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Political Economy of Inequality: U.S. & Global Dimensions 2017-18

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February 14, 2018

David Lam

University of Michigan
Professor of Economics and
Director of the Institute for
Social Research

“Why has Income Inequality Increased While Education Inequality Has Decreased in Many Developing Countries”

David Lam is Professor of Economics, Director of the Institute for Social Research, and Research Professor in the Population Studies Center. He has served as president of the Population Association of America and currently serves on the Council of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population. He has been a member of the Committee on Population of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, and has served as an advisor or consultant to the World Bank, the U.S. National Institutes of Health, the United Nations Population Division, and the South Africa Office of the Presidency. His research focuses on the interaction of economics and demography in developing countries, including analysis of the economics of population growth, fertility, marriage, and aging. He has worked extensively in Brazil and South Africa, where his research analyzes links between education, labor markets, and income inequality. He is an Honorary Professor of Economics at the University of Cape Town. His collaborations with the University of Cape Town include the Cape Area Panel Study, a longitudinal survey of young people in Cape Town supported by the U.S. National Institutes of Health. He received PhD in Economics from University of California Berkeley, and MA in Demography from Berkeley and MA in Latin American Studies from University of Texas.



March 28, 2018

Howard Stein

University of Michigan
Professor in the Department of
Afroamerican and African Studies
and Department of Epidemiology
in the School of Public Health

“Institutions, Structures and Policy Paradigms in Sub-Saharan Africa: Toward Understanding Inequality”

Howard Stein is a Professor in the Department of Afroamerican and African Studies (DAAS) and the Department of Epidemiology at the University of Michigan. He is a development economist educated in Canada, the US and the UK who has taught in both Asia and Africa. He is the editor or author of more than a dozen books and edited collections. His research has focused on foreign aid, finance and development, structural adjustment and neoliberalism, health, gender and development, institutional transformation and development, industrial policy, export processing zones, agricultural policy, and poverty and rural property right transformation. His most recent books are Beyond the World Bank Agenda: An Institutional Approach to Development (University of Chicago Press, 2008, paperback edition, 2014), Good Growth and Governance in Africa: Rethinking Development Strategies (Oxford University Press, January, 2012) co-edited with Joseph Stiglitz, Akbar Noman, and Kwesi Botchway and Gendered Insecurities, Health, and Development in Africa (Routledge, 2012) co-edited with Amal Fadlalla. He was also the principal coauthor of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa Economic Report 2014, Dynamic Industrialization in Africa: Innovative Institutions, Effective Processes and Flexible Mechanism. He is currently working on a book entitled Institutions and Industrial Policy in Africa: Toward Structural Transformation and Inclusion which is under contract with Oxford University Press and co-written with Bethuel Kinuthia and Adam Elhiraika. He teaches a variety of courses in DAAS and Epidemiology including the history of African economic development, Africa and post-war development theory and policy, globalization and African health, the political economy of African development and health and socio-economic development.



The series is named for the long-time WMU Economics Professor and former Department Chair, *Dr. Werner Sichel* who retired in 2004. The success and longevity of this series is a testament to his vision and guidance.

The 2017-18 Sichel Lecture Series is being directed by Professor Sisay Asefa & Professor Wei- Chiao Huang.

The series is co-sponsored by the Department of Economics, College of Arts and Sciences, WMU, and the W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research

All lectures are free and open to the public. A light lunch reception will be available following each lecture.

For more information, please contact:
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**2017 - 2018 54th Werner Sichel Lecture Series
Presents:**



***Political Economy of Inequality:
U.S. & Global Dimensions***

Dr. Teresa Ghilarducci
“The Political Economy of Retirement Time Inequality in the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)”

Dr. Charles Ballard
“The Fall and Rise of Income Inequality in the United States”

Dr. James Hines Jr.
“Income Inequality, Progressive Taxation and Tax Expenditures”

Dr. Mary Corcoran
“America’s Unequal Playing Field: The Gaps Between Poor and Rich Children’s Resources”

Dr. David Lam
“Why has Income Inequality Increased While Education Inequality Has Decreased in Many Developing Countries.”

Dr. Howard Stein
“Institutions, Structures and Policy Paradigms in Sub-Saharan Africa: Toward Understanding Inequality”

All lectures will be held in 2028 Brown Hall from 12:00 - 1:15pm. These lectures are free and open to the public.



