AGENDA
April 5–6, 2022 (virtual)
DE Academic Symposium
“The Distributional Effects of Trade and Trade Policy on U.S. Workers”
(Version 4/04/2022)

Day 1: April 5, 2022

9:00–9:25
Opening: Sandra Rivera. Lead, Academic Symposium; Office of Economics
Welcome: Chair Jason Kearns, U.S. International Trade Commission
Keynote: David Autor, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

09:25–10:50 Session A: Distributional effects of trade and trade policy on U.S. worker by education and skill levels

Objective: To share findings and generate discussion regarding the distributional impacts of trade and trade policy as they pertain to workers across different levels of education or skill. A question-and-answer session and moderator-led discussion will emphasize findings from presentations to determine points of consensus and debate within the literature. Participants will also be encouraged to answer forward-looking questions to determine the relevancy of findings for future U.S. trade and trade policy.

Moderator: Katheryn Russ, University of California, Davis


Ann Harrison, University of California, Berkley, “Estimating Impact of Trade and Offshoring” (2014)

Eunhee Lee, University of Maryland, "Trade, Inequality, and the Endogenous Sorting of Heterogeneous Workers." (2020)

Day 1: April 5, 2022 (continued)

10:50–11:00  10-minute break

11:00-12:25 Session B:  Distributional effects of trade and trade policy on Race and Ethnicity

Objective: To share findings and generate discussion regarding the distributional impacts of trade and trade policy as they pertain to workers of different races or ethnicities. Q&A and moderator-led discussion will emphasize findings from presentations to determine points of consensus and debate within the literature. Participants will also be encouraged to answer forward-looking questions to determine the relevancy of findings for the future of U.S. trade and trade policy.

Moderator: Edinaldo Tebaldi, Bryant University

Timothy Bond, Purdue University, “Stalled Racial Progress and Japanese Trade in the 1970s and 1980s” (2019)

Felipe Benguria, University of Kentucky, “The Impact of NAFTA on U.S. Local Labor Market Employment” (2020)


Edinaldo Tebaldi, Bryant University, “International Trade and Wage Differentials: What Do the Data Tell Us?” (2022)

12:25–13:30  LUNCH BREAK
Day 1: April 5, 2022 (continued)

13:30–15:10  Session C: Distributional effects of trade and trade policy on Gender

Objective: To share findings and generate discussion regarding the distributional impacts of trade and trade policy as they pertain to male and female workers. Q&A and moderator-led discussion will emphasize findings from presentations to determine points of consensus and debate within the literature. Participants will also be encouraged to answer forward-looking questions to determine the relevancy of findings for future U.S. trade and trade policy.

Moderator: Felipe Benguria, University of Kentucky

- Ross Hallren, Amazon, and Stephanie Fortune-Taylor, USITC, “Worker-level Responses to the High-Value Labor Content Rules Requirement” (2022)
- Masha Brussevich, IMF, “Does Trade Liberalization Narrow the Gender Wage gap? The Role of Sectoral Mobility” (2018)
- Philip Sauré, Johannes Gutenberg Universität, “International Trade, the Gender Wage Gap and Female Labor Force Participation” (2014)
- Tibor Besedeš, Georgia Institute of Technology, “Trade Liberalization and Gender Gaps in Local Labor Market Outcomes: Dimensions of Adjustment in the United States” (2021)
- David Fortunato, University of California, San Diego, “Representation and the Trade Roots of the Gender Pay Gap” (2022)

15:10–15:20  10-minute break
Day 1: April 5, 2022 (continued)

15:20-16:40  Session D:  Short presentations and panel discussion on existing methodologies and their limitations, and new cutting-edge labor modeling work

Objective: There are two strands of literature looking at the distributional effect of trade and trade policies on different groups of workers regarding methodological approaches. The first strand of literature uses econometrics (backward-looking reduced-form analysis) with detailed microdata to assess the impact of trade changes on worker outcomes (e.g., employment and wages: by different worker categories). The second strand of uses forward-looking general equilibrium analysis to examine the likely impact of changes in trade policy on different worker groups. This section will cover both and how they are used regarding distributional effects.

Moderator: William M. Powers, Chief Economist, Director, Office of Economics; USITC


16:40  End of Day 1
Day 2: April 6, 2022

9:00-10:20  Session E:  Research Value-added of Access to Restricted-use Data for Distributional Effects Analysis

Objective: To highlight the ways restricted-use data augment distributional effects analysis. We put presentations of DE of trade papers using international restricted-use data in dialogue with experts in U.S. restricted-use data to discuss existing gaps in the economic literature and data shortcomings.

Moderator: Jennifer Poole, American University

Jennifer Poole, American University, “Foreign Influence: The International Transmission of Gender Equality” (2021)

Wolfgang Keller, University of Colorado, “Globalization, Gender, and the Family” (2018)


10:20–10:30  10-minute break
10:30-12:55 Session F: Government Datasets for Analyzing Distributional Effects of Trade among Different Subgroups

Moderator: Stephanie Fortune-Taylor, USITC

10:35–11:10 Group 1: Hybrid Data Products
- Keith Bailey, U.S. Census, Longitudinal Employer Household Dynamics (LEHD)

11:10–12:25 Group 2: Individual and Household Microdata
- Patrick Carey, BLS, Current Population Survey (CPS); Outgoing Rotation Groups; 1-year Longitudinal Panel
- Adam Safir, BLS, Overview of the Consumer Expenditure Surveys (CE)
- Adam Smith, U.S. Census, Survey of Income Program Participation (SIPP)
- Daniel Carroll, DOL, National Agricultural Workers Survey (NAWS) (invited)
- Robert Hoekstra, DOL, Trade Adjustment Assistance Data (TAA)

- Cristina Tello-Trillo, U.S. Census, Longitudinal Business Database (LBD)
- Aneta Erdie, U.S. Census, Annual Business Survey (ABS)

12:55–13:55 LUNCH BREAK
Day 2: April 6, 2022 (continued)

13:55–14:55  Session G:  Moderated discussion on the global research agenda on distributional effects of trade

Objective: To provide an opportunity for economic researchers at other international and multilateral institutions to discuss how they are thinking about researching effects on underserved communities and how it can inform U.S. research on distributional effects of trade.

Moderator:  William M. Powers, Chief Economist/Director, Office of Economics; USITC

Robert Koopman, Chief Economist, WTO
Maryla Maliszewska, Senior Economist, World Bank
Jane Korinek, Economist, Trade and Agriculture Directorate, OECD
Phil Mellor, Lead Economist, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (New Zealand)
Shenjie Chen, Director, Economic Research, Office of the Chief Economist, Global Affairs Canada

14:55–15:05  10-minute break
Day 2: April 6, 2022 (continued)

15:05–16:15 Session H: Moderated discussion on future directions: What can the trade literature learn from other disciplines? What should we consider?

Objective: Taking a broader look: What can other fields or disciplines tell us about how to better craft policy that could generate more equitable outcomes? What insights do you have from your research?

Moderator: Sandra A. Rivera, Associate Director, Office of Economics, USITC

Ana Hernández Kent, Institute of Economic Equity, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis “Examining Racial Wealth Inequality,” (2022)


Dan Giedeman, Grand Valley State University, “Macroeconomic Shocks and racial labor market differences” (2021)


Margaret Simms, Urban Institute, “Barriers & Bridges: Action Plan for Overcoming Obstacles and Unlocking Opportunities for African American Men in Pittsburgh” (October 2015)


16:15 Closing remarks: William M. Powers, Chief Economist/Director, Office of Economics; USITC