (Dalhousie University)
Evan Meredith (McMaster University)
Tat-kei Lai (University of Toronto)
Lori Timmins (University of British Columbia)
Javier Torres (University of British Columbia)
Jinwen Xu (University of British Columbia)
Wei Yang (McMaster University)

The CLSRN congratulates its 2010 – 2011 PhD fellows on their achievements so far in their young careers, and wishes them the best in their research and studies in the upcoming years.