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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Margaret Walker Alexander Professor, School of Education and Social Policy, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL (September 2017 – present).

Courtesy appointment, Department of Economics.

Faculty Affiliate, Cells to Society: The Center on Social Disparities and Health.

Professor, School of Education and Social Policy, September 2016 – August 2017.

Associate Professor, School of Education and Social Policy, July 2010 – August 2016.

Director, Institute for Policy Research, Northwestern University (September 2017 – present).

Research Associate, National Bureau of Economic Research (September 2012 – present).

Faculty research fellow (April 2009 – September 2012).

Visiting Scholar, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago (July 2005 – present).

Faculty Affiliate, Institute for Research on Poverty, University of Wisconsin (September 2011 – present).

Nonresident Senior Fellow, The Brookings Institution, Washington, DC (August 2017 – present).

Senior Fellow (August 2015 – August 2017).

Director, The Hamilton Project, Washington, DC (August 2015 – August 2017).

Assistant Professor, Harris Graduate School of Public Policy Studies, The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL (July 2004 – June 2010).

Scholar in Health Policy Research, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, University of California-Berkeley (August 2002 – July 2004).

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, Princeton University, November 2002.

M.A., Economics, Princeton University, November 1999.

A.B., magna cum laude, Economics and Religion, Wellesley College, June 1995.

PUBLICATIONS

“Safety Net Investments in Children,” with Hilary W. Hoynes. Forthcoming, *Brookings Papers on Economic Activity*, Spring 2018.

“School Finance Reform and the Distribution of Student Achievement,” with Julien Lafortune and Jesse Rothstein. *American Economic Journal – Applied Economics*. 10(2): 1-26. April 2018.

“The Effect of School Accountability Policies on Children’s Health,” with Patricia Anderson and Kristin Butcher. *Education Finance and Policy*. 12(1): 54-76. Winter 2017.

“Long-run Impacts of Childhood Access to the Safety Net,” with Hilary Hoynes and Douglas Almond. *American Economic Review* 106(4): 903-934. April 2016.

- "First in the Class? Age and the Education Production Function," with Elizabeth Cascio, *Education Finance and Policy*. 11(3): 225-250. Summer 2016.
- "Beyond Income: What Else Predicts Very Low Food Security Among Children?" with Patricia Anderson, Kristin Butcher and Hilary Hoynes. *Southern Economic Journal* 82(4): 1078-1105. April 2016.
- "Consumer Credit Trends by Income and Geography 2001-2012," with Gene Amromin and Leslie McGranahan, *Chicago Fed Letter* 342. 2015.
- "Changes in Safety Net Use During the Great Recession," with Patricia Anderson and Kristin Butcher, *American Economic Review: Papers & Proceedings* 105(2): 161-165. May 2015.
- "The Impact of Chicago's Small High School Initiative," with Lisa Barrow and Amy Claessens. *Journal of Urban Economics*, 87: 100-113. May 2015.
- "The Impacts of Expanding Access to High-Quality Preschool Education," with Elizabeth Cascio. *Brookings Papers on Economic Activity* 2013.2: 127-192. 2013.
- "Experimental Evidence on the Effect of Childhood Investments on Postsecondary Attainment and Degree Completion" with Susan Dynarski and Joshua Hyman. *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management* 32(4):692-717. September 2013.
- "Work Incentives and the Food Stamp Program," with Hilary Hoynes. *Journal of Public Economics* 96(1-2): 151-62. February 2012.
- "Limitations of Experiments in Education Research." *Education Finance and Policy* 7(2): 219-232. Spring 2012.
- "How Does Your Kindergarten Classroom Affect Your Earnings? Evidence from Project STAR," with Raj Chetty, John N. Friedman, Nathaniel Hilger, Emmanuel Saez, and Danny Yagan. *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 126(4): 1593-1660. November 2011.
- "Is Being in School Better? The Impact of School on Children's BMI when Starting Age is Endogenous," with Patricia Anderson, Kristin Butcher and Elizabeth Cascio. *Journal of Health Economics* 30(5): 977-986. September 2011.
- "Inside the War on Poverty: The Impact of the Food Stamp Program on Birth Outcomes," with Douglas Almond and Hilary Hoynes. *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 93(2): 387-403. May 2011.
- "Who would be affected by soda taxes?" with Leslie McGranahan. *Chicago Fed Letter* No. 284, March 2011.
- "Consequences of SCHIP Expansions for Household Well-Being," with Lindsey Leininger and Helen Levy. *Forum for Health Economics & Policy* 13:1 (Frontiers in Health Policy Research), Article 3, 2010.
- "Left Behind by Design: Proficiency Counts and Test-Based Accountability" with Derek Neal. *Review of Economics and Statistics* 92(2): 263-283. May 2010.
- "Consumption Responses to In-Kind Transfers: Evidence from the Introduction of the Food Stamp Program," with Hilary Hoynes. *American Economic Journal - Applied Economics* 1(4): 109-139. October 2009.
- "Does the Federal School Lunch Program Contribute to Childhood Obesity?" *Journal of Human Resources* 44(3): 684-709. Summer 2009.

