

TARA WATSON

Williams College
Department of Economics
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Current Positions

Williams College, Assistant Professor, July 2004 to present. Department of Economics.

National Bureau of Economic Research, Faculty Research Fellow, December 2006 to present.
Health Economics Program.

Education

Harvard University, Ph.D. in Economics, June 2003.
Thesis Title: The Determinants and Consequences of Residential Isolation.

Wesleyan University, B.A. in Economics, May 1996.

Research Fields

Health Economics, Urban Economics, Economic Demography.

Previous Research and Teaching Experience

University of Michigan, Robert Wood Johnson Scholar in Health Policy Research, August 2007 to July 2009.

Princeton University, Postdoctoral Research Associate, September 2003 to July 2004. Office of Population Research and Center for Research on Child Wellbeing.

National Bureau of Economic Research, Research Assistant, June to August 1999.
Research Assistant to Claudia Goldin and Lawrence Katz.

Harvard University, Teaching Fellow, September 2000 to May 2001.
Teaching Fellow for Social Analysis 10 taught by Martin Feldstein.

Brookings Institution, Research Assistant, August 1996 to July 1998.
Research Assistant to Clifford Winston.

Articles

Watson, Tara, and Sara McLanahan, "Marriage Meets the Joneses: Relative Income, Identity, and Marital Status," **National Bureau of Economic Research Working Paper 14773**, March 2009. Revision requested at *Journal of Human Resources*.

Beeson, Patricia, Lara Shore-Sheppard, and Tara Watson, "Local Fiscal Policies and Urban Wage Structures," manuscript May 2010. Forthcoming at *Public Finance Review*.

Watson, Tara, "Inequality and the Measurement of Residential Segregation by Income," *Review of Income and Wealth*, 2009, 55, 820-844. (Earlier draft: National Bureau of Economic Research Working Paper 14908, April 2009.)

Fertig, Angela and Tara Watson, "Minimum Drinking Ages and Infant Health Outcomes," *Journal of Health Economics*, 2009, 28, 737-747. (Earlier draft: National Bureau of Economic Research Working Paper 14118, June 2008.)

Watson, Tara, "Public Health Investments and the Infant Mortality Gap: Evidence from Federal Sanitation Interventions on U.S. Indian Reservations," *Journal of Public Economics*, 2006, 90(8-9), pp. 1537-1560.

Watson, Tara, "Inequality, Metropolitan Growth, and Residential Segregation by Income," in *Brookings-Wharton Papers on Urban Affairs*, Gary Burtless and Janet Rothenberg Pack, eds., 2006.

Morrison, Steven. A., Clifford Winston, and Tara Watson, "Fundamental Flaws of Social Regulation: The Case of Airplane Noise," *Journal of Law and Economics*, 1999, 42(2), pp.723-43.

Work in Progress

Watson, Tara, "Inside the Refrigerator: Immigration Enforcement and Chilling in Immigrant Medicaid Participation," manuscript.

Watson, Tara, and Dean Yang, "Barriers to Medicaid Participation Among Immigrants: Experimental Evidence," in progress.

Gordon, Nora, and Tara Watson, "School Choice and 'Excess' School Segregation: Does School Choice Policy Explain Which Districts Have Schools More Segregated than their Neighborhoods?," in progress.

Shorter Pieces

Watson, Tara, "Marriage Meets the Joneses," Vox EU, May 5, 2009, (<http://www.voxeu.org/index.php?q=node/3533>).

Watson, Tara, "Book Review: The Geography of American Poverty: Is There a Need for Place-Based Policies? by Mark D. Partridge and Dan S. Rickman," *Journal of Regional Science*, 2007, 47(5), pp.1002-1004.

Watson, Tara, "New Housing, Income Inequality, and Distressed Metropolitan Areas," *Brookings Metropolitan Policy Program Policy Brief Series*, 2007.

Grants

West Coast Poverty Center Small Grant Competition, "Inside the Refrigerator: Welfare Reform, Immigration Enforcement, and Chilling Effects in Immigrant Medicaid Participation." Grant Period September 2009 to August 2010.

University of Michigan National Poverty Center Small Grant Competition, "Barriers to Medicaid Participation Among Immigrants." Grant Period March 2009 to March 2010.

Williams College Department of Economics Henry George Fund, "Excess School Segregation: Are Schools More Segregated than Neighborhoods, and Why?" Grant Period August 2009.

Invited Presentations and Seminars (Non-Job Market)

2010: American Society for Health Economists Meetings, National Bureau of Economic Research Summer Institute (expected July), Wesleyan University, Williams College, University of California at Irvine.

