The CLSRN is an academic and government researchers interested in strengthening our understanding of the Canadian labour market. Funding for the network is provided by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) through its Strategic Research Cluster program and Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC), which provides funding for research and related activities of the network. National in scope, the CLSRN consists of established scholars and promising new researchers, and includes scholars from the fields of economics, industrial relations, political science, sociology, business, history, policy studies and labour studies.

CLSRN governance roles have been assigned to academic and Government of Canada representatives in a manner which balances academic freedoms (in identifying specific research interests and in assessing the academic quality of supported activities) and policy relevance. Some 100 academics – from across Canada, from a broad range of disciplines, and including both newer academics and those with more experience – are currently associated with the CLSRN.

The network operates under the broad direction of the National Steering Committee (NSC), which is composed of academics and representatives of several federal government departments. The NSC is co-chaired by Cliff Halliwell (HRSDC, Government of Canada Director) and Craig Riddell (University of British Columbia, Academic Director).

CLSRN Launches New Working Paper Series
The CLSRN is pleased to announce the launching of the CLSRN Working Paper Series in December 2008. The series consists of research commissioned by the CLSRN in many areas of Labour Market Research including research in: Education and Training, Labour Market Adjustment and Immigration. Many of the papers have been presented and featured in various CLSRN workshops. We anticipate launching more papers in the coming weeks. Full-texts papers are available on the CLSRN website at: www.clsrn.econ.ubc.ca. Please contact Vivian Tran at: vivtran@interchange.ubc.ca if you would like any further information.

Papers released
December 2008:
CLSRN Working Paper no. 1
Abstract Résumé
Brahim Boudarbat (University of Montreal), Thomas Lemieux (University of British Columbia), W. Craig Riddell (University of British Columbia)
Executive Summary
(con’t) CLSRN Working Paper Series

CLSRN Working Paper no. 2
Abstract Résumé
“The Changing Role of Family Income and Ability in Determining Educational Achievement”
Philippe Belley (University of Western Ontario), Lance Lochner (University of Western Ontario; NBER)
Executive Summary

CLSRN Working Paper no. 3
Abstract Résumé
“Employee Training in Canada”
Nicole Fortin (University of British Columbia), Daniel Parent (McGill University)
Executive Summary

CLSRN Working Paper no. 4
Abstract Résumé
“The Effect of Student Loan Limits on University Enrolments”
Christine Neill (Wilfrid Laurier University)
Executive Summary

January 2009:

CLSRN Working Paper no. 5
Abstract Résumé
“The Role of Social Ties in the Job Search of Recent Immigrants”
Deepti Goel (Boston University) Kevin Lang (Boston University; NBER)
Executive Summary

CLSRN Working Paper no. 6
Abstract Résumé
“A Professor Like Me: Influence of Professor Gender on University Achievement”
Florian Hoffman (University of Toronto) Philip Oreopoulos (University of Toronto; NBER; Canadian Institute for Advanced Research)
Executive Summary

February 2009:

CLSRN Working Paper no. 8
Abstract Résumé
“The Causal Effects of Education on Adaptability”
W. Craig Riddell (University of British Columbia) Xueda Song (York University)
Executive Summary

CLSRN Working Paper no. 7
Abstract Résumé
“An Analysis of Unemployment Incidence and Duration: Some New Evidence from Canada”
Michele Campolieti (University of Toronto)
Executive Summary

CLSRN Working Paper no. 9
Abstract Résumé
“Volunteering, Income Support Programs and Disabled Persons”
Michele Campolieti (University of Toronto) Rafael Gomez (London School of Economics) Morley Gunderson (University of Toronto)
Executive Summary

CLSRN Working Paper no. 10
Abstract Résumé
“Earnings Losses of Displaced Older Workers: Accounting for the Retirement Option”
Tammy Schirle (Wilfrid Laurier University)
Executive Summary

CLSRN Working Paper no. 11
Abstract Résumé
“Determinants and Effects of Post-Migration Education Among New Immigrants in Canada”
Rupa Banerjee (Ryerson University) Anil Verma (University of Toronto)
Executive Summary

CLSRN Working Paper no. 12
Abstract Résumé
“Do Child Tax Benefits Affect the Wellbeing of Children? Evidence from Canadian Child Benefit Expansions”
Kevin Milligan (University of British Columbia) Mark Stabile (University of Toronto)
Executive Summary