- “Selection Bias in College Admissions Test Scores,” with Melissa Clark and Jesse Rothstein. *Economics of Education Review* 28(3): 295-307. June 2009.
- “Time Use and Food Consumption,” with Marianne Bertrand. *American Economic Review: Papers & Proceedings* 99(2): 170-176. May 2009.
- “The Impact of Children’s Health Insurance Expansions on Educational Performance,” with Phillip Levine. *Forum for Health Economics & Policy* 12:1 (Frontiers in Health Policy Research), Article 1, 2009.
- “The Economic Costs of Childhood Poverty in the United States,” with Harry Holzer, Greg Duncan and Jens Ludwig, *Journal of Children and Poverty*, 14(1): 41-51. March 2008.
- “What Have Researchers Learned from Project STAR?” *Brookings Papers on Education Policy*, 2007.
- “Resource and Peer Impacts on Girls’ Academic Achievement: Evidence from a Randomized Experiment,” *American Economic Review: Papers & Proceedings*, 95(2): 199-203. May 2005.
- “The Effect of Attending a Small Class in the Early Grades on College-Test Taking and Middle School Test Results: Evidence from Project STAR,” with Alan B. Krueger, *Economic Journal*, 111(468): 1-28. January 2001.
- “The Impact of Welfare Reform on the AFDC Caseload,” with Phillip B. Levine, *National Tax Association Proceedings – 1997*. Washington, DC: National Tax Association, pp. 24-33.

BOOK CHAPTERS

- “Long-term Impacts of Class Size Reduction,” in Peter Blatchford, et al., eds., *International Perspectives on Class Size*. London: Routledge, 2016.
- “U.S. Food and Nutrition Programs,” with Hilary Hoynes, in Robert Moffitt, ed., *Means Tested Transfer Programs, Volume II*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2016. (Also available as NBER Working Paper 21057).
- “SNAP and Food Consumption,” with Hilary Hoynes and Leslie McGranahan, in eds. Judith Bartfeld, Craig Gundersen, Timothy M. Smeeding, and James P. Ziliak, *SNAP Matters: How Food Stamps Affect Health and Well Being*, Palo Alto: Stanford University Press, 2015.
- “Current Themes in Education Policy in the United States,” in eds. John Karl Scholz, Hyungpyo Moon, and Sang-Hyop Lee, *Social Policies in an Age of Austerity: A Comparative Analysis of the U.S. and Korea*, Northampton, MA: Edward Elgar Publishing, 2015.
- “Class Size,” in ed. James Wright, *International Encyclopedia of Social and Behavioral Sciences*, London: Elsevier, 2015.
- “Education and the Poor,” with Lisa Barrow, in ed. Philip N. Jefferson, *Oxford Handbook of the Economics of Poverty*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012.
- “School Policies and Children’s Obesity” with Patricia Anderson and Kristin Butcher, in ed. Daniel Slottje and Rusty Tchernis, *Current Issues in Health Economics (Contributions to Economic Analysis)*, Emerald Group Publishing Limited, 2010.
- “The Economics of Class Size,” in *International Encyclopedia of Education*, Baker, E., McGaw, B. & Peterson, P., ed. Amsterdam: Elsevier Publishers, 2010.

“Child Disadvantage and Obesity: Is Nurture Trumping Nature?” with Patricia Anderson and Kristin Butcher, in ed. Jonathan Gruber, *The Problems of Disadvantaged Youth: An Economic Perspective*, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2009.

“Would Smaller Classes Help Close the Black-White Achievement Gap?” with Alan Krueger, in John E. Chubb and Tom Loveless, ed, *Bridging the Achievement Gap*. Washington: Brookings Institution Press, November 2002.

UNDER SUBMISSION AND WORKING PAPERS

Related to the Effectiveness of Social Policy

“Expanding the School Breakfast Program: Impacts on Children’s Consumption, Nutrition and Health,” with Mary Zaki, NBER Working Paper #20308. Revise and resubmit, *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*.

