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Summer Institute session that would be of most interest: SI 2023 Labor Studies

A short summary of current research activity

My primary research interests are in the areas of labor economics and the economics of education. Important policy issues motivate my specific research questions. My research projects focus on investigating the effects of labor market policies on various outcomes. Some of my work is also related to studying policies or labor market conditions that affect the process of human capital accumulation. I provide some examples of my ongoing recent research activity to illustrate the type of work that I am doing.

Unemployment insurance: I have been working on a few projects that examine the impact of unemployment insurance (UI) on family well-being. In a recent working paper, I analyze the potential of UI to mitigate ``deaths of despair." In another paper, I examine the impact of mass layoffs on domestic violence and the potential of UI to mitigate it. In a follow-up paper of mine that was published in the Review of Economics and Statistics, I analyze whether UI helps to promote marriage.

Minimum wage: In a working paper, I provide one of the first investigations of the connection between the minimum wage and the uptake of Supplemental Security Income (SSI). Likewise, I have initiated a paper that examines the effect of the real minimum wage on employment by creating a county-level cost of living.

Economics of Education: I am working on a paper that examines the long-term effect of the paid maternity leave program on children's educational attainment and employment in the U.S. Similarly, I recently started a project that examines the effect of the Child Nutrition Programs on high school graduation rates and college attendance. In yet another paper, I examine how district size affects the bargaining power of teachers and student achievement.