



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/CIRPEE Workshop in Applied Microeconomics and CLSRN Summer School
- 5th Annual CLSRN Conference
- New Statistics Canada Research Modules Announced
- Update on CLSRN's "Challenges for Canada's Retirement Income System" Program
- Spotlight: Daniel Parent
- CLSRN Affiliates are Arrow Prize Finalists

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CLSRN/CIRPEE Workshop in Applied Microeconomics, and Summer School: Montreal, June 27 – 30, 2011

CLSRN 2011 Summer School, June 27-28:

CLSRN will host its second biennial Summer School for graduate students combined with the CLSRN/CIRPEE Applied Microeconomics Workshop at the HEC Montréal on June 27-30, 2011. The first two days will be devoted to instructional material at the advanced graduate student level. The second two days will be devoted to discussion of recent research presented by prominent international scholars in labour market behaviour. Craig Riddell (UBC), John Myles and Morley Gunderson (both of U of Toronto) were organizers of this Summer School.

During the first two days short courses will be presented on the following topics:

June 27:

Nicole Fortin (UBC) and Thomas Lemieux (UBC): "Decomposition Methods in Labour Market Research"

Peter Kuhn (University of California, Santa Barbara): Lab Labour: What Can Labour Market Research Learn from the Lab

June 28:

Jeffrey Smith (University of Michigan): "Recent Advances in the Economics and Econometrics of Evaluating Active Labour Market Programs"

The 2011 CLSRN/CIRPEE Workshop in Applied Microeconomics, June 29-30:

CLSRN and Centre interuniversitaire sur le risque, les politiques économiques et l'emploi

CLSRN 5th Annual Conference in Vancouver with the SOLE

The Canadian Labour Market and Skills Researcher Network (CLSRN) held its fifth annual conference on April 30, 2011 at the Fairmont Hotel Vancouver during the sixteenth annual meetings of the [Society of Labor Economists \(SOLE\)](#) (April 29-30, 2011). The conference was a broad academic conference covering all aspects of labour market behaviour and skills development, broadly defined. The highlights of the SOLE conference included 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). The SOLE Conference also featured a State-of-the-Art lecture by **David Lee** (Princeton University).

(CIRPEE) are co-sponsoring a research workshop to be held at the HEC Montréal on June 29-30. Daniel Parent (HEC and CLSRN) is organizing the workshop program. Confirmed participants include:

Jerome Adda (European University Institute)
 Joe Altonji (Yale)
 Josh Angrist (MIT)
 Damon Clark (Florida)
 Olivier Deschenes (UC Santa Barbara)
 Peter Kuhn (UC Santa Barbara)
 Jeanne LaFortune (Maryland)
 Derek Neal (Chicago)
 Paul Oyer (Stanford)
 Marit Rehavi (University of British Columbia)
 Nicolas Roys (Wisconsin)
 Aloysius Siow (Toronto)
 Jeffrey Smith (Michigan)
 Shintaro Yamaguchi (McMaster)



Thomas Lemieux (UBC) will be one of the presenters at the CLSRN Summer School at HEC Montreal

CLSRN 5th Annual Conference (con't)

The 5th Annual CLSRN Conference featured the following papers:

Andrew Clarke (Melbourne) & **Mikal Skuterud** (Waterloo), Why do immigrant workers in Australia perform so much better than in Canada? Is it the immigrants or their labour markets?

Phil Oreopoulos & Diane Dechief (Toronto), Why do employers discriminate against immigrants? Qualitative and experimental evidence from Toronto, Montreal, and Vancouver

Simon Woodcock, Jane Friesen & Benjamin Harris (SFU), School choice and school segregation: Evidence from public and private schools

Louis-Philippe Morin (Ottawa), The Effect of Cohort Size on Youth Earnings

Weili Ding & Steven Lehrer (Queen's), Estimating Context-Independent Treatment Effects in Education Experiments

Marc Frenette & Reuben Ford (SRDC), Does Advanced Academic Study Help Middle-Achieving High School Students? Evidence from a Randomized Experiment

Alessandro Barattieri and Susanto Basu & **Peter Gottschalk** (Boston College), Some Evidence on the Importance of Sticky Wages

Florian Hoffmann (UBC), An empirical model of life-cycle earnings and mobility dynamics

Audra Bowlus & Chris Robinson (UWO), Human Capital Prices, Productivity and Growth

Alex Letter & **Ben Sand** (Copenhagen) Job Polarization in the U.S.: A Reassessment of the Evidence from 1980s and 1990s



Florian Hoffman (University of British Columbia) was one of the presenters at the 5th Annual CLSRN Conference in Vancouver



Participants at a lecture during the CLSRN / SOLE Meetings in Vancouver: April 29 - 30, 2011.

New Statistics Canada Research Modules

The CLSRN is pleased to note that one of its most important partners and network contributors – Statistics Canada – has developed two web modules, dedicated to economic research:

www.statcan.gc.ca/socialanalysis and www.statcan.gc.ca/economicanalysis.

Developed mainly for researchers and analysts, the two modules provide direct access to analytical work of the Social Analysis Division on subjects such as pensions and retirement, immigration, education and training, labour market adjustment and income and wealth as well as the analyses of the Economic Analysis Division on subjects such as: international trade, industrial dynamics, economic geography, innovation, multinationals, productivity and the use of advanced technologies.

Users will have access to abstracts, executive summaries and full length papers, organized according to specific research topics, improving their Internet browsing experience on Statistics Canada website. The modules also provide summaries of the latest releases.

Users can subscribe to an [email notification service](#), that will allow them to receive updates on new releases.

