Murray Weidenbaum Memorial Lecture

We are pleased to announce that the inaugural Murray Weidenbaum Memorial Lecture will be held on November 12, 2018, and will feature a talk by Professor Alan Krueger of Princeton University.

Professor Krueger is an apt choice for the first lecturer in a series created in Murray’s honor. He has published widely on the economics of education, unemployment, labor demand, income distribution, social insurance, labor market regulation, terrorism, and environmental economics. He served as Chairman of President Barack Obama’s Council of Economic Advisers and a Member of the Cabinet from 2011 to 2013. He also served as Assistant Secretary for Economic Policy and Chief Economist of the U.S. Department of the Treasury in 2009-10 and as Chief Economist at the U.S. Department of Labor in 1994-1995.

His talk, “Economics and the Opioid Crisis,” will examine the impact misuse of opioids is having on the U.S. workforce. There were 33,091 officially reported opioid-involved overdose deaths in the United States in 2015. The Council of Economic Advisers estimates that the economic cost of fatal and nonfatal opioid abuse reached more than half a trillion dollars in that year. The event will be held in Washington University’s Anheuser-Busch Hall at 4:00 p.m. A reception will follow the talk.

Murray Weidenbaum (1927-2014) founded the predecessor organization for the Weidenbaum Center in 1975. He was a faculty member in Washington University’s Department of Economics from 1964 until the time of his death. He chaired the Department of Economics from 1966-1969 and was named Edward Mallinckrodt Distinguished University Professor upon his return after his stint as chair of Reagan’s Council of Economic Advisers. He left a legacy of work on regulatory, defense, tax, trade, and budget policy and is sorely missed by friends and colleagues.
The Weidenbaum Center continues both its academic and public policy efforts. Our mission remains to serve as a bridge between policymakers and scholars by supporting scholarly research, public affairs programs, and other activities at the intersection of business and government.

This newsletter provides insight into our upcoming public policy and public outreach programs, as well as some other special highlighted programs and activities. The academic research efforts and programs encouraged and supported by the Center can be viewed on our website and in our annual reports.

As always, we welcome your insights, comments, and/or recommendations for public policy issues that we might evaluate for future programs.

Saying Goodbye

Please join us in extending best wishes to Gloria Lucy, the Center’s Business Manager and Assistant Director, who is retiring from the University on September 5.

Gloria has been with Washington University for 43 years, working all but six months of that time at the Weidenbaum Center and its predecessor organization, the Center for the Study of American Business. She will be greatly missed by donors, faculty, and colleagues alike.

Gloria’s work on grantsmanship and human resources at the Center has been invaluable. Her willingness to put in extra time and effort to help us meet deadlines has demonstrated a commitment to excellence that we have come to depend upon. In addition to her incredible competence and skill, she has been a friend to all.

We wish Gloria well as she starts a new chapter in her interesting life. We know she is eager to catch up on traveling and spending time with family and friends.

New Look for the Center

Thanks to the generosity of James (Jim) and Joan Schiele, the Weidenbaum Center’s foyer is sporting a new look these days. The next time you come by the Center, you will find a comfortable seating area, beautiful plants, and wonderful artwork all donated by the Schieles. All of us at the Center are grateful for the beauty Jim and Joan have added to our space.

Jim is our hardworking and much appreciated Eliot Society Volunteer Chairman.
Political scientists have observed a tendency for citizens on the winning side of an election to be affected in their attitudes about politics differently than citizens on the losing side. The 2016 presidential election provided a unique opportunity to revisit two competing hypotheses for how voters establish their perceptions of electoral integrity.

The authors of this paper used data from the Weidenbaum Center’s The American Panel Survey. The panel survey allowed the authors to ask questions about voter confidence in five waves: September 2014, October 2016, November 2016, December 2016, and January 2017. In each wave, respondents reported their level of confidence that their ballot will be or was counted as they intended.

First, mass public opinion is believed to derive from elite messages. In the 2016 presidential campaign, candidate Donald Trump maintained that the election system was “rigged,” while election administration experts and officials received considerable media coverage in their efforts to counter Trump’s claims.

Second, literature on voter confidence has established a “winner effect”—voters who cast ballots for winners are more likely than voters on the losing side to believe their vote was counted correctly. Thus, voters were exposed to two theoretically opposite effects.