“Understanding Food Insecurity during the Great Recession,” with Patricia Anderson, Kristin Butcher and Hilary Hoynes. Mimeo.

“The Earned Income Tax Credit and Food Consumption Patterns,” with Leslie McGranahan, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago Working Paper #2013-14.

“What Are Food Stamps Worth?” Princeton University Industrial Relations Section Working Paper #468.

“Teen Motherhood, Labor Market Involvement and the Receipt of Public Assistance,” with Phillip B. Levine, *Joint Center for Poverty Research* Working Paper #84, November 1997.

Related to the Impact of School Inputs on Child Outcomes

“The Effect of Court-Ordered Hiring Guidelines on Teacher Composition and Student Achievement,” with Cynthia DuBois, NBER Working Paper #24111.

“Experimental Estimates of Peer Effects.” Mimeo.

“Assessing the Impacts on Students of Closing Persistently Failing Schools,” with Lisa Barrow and Kyung Park. Mimeo.

POLICY BRIEFS

“Reducing Chronic Absenteeism under the Every Student Succeeds Act,” with Lauren Bauer, Patrick Liu, and Jay Shambaugh, The Hamilton Project at the Brookings Institution, April 2018.

“The Future of SNAP: Continuing to Balance Protection and Incentives,” in *Agricultural Policy in Disarray: Reforming the Farm Bill*, American Enterprise Institute, November 2017.

“The Recent Decline in Women’s Labor Force Participation,” with Sandra Black and Audrey Breitwieser, in *The 51%: Driving Growth through Women’s Economic Participation*, The Hamilton Project, October 2017.

“Who is Out of the Labor Force?” with Lauren Bauer, Ryan Nunn, and Megan Mumford, The Hamilton Project at the Brookings Institution, August 2017.

“The Closing of the Jobs Gap: A Decade of Recession and Recovery,” with Ryan Nunn, Lauren Bauer and Audrey Breitwieser, The Hamilton Project at the Brookings Institution, August 2017.

“Is Your Child Ready for Kindergarten? ‘Redshirting’ May Do More Harm than Good,” with Stephanie Howard Larson, *Education Next*, 17(3), Summer 2017.

- “Putting Your Major to Work: Career Paths after College,” with Ryan Nunn and Gregory Nantz. The Hamilton Project at the Brookings Institution, May 2017.
- “Eight Economic Facts on Higher Education,” with Lauren Bauer and Audrey Breitwieser. The Hamilton Project at the Brookings Institution, April 2017.
- “In Order That They Might Rest Their Arguments on Facts: The Vital Role of Government-Collected Data,” with Nicholas Eberstadt, Ryan Nunn, and Michael R. Strain. The Hamilton Project at the Brookings Institution and AEI, March 2017.
- “Twelve Economic Facts on Energy and Climate Change,” with Ryan Nunn, Audrey Breitwieser, Megan Mumford, Gregory Nantz, Michael Greenstone, and Sam Ori. The Hamilton Project at the Brookings Institution, March 2017.
- “If You Build It: A Guide to the Economics of Infrastructure Investment,” with Ryan Nunn and Greg Nantz. The Hamilton Project at the Brookings Institution, February 2017.
- “Money Lightens the Load,” with Ryan Nunn, Megan Mumford, and Lauren Bauer. The Hamilton Project at the Brookings Institution, December 2016.
- “Lessons for Broadening School Accountability under the Every Student Succeeds Act,” with Lauren Bauer and Megan Mumford. The Hamilton Project at the Brookings Institution, October 2016.
- “Twelve Facts about Incarceration and Prisoner Reentry,” with Ryan Nunn, Lauren Bauer, Audrey Breitwieser, Megan Mumford, and Gregory Nantz. The Hamilton Project at the Brookings Institution, October 2016.
- “Seven Facts on Noncognitive Skills from Education to the Labor Market,” with Ryan Nunn, Lauren Bauer, Megan Mumford, and Audrey Breitwieser. The Hamilton Project at the Brookings Institution, October 2016.
- “The Economics of Private Prisons,” with Megan Mumford and Ryan Nunn. The Hamilton Project at the Brookings Institution, October 2016.
- “The Long-Term Impact of the Head Start Program,” with Lauren Bauer. The Hamilton Project at the Brookings Institution, August 2016.
- “The Changing Landscape of American Life Expectancy,” with Ryan Nunn and Lauren Bauer. The Hamilton Project at the Brookings Institution, June 2016.
- “Who is Poor in the United States?” with Lauren Bauer and Ryan Nunn. The Hamilton Project at the Brookings Institution, June 2016.
- “Where Does All the Money Go: Shifts in Household Spending Over the Past 30 Years,” with Ryan Nunn, Lauren Bauer, and Megan Mumford. The Hamilton Project at the Brookings Institution, June 2016.
- “Nine Facts about the Great Recession and Tools for Fighting the Next Downturn,” with Ryan Nunn, Lauren Bauer, David Boddy and Greg Nantz. The Hamilton Project at the Brookings Institution, May 2016.
- “Are Nutrition Policies Making Teenagers Hungry?” with Lauren Bauer. The Hamilton Project at the Brookings Institution, April 2016.
- “Twelve Facts about Food Insecurity and SNAP,” with Lauren Bauer and Greg Nantz. The Hamilton Project at the Brookings Institution, April 2016.

