

# **“Persistent Poverty and Upward Mobility”**

**Cornell University Institute for the Social Sciences  
Theme Project Proposal**

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## Motivation

A rich vein of social science explores longstanding questions about the nature of persistent poverty and its (quasi-)complement, upward socioeconomic mobility. But how deep, general and robust is our knowledge about the causes of persistent poverty and mechanisms of upward mobility among the ex ante poor? Economic, geographic, political, psychological and sociocultural phenomena all appear highly salient to the experience of mobility or persistent poverty in different settings, but most research focuses on just one or another of these mechanisms in isolation. And what do we know about the effectiveness of different interventions intended to promote upward mobility and to reduce persistent poverty? These questions have likewise been investigated by researchers in every social science discipline, using both qualitative and quantitative methods. But where has a (perhaps latent) consensus emerged and where does the evidence remain inconclusive? These are the core questions around which this theme project would organize.

Rigorous research findings on these topics command great attention, not only among scholars but in society at large. For example, studies suggesting that socioeconomic mobility has declined in the United States and is now lower than in other advanced economies have attracted national media attention in the past few years. Meanwhile, a parallel literature in international development that emphasizes the challenge posed by “poverty traps” at multiple scales – households, social groups, geographic areas, and even entire nations or multinational regions – has attracted attention from heads of state, rock stars, corporate titans and university administrators eager to intervene appropriately. The audience for path-breaking, rigorous research on persistent poverty and socioeconomic mobility is enormous and influential.

Cornell has a large community of scholars with closely related interests and a history of major contributions in this general area. And President Skorton has publicly committed the University to

take on “transformational ideas” that might solve major social challenges such as global hunger and persistent poverty via Cornell’s research, teaching and outreach programs. Yet the University seems to significantly underperform its potential in this key area of the social sciences. Mirroring deficiencies in the broader academy, disparate lines of research within Cornell are highly fractured across Colleges, disciplines, and research methods. For example, researchers within the same building working on qualitatively similar questions – e.g., pathways from rural poverty in New York and in Africa, educational investment by low-income households and communities – often remain unaware of each other’s work simply because of disciplinary, geographic or methodological differences. Hence, we propose a theme project on Persistent Poverty and Socioeconomic Mobility.

### **The Project’s Intellectual Core**

Institutions that most social scientists have long favored – competitive markets, a democratic polity, secure private property rights, universal access to education and health care – have been on the march across the globe. Recent decades have witnessed a dizzying rate of technological change in commerce, manufacturing, agriculture, communications and social services provision. Scientific improvements have enabled unprecedented advances in health care, nutritional interventions, the delivery of educational programming and other essential social services. Yet over the past generation the absolute number of people living beneath the poverty line has remained large and essentially unchanged in most high income countries, while the numbers of Africans living on less than \$1/day per person have doubled, the number of poor in Latin America has grown, and even South Asia has failed to enjoy any significant drop in the number of extremely poor people in spite of remarkably rapid economic growth. Yet upward mobility in east Asia has proceeded at a pace unprecedented in human history. What explains the markedly different experiences of different low-income groups? Since the benefits of global institutional, technological and services provision

advances are clearly bypassing a billion or more people worldwide (Collier 2007), social scientists need to provide a deeper, more robust and rigorous explanation of what accounts for persistent poverty.

There exist multiple, contested explanations for the limited progress against poverty over the past generation, among them: growing inequality of earnings due to technological change and globalization that places an ever-greater premium on individual ability and endowments (Juhn 1992, Card and DiNardo 2006); the (often inherited) institutional arrangements of contemporary societies that impede the poor's access to finance, markets, political processes, public services and emergent technologies (North 1990, deSoto 2000, Acemoglu et al. 2001 and 2002, Loury 2002); unfavorable geography, such that those unlucky enough to be born in rural Africa or Appalachia face unfavorable climate patterns, disease pressures and soil and water conditions that are aggravated by a history of underprovision of essential public goods and services (Billings and Blee 2000, Sachs 2005); and misguided policies by well-intentioned donors and venal politicians (Easterly 2001, Easterly 2006, Collier 2007). But an inordinate amount of this literature relies on relatively casual empiricism, on fragile empirical macro evidence (Easterly, Levine and Roodman 2004, Rajan and Subramanian forthcoming), or on theory without much evidence. Theoretically-grounded, robust empirical findings based on extended micro-level longitudinal studies remain rare and are likely to form the bedrock of social scientists' understanding of the etiology of and appropriate response to persistent poverty. Our team is designed around a shared interest in such issues and data.

We believe that some of the principal questions facing poverty researchers today are: What fosters or impedes the poor's accumulation of the human capital on which labor productivity – and thus incomes and lifetime wealth – heavily depends? What fosters or impedes the poor's access to

the institutional arrangements and technological opportunities that render human capital valuable, thereby reinforcing its accumulation as well as the incentives for further institutional and technological innovation? How do the factors that limit individuals' capacity to escape from persistent poverty vary with exogenous characteristics (e.g., physical geography, race, gender) and over time. To what extent does the success of various anti-poverty policies depend on context?

*Focus: Individual- and Community-Level Study of the Heterogeneous Well-Being Dynamics of the Ex Ante Poor*

With such a vast topic, it is essential to define from the outset what we will and will not address. We have decided to focus on the experiences, histories and prospects of ex ante poor individuals, households and communities. While we are informed by important, related literatures on macro-level growth at the level of nation states and regions, and on churning and mobility throughout the income or wealth distribution, perhaps especially in the middle class, we will focus tightly on individual- and community-level study of the paths followed by the poor and the reasons for those observed dynamics.

In order to focus on the poor, one must have a clear, defensible metric by which one establishes the population of interest to the researcher. Our team will consider flow-based final outcome measures (such as income) that are standard in static poverty analysis, but we will emphasize the intermediate state variables (such as educational attainment, health and nutritional status, markets and technologies, risk exposure and wealth) that are causes of persistent poverty and also potential engines of escape. The reason for this focus is straightforward: in dynamical systems, the state variables that characterize transitions over time ultimately define the convergence path(s) and steady state(s) of the system.

The emergence of a variety of longitudinal household and individual data sets of reasonable quality is inducing a shift in focus from cross-sectional to longitudinal analysis in poverty research. This is fostering a dramatic reconceptualization of the nature and appropriate policy responses to poverty, as theorists must pay greater attention to initial conditions, path dynamics, and the stability of equilibria than was true in a world dominated by static analysis. And in empirical social science, a vast new body of methods is emerging as analysts no longer rely on stitching together a sequence of static, cross-sectional measures of who is and is not poor within a given population. The ability to study the dynamics of individual and household well-being has replaced the sequence of snapshots with a video view of poverty and its determinants that brings out several fundamental structural features of poverty with which researchers are currently wrestling.

#### *Integrating Fundamental Building Blocks*

Advances in this area of research rest on the constant interplay of four fundamental building blocks of social science: theory, measurement, causal inference, and policy analysis and evaluation. The failures of many past anti-poverty efforts are at least partly attributable to privileging one of these over the others. Examples include structural adjustment programs in low-income countries in the 1990s that were designed around elegant macro-level theory that had not been subjected to adequate micro-level empirical scrutiny (Barrett and Carter 1999), and public policies that led the less-educated to reduce labor supply and engage in riskier behaviors, ignoring extant theories of induced behavioral response. Unlike the natural sciences, the social sciences inevitably depend primarily on observational data, a fact that will persist indefinitely despite the growing popularity of randomized controlled trials as a methodology for empirical research. The inability to fully control the context of one's study necessitates the use of theory to pose falsifiable hypotheses that can be tested using sophisticated methods of causal inference that rely on careful (quantitative or

qualitative) measurement of phenomena of interest, most of which relate directly or indirectly to the policies pursued by organizations in the private or public sectors. However, the imperfect observability of many variables of interest (e.g., ability, aspirations, norms, well-being) and the observational equivalence of multiple mechanisms that generate indicators of behaviors and outcomes fuel the intellectual contest among and within disciplines over these issues. Our team intentionally builds on strengths in each of these four focal areas – theory, measurement, causal inference, and policy analysis – so as to ensure a constant and productive dialogue among the four.

