



Australian
National
University



Tax and Transfer Policy Institute

3rd Australian Workshop on Public Finance

Thursday 3 August - Friday 4 August 2023
Molonglo Theatre, JG Crawford Building (132), Lennox Crossing, ANU

Sponsors:



Crawford School of
Public Policy
ANU College of
Asia and the Pacific



Australian Workshop on Public Finance

PROGRAM

DAY 1 – Thursday 3 August 2023

Molonglo Theatre, Level 2, JG Crawford Building

8:45 - 8:50	Opening and welcome		Professor Robert Breunig Director, Tax and Transfer Policy Institute, ANU
8:50 - 9:10	Keynote address		Dr David Gruen AO Australian Statistician
9:10 - 10:50	Session 1: Private Health & Crime	<i>(30mins presentation, 10min discussant, 10mins open discussion)</i> Moderator: Michelle Tan (ABS) Using large-scale network data to measure social returns and improve targeting of crime-reduction intervention Presenter: Ashley Craig (ANU) Discussant: Jacquelyn Zhang (ANU) Is age-based mandated private health insurance enrolment effective in reducing demand on the public health system? Presenter: Ha Nguyen (Telethon Kids Institute) Discussant: Ralph Lattimore (TTPI Fellow)	
10:50 - 11:10	Morning tea		
11:10 - 12:50	Session 2: Machine learning and social policy	<i>(30mins presentation, 10min discussant, 10mins open discussion)</i> Moderator: Gemma Van Halderen (DSS) Spatial influences of welfare reform success: Insights from combining regression discontinuity and machine learning models Presenter: Anna Zhu (RMIT) Discussant: Denzil Fiebig (UNSW) Estimating the impact of public defence on court outcomes: credible identification using double machine learning Presenter: Fabio Martinenghi (UNSW) Discussant: Miguel Olivo-Villabrille (USyd)	
12:50 - 13:40	Lunch		

13:40 - 15:20	Session 3: Social safety net	<i>(30mins presentation, 10min discussant, 10mins open discussion)</i> Moderator: Adam Hawkins (Treasury) The effects of large, persistent changes in unemployment benefits on consumer spending: Evidence from the Australian JobSeeker Supplement Presenter: Nicole Adams (E61) Discussant: Phillip Lay (DSS) Early pension withdrawal after a health shock: an analysis of the impact of cancer on retirement saving and income Presenter: Thomas Longden & Maryam Naghsh Nejad (ANU) Discussant: Rebecca Taylor (USyd)
15:20 - 15:40	Afternoon tea	
15:40 - 17:20	Session 4: Australian Policy evaluation & policy ideas	<i>(30mins presentation, 10min discussant, 10mins open discussion)</i> Moderator: Rebecca Valenzuela (Vic Dep of Treasury & Finance) Exploring NDIS investment effectiveness through linked administrative data Presenter: Patrick Bent (NDIA) Discussant: Bruce Bradbury (UNSW) Family tax benefits in Australia: Objectives, impact and directions for reform Presenter: Miranda Stewart (University of Melbourne) Discussant: Jonathon Durham (DSS)
19:30 - 21:30	Conference Dinner (By-invite only) DAANA at THE ABBEY <u>7/26 O'Hanlon Place, Gold Creek Village</u> <i>No designated speaker; an opportunity to mingle.</i> ACT CABS PH: 02 62800077 Canberra Elite Taxi PH: 61261600	

DAY 2 - Friday 4 August 2023 Molonglo Theatre, Level 2, JG Crawford Building		
9:00 - 10:40	Session 5: Econometrics & evaluation	<i>(30mins presentation, 10min discussant, 10mins open discussion)</i> Moderator: Luke Hendrickson (ABS) Optimal model selection in RDD and related settings using placebo zones Presenter: Peter Siminski (UTS) Discussant: Otavio Bartalotti (Monash) Cost of income sheltering behaviours and elasticity of taxable income for high income individuals Presenter: Arezou Zaresani (University of Sydney) Discussant: Christian Gillitzer (USyd)
10:40 - 11:00	Morning Tea	
11:00 - 12:40	Session 6: Labour market	<i>(30mins presentation, 10min discussant, 10mins open discussion)</i> Moderator: Agnieszka Nelson (DSS) The labour market impacts of lower-skilled temporary immigration: Evidence from the PALM scheme Presenter: Ryan Edwards & Truong Nguyen (ANU) Discussant: Alfredo Paloyo (UoW) The individual laffer curve: Evidence from the Spanish income tax Presenter: Ana Gamarra Rondinel (UMelb) Discussant: Chung Tran (ANU)
12:40 - 13:40	Lunch	
13:40 - 15:20	Session 7: Taxation	<i>(30mins presentation, 10min discussant, 10mins open discussion)</i> Moderator: Brendan Fugate (ATO) A welfare analysis of tax audits across the income distribution Presenter: Ellen Stuart (University of Sydney) Discussant: Ana Gamarra Rondinel (UMelb) Do business investment tax breaks work? Evidence from Australia Presenter: Jonathan Hambur (RBA) Discussant: Sasan Bakhtiari (ANU)
15:20 - 15:40	Afternoon tea	
15:40 - 16:45	Session 8: Capstone policy discussion	What practical lessons came from the two days of presentations for policymakers? Where are the most pressing/ highest priority gaps in policy understanding that future quantitative research efforts can fill? Presenters: Robert Breunig (ANU), Jenny Humphrys (DSS), Alex Heath (Treasury)
EVENT CLOSE		