- “Who Has Access to Charter Schools?” with Megan Mumford and Lauren Bauer. The Hamilton Project at the Brookings Institution, March 2016.
- “Fourteen Economic Facts on Education and Economic Opportunity,” with David Boddy, Megan Mumford and Greg Nantz. The Hamilton Project at the Brookings Institution, March 2016.
- “An Additional Measure of the Hamilton Project’s Jobs Gap Analysis,” with David Boddy. The Hamilton Project at the Brookings Institution, February 2016.
- “Workers and the Online Gig Economy,” with Jane Dokko and Megan Mumford. The Hamilton Project at the Brookings Institution, December 2015.
- “Six Economic Facts about Health Care and the Health Insurance Market after the Affordable Care Act,” with David Boddy, Jane Dokko, and Greg Nantz. The Hamilton Project at the Brookings Institution, October 2015.
- “Expanding Preschool Access for Disadvantaged Children,” with Elizabeth Cascio, in Melissa S. Kearney and Benjamin H. Harris, eds., *Policies to Address Poverty in America*, The Hamilton Project at the Brookings Institution, June 2014.
- “Does Class Size Matter?” Policy brief, National Education Policy Center. February 2014.
- Strengthening SNAP for a More Food-Secure, Healthy America*, discussion paper, The Hamilton Project at the Brookings Institution, December 2013.
- “The Safety Net: An Investment in Kids,” with Hilary Hoynes, Spotlight on Poverty. July 2013.
- “\$320,000 Kindergarten Teachers,” Phi Delta Kappan 92(3): 322-25. November 2010
- “Leaving children behind ... by design,” *Milken Institute Review* Quarter 1 2008, pp. 18-25.
- “Many U.S. Children are Left Behind by Design” with Derek Neal, VoxEU.org, August 2007.
- “Beneficiaries of Proposed Social Security-Related Tax Cut Have Significant Wealth,” with Robert Greenstein, *Center on Budget and Policy Priorities Policy Brief*, September 2000.

GRANTS AND FUNDED PROJECTS

Related to Social Policy

- Research, Innovation, and Development Grant in Economics, US Department of Agriculture (administered by University of Wisconsin), “The Impacts of School Lunch Reforms on Student Outcomes,” Principal Investigator, \$39,932, 2015-2016.
- University of Kentucky Center for Poverty Research, *Research Program on Childhood Hunger*, “New Evidence on Why Children’s Food Security Varies across Households with Similar Incomes,” Principal Investigator, \$244,254, 2012-2014.
- Russell Sage Foundation, “Understanding Food Insecurity During the Great Recession,” Principal Investigator, \$146,614, 2011-2013.
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Changes in Health Care Financing and Organization, “Evaluating the Impact of SCHIP Expansions on Household Spending and Consumption using Consumer Expenditure Survey Data,” Co-Investigator, \$124,694, 2008-2009.
- Food Assistance and Nutrition Research Program (FANRP), US Department of Agriculture, “Identifying Behavioral Economics Factors Affecting Food Consumption,” Principal Investigator, \$399,773, 2007-2009.

Research, Innovation, and Development Grant in Economics, US Department of Agriculture (administered by University of Wisconsin), "Measuring the Impacts of Stigma and Time Cost in the Food Stamp Enrollment Decision," Principal Investigator, \$29,921, 2006-2007.

Research, Innovation, and Development Grant in Economics, US Department of Agriculture (administered by University of Chicago), "The Introduction of the Food Stamp Program: Impacts on Food Consumption and Family Well-Being," Principal Investigator, \$37,748, 2005-2006.

Related to Education and Children

Spencer Foundation Grant, "School Finance Reform and the Distribution of Student Achievement," Principal Investigator, \$305,469, 2014-2016.