CLSRN Working Paper no. 13
Abstract Résumé
“Immigrant Earnings Distributions and Earnings Mobility in Canada: Evidence for the 1982 Landing Cohort from IMDB Micro Data”
Michael Abbott (Queen’s University) Charles M. Beach (Queen’s University)
Executive Summary

CLSRN Working Paper no. 14
Abstract Résumé
“Rémunération à l’ancienneté et ajustement du marché du travail (Seniority-based Pay and Labour Market Adjustment)”
Ali Béjaoui (CIRANO; Université du Québec) Claude Montmarquette (CIRANO; Université de Montréal)
Executive Summary (French)

CLSRN Working Paper no. 15
Abstract Résumé
“Dispensation of Older Workers: Re-employment, Hastened Retirement, Disability or Other Destinations?”
David Gray (University of Ottawa) Ross Finnie (University of Ottawa; Statistics Canada)
Executive Summary

CLSRN Working Paper no. 16
Abstract Résumé
“Labour Market Outcomes and Skills Acquisition of High-School Dropouts”
Michele Campolieti (University of Toronto) Tony Fang (York University & University of Toronto) Morley Gunderson (University of Toronto)
Executive Summary

To view more papers, please visit:
www.clsrn.econ.ubc.ca/workingpapers.php

CLSRN Affiliate Philip Oreopoulos’ paper “A Professor Like Me” Examines the influence of professor gender on university achievements.

CLSRN Affiliate Tammy Schirle’s paper on “Earnings Losses of Displaced Older Workers” is especially pertinent during today’s turbulent global economic times.

To view the full listing of CLSRN Working Papers, please visit our website at:
www.clsrn.econ.ubc.ca
The CLSRN and HRSDC hosted a successful workshop between 18-19 November 2008 in Toronto.

Participants and Organizers alike were very pleased with the projects presented and the collaborative discussions that took place over the course of the very productive two-day workshop.

Papers presented at the workshop ranged from research on Education and Training, Labour Market Adjustment and Immigration.

Concurrent Policy/Academic fora were also held during the workshop in order to highlight the importance of policy relevance in academic research and to help guide further research towards the goal of further, and more effective policy/research collaboration.

Papers presented include:

- W. Craig Riddell (University of British Columbia): “Understanding Sheepskin Effects in the Returns to Education.”
- Christopher Ferrall & Natalia Mishagina (Queen’s University): “Cranial Tap: Canadian Outsourcing of Doctorate Education”
- Miana Plesca (University of Guelph), Vincenzo Caponi (Ryerson University) & Cevat Burc Kayahan (Acadia University): “Training Over the Business Cycle”
- Nabil Annabi, Maxime Fougere, Simon Harvey (HRSDC): “Intertemporal and Inter-Industry Effects of Population Aging.”
- Mark Stabile (University of Toronto), Kevin Milligan (University of British Columbia): “Does Family Income Affect the Wellbeing of Children?”
- Michael Baker (University of Toronto) & Marie Drolet (Statistics Canada): “New Evidence on the Male-Female Compensation Gap in Canada”
- Monica Boyd (University of Toronto): “The Impact of Linguistic Enclaves on Immigrant Economic Integration.”
- Michael Baker (University of Toronto), Dwayne Benjamin (University of Toronto and RCEA) & Elliot Fan (Australian National University): “Public Policy and the Economic Wellbeing of Elderly Immigrants”
- Natalya Dygalo (University of Saskatchewan): “Evaluating the Source of Low Returns to Immigrants Foreign Experience and Credentials in Canada.”
- W. Craig Riddell (University of British Columbia) & Chris Riddell (Queen’s University): “Can Temporary Financial Incentives Have Lasting Effects on Work Behaviour?”
- Guy Lacroix (Universite Laval): “Making Work Pay.”