*Theory:* Because persistent poverty can result from any of multiple mechanisms, yet social science must inform policy with out-of-sample predictive and prescriptive analysis, proper theorizing about the nature of persistent poverty and upward mobility is essential. There exists a rich and varied theoretical literature on poverty traps. Most such models rely on market imperfections, liquidity constraints and resulting thresholds that generate multiple behavioral and wealth equilibria. Other theories rely on imperfect information that generates interpersonal differences in beliefs that lead to “inertial self-reinforcement” (Mookherjee and Ray 2001). In such an environment, outcomes may be driven by norms, institutions and conventions that are necessarily history-dependent. Relationships with others may also matter due to possible coordination failures that can all too easily become institutionalized through formal or informal rules and practices – corruption, property rights, generalized immorality, violence – that then guide individual and group behavior and impede upward socioeconomic mobility (Acemoglu et al. 2002, Loury 2002). Different theories of poverty traps carry different policy implications: for example, does one push for increased resource flows to overcome market imperfections that presently obstruct capital accumulation and technology adoption among certain low-income populations (Sachs 2005), promote improved information flow to stimulate uptake of improved technologies and participation in emerging, remunerative markets

(Easterly 2006), or craft new societal institutions – and rules for transitioning to those new rules – that will facilitate coordination and discourage behaviors that undermine individual incentives to cooperate and accumulate (De Soto 1989, 2000), or focus on some other mechanism still? By facilitating a range of related studies with different geographic foci and methods, this theme project will provide an uncommon opportunity to evaluate competing theories and enhance our understanding of which models are most salient and in what settings.

*Measurement:* Mobility and poverty are inherently multi-dimensional and dynamic phenomena requiring longitudinal measurement of a range of outcome variables. Definitions of poverty or ill-being are contested within and among disciplines in part because scholars often default to a small number of variables to which their discipline is wedded and because official agencies are often reluctant to update measures. The current situation in the United States offers a prominent example; the National Academy of Sciences has clearly identified the need for a new measure (Citro and Michael 1995) and nearly everyone except the government uses a different measure, vividly illustrating the need for progress in the measurement of poverty. This is only compounded when concerns turn to dynamic rather than merely static measures. Are there robust metrics for establishing who is (or is likely to be) mobile and who is not? What are the most reliable methods for evaluating these metrics? How should these measures vary across space, time and cultures, if at all? Answers to these fundamental measurement questions are essential to proper targeting of policy interventions and to the articulation of general research findings on mobility and persistent poverty.

*Causal Inference:* Characteristics such as poor health, food insecurity, low aspirations, limited educational attainment, nonexistent or unfavorable credit records, homelessness, and social isolation can be causes and consequence of persistent money metric poverty as well as well-being outcomes of intrinsic interest themselves. Moreover, it can be difficult to tease out the causal relationships

among co-moving attributes of individuals, especially in the observational data that are the staple of social science analysis. Nonetheless, a solid understanding of key causal factors behind mobility and persistent poverty is the scholarly bedrock on which policy must rest. And, although randomized controlled trials have the potential to isolate specific causal effects, they are necessarily limited to a small subset of all of the causal effects of interest because of ethical, political, and practical obstacles. As a result, a new generation of work on causal inference in observational, longitudinal research is now reaching maturity, but it has yet to be widely applied to the analysis of persistent poverty. Our team aims to catalyze substantive advances in this arena.

*Policy Analysis:* Much policy aimed at enhancing mobility and reducing persistent poverty has revolved around public sector initiatives. As a result, policy research has necessarily focused on questions of design, implementation and evaluation of the effectiveness of these public sector interventions. There is growing recognition, however, that the private sector – both for-profit and not-for-profit organizations as well as individuals – play a central role in shaping patterns of mobility and poverty through employment creation, product and process innovation, philanthropic activity, community service, the adaption or reinforcement of individual aspirations and social norms. While there remain important gaps in understanding public anti-poverty policy, the lacunae are greater still in the private sphere and merit attention.

#### *Core Sub-Themes*

Our team will structure interactions at the intersection of these four fundamental building blocks around four key sub-themes that heavily influence the path dynamics followed by the poor: health and nutritional status, educational attainment, labor productivity-enhancing technologies and markets, and risk exposure. The first two of these reflect human-embodied capital that affect the productivity of individual workers and explain much variation in well-being and behaviors among

people within the same setting. The latter two are the joint product of individual-level variables such as wealth and community-level factors related to the formal and informal institutions and technologies that incentivize and constrain individual and collective behaviors.

Child Nutrition and Health: A burgeoning literature points to the centrality of early childhood nutrition and health to adult outcomes such as economic productivity and earnings (Hoddinott et al. 2008), stature and wealth (Chen and Zhou 2007), schooling and intelligence (Maluccio et al. 2006), and morbidity and offspring birthweight (Victora et al. 2008). Damage suffered early in life relative to genetic potential seems to lead to irreversible impairments that sharply limit adult capabilities and increase the likelihood that one's offspring suffer similar early disadvantages. As the evidence builds that poor fetal and early childhood growth has permanent adverse consequences over the lifecourse, the next step for social scientists is an improved understanding of the individual behaviors and collective action that permit widespread, unnecessary suffering by children in a technologically advanced world.

Education: The earnings premium to higher educational attainment has been growing over the past generation throughout the advanced economies while behaviors associated with persistent poverty (e.g., divorce, alcoholism, obesity, smoking, out-of-wedlock births) increasingly differ by educational attainment, leading to self-reinforcing patterns that help account for apparent increases in intergenerational earnings transmission in high-income countries (DiNardo et al. 1996, Gottschalk and Joyce 1998, Acemoglu 2002). Meanwhile, in low-income countries, financial constraints and the typically low quality of schooling in poorer communities discourage educational investment and promote child labor (Basu 1999). Creating high quality educational opportunities for the poor and encouraging them to invest in such opportunities for their children is a challenge worldwide as the consequences of failure to do so grow steadily.

Technologies and Markets: Rapid, widespread progress in poverty reduction has been associated with technological advances in food and health systems, from 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century Europe and North America to late 20<sup>th</sup> century east Asia (Fogel 1994, Johnson 1997, Maddison 2001, Deaton 2003, Fogel 2004). Yet, uptake of improved production technologies that increase labor productivity remain sharply limited among and within communities around the world. Similarly, participation in markets that increase the returns to labor is remarkably uneven, with higher rates of market participation strongly associated with improved standards of living. A recent resurgence of social scientists' interest in how social networks and identity condition information flow and collective action is prompting renewed interest in questions of technology diffusion and market participation and how these behaviors condition the escape from long-term poverty (Montgomery 1991, Foster and Rosenzweig 1995, Rogers 1995, Moser and Barrett 2006, Conley and Udry forthcoming).