In this paper, the authors find that the “winner” effect mitigates the effects from strong pre-election cues from elites. They also show the effect of pre-election attention to the rigging issue, find a symmetry of the election outcome effect for winners and losers, and reconsider the explanations of the winner effect. Finally, they go beyond the existing studies of the winner effect to consider the kind of citizens who are most susceptible to that effect.

Betsy Sinclair is Professor of Political Science and Steven S. Smith is Director of the Weidenbaum Center on the Economy, Government, and Public Policy and Kate M. Gregg Distinguished Professor of Social Science. Both are at Washington University. Patrick Tucker is a Postdoctoral Associate at Yale University’s ACASPS Institution for Social Policy Studies.
**WEIDENBAUM CENTER POST DOCTORAL FELLOWS**

**Sarah Gaby** received her doctorate in Sociology from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. She studies youth, social movements, organizations, and inequality. Her current project explores how organizations engage and politicize youth. Other current research analyzes the dynamics of social movements. At the Weidenbaum Center, Sarah is working on a project examining how legacies of slavery in communities relate to contemporary outcomes. She is working with David Cunningham and Hedy Lee from the Sociology Department and Geoff Ward from the African & African American Studies Department of Washington University.

**Andrew Menger** conducts research on political behavior and how institutions and public policies affect various aspects of political behavior. He is working with Professors Andrew Reeves and Betsy Sinclair of the Political Science Department on “The American City” project which focuses on the extent to which local government is responsive to the interests of its constituents and the presence of disagreement in suburban life. In addition to his ongoing work on election policies, he is currently researching how education policies impact attitudes toward and trust in minority ethnic groups. He recently received his Ph.D. from Rice University and his research has been published in *Public Administration Review, American Politics Research*, and *Political Science Research & Methods*.

**Shengwei Sun** graduated with a Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Maryland, College Park. Hailing from Shanghai, China, Shengwei lived in Los Angeles for four years and in Maryland for over six years. Her research concerns how changing socioeconomic contexts shape gender, race, and class inequalities. Under this theme, her ongoing projects use longitudinal data sets to examine the consequences of economic downturns for young adults in the United States in both work and family arenas. She is working with Department of Sociology professors Jake Rosenthal and Caitlyn Collins on a project that investigates whether managerial rules barring discussions of wages and salaries foster gender discrimination and widen inequity. Her work has appeared in the *Journal of Marriage and Family, Social Science Research*, and *Sex Roles*.

**Steven Webster** researches the nature of political behavior, political psychology, and public opinion in the United States. While at Washington University, he is working with Political Science Professors Deniz Aksoy, Sarah Brierley, and Margit Tavits on research projects, using his expertise in designing and conducting experimental research. In addition, he is working on a book manuscript that examines the role of anger in reducing citizens’ trust in government, eroding the public’s commitment to democratic norms and values, and producing high levels of party loyalty at the ballot box. He holds a Bachelors degree in Political Science and History from Oklahoma State University and a Ph.D. in Political Science from Emory University.
Public Policy Breakfast Series — The Weidenbaum Center Eliot Society and Major Donors series consists of informative presentations by local and national experts who summarize and share their insights on key current public policy issues. Details on upcoming programs follow.

September 25—How Good is the U.S. Economy, Really?

Steve Fazzari, Associate Director of the Weidenbaum Center and Bert A. and Jeanette L. Lynch Distinguished Professor of Economics, conducts research in two main areas: the link between macroeconomic activity and finance, particularly the financial determinants of investment spending, and the foundations of Keynesian macroeconomics. His perspectives on the causes and consequences of the Great Recession, the macroeconomic effects of rising income inequality, financial instability, deficit reduction, and capital gains taxation have been highlighted in the national and international press. Fazzari teaches macroeconomics at all undergraduate and Ph.D. levels. Since 2014, Professor Fazzari has been chair of the Department of Sociology.

October 30—Gender Pay in the C Suite

Limor Golan is an Associate Professor in the Department of Economics at Washington University and a Research Officer at the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. Her recent research interests include: discrimination and gender gaps in labor market outcomes; the link between fertility, labor supply, parental time investment in children decisions and the intergenerational persistence in education and earnings; and estimation of dynamic general equilibrium models of labor markets with incomplete information.