College of
Arts and Sciences
Department of Economics
WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY



Sept. 13, 2017

Teresa Ghilarducci

New School for Social Research
Irene and Bernhard Professor of
Economic Policy, The New School

**“The Political Economy of Retirement
Time Inequality, in the Economic Coop-
eration and Organization of Develop-
ment (OECD)”**

Theresa Ghilarducci is Irene and Bernhard L. Schwartz Professor of Economic Analysis and Director of Schwartz Center for Economic Policy Analysis at the New School of Social Research in New York City, NY. She is a labor economist, retirement author and retirement security expert. Her widely circulated New York Times op-ed “Our Ridiculous Approach to Retirement” brought attention to fresh and comprehensive critique of the American way of provisioning for retirement. Her book, *When I’m 64: The Plot Against Pensions and the Plan to Save Them*, presents cutting edge policy recommendations for restructuring the United States deteriorating retirement income security system. Her book *Labor’s Capital: The Economics and Politics of Employer Pensions* won an Association of American Publishers award in 1992. For the past five years she has served as court appointed trustee of the \$50 billion retiree health care fund for Ford, GM and Chrysler retiree’s. Before coming to The New School she was a professor at University of Notre Dame. She was the 2006-08 Wurf Fellow at Harvard Law School. Her research has been funded by the Rockefeller Foundation, the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Ford Foundation, and Retirement Research Foundation. She has received many grants for her research and professional innovation including about 4 million dollars for Retirement Equity Lab. She received her BA and PhD, both from University of California, Berkley in Economics.



Sept. 27, 2017

Charles Ballard

Michigan State University
Professor of Economics

**“The Fall and Rise of Income Equality
in the United States”**

Professor Charles Ballard has been on the Economics faculty at Michigan State University since 1983, when he received his Ph.D. from Stanford University. In 2007, he became Director of the State of the State Survey, in MSU’s Institute for Public Policy and Social Research. Also in 2007, he won the Outstanding Teacher Award in MSU’s College of Social Science. In 2011, he joined the Board of Directors of the Michigan League for Public Policy. He has served as a consultant with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Health & Human Services and Treasury, and research institutes in Australia, Denmark and Finland. His books include *Michigan at the Millenium* and *Michigan’s Economic Future*. Ballard has several honors and awards including grants from National Science Foundation. His publication includes several journal articles, chapters in books and proceedings, research reports, and conference presentations. He has reviewed for numerous major economics journals such as *American Economic Review*, *Journal of Political Economy*, *Journal of Development Economics*, *Journal of Economic Education*, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, *Journal of Public Economics*, and *Scandinavian Journal of Economics*. He has chaired 12 PhD students at MSU. He also appeared in major media for 120 newspapers, 37 radio, 35 TV interviews in Michigan, nationally and globally including online media and made numerous public presentations to community and business organizations nationally including at universities and colleges.



Oct. 25, 2017

James Hines Jr.

University of Michigan
Professor of Economics and Law

**“Income Inequality, Progressive
Taxation and Tax Expenditures”**

James R. Hines Jr. is Richard A. Musgrave Collegiate Professor of Economics and L. Hart Wright Collegiate Professor of Law at the University of Michigan. He received his PhD in Economics from Harvard in 1986, MA in Economics from Yale in 1982 and BA in Economics from Yale in 1980. In addition to teaching in the department of economics and the law school at Michigan he also serves as Research Director of the business school’s Office of Tax Policy Research. His research concerns various aspect of taxation. He taught at Princeton and Harvard prior to moving to Michigan in 1997, and has held visiting appointments at Columbia, the London School of Economics, the University of California—Berkeley, and Harvard Law School. He is a research associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research, Research Director of the International Tax Policy Forum, former Co-Editor of the *American Economic Association’s Journal of Economic Perspectives*, and once, was an economist in the United States Department of Commerce. His research areas are public finance, law and economics.



Jan. 17, 2018

Mary E. Corcoran

University of Michigan
Professor of Public Policy, Political
Science and Women’s Studies

**“America’s Unequal Playing Field: The
Gaps Between Poor and Rich
Children’s Resources”**

Mary E. Corcoran is Professor of Political Science, Public Policy, Social Work, and Women’s Studies, and senior Associate Scientist at Survey Research Center at University of Michigan. Her research focuses on the effects of gender and race discrimination and on welfare and employment policies. She has numerous published articles on intergenerational mobility, the underclass, and sex-based and race-based inequality. She teaches seminars on poverty, inequality and women and employment. She has received several Fellowships and Awards for her service and research that include: Rackham Distinguished Graduate Mentorship Award, Faculty Recognition Award, Ford Foundation Faculty Fellowship in Women studies, Kent Fellow, Danforth Foundation and Stouffer Fellow, Harvard-MIT joint Center for Urban Studies and Carnegie Fellowship for Interdisciplinary Research from MIT. She has co-authored two books and 70 Journal articles in Economics and other social sciences journals. She received PhD in Social Policy and Education from Massachusetts Institute of Technology and BA in Mathematics from Pembroke College, University of Cambridge, UK.