Risk Exposure: Persistent poverty and high levels of risk exposure appear to go hand-in-hand. Poor families – especially poor women – have high rates of stress (Wolf et al. 2002, Rahman et al. 2003), which may be associated with higher rates of violence experienced within low-income households (UNICEF 1997). The poor also face greater exposure to violence and environmental toxins such as arsenic or lead, while they typically enjoy fewer and lower quality municipal services such as police protection, water purification and solid waste disposal (Evans 2004, Lanphear et al. 2005). The cumulative effect of multiple idiosyncratic and shared risks naturally induces more conservative livelihood strategies and reduced long-term investment in education, health and non-human capital (Bardhan et al. 2000, Carter and Barrett 2006). It is likewise true that the existence of poverty traps can lead to greater risk-taking, born of hopelessness and desperation (Banerjee 2003). However, social scientists' understanding of the evolution of formal and informal risk management institutions remains limited and poorly linked to our study of poverty and mobility.

By exploring these four subthemes in detail, our team anticipates making substantive progress on the core questions of what enables people's escape from persistent poverty – especially through improved education, health and nutrition, greater uptake of improved technologies and participation in remunerative markets, and enhanced risk management capacity – and which policies appear to matter, where and why.

### **Project Activities**

Following a first year dedicated primarily to recruitment and organization, wrapping up with a major campus kick-off lecture by the project director, we will pursue a second year comprised of weekly lunchtime seminars, two major conferences, and team-taught courses all aimed at stimulating increased, cutting-edge collaborative research among team members and affiliates. We will complement these activities with public outreach activities aimed at extending the fruits of this research to the broader community, at raising awareness of the theme topic and of stimulating practical activity that builds on the group's study of persistent poverty and socioeconomic mobility.

Research: The core activities of the theme project will revolve around stimulating individual and collaborative research productivity by team members, affiliates and their students. This will involve three activities: direct research assistance, a weekly seminar series, and a pair of major conferences. Direct research assistance will be provided in two forms. First, each team member will receive a \$6,000 discretionary research account for his or her use in obtaining data, purchasing software, traveling to conferences, hiring research assistance, etc. Per ISS guidelines, the project member need only submit a one-page outline of their research project(s) and projected budget to the team leader and ISS Director to access these funds. Second, the team will hire at least two undergraduate research assistants(RAs) – and up to four if we can leverage work study or Cornell Tradition funding – as a pool to help with basic data entry, cleaning and analysis tasks, literature retrieval and

review, web site development, etc. Skilled undergraduate RAs are an especially good value and this will reinforce Cornell's objective of being the best research university for undergraduates.

A weekly seminar series is fairly standard but essential to foster dialogue across disciplines, subthemes and geographic regions of interest. We plan to hold weekly seminars over the course of the 2009-10 academic year, roughly evenly split among Cornell team members or network affiliates, Junior Research Fellows, and Distinguished Senior Scholars. The latter two programs are described below. The series will be widely advertised on campus and should draw a large and regular group of graduate students, post-docs, faculty and staff, as well as advanced undergraduates with interests in social science research.

We plan to hold one major conference each semester (typically 2.5 days long). Conferences afford an opportunity for a more sustained and intensive intellectual exchange than do seminars and, when well-structured, can often generate multiple special issues of peer-reviewed journals or edited volumes. That is our objective. The exact title, content and invitation list for the conferences obviously need to be decided by the complete team once it is formed. Each conference would combine a small number of papers by invited keynote speakers with others solicited through an international call for papers. The fall conference would tentatively focus on "Escaping Poverty Traps" and would emphasize research on how technology and market diffusion patterns and risk management arrangements condition the escape from persistent poverty. Among the keynote speakers we might invite to focus on disembodied processes by which the poor are trapped in or escape from poverty are [names deleted]. The spring event would offer a complementary focus for research on high-income countries, under a general title such as "Stimulating Human Capital Accumulation Among The Poor". Prospective keynote invitees include [names deleted].

Teaching: Once the full team is recruited, we expect to develop one or two team-taught graduate or undergraduate courses on topics such as (i) Rural Poverty In Comparative Perspective, integrating economists' perspectives on developing countries with non-economists' insights on rural America; (ii) Evaluating Anti-Poverty Interventions, combining instruction on qualitative and quantitative (based on both experimental and observational data) methods of policy evaluation; or (iii) Geographic and Socioeconomic Mobility, exploring intra- and inter-national migration and its association with socioeconomic mobility, as viewed from different scholarly traditions and in different parts of the world. If there is broad interest among the full team in participation, we might develop a modular course or two based on case studies to highlight distinct themes in comparative poverty analysis. The exact course(s) and staffing will depend on the final team composition.

In addition, the theme project will prompt the introduction of new topics into existing courses. As part of the Controversies About Inequality course that Morgan coordinates as the core course of Cornell's Inequality Concentration, the Center for the Study of Inequality will commit funding to bring in an outside speaker on the same topic as the ISS theme project to speak to undergraduates on a provocative question such as: "Is the US still the land of opportunity?". Likewise, Barrett's Contemporary Controversies in the Global Economy course (AEM 200), part of the Knight Institute for Writing in the Majors series, will introduce a new module on Poverty Reduction that will prompt students to debate alternative approaches to addressing persistent poverty worldwide.

Our core team supervises quite a few graduate and undergraduate research projects and, as indicated earlier, we will try to actively engage students in the broader research project as this is fundamental to leveraging scarce faculty research time and to propagating emergent ideas. Indeed, in the project's first year, we would seek to promote it among new and incoming Rawlings Presidential Research Scholars as a home for research projects among elite undergraduates.

Outreach: This topic also lends itself naturally to community outreach. One element of outreach will involve a visual arts series featuring a few topical films (e.g., *The Jungle's Edge*, *Real Women Have Curves*, *Sidewalk*, or *Water*) and photographic displays in dining facilities and libraries on campus, as well as at the Tompkins County Public Library. Our Distinguished Senior Scholars would be invited to present non-technical public lectures to the broader community. We could hopefully also identify a project with Public Service Center that could involve team members, graduate and undergraduate students in one or more relevant activities in Ithaca or Tompkins County, working to advance socioeconomic mobility directly in our own community. The outreach activities will underscore the joint objectives of rigor and relevance that permeate the theme project.

### **Team Membership and External Collaborators**

The five core members of the team span multiple disciplines, colleges, departments, academic ranks and geographic and thematic foci, but share a commitment to rigorous research relevant to contemporary policy problems facing poor peoples and communities. Chris Barrett, the Ashley Professor of Applied Economics and Management, has worked extensively on poverty and hunger issues with a focus on rural areas of low-income countries, especially in sub-Saharan Africa. His work is among the first empirical studies to econometrically identify poverty traps at the household level. He will serve as the theme project leader and brings to that role extensive prior experience in research team facilitation and leadership, including of interdisciplinary teams working on closely related issues under multi-year projects (sponsored by the National Science Foundation, The Pew Charitable Trusts, the Rockefeller Foundation, USAID, etc.).

Jordan Matsudaira, Assistant Professor of Policy Analysis and Management, researches how public policies in the areas of welfare, education, and health affect the well-being of the poor. Matsudaira will take the lead on the 'Policy Analysis' component of the project, including: (1)

organizing seminars aimed at building an understanding about which public policy levers are most effective, or hold the most promise, for reducing persistent poverty across different contexts; (2) soliciting participation and input from officials in government, non-profit, and private organizations engaged in poverty alleviation efforts; and (3) incorporating project themes to his undergraduate and graduate courses in causal reasoning and policy evaluation.