For more information about the modules or to subscribe to the email notification service, contact Cindy Renaud (Cindy.Renaud@statcan.gc.ca) at 613-951-5132 or Nicolas Rahal (Nicolas.Rahal@statcan.gc.ca) at 613-951-7645



Statistics Canada's new Research modules will provide direct access to the analytical work of Statistics Canada's Social Analysis Division

Image: [Winnod](#)

CLSRN Affiliates: Recent News and Announcements

- CLSRN Affiliate Dr. Michael Baker (University of Toronto) gave the Innis Lecture at the recent [Canadian Economics Association Meetings in Ottawa](#) (June 2011).
- CLSRN Director Dr. Craig Riddell (University of British Columbia) and CLSRN Affiliates Dr. Brahim Boudarbat and Thomas Lemieux received runner-up for Best Article in the Canadian Journal of Public Policy for 2010 for their CLSRN-supported article: “[The Evolution of the Returns to Human Capital in Canada 1980 – 2005.](#)” This article was also featured in the [May 2011 issue of Labour Market Matters.](#)
- University of British Columbia PhD Candidate and CLSRN Affiliate [Thomas Fujiwara](#) has obtained a position with Princeton University.
- University of Toronto PhD Candidate and CLSRN Affiliate [Hugh McCartney](#) has obtained a position with Duke University.
- CLSRN Affiliate Dr. Daniel Parent has taken a new position with HEC Montreal.
- CLSRN Affiliate Dr. Jennifer Hunt is moving to a new position with Rutgers University.
- Former CLSRN Government of Canada Director—Cliff Halliwell of the Federal Department of Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC) is retiring. Happy Retirement Cliff!

CLSRN’s Challenges for Canada’s Retirement Income System (RIS) Program

Led by Kevin Milligan (UBC) and Tammy Schirle (Wilfrid Laurier), a team of CLSRN researchers is investigating the challenges to Canada’s Retirement Income System. The focus of the research program is to find out whether the three pillars of Canada’s retirement income system are designed to ensure that retirees have an adequate level of savings for their retirement. Several components of the research program will provide vital information for policy planning and formation. The program was designed to address some of the key knowledge gaps identified by HRSDC. See below for a list of the individual research projects:

1. The incidence of low income among seniors in Canada: changes in the income sources and demographics of older Canadians and implications for the future by Tammy Schirle
2. Poverty status amongst the retired population – an analysis of the incidence and the dynamics by David Gray and Ross Finnie
3. Transitions into receipt of employer-provided pensions by Kevin Milligan
4. Évolution des sources futures de revenu de retraite au Canada, par Nicholas-James Clavet, Jean-Yves Duclos et Bernard Fortin
5. Impacts of cyclical downturns on the third pillar of the RIS and potential policy responses by James B. Davies
6. Retirement incomes of immigrants in Canada: 1991-2006 by Ted McDonald and Christopher Worswick
7. Evidence on “futile” and “inopportune” retirement saving by Michael R. Veall
How do the level and composition of income change after retirement? by Ross Finnie, and Byron Spencer

These papers will be presented at a Workshop in Waterloo in October 2011. Please see the CLSRN’s Twitterfeed for updates: www.twitter.com/CLSRN



Michael Baker (University of Toronto) gave the Innis Lecture at the CEA meetings this year in Ottawa



Kevin Milligan (University of British Columbia)



Tammy Schirle (Wilfrid Laurier University)



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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).

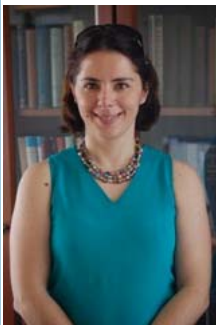


Daniel Parent
(HEC Montreal)

CLSRN Spotlight: Daniel Parent

CLSRN Affiliate Dr. Daniel Parent has been an important member of the network. Dr. Parent was instrumental in helping the CLSRN organize its 2011 Summer School and Research workshops. In 2010, Dr. Parent, joined the faculty at [HEC Montréal's Institute of Applied Economics](#) and was formerly Associate Professor and William Dawson Scholar in the Department of Economics at McGill University from 1999 to 2011. He is also a Fellow at the [Inter-university Center on Risk, Economic Policies and Employment \(CIRPEE\)](#), an External Research Fellow, [Center for Research and Analysis of Migration \(CReAM\)](#), University College London, a Research Fellow at the [Centre interuniversitaire en analyse des organisations \(CIRANO\)](#), and a Research Fellow of the [Compensation Research Initiative \(CRI\)](#) at Cornell University. Dr. Parent also serves as Associate Editor at the Journal of Labor Economics and is a member of Statistics Canada's Advisory Committee on Labour and Income Statistics. He was a Visiting Fellow at Princeton University in 1995 as well as Visiting Faculty at the University of California at Berkeley in 2004-2005. He received his PhD in economics from the University of Montreal in 1995.

CLSRN-funded paper among finalists for Arrow Prize



Miana Plesca
(University of Guelph)

The CLSRN is pleased to note that a CLSRN-funded paper entitled "The Impact of Aggregate and Sectoral Fluctuations on Training Decisions" by affiliates Vincenzo Caponi (Ryerson University, Institute for the Study of Labor, and the Rimini Centre for Economic Analysis); Burc Kayahan (Acadia University) and Miana Plesca (University of Guelph) which has been published in the B.E. Journal of Macroeconomics, in "Advances" (Vol 10. Issue 1. Art 28), is now one of the two finalist papers for the Arrow prize awarded for young researchers. The winner of the Arrow prize is decided by votes cast by economists. Results will be available soon at: <http://www.bepress.com/arrow.html>



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(Ryerson University)



Burc Kayahan
(Acadia University)