2009: American Public Policy and Management Annual Meeting, Communities Mobilizing for Change on Alcohol Research Lecture Series, Population Association of America Annual Meeting, Public Finance Review Special Conference, Robert Wood Johnson Scholars in Health Policy Program Annual Meeting, Southeastern Health Economics Study Group Conference, University of Michigan.

2008: Harvard University, RAND Corporation, Robert Wood Johnson Scholars in Health Policy Program Annual Meeting, Society of Labor Economists, Southern Economic Association, University of Michigan, University of Notre Dame.

2007: University of Michigan, Eastern Economic Association Meetings.

2006: American Society of Health Economists, Regional Science and Urban Economics Conference, University of California at Berkeley, University of Nevada at Las Vegas.

2005: Brookings-Wharton Conference on Urban Affairs.

2004: MacArthur Network Conference, Population Association of America.

2003: Columbia University, National Bureau of Economic Research Summer Institute, Princeton University.

Fellowships and Honors

Robert Wood Johnson Scholar in Health Policy Research, August 2007 to July 2009.

Harvard Multidisciplinary Program in Inequality and Social Policy Doctoral

Fellow, September 1999 to June 2003.

Social Science Research Council Program in Applied Economics Fellow, September

2001 to August 2002.

Lincoln Land Institute Dissertation Fellow, August 2001.

National Science Foundation Graduate Student Fellow, September 1998 to August 2001.

Wesleyan University, Phi Beta Kappa Society and University Honors, May 1996.

Referee/Reviewer/Discussant Experience

AcademyHealth Conference, American Economic Association meetings, American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, American Economic Review, Berkeley Electronic Journal of Economic Analysis and Policy, Canadian Journal of Economics, Contemporary Economic Policy, Eastern Economic Journal, Health Economics, National Science Foundation, Journal of Economic Education, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Population Economics, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs, Journal of Urban Economics, Proceedings of the Pakistan Academy of Sciences, Review of Economic Inequality, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Economics and Statistics, Social Forces, Social Science and Medicine.

Media Coverage

Inequality and the Measurement of the Residential Segregation by Income, covered by: Wall Street Journal Real Time Economics blog, April 2009

Minimum Drinking Age Laws and Infant Health Outcomes, covered by: Foxnews.com, Reuters Health, and more than a dozen other media outlets, May-June 2009.

Courses Taught (Williams College)

Econ 019 Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (Winter Study 2005, Winter Study 2006)

Econ 110 Introductory Microeconomics (Fall 2005, Spring 2006)

Econ 205 Public Finance (Fall 2004)

Econ 255 Econometrics (Spring 2006, Spring 2007, Spring 2010)

Econ 456 Poverty and Place (Fall 2006, this course included the supervision of 18 original empirical research projects.)

Econ 468 Your Money or Your Life: Health Disparities in the United States (Fall 2009, this course included the supervision of 9 original empirical research projects.)

Econ 510 Econometrics (CDE Masters Level, Fall 2005, Fall 2006, Fall 2009)

Econ 511 Econometrics Combined Section (CDE Masters Level, Fall 2004)

Departmental Service

Economics Department Director of Research (September 2009-June 2010)
Economics Department Graduate/Post-graduate Advisor (September 2005-June 2007)
Co-organizer Brown Bag Lunch (September 2005-December 2006)
Andra Hibbert, Second Reader of Thesis (2004-2005)
Andrew Pocius, Second Reader of Thesis (2005-2006)
Candice Corvetti, Second Reader of Thesis (2006-2007)
Mia Desimone, Second Reader of Anthropology Thesis (2009-2010)
Amelia Hawkins, Independent Study (Winter 2006)
Courtney Gainer, Independent Study (Fall 2006 and Winter 2007)
Aatif Abbas, Research Assistant Supervisor (Summer 2006)
Joanna Hoffman, Research Assistant Supervisor (Summer 2009)
Corey Paulish, Research Assistant Supervisor (Summer 2009)
Leland Brewster, Research Assistant Supervisor (Spring 2010)

College-Wide Service

Committee on Educational Policy (February 2010-present)
Committee on Undergraduate Life (September 2006-June 2007 and September 2009-February 2010)
Chair Minority Coalition Funding Subcommittee of CUL (September 2009-February 2010)
Co-chair Diversity Subcommittee of CUL (September 2006-June 2007)
Panelist for Students for Social Justice Dinner on Health Reform (Fall 2009)
Speaker for Women's Center Lunch on Health Reform (Fall 2009)
Mead Internship Committee (September 2005-May 2006)
Advisory Committee on Shareholder Responsibility (January 2006-June 2007)