Stephen L. Morgan, Associate Professor of Sociology and Director of the Center for the Study of Inequality, will contribute to the ISS theme project in the following ways: (1) serve as a representative of the long tradition of sociological research on mobility and poverty alleviation, (2) help to recruit seminar visitors who will speak on topics in causal inference and policy evaluation, and (3) provide a link to undergraduates through coordination of the Controversies About Inequality course that is the core course of Cornell's Inequality Concentration.

Christine M. Olson, Professor of Nutritional Sciences, was involved in the initial development of the questions used annually in the Current Population Survey to assess the food security status of households in the United States. She conducts research on the antecedents and consequences of food insecurity in food-rich countries with a particular focus on women and their children, health and human capital issues, and rural poverty. She has over 30 years of involvement in extension-outreach programs with Cornell Cooperative Extension and will contribute to the outreach activities of this ISS theme project. She brings expertise in the use of mixed methods (qualitative and quantitative) and longitudinal research approaches to development of theory and measures relevant to poverty-associated nutrition and health issues. She will coordinate the seminars on the Measurement portion of the project.

The remaining team members will be recruited this spring through an open competition. The aim is to craft a team that will catalyze co-learning in both small and large groups between, for

example, specialists in domestic and overseas poverty, developers and users of qualitative and quantitative methods, and across the disciplines. The team will be charged primarily to advance our individual and collective research by exploring what can be learned from lines of research with which each of us, as individual scholars, is previously unfamiliar.

Consistent with our claim that research on socioeconomic mobility and persistent poverty is fractured at Cornell with limited campuswide interaction, we doubt that we can identify all the relevant Cornell faculty who might wish to join this theme project team. But as an illustration of this topic's span across Colleges and disciplines, we can easily identify more than two dozen individuals representing at least six different Colleges (AA&P, A&S, CALS, HE, ILR, JGSM) who might be prospective team members of such a theme project. This includes [names deleted].

External collaborators will be central to the team's activities. These will consist of two groups: Junior Research Fellows (JRF) and Distinguished Senior Scholars (DSS). Untenured faculty members or post-docs – at any institution worldwide – within ten years of receiving their Ph.D. will be eligible for \$10,000 in JRF funding for a specific research output closely tied to our theme. We will advertise internationally to promote this program. The grant will cover and require their travel to Cornell for one week to interact with the project team and to present two seminars based on their JRF work: one in the project's weekly seminar series, another in a department or area studies seminar. The JRF program will support leading junior faculty and post-docs at Cornell and expose leading young social science scholars elsewhere to Cornell, both in order to foster Cornell faculty and students' collaborative work with rising stars in this area and to help facilitate recruitment of elite future faculty.

The second group of external collaborators will be ten Distinguished Senior Scholars, well-established faculty who we will invite to campus for one week each over the course of the second

year in residence. In addition to a standard academic seminar in the theme project's weekly seminar series, these senior scholars will be invited to give a high-profile public DSS lecture to the broader Cornell and local community. These will be actively promoted through local media as well as campus channels. We will also encourage disciplinary departments and, where appropriate, area studies programs to take advantage of these scholars' presence on campus by inviting their participation in their own seminar series or courses during that week as well. The distinguished senior scholars will be offered a \$5000 honorarium (out of which their travel costs will be paid).

As but a preliminary indication of the caliber and range of interests of distinguished external scholars we hope to involve in the theme project some possible invitees include [names deleted].

Once comprised, the full Cornell team will decide on whom to invite as DSS and will jointly promote the JRF applications and conference calls for papers, as well as comprise selection committees for the JRF program and the two conferences. As an indicator of the broad interest in this theme project's topics and external collaborators, we expect to be able to leverage department and area studies and thematic programs (e.g., the Center for the Study of Inequality, Program on Comparative Economic Development) for cost-sharing of some JRF and DSS travel and perhaps for conference funding as well.

### **Expected Outputs and Outcomes**

The success of the theme project would be manifest in various outputs and outcomes. The main near-term output would be a series of special issues of major peer-reviewed journals or edited volumes, each organized around a sub-theme and based in large part on work presented at and revised following one of the two conferences. Several team members have extensive experience in successfully organizing such special issues for leading disciplinary and interdisciplinary journals, as well as edited volumes from major presses.

We anticipate this might result in several major externally funded projects, including potentially winning the management entity contract for the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Assets and Markets Access Collaborative Research Support Program (AMA CRSP), the \$10 million, 5-year activity based at the University of Wisconsin-Madison that has served as USAID's primary research program on poverty dynamics. This theme project could also serve as an incubator for a multi-year Area Poverty Research Center proposal to the United States Department of Health and Human Services' Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE) (<http://aspe.hhs.gov/hsp/PovertyCenters/>). ASPE area poverty research centers aim to enhance the understanding of the nature, causes, correlates, and effects of poverty and programs and policies to ameliorate it. ASPE's National Poverty Research Center has been based at the University of Michigan's Ford School of Public Policy since 2002 (renewed in 2007). In 2005, three APRCs were awarded, to the Universities of Kentucky, Washington and Wisconsin, covering regional issues in the South, West and Midwest, respectively. At present there is no ASPE regional poverty research center covering the northeastern United States. Cornell has a natural comparative advantage in this area that could be catalyzed through this theme project. Whether through one or more of those channels or through foundation funding (e.g., from MacArthur, Pew or Russell Sage), we would hope to institutionalize Cornell's capacity for cutting-edge scholarship on issues of persistent poverty and upward socioeconomic mobility.

Other important, albeit less tangible outcomes would include new and productive teaching, research and outreach collaborations within the team, as well added attention to Cornell social science research in the form of citations, favorable reviews of project outputs, and new invitations to participate in major external research events and projects. We also expect the Junior Research Fellowships and Distinguished Senior Scholar programs will foster new collaborations with

researchers elsewhere and help recruit some of those individuals to Cornell in the years to follow. Through their early involvement in cutting edge research, the project's undergraduate research assistants will likely be able to move on to elite social science graduate programs and into higher quality research projects of their own than they would otherwise.

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- Loury, G. C. (2002). The Anatomy of Racial Inequality. Cambridge, Harvard University Press.
- Maddison, A. (2001). The World Economy: A Millennial Perspective. Paris, OECD.

- Maluccio, J., J. Hoddinott, J. Behrman, R. Martorell, A. R. Quisumbing and A. D. Stein (2006). The Impact of an Experimental Nutritional Intervention in Childhood on Education among Guatemalan Adults. FCND Discussion Paper 207. Washington, DC, IFPRI.
- Montgomery, J. D. (1991). "Social Networks and Labor-Market Outcomes: Toward an Economic Analysis." American Economic Review **81**(5): 1408-1418.
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- Morris, S.S., B. Cogill and R. Uauy (2008). "Effective international action against undernutrition: Why has it proven so difficult and what can be done to accelerate progress?" Lancet **371**: 243-260.
- Moser, C. and C. B. Barrett (2006). "The complex dynamics of smallholder technology adoption: the case of SRI in Madagascar." Agricultural Economics **35**(3): 373-388.
- North, D. C. (1990). Institutions, Institutional Change and Economic Performance. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.
- Rahman, A., Z. Iqbal and R. Harrington (2003). "Life events, social support and depression in childbirth: perspectives from a rural community in the developing world." Psychological Medicine. **33**: 1161-67.
- Rajan, R. and A. Subramanian (forthcoming). "Aid and Growth: What does the cross-country evidence really show?" Review of Economics and Statistics.
- Rogers, E. (1995). The diffusion of innovations. New York, Free Press.
- Sachs, J. D. (2005). The End of Poverty. New York, Penguin Press.
- UNICEF (1997). The State of the World's Children. New York, UNICEF.
- Victora, C.G., L. Adair, C. Fall, P.C. Hallal, R. Martorell, L. Richter and H.S. Sachdev (2008). "Maternal and child undernutrition: Consequences for adult health and human capital." Lancet **371**: 340-57.
- Wolf, A., I. De Andraca and B. Lozoff (2002), "Maternal depression in three Latin American samples," Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology **37**: 169-76.