November 26—Washington After the 2018 Elections

Steven S. Smith is the Kate M. Gregg Distinguished Professor of Social Sciences, Professor of Political Science, and the Director of the Weidenbaum Center. He has taught at George Washington University, Northwestern University, and the University of Minnesota, where he was the Distinguished McKnight University Professor of Political Science and Law. He is the author or co-author of many books on congressional politics, his most recent being Steering the Senate: The Development of Party Leadership in the U.S. Senate, co-authored with Gerald Gamm (Cambridge University Press, forthcoming) served as an editor of Legislative Studies Quarterly, and served on the editorial boards of the American Journal of Political Science, Journal of Politics, and Congress & The Presidency.

Major Donors Public Policy Luncheon Series

The Center’s Major Donors roundtable discussions allow guests the unique opportunity to interact with leading scholars and industry experts from the University and the broader St. Louis community. Normally held every month during the academic year, the lunches provide a platform for participants to engage with both prominent intellectuals and one another in an open dialogue. Topics are selected from current events and address economic, political, legal, health, or international issues.

Upcoming meetings will be held on September 5, October 9, November 5, and December 3,

NOTE: These meetings are by invitation only and registration is required.
FORUMS

Center Forums (conferences, debates, and single-speaker events) focus on major public policy issues in the news. Speakers consist of academics, government officials, and business leaders. They are frequently cosponsored with other organizations and are free and open to the public. Please check the website (wc.wustl.edu) for calendar updates.

September 20 — Refugees and Asylum Seekers: Crisis in U.S. Policy

This panel discussion features Karen Musalo, University of California, Hastings School of the Law, San Francisco; Nicole T. S. Cortés, Migrant and Immigrant Community Action Project; Katie Herbert Meyer, Washington University School of Law; and Robert Sagastume, MSW/MSP candidate, Washington University Brown School of Social Work and Former Director, Kansas/Missouri Dream Alliance. The panel will be moderated by Stephen Legomsky, John S. Lehmann University Professor Emeritus, Washington University School of Law.

Karen Musalo directs the Center for Gender & Refugee Studies and the Refugee and Human Rights Clinic at UC-Hastings. Her current work examines the links between human rights violations and migration, focusing on violence against women and children in Latin American countries. She is the founding director of the Center for Gender & Refugee Studies.

Nicole Cortés graduated from Washington University in St. Louis with a Masters of Social Work and her Juris Doctorate. She co-founded the Migrant and Immigrant Community Action (MICA) Project. Nicole is fluent in Spanish; more than 90% of her clients are Spanish-speaking. She heads MICA's efforts to reach out to the Latino community. She has experience working with community partners, coalition building, community outreach, and program coordination and evaluation.

Katie Herbert Meyer is an Assistant Professor of Practice and Director of the Immigration Clinic at Washington University. She has served as the Program Coordinator and Supervising Attorney at MICA in St. Louis and worked as an immigration attorney at a law firm in eastern Missouri. Her areas of expertise include family-based immigration, refugee and asylum law, naturalization law, removal (deportation) defense, and legal protections for immigrant victims.

As director of the Kansas/Missouri Dream Alliance, Robert Sagastume oversaw the organization’s mission, which is to serve and advocate for immigrant rights and higher education for undocumented youth regardless of citizenship status, sexual orientation, race, color, gender, and national or ethnic origin.

This event is cosponsored with Washington University’s Assembly Series.

September 20 — Dream Hoarders: How the American Upper Middle Class Is Leaving Everyone Else in the Dust, Why That Is a Problem, and What to Do About It

Richard Reeves, senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, will be the speaker at this event. At Brookings, he co-directs the Center on Children and Families. His research focuses on social mobility, inequality, and family change. He also teaches at the McCourt School of Public Policy at Georgetown University.

Dr. Reeves writes for a wide range of publications, including The Atlantic, National Affairs, Democracy Journal, Wall Street Journal, and New York Times. Richard has a BA from Oxford University and a Ph.D. from Warwick University.

The event is organized by the Center for Social Development at Washington University and the Center for Household Financial Stability at the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, and co-sponsored by the Clark-Fox Policy Institute and the Weidenbaum Center.
Support

The Weidenbaum Center, while an integral part of Washington University, is responsible for its own financial support. It relies upon generous donations from individuals, corporations, and foundations.

General support is needed for its operating budget and designated funds are relied upon for its special programs—such as its Murray Weidenbaum Scholars Program. As a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization, it falls under the University’s 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status. Anyone able to help provide support or assist in fundraising should contact:

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