Please visit the workshop website at: www.clsrn.econ.ubc.ca/hrsdc to view papers, abstracts, presentations and to view the workshop summary.
People Behind the CLSRN: Biographies

Cliff Halliwell - CLSRN Government of Canada Director

Cliff Halliwell - Director General, Strategic Policy Research Directorate; Strategic Analysis, Audit and Evaluation Branch of Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC) - has been active in bringing policy research to decision making for his entire career. Cliff obtained an Honours B.A. in Political Science and Economics from Carleton University in 1976 and then an M.A. in Economics from Queen’s University in 1978. He started his career in the private sector, at Information Limited and the Conference Board of Canada. Subsequently he joined the Government of Canada in the old department of Energy Mines and Resources as a policy analyst. He then spent fourteen years at Finance Canada rising to become Director of the Economic Analysis and Forecasting Division, a division responsible for monitoring and analysing Canadian and US economic developments and modelling and forecasting the U.S. and Canadian economies. In February 1999 he moved to Health Canada to establish a brand new directorate, the Applied Research and Analysis Directorate, with a comprehensive suite of responsibilities, ranging from program evaluation through policy research through developing Health Canada policy on investments in the health statistics system. In February 2004, Cliff moved back to one of his life-long interests, labour markets, joining HRSDC to head up what is now known as the Strategic Policy Research Directorate, a directorate charged with implementing a comprehensive policy research agenda on labour market, skills and social policy issues in support of the department as well as running the department’s Canadian Occupational Projection System (COPS) labour market and occupational projections.

W. Craig Riddell - CLSRN Academic Director

Craig Riddell is Royal Bank Faculty Research Professor in the Department of Economics at the University of British Columbia. His research interests are in labour economics, labour relations and public policy. Current research is focused on skill formation, education and training, immigration, unemployment, experimental and non-experimental approaches to evaluation of social programs, unionization and collective bargaining, and unemployment insurance and income assistance.

In addition to numerous publications in books and academic journals, he is co-author of Labour Market Economics: Theory, Evidence and Policy in Canada, Canada’s leading labour economics textbook.

Craig Riddell is former Head of the Department of Economics at UBC, Past-President of the Canadian Economics Association and former Academic Co-Chair of the Canadian Employment Research Forum. He currently serves as Chair of Statistics Canada’s Advisory Committee on Labour and Income Statistics, on the Board of Directors of the Centre for the Study of Living Standards, and as Academic Director of CLSRN. During his academic career he has also served as advisor to numerous government and international agencies, most recently as a member of the Expert Panel on Older Workers established by the Government of Canada, www.ow-ta-sec.org

Katherine Meredith - CLSRN Network Coordinator

Katherine Meredith (B.A. University of Victoria; M.A. Queen’s University) joined the CLSRN in January 2008 in the position of network co-ordinator, following five years as manager of the SSHRC funded project on globalization, education, and technology, which was also based at UBC. Previously Katherine worked at Simon Fraser University as administrator of the Canadian Journal of Economics; Queen’s University as a publications officer for the John Deutsch Institute for the Study of Economic Policy; and at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University as an editor in the School of Accountancy.

Over the past two decades Katherine has lived and worked in Ireland and Hong Kong as well as in Canada. She enjoys the variety afforded by an academic environment, and the opportunity to work with a great group of colleagues at UBC, HRSDC, and universities across Canada and abroad.
People behind the CLSRN - (con't)

Vivian Tran - CLSRN Knowledge Transfer Officer

In addition to being CLSRN Knowledge Transfer Officer, Vivian Tran (B.A. University of British Columbia; M.A. Carleton University) also serves as a Public Director on the Board of the British Columbia Press Council (www.bcpresscouncil.org). She studied international trade and finance policy at the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs (Carleton University) and acquired a strong understanding of international institutions, inter-governmental legal and regulatory frameworks, and government policy-making while studying in the nation’s capital with present and former senior-level government officials, and other respected academics.

Shortly after returning to Vancouver upon completion of her Masters’ degree (and after a memorable backpacking trip to Europe), Vivian took up a position with the British Consulate-General in Vancouver, serving as the post’s Media and Public Affairs Officer allowing her to cultivate her skills in public relations as well as put her knowledge of international affairs into practice.

Vivian is very pleased to be working with the CLSRN, and is excited about helping to disseminate research being generated by CLSRN researchers through traditional academic channels and beyond.

CLSRN Affiliates in the News

Morley Gunderson: Royal Society of Canada

CLSRN Affiliate and distinguished Professor, Morley Gunderson was inducted into the Royal Society of Canada (RSC) — the highest Canadian honour a scholar can achieve in the arts, humanities and sciences in November 2008. The RSC: The Academies of Arts, Humanities and Sciences of Canada, is the senior national body of distinguished Canadian scientists and scholars. Its primary objective is to promote learning and research in the arts and sciences. The Society consists of approximately 1800 Fellows: men and women from across the country who are selected by their peers for outstanding contributions to the natural and social sciences and in the humanities.