## Appendices: Biosketches of Core Project Team Members

### Christopher B. Barrett

#### PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION

<u>Institution</u>	<u>Major</u>	<u>Degree &amp; Year</u>
Princeton University	History	A.B. magna cum laude, 1984
University of Oxford (U.K.)	Development Economics	M.S., Fulbright Scholar, 1985
University of Wisconsin-Madison	Economics, Agricultural Economics	Dual Ph.D., 1994

#### APPOINTMENTS

<u>2008-present</u>	Stephen B. and Janice G. Ashley Professor of Applied Economics and Management, Cornell University
<u>2003-2007</u>	Professor, Applied Economics & Mgmt, Cornell University
<u>1998- 2003</u>	Associate Professor, Applied Economics & Mgmt, Cornell University
<u>1998</u>	Associate Professor, Economics, Utah State University
<u>1994- 1998</u>	Assistant Professor, Economics, Utah State University

#### SELECTED RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Published or in press 10 books, 120 scholarly journal articles, 60 book or conference proceedings chapters, and many book reviews, published paper abstracts, working papers, and pieces in the popular press.

Christopher B. Barrett, "Poverty Traps and Resource Dynamics In Smallholder Agrarian Systems", in Arjan Ruis and Rob Dellink, editors, *Economics of poverty, the environment and natural resource use* (Berlin: Springer, forthcoming).

Jacqueline Vanderpuye-Orgle and Christopher B. Barrett, "Risk Management and Social Visibility in Ghana," *African Development Review*, forthcoming.

Barry J. Barnett, Christopher B. Barrett and Jerry R. Skees, "Poverty Traps and Index-Based Risk Transfer Products," *World Development*, forthcoming.

Bart Minten and Christopher B. Barrett, "Agricultural Technology, Productivity and Poverty in Madagascar," *World Development*, forthcoming.

Marieke Huysentruyt, Christopher B. Barrett and John G. McPeak, "Understanding Declining Mobility and Interhousehold Transfers Among East African Pastoralists," *Economica*, forthcoming.

Sommarat Chantararat, Christopher B. Barrett, Andrew G. Mude and Calum G. Turvey, "Using Weather Index Insurance to Improve Drought Response For Famine Prevention," *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, vol.89, no. 5 (December 2007): pp. 1262-68.

Christopher B. Barrett, Andrew G. Mude and John M. Omiti, editors, *Decentralization and the Social Economics of Development: Lessons From Kenya* (CAB International, 2007).

Christopher B. Barrett, editor, *Development Economics: Critical Concepts in Development Studies*, 4 volumes (London: Routledge, 2007).

Christopher B. Barrett, Michael R. Carter and Peter D. Little, editors, *Understanding and Reducing Persistent Poverty in Africa* (London: Routledge, 2007).

Michael R. Carter and Christopher B. Barrett, "Asset Thresholds and Social Protection," *IDS Bulletin*, vol. 38, no. 3 (May 2007): pp.34-38.

Andrew G. Mude, Christopher B. Barrett, John G. McPeak and Cheryl Doss, "Educational Investments in a Dual Economy," *Economica*, vol. 74, no. 294 (May 2007): pp. 351-369.

Christine Moser and Christopher B. Barrett, "The Complex Dynamics of Smallholder Technology Adoption: The Case of SRI in Madagascar," *Agricultural Economics*, Vol. 35, No. 3 (November 2006): pp. 373-388.

Christopher B. Barrett, Shane M. Sherlund, and Akinwumi A. Adesina, "Macroeconomic shocks, human capital and productive efficiency: Evidence from West African farmers ," *Journal of African Economics*, vol.

- 15, no. 3 (September 2006): pp. 343-372.
- Marc F. Bellemare and Christopher B. Barrett, "An Ordered Tobit Model of Market Participation: Evidence from Kenya and Ethiopia," *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 88, 2 (May 2006), pp. 324-337.
- Stein Holden, Christopher B. Barrett and Fitsum Hagos, "Food-for-Work for Poverty Reduction and the Promotion of Sustainable Land Use: Can It Work?," *Environment and Development Economics*, vol. 11, no. 1 (February 2006), pp. 15-38.
- Michael R. Carter and Christopher B. Barrett, "The Economics of Poverty Traps and Persistent Poverty: An Asset-Based Approach," *Journal of Development Studies*, vol. 42, no. 2 (February 2006): pp. 178-199.
- Christopher B. Barrett, Paswel Phiri Marenja, John G. McPeak, Bart Minten, Festus M. Murithi, Willis Oluoch-Kosura, Frank Place, Jean Claude Randrianarisoa, Jhon Rasambainarivo and Justine Wangila, "Welfare Dynamics in Rural Kenya and Madagascar," *Journal of Development Studies*, vol. 42, no. 2 (February 2006): pp. 248-277.
- Christopher B. Barrett and Brent M. Swallow, "Fractal Poverty Traps," *World Development*, vol. 34, no. 1 (January 2006) pp. 1-15.
- Christopher B. Barrett and Joan Esteban, "Social Groups and Economic Inequality," *Journal of Economic Inequality*, volume 3, issue 3 (December 2005): pp. 187-191.
- Awudu Abdulai, Christopher B. Barrett and John Hoddinott, "Does food aid Really have disincentive effects? New evidence from sub-Saharan Africa," *World Development*, 33, 10 (October 2005): pp.1689-1704.
- Christopher B. Barrett and Daniel G. Maxwell, *Food Aid After Fifty Years: Recasting Its Role* (London: Routledge, 2005).
- Christopher B. Barrett, editor, *The Social Economics of Poverty: On Identities, Groups, Communities and Networks* (London: Routledge, 2005).
- Christopher B. Barrett, David R. Lee and John G. McPeak, "Institutional Arrangements for Rural Poverty Reduction and Resource Conservation," *World Development*, vol. 33, no. 2 (February 2005): pp. 193-197.
- Christopher B. Barrett and John G. McPeak, "Poverty Traps and Safety Nets," in A. de Janvry and R Kanbur, editors, *Poverty, Inequality and Development: Essays in Honor of Erik Thorbecke* (Amsterdam: Kluwer, 2005).
- Christopher B. Barrett, "Rural Poverty Dynamics: Development Policy Implications," in David Colman and Nick Vink, editors, *Reshaping Agriculture's Contributions To Society* (Oxford: Blackwell, 2005).
- Douglas R. Brown and Christopher B. Barrett, "Lessons For Rural Development Practitioners From Recent Agricultural Development Economics Research," in Judith Dean, Julie Schaffner and Stephen Smith, editors, *Poverty Reduction In The Developing World*. (World Vision, 2005).
- Christopher B. Barrett, "Mixing Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in Analyzing Poverty Dynamics", in Walter Odhiambo, John M. Omiti and David I. Muthaka, editors, *Quantitative and Qualitative Methods for Poverty Analysis* (Nairobi: Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis, 2005).
- Christopher B. Barrett , Christine M. Moser, Oloro V. McHugh and Joeli Barison, "Better Technology, Better Plots or Better Farmers? Identifying Changes In Productivity And Risk Among Malagasy Rice Farmers," *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, vol. 86, no.4 (November 2004): pp. 869-888.
- Travis J. Lybbert, Christopher B. Barrett, Solomon Desta, and D. Layne Coppock, "Stochastic Wealth Dynamics and Risk Management Among A Poor Population," *Economic Journal*, vol. 114, no. 498 (October 2004): pp. 750-777.

## **COMPETITIVE RESEARCH GRANTS RECEIVED**

Principal investigator or co-principal investigator on 37 extramural research grants totaling more than \$18 million, from the National Science Foundation, The Pew Charitable Trusts, the Rockefeller Foundation, the United States Agency for International Development, the United States Department of Agriculture, the United States Department of Energy and the World Bank..

## **GRADUATE STUDENTS AND POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATES SUPERVISED**

Supervise(d) 38 graduate students and 6 post-doctoral scholars, with subsequent placements at places including Duke University, Inter-American Development Bank, Syracuse University, University of California-Davis, University of Nairobi (Kenya), University of Sydney (Australia), Western Michigan University, World Bank and World Vision. Five students have won national or international outstanding thesis awards. Minor member on another 31 graduate thesis committees.

### **SELECTED AWARDS AND HONORS**

American Agricultural Economics Association, Quality of Communication Award, 2006.  
Outstanding Educator in Influencing Merrill Presidential Scholar, 2001 and 2005.  
Dudley Seers Prize for the best article in the *Journal of Development Studies*, 2003.  
Best Study Prize, *Taiwan Economic Inquiry*, 2002.  
UNICEF "recommended reading of the month" selection.  
American Agricultural Economics Association Outstanding Dissertation Award, 1994

### **SYNERGISTIC ACTIVITIES**

Frequent invited speaker/adviser to international media and organizations on global food aid and emergency response in poor areas; award-winning book with D. Maxwell, *Food Aid After Fifty Years: Recasting Its Role*.

Editor, *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, premier field journal, 2003-present; Associate Editor or Editorial Board member for numerous field journals and guest editor for special issues of multiple journals.

Co-Director, African Food Security and Natural Resources Management Program, Cornell University. Interdisciplinary program integrating biophysical and social sciences, including a Ph.D. training program for African faculty training to doctoral level in separate disciplines but on common topics.

Member, Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) Science Council Standing Panel on Priorities and Strategies, 2004-2006, body set global scientific research priorities and strategies for \$400 mn/yr consortium of agricultural research centers for poverty reduction and environmental protection.

Member, External Advisory Board, Rockefeller Foundation Program on Markets to Raise Incomes of Poor Farmers in Africa (2004-present), Scientific Advisory Board, Courant Research Centre on Poverty, Equity and Growth, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Germany (2007-present), Executive Committee, United Nations University Food and Nutrition Program for Human and Social Development (2006-present), Advisory Board, Partnership to Cut Hunger and Poverty in Africa, Reconsidering Food Aid initiative (2006-present).

## Jordan D. Matsudaira

### PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION

Union College	Economics & East Asian Studies	B.A. <i>summa cum laude</i> 1993
Harvard University; JFK School	Public Policy	M.P.P. 1996
University of Michigan	Economics	M.A. 2003
University of Michigan	Economics & Public Policy	Ph.D. 2005

### APPOINTMENTS

<u>2007-present</u>	Assistant Professor, Policy Analysis & Management, Cornell University
<u>2005-2007</u>	Robert Wood Johnson Scholar in Health Policy Research, University of California, Berkeley

### PUBLICATIONS

- “Mandatory Summer School and Student Achievement: A Regression Discontinuity Analysis.” *Journal of Econometrics*, 142(2), 2008: 829-850.
- “Work, Welfare, and Economic Well-Being After Welfare Reform: Do State Policies Make a Difference?” (with Sheldon Danziger). in Neil Gilbert and Antoine Parent, editors. *Welfare Reform: A Comparative Assessment of French and US Experiences*. Volume 10. International Social Security Series. 2004.
- “Is it Getting Harder to Get Ahead? Cohort Differences in Economic Attainments in Early Adulthood” (with Mary Corcoran). in Richard Settersten, Frank Furstenberg and Rubén Rumbaut, editors. *On the Frontier of Adulthood*. University of Chicago Press. 2005.
- “Nihon Kigyō ni Okeru IT Tōshū no Seisāsei (translation: The Impact of Information Technology on the Productivity of Japanese Firms).” *FRI Review*, 2(4), 1998.
- “Jōhōka ga Makuro Keizai ni Ataeru Eikyō (translation: Information Technology and Macroeconomic Growth in Japan).” *FRI Review*, 1(2), 1997.

### WORKING PAPERS

- “Is Stable Employment Becoming More Elusive for Young Men?” with Mary Corcoran. December 2007.
- “Monopsony in the Labor Market for Nurses: Evidence from Minimum Staffing Legislation in California.” April 2007.
- “Economic Conditions and the Living Arrangements of Young Adults.” January 2007.
- “The Impact of Universal Health Insurance Coverage on Job-Lock.” July 2006.
- “Sinking or Swimming? Evaluating the Impact of English Immersion versus Bilingual Education on Student Achievement.” December, 2005.
- “Title I, School Finances, and Student Achievement.” with Adrienne Hosek and Elias Walsh. April 2005.
- “The Impact of Earnings Disregards on the Behavior and Income of Low Income Families.” with Rebecca M. Blank. June 2004.

### SELECTED FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

- Robert Wood Johnson Scholars in Health Policy Research Postdoctoral Fellowship
- Spencer Foundation Dissertation Fellowship for Research Related to Education.
- National Poverty Center Poverty Small Research Grant.
- Jacob Javits Fellowship. Harvard University.
- Phi Beta Kappa, Union College.

## Stephen L. Morgan

### Professional Preparation

Harvard University	Sociology	B.A.	1993
Oxford University	Comparative Social Research	M.Phil	1995
Harvard University	Sociology	M.A.	1997
Harvard University	Sociology	Ph.D.	2000

### Appointments

Associate Professor (with tenure), Department of Sociology, Cornell University, 2003-present,  
Director, Center for the Study of Inequality, Cornell University, 2004-present.  
Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Cornell University, 2000-2003

### Publications

#### *Books:*

- Morgan, Stephen L. 2005. *On the Edge of Commitment: Educational Attainment and Race in the United States*. Stanford: Stanford University Press.
- Morgan, Stephen L. and Christopher Winship. 2007. *Counterfactuals and Causal Inference: Methods and Principles for Social Research*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

#### *Edited volumes:*

- Kalleberg, Arne L., Stephen L. Morgan, John F. Myles, and Rachel A. Rosenfeld, eds. 2004. *Inequality: Structures, Dynamics and Mechanisms, Essays in Honor of Aage B. Sørensen*. Published as *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility*, Volume 21. Amsterdam: Elsevier.
- Morgan, Stephen L., David B. Grusky, and Gary S. Fields, eds. 2006. *Mobility and Inequality: Frontiers of Research in Sociology and Economics*. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

#### *Articles and book chapters:*

- Morgan, Stephen L. 1996. "Trends in Black-White Differences in Educational Expectations, 1980-1992." *Sociology of Education* 69:308-319.
- Morgan, Stephen L. 1998. "Adolescent Educational Expectations: Rationalized, Fantasized, or Both?" *Rationality and Society* 10:131-62.
- Morgan, Stephen L. and William R. Morgan. 1998. "Education and Earnings in Nigeria, 1974-1992." *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility* 16:3-26.
- Morgan, Stephen L. and Aage B. Sørensen. 1999. "Parental Networks, Social Closure, and Mathematics Learning: A Test of Coleman's Social Capital Explanation of School Effects." *American Sociological Review* 64:661-681.
- Morgan, Stephen L. and Aage B. Sørensen. 1999. "Theory, Measurement, and Specification Issues in Models of Network Effects on Learning: Reply to Carbonaro and to Hallinan and Kubitschek" *American Sociological Review* 64:694-700.
- Winship, Christopher and Stephen L. Morgan. 1999. "The Estimation of Causal Effects from Observational Data." *Annual Review of Sociology* 25:659-706.