Institute for Educational Sciences, Predoctoral Interdisciplinary Research Training Programs in the Education Sciences Grant, "Multidisciplinary Program in Education Sciences," Principal Investigator, \$3,908,332, 2014-2019.

Smith Richardson Foundation, Grant, "Assessing the Impacts on Students of Closing Persistently Failing Schools," Principal Investigator, \$60,000, 2008-2011.

Institute for Educational Sciences, Research on High School Reform Grant, "Assessing the Effectiveness of Chicago's Small High School Initiative," Principal Investigator, \$336,664, 2006-2008.

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Healthy Eating Research Grant, "The Effect of School Accountability Policies on Childhood Obesity," Principal Investigator, \$74,995, 2006-2008.

NICHD University of Chicago Population Research Center pilot award, "Does Accountability Promote General or Test-Specific Skills?" Principal Investigator, \$8000, 2005-2006.

NAEP Secondary Analysis Grant, US Department of Education, "Advancing Education Improvement by Improving Child Health: An Analysis of NAEP Data," Principal Investigator, \$99,912, 2005-2006.

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- Raymond Vernon Memorial Award, 2013
- Excellence in Refereeing Award, *American Economic Review*, 2012
- Woodrow Wilson Fellowship, Princeton University, 2000-2002
- Peggy Howard Fellowship, Wellesley College, 2001
- National Science Foundation Traineeship in the Economics of Education, 1997-2000
- Social Science Research Council Program in Applied Economics, 1998

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Editorial Service

- Coeditor, *Journal of Human Resources*, 2018-present.
- Associate Editor, *Journal of Human Resources*, 2014-2018.
- Editorial Board Member, *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, 2016-present.

National Committee Service

- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Policies for Action, National Advisory Committee, Chair, 2016-present.
- Institute of Medicine CNSTAT Panel on Improving USDA's Consumer Data for Food and Nutrition Policy Research, 2018-present.
- Society for Research in Education Effectiveness, Program Committee for 2017 Annual Meeting.
- Society of Labor Economists, Program Committee for 2016, 2017 Annual Meetings.
- American Economic Association, Program Committee for 2015 Annual Meeting.
- Institute of Medicine Committee on Examination of the Adequacy of Food Resources and SNAP Allotments, 2011-13.
- Technical Work Group, Healthy Incentives Pilot (HIP) Evaluation, 2010-13.

Keynote Addresses

- Early Childhood Education Impact Evaluation Workshop, World Bank, Abu Dhabi, 2018.
- Hunger Action Summit, Second Harvest Food Bank, 2017.
- Early Childhood Inequality Workshop, Nuremberg Germany, 2016.
- Dennis Hastert Center, Wheaton College, 2014.
- Calderwood Lecture, Wellesley College, 2014.
- Illinois Education Research Council, 2012.
- Francis Marion University, Center of Excellence to Prepare Teachers of Children of Poverty, 2011.

Referee: *American Economic Review, American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, The B.E. Journals in Economic Analysis and Policy, Canadian Journal of Economics, Developmental Psychology, Economic Inquiry, Economic Journal, Economics and Human Biology, Economics of Education Review, Economics Letters, Education Finance and Policy, Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis, Health Economics, Industrial and Labor Relations Review, Journal of Health Economics, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Labor Economics, Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, Journal of Political Economy, Journal of Public Economics, Labour Economics, Oxford University Press, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Economics and Statistics, Review of Economic Studies, Scandinavian Journal of Economics, Science, State and Local Government Review, Social Science Quarterly, Social Service Review, Southern Economic Journal.*

Grant Reviewer: U.S. Department of Agriculture; National Institutes of Health; National Science Foundation; Robert Wood Johnson Foundation; Smith Richardson Foundation; Spencer Foundation.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Northwestern University (2010 to date)

Quantitative Methods I (PhD course)

Economics of Social Policy (Undergraduate course)

Education Policy (PhD course)

Contemporary Issues in Education (Undergraduate course)

University of Chicago (2004 to 2010)

Statistical Methods for Policy Research (Graduate course)

Economics of Education Policy (Graduate course)

Education Policy & Reform (Graduate course)

Program Evaluation (Graduate course)

OTHER EMPLOYMENT

Economic Counselor, Sebago Associates, Inc., Santa Monica, CA, September 1998–August 2001.

Research Assistant, Council of Economic Advisers, Washington, D.C., April 1996–May 1997.

Research Assistant, Survey of Consumer Finances, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Washington, D.C., August 1995–April 1996.