BIO:
Morley Gunderson holds the CIBC Chair in Youth Employment at the University of Toronto and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. At the U. of T. he is a Professor at the Centre for Industrial Relations and Human Resources (Director from 1985-97) and the Department of Economics. He is also a member of the School of Public Policy and Governance and a Research Associate of the Institute for Policy Analysis, the Centre for International Studies, and the Institute for Human Development, Life Course and Aging. He has been a Visiting Scholar at Stanford University and the International Institute for Labour Research in Geneva, Switzerland. He has published on various topics including: gender discrimination; the ageing workforce, pensions and mandatory retirement; youth employment; employment insurance; the evaluation of labour market programs; minimum wages; public sector wages; immigration; strikes; labour market information; childcare; workers’ compensation, disability and reasonable accommodation; labour market adjustment and training; volunteer labour supply; IT; and the impact of trade liberalization and globalization on labour markets and labour policy. In 2002, he was awarded the Industrial Relations Research Association Excellence in Education Award in Labour Economics and in 2003 the Gérard Dion Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Field of Industrial Relations.


In May 2007, CLSRN affiliate Thomas Lemieux became a founding co-editor of the American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, one of the four new journals launched by the American Economic Association in 2007. The American Economic Journal: Applied Economics publishes papers covering a range of topics in applied economics, with a focus on empirical microeconomic issues. In particular, it welcomes papers on labour economics, development microeconomics, health, education, demography, empirical corporate finance, empirical studies of trade, and empirical behavioral economics. The journal will be publishing four times a year, starting with an inaugural issue that was just published in January 2009.

BIO:
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. Professor Lemieux has held positions at MIT and the Université de Montréal prior to joining the faculty at UBC in 1999 where he is a Distinguished University Scholar. Professor Lemieux 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. He 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.
David Green: New Editor, Canadian Journal of Economics

CLSRN Affiliate David Green was recently appointed as editor of the Canadian Journal of Economics (CJE) – the leading economic journal published in Canada. The CJE is the publication of the Canadian Economic Association (CEA), the organization of academic economists in Canada with around 1500 members across the country and abroad. The CJE is one of the CEA’s primary tools for achieving its objective of the advancement of economic knowledge through the encouragement of study and research, the issuing of publications, and the furtherance of free and informed discussion of economic questions.

BIO:
David Green (B.A. Queen’s University 1984; Ph.D. Stanford 1990) is a professor of Economics at the University of British Columbia (UBC). In addition to his positions with the CJE and UBC, Professor Green is also an International Research Associate with the Institute for Fiscal Studies (University College London). Professor Green has won numerous awards over his career including: the UBC Killam Research Prize (2002), the UBC Izaak Walton Killam Memorial Faculty Research Fellowship (1999/2000) and the Harry Johnson Prize for Best Article in the CJE in 1995 and 2000.

Professor Green’s research interests include Labour Economics, Applied Econometrics and Economic History. Professor Green has published over 30 articles and book-chapters. His book: Dimensions of Inequality in Canada (2006) which he co-edited with Jonathan R. Kesselman, was the winner of the Doug Purvis Memorial Prize for work on Canadian economic policy.

CLSRN Affiliates in the News (con’t)

Upcoming Events and Announcements:

CLSRN 3rd Annual Conference: May 28-29, Toronto

The Canadian Labour Market and Skills Researcher Network (CLSRN) will hold its third annual conference at the University of Toronto on May 28-29, 2009. The conference will overlap with the annual meetings of the Canadian Economics Association (May 29-31, 2009).

The keynote speaker at this year’s conference is Robert LaLonde (University of Chicago), who will be presenting his paper “The Case for Wage Insurance: Getting Serious about the Consequences of Unemployment.” The conference will be a broad academic conference covering all aspects of labour market behaviour and skills development and use. Stephen Jones, Economics, McMaster University is Chairing the Program Committee for this year’s conference.

This year’s conference features the following presenters:

Kelly Bedard (University of California, Santa Barbara) & Elizabeth Dhuey (University of Toronto): “Is September better than January? The Effect of School Entry Age Laws on Skill Accumulation”

Kelly Foley, Giovanni Gallipoli & David Green (University of British Columbia): “Ability and Preferences as Key Determinants of the Socio-Economic Gradient in Dropping out of High School”

W. Bentley Macleod & Miguel Urquiola (Columbia University and NBER): “Anti-Lemons: School Reputation and Educational Quality”

Jane Friesen, Mohsen Javdani & Simon Woodcock (Simon Fraser University): “Does Public Information about School Quality Lead to Flight from Low-Achieving Schools?”