- Sørensen, Aage B. and Stephen L. Morgan. 2000. "School Effects: Theoretical and Methodological Issues." Pp. 137-60 in Maureen T. Hallinan, ed., *Handbook of the Sociology of Education*. New York: Kluwer/Plenum.
- Morgan, Stephen L. 2000. "Social Capital, Capital Goods, and the Production of Learning." *Journal of Socio-Economics* 29:591-5.
- Morgan, Stephen L. 2001. "Counterfactuals, Causal Effect Heterogeneity, and the Catholic School Effect on Learning." *Sociology of Education* 74:341-74.
- Morgan, Stephen L. 2002. "Modeling Preparatory Commitment and Non-Repeatable Decisions: Information Processing, Preference Formation, and Educational Attainment." *Rationality and Society* 14:387-429.
- Morgan, Stephen L. and William R. Morgan. 2004. "Educational Pathways into the Evolving Labour Market of West Africa." *Research in Sociology of Education* 14:225-245. (In special issue *Inequality Across Societies: Families, Schools, and Persisting Stratification*, edited by D. Baker, B. Fuller, E. Hannum, and R. Werum.)
- Morgan, Stephen L. and Jal D. Mehta. 2004. "Beyond the Laboratory: Evaluating the Survey Evidence for the Disidentification Explanation of Black-White Differences in Achievement." *Sociology of Education* 77:82-101.
- Morgan, Stephen L. 2004. "Methodologist as Arbitrator: Five Models for Black-White Differences in the Causal Effect of Expectations on Attainment." *Sociological Methods & Research* 33:3-53.
- Kalleberg, Arne L., Stephen L. Morgan, and John Myles. 2004. "Aage B. Sørensen: 1941-2001." *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility* 21:1-9. (Introductory chapter in special volume entitled *Inequality: Structures, Dynamics and Mechanisms, Essays in Honor of Aage B. Sørensen*, edited by Arne L. Kalleberg, Stephen L. Morgan, John F. Myles, and Rachel A. Rosenfeld.)
- Morgan, Stephen L. and Mark W. McKerrow. 2004. "Social Class, Rent Destruction, and the Earnings of Black and White Men, 1982-2000." *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility* 21:215-51. (Chapter in special volume entitled *Inequality: Structures, Dynamics and Mechanisms, Essays in Honor of Aage B. Sørensen*, edited by Arne L. Kalleberg, Stephen L. Morgan, John F. Myles, and Rachel A. Rosenfeld.)
- Morgan, Stephen L. 2006. "Past Themes and Future Prospects for Research on Social and Economic Mobility." Pp. 3-20 in of Morgan, Stephen L., David B. Grusky, and Gary S. Fields, eds., *Mobility and Inequality: Frontiers of Research in Sociology and Economics*. Stanford: Stanford University Press.
- Morgan, Stephen L. and Young-Mi Kim. 2006. "Inequality of Conditions and Intergenerational Mobility: Changing Patterns of Educational Attainment in the United States." Pp. 165-194 in Morgan, Stephen L., David B. Grusky, and Gary S. Fields, eds., *Mobility and Inequality: Frontiers of Research in Sociology and Economics*. Stanford: Stanford University Press.
- Morgan, Stephen L. 2006. "Expectations and Aspirations." In George Ritzer, ed., *The Blackwell Encyclopedia of Sociology*.
- Morgan, Stephen L. and David J. Harding. 2006. "Matching Estimators of Causal Effects: Prospects and Pitfalls in Theory and Practice." *Sociological Methods & Research* 35:3-60.
- Morgan, Stephen L. and Youngjoo Cha. 2007. "Rent and the Evolution of Inequality in Late Industrial United States." *American Behavioral Scientist* 50:677-701.
- Morgan, Stephen L. and Mark W. McKerrow. 2007. "Human Capital Development and the Frontiers of Research in the Sociology of Education." Pp. 185-225 in Garnett Picot, Ron Saunders, and Arthur Sweetman, eds., *Fulfilling Potential, Creating Success: Perspectives on Human Capital Development*. Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press.
- Morgan, Stephen L. and John C. Scott. 2007. "Wealth Inequality and the Prospects for Increasing Intergenerational Transfers." *Social Science Research* 36:1105-34.

Morgan, Stephen L. "Stratification." Forthcoming in Steven Durlauf and Lawrence Blume, eds., *The Palgrave Dictionary of Economics*.

Morgan, Stephen L. and Zun Tang. 2007. "Social Class and Workers' Rent, 1983-2001." *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility* 25:273-93.

## **Honors**

Phi Beta Kappa (Harvard College)

Albert M. Fulton Prize (Harvard College)

Rhodes Scholarship (Oxford University)

Provost's 2004 Award for Distinguished Scholarship (Cornell University)

## **Research Grants**

National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowship

American Educational Research Association Dissertation Grant

Spencer Foundation Dissertation Fellowship

Eliot Fellowship for Dissertation Completion, Harvard University

American Educational Research Association Research Grant for "Educational Achievement and Disidentification Among White and Black Students"

Spencer Foundation Small Research Grant for "Can a Stochastic Decision Tree Model of Commitment Account for Trends in College Entry?"

Spencer Foundation Small Research Grant for "Pathways to Secondary Education in Kano, Nigeria"

National Science Foundation Research Grant #0213642 for "Rent and Social Class, 1982-2000"

American Educational Research Association Research Grant for "The Size, Variation, and Meaning of the Catholic School Effect on Achievement for the High School Class of 2004"

## **Synergistic Activities**

1. *Didactic Methodological Presentations on Causal Analysis*. I have given several didactic seminars and short multi-day courses of the material that has culminated in my 2007 book with Chris Winship, *Counterfactuals and Causal Inference: Methods and Principles for Social Research*. Venues include the Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences program at Columbia University, the sociology department of Stockholm University, and Danish National Institute for Social Research in Copenhagen.

2. *Director of an Interdisciplinary Training Program for Undergraduates*. As Director for the Center for the Study of Inequality at Cornell University, I lead a training program that recruits talented undergraduates from diverse backgrounds into careers that engage inequality research and policy design.

## Christine M. Olson, Professor

### EDUCATION

<u>Year</u>	<u>Degree</u>	<u>Institution</u>
1974	Ph.D., Nutritional Sciences Minor in Rural Sociology	University of Wisconsin, Madison WI
1972	M.S., Nutritional Sciences	University of Wisconsin, Madison WI
1970	B.S., Experimental Foods	University of Wisconsin, Madison WI

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

<u>Year</u>	<u>Experience</u>
1975-1981	Assistant Professor, Division of Nutritional Sciences, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
9/88-6/89	Visiting Associate Professor, Division of Human Development and Nutrition, School of Public Health, University of Minnesota
1981-1991	Associate Professor, Division of Nutritional Sciences, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
11/89-11/94	Assistant Dean for Research and Graduate Studies, College of Human Ecology, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
8/95-6/96	Visiting Faculty, Institute for Research on Poverty, University of Wisconsin-Madison
7/97- 7/02	Division Extension Leader, Division of Nutritional Sciences, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
1991 - present	Professor, Division of Nutritional Sciences, Cornell University
2004 - present	Director of Graduate Studies, Field of Nutrition

### HONORS AND AWARDS (*Selected*)

1991	Recipient, Distinguished Alumni Award, School of Family Resources and Consumer Sciences, University of Wisconsin-Madison
1998	Hazel E. Reed Human Ecology Extension Professor in Family Policy (5 y)
2002	Award for Excellence in Dietary Guidance, Food and Nutrition Section, American Public Health Association

### PUBLICATIONS

#### Journal Articles, Peer-Reviewed (*Selected current to 1990*)

- Olson CM, Strawderman MS. The relationship between food insecurity and obesity in rural childbearing women. *Journal of Rural Health* 24(1):60-66, 2008.
- Olson CM, Bove CF, Miller EO. Growing up poor: The long-term implications for eating patterns and body weight. *Appetite* 49:198-207, 2007.
- Wells NM, Olson CM. The ecology of obesity: Perspectives from life course, design and economics. *Journal of Hunger & Environmental Nutrition* 1(3):99-129, 2006.
- Bove CF, Olson CM. Obesity in low-income rural women: Qualitative insights about physical activity and eating patterns. *Women & Health* 44(1):57-78, 2006.
- Lee JS, Frongillo EA Jr, Olson CM. Conceptualizing and assessing nutrition needs: Perspectives of local program providers. *Journal of Nutrition for the Elderly* 25 (1):61-82, 2005.

- Olson CM. Food insecurity in women: A recipe for unhealthy trade-offs. *Topics in Clinical Nutrition* 20(4):321-328, 2005.
- Olson CM, Anderson K, Kiss E, Lawrence F, Seiling S. Factors protecting against and contributing to food insecurity among rural families. *Family Economics and Nutrition Review* 16:12-20, 2004.
- Dollahite J, Olson C, Scott-Pierce M. The impact of nutrition education on food insecurity among low-income participants in EFNEP. *Family and Consumer Sciences Research Journal* 32 (2):127-139, 2003.
- Olson CM, Holben DH. Position of the American Dietetic Association: Domestic food and nutrition security. *Journal of the American Dietetic Association* 102:1840 – 1847, 2002.
- Edlefsen M, Olson CM. Perspectives of volunteers in emergency feeding programs on hunger, its causes, and solutions. *Journal of Nutrition Education* 34:93-99, 2002.
- Alaimo K, Olson CM, Frongillo EA. Family food insufficiency, but not low family income, is positively associated with dysthymia and suicide symptoms in adolescents. *Journal of Nutrition* 132:719-725, 2002.
- Alaimo K, Olson CM, Frongillo EA Jr., Briefel RR. Food insufficiency, family income, and health in U.S. preschool and school-age children. *American Journal of Public Health* 91:781-786, 2001.
- Alaimo K, Olson CM, Frongillo EA, Jr. Food insufficiency and American school-aged children's cognitive, academic and psychosocial development. *Pediatrics* 108:44-53, 2001.
- Keenan DP, Olson CM, Hersey JC, Parmer SM. Measures of food in/security. *Journal of Nutrition Education* 33:S49-S58, 2001.
- Alaimo K, Olson CM, Frongillo EA, Jr. Low family income and food insufficiency in relation to overweight in US children. Is there a paradox? *Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine* 155:1161-1167, 2001.
- Arnold CG, Ladipo P, Nguyen CH, Nkinda-Chaiban P, Olson CM. New concepts for nutrition education in an era of welfare reform. *Journal of Nutrition Education* 33:341-346, 2001.
- Alaimo K, Olson CM, Frongillo EA. Importance of cognitive testing for survey items: An example from food security questionnaires. *Journal of Nutrition Education* 31:269-275, 1999.
- Olson CM. Introduction. Symposium: Advances in measuring food insecurity and hunger in the US. *Journal of Nutrition* 129:504S-505S, 1999.
- Olson CM. Nutrition and health outcomes associated with food insecurity and hunger. *Journal of Nutrition* 129:521S-524S, 1999.
- Alaimo K, Briefel RR, Frongillo EA Jr, Olson CM. Food insufficiency exists in the United States: Results from the third National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANESIII). *American Journal of Public Health* 88(3):419-426, 1998.
- Wolfe WS, Olson CM, Kendall A, Frongillo EA Jr. Hunger-and food insecurity in the elderly. *Journal of Aging and Health* 10(3):327-350, 1998.
- Olson CM, Rauschenbach BS, Frongillo EA, Jr., Kendall A. Factors contributing to household food insecurity in a rural upstate New York county. *Family Economics and Nutrition Review* 10:2-17, 1997.
- Frongillo EA, Rauschenbach BS, Olson CM, Kendall A, Colmenares AG. Questionnaire-based measures are valid for the identification of rural households with hunger and food insecurity. *Journal of Nutrition* 127:699-705, 1997.

Wolfe WS, Olson CM, Kendall AA, Frongillo EA, Jr. Understanding food insecurity in the elderly: a conceptual framework. *Journal of Nutrition Education* 28:82-100, 1996.

Kendall A, Olson CM, Frongillo EA, Jr. Relationship of hunger and food insecurity to food availability and consumption. *Journal of the American Dietetic Association* 96:1019-1024, 1996.

Kendall A, Olson CM, Frongillo EA, Jr. Validation of the Radimer/Cornell measures of hunger and food insecurity. *Journal of Nutrition* 125:2793-2801, 1995.

Radimer KL, Olson CM, Greene JC, Campbell CC, Habicht J-P. Understanding hunger and developing indicators to assess it in women and children. *Journal of Nutrition Education* (Supplement)24:36S-44S, 1992.

Radimer KL, Olson CM, Campbell CC. Development of indicators to assess hunger. *Journal of Nutrition* 120 (115):1544-1548, 1990.

**Book Chapters (Related)**

Olson CM and Bove CF. Obesity in rural women: Emerging risk factors and hypotheses. In: Coward, R et al. (Editors). *Rural Women's Health: Mental, Behavioral and Physical Issues*. New York, NY: Springer Publishing Company 2006. pp. 63-81.

Pelletier DL, Olson CM, Frongillo EA. Food insecurity, hunger, and undernutrition. In: Bowman BA and Russell RM (eds.), *Present Knowledge in Nutrition*, volume II, 9<sup>th</sup> edition, ILSI Press: Washington, DC. 2006. pp. 906-922.

**GRANT SUPPORT (Related only)**

**Active Grants (2007)**

NYC-399833	10/01/03-9/30/08
NC-1011 Multi-State Hatch	\$26,000/yr
Rural Low Income Families: Tracking Their Well-Being and Function in an Era of Welfare Reform	

**Recently Completed Grants (last 10 years)**

No Number	09/01/02-11/30/03
University of California at Davis ERS Small Grant	\$35,187
The Food Insecurity-Obesity Paradox in Woman	
NRI #0101836	12/01/02-11/30/03
Subcontract from U of MN USDA-NRI Grant	\$22,000
The Well-Being of Rural Low Income Families in the Context of Welfare Reform	
No Number	09/30/97-01/30/99
Mathematica Policy Research, Inc.	\$22,085
Analysis of the Current Population Survey for Food Security and Hunger Measurement	
No Number	09/29/95-01/31/97
Abt Associates, Inc.	\$35,473
Food Security Measurement Study	