Peter Burton & Shelley Phipps (Dalhousie University): “The Prince and the Pauper: Movement of Children Up and Down the Canadian Income Distribution, 1994-2004”


Tammy Schirle (Wilfrid Laurier University): “Changes in Income and Income Inequality Among Seniors in Canada”

Philip Oreopoulos (University of British Columbia): “Why do Recent Immigrants to Canada Struggle in the Labour Market? A Field Experiment with Three Thousand Résumés”

Jennifer Hunt (McGill University and NBER): “Which Immigrants Are Most Innovative and Entrepreneurial? Distinctions by Entry Visa”

For further information please visit the CLSRN Conference Website at: http://www.cslrn.econ.ubc.ca/3rdAnnualConference

Canadian Economics Association (CEA) 43rd Annual Conference: May 29-31, Toronto

The 43rd Annual Canadian Economics Association (CEA) Conference will be held May 29 – 31, 2009 at the University of Toronto.

With around 1500 members across the country and from abroad, the Canadian Economics Association (CEA) is the organization of academic economists in Canada.

The Association has for its object the advancement of economic knowledge through the encouragement of study and research, the issuing of publications, and the furtherance of free and informed discussion of economic questions.

This year’s conference will feature speakers: Ralph Winter, Scott Taylor, and David Dodge. The conference will also include state-of-the-art lectures by: Marcel Boyer, Rob Feenstra, Sharon Kozicki, David Laibson, Christopher Mayer, and Bruce Meyer.

For more information about the conference, and to register, please visit the CEA Conference webpage: http://economics.ca/2009/en/

CLSRN Summer School and Mini-Course on “What’s New in Econometrics”: May 26-28, Toronto

As part of the CEA and CLSRN Annual Conferences in Toronto, the CLSRN will be running a Summer School from May 26-28, 2009 in Toronto, just prior to the commencements of the CLSRN and CEA Annual Conferences. The Summer School will feature mini-course “What’s New in Econometrics” by Guido Imbens (Harvard) and Jeffrey Wooldridge (Michigan State) which runs from May 26-27 at the University of Toronto. The Summer School will also provide opportunities for advanced PhD students working on topics related to labour market behaviour and skills formation to present their work.
PWFC Symposium:
Gatineau, December
9–10, 2008

Delegates from government, academia and non-governmental organizations convened in Gatineau at the Hilton Lac-Leamy Conference centre for the 4th Annual Population, Workforce and Family (PWFC) Symposium December 9-10th.

The symposium brought researchers from both government and non-governmental organizations together to discuss cross-disciplinary questions ranging from demographic and population issues to labour market and global economic change topics.

Top scholars from across the country presented research including CLSRN affiliates:

- Aneta Bonikowska (UBC)
- Philip Oreopoulos (UBC; NBER; Canadian Institute for Advanced Research)
- David Gray (University of Ottawa)
- Tammy Schirle (Wilfrid Laurier University)
- Victoria Esses (UWO)
- Ana Ferrer (University of Calgary)
- Kevin Milligan (UBC)

For more information about the PWFC Symposium please visit the event website.

CLSRN PhD Fellowships for 2008–2009

One of the objectives of the Canadian Labour Market and Skills Research Network is to help ensure the emergence of a new generation of researchers with an interest in Canadian labour market policy. One of the ways this objective is met is through financial support for PhD students specializing in areas related to labour market behaviour and skills formation. This financial support is funded from our SSHRC grant and matching funds from participating universities.

We are pleased to announce the CLSRN PhD fellowship recipients for 2008–2009:

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<tr>
<th>Yi Chan</th>
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<td>Thomas Fujiiwa</td>
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<td>Andrew Hill</td>
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<td>Florian Hoffmann</td>
<td>U of T Economics</td>
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<td>Byron Lee</td>
<td>U of T Industrial Relations</td>
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<td>German Pupato</td>
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<td>Ben Sand</td>
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<td>Jinwen Xu</td>
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<td>Lihui Zhang</td>
<td>Dalhousie Economics</td>
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CLSRN Network Sponsors: