

**œ Planning Group Meeting œ**  
**Women and the Undergraduate Economics Major**  
NBER, 1050 Massachusetts Ave. Cambridge MA  
Saturday, November 15, 2014

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**Participants**

**Sam Allgood** (University of Nebraska, Lincoln) [allgood@unl.edu](mailto:allgood@unl.edu)

Sam Allgood is the Edwin J. Faulkner Professor of Economics at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln and chair of the AEA's Committee on Economic Education. Allgood's primary research fields include labor economics, particularly the topics of welfare costs of taxation, and the economics of education. Allgood has published numerous articles on innovations in teaching and higher education economics programs at both the undergraduate and graduate level.

**Tanya Avilova** (NBER, Project Manager for UWE) [tanya.avilova@gmail.com](mailto:tanya.avilova@gmail.com)

Tanya Avilova is the Project Manager for Undergraduate Women in Economics (UWE). She graduated from Harvard University in 2013 with a degree in Economics and spent the next year in Japan conducting a study on nurses' work stress and work-life balance through the Fulbright Fellowship. She will be working as UWE Project Manager at the NBER for the next two years.

**Amanda Bayer** (Swarthmore College) [abayer1@swarthmore.edu](mailto:abayer1@swarthmore.edu)

Amanda Bayer is a Professor of Economics at Swarthmore College and is the creator and editor of *Diversifying Economic Quality*, an online resource aimed at improving teaching practices in economics. She is the co-organizer of the National Summit on Diversity in the Economics Profession, hosted by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the AEA. Her primary research fields are labor economics and game theory.

**Kristin Butcher** (Wellesley College) [kbutcher@wellesley.edu](mailto:kbutcher@wellesley.edu)

Kristin Butcher is the Marshall I. Goldman Professor of Economics and chair of the department at Wellesley College. Her research concerns labor and health economics, particularly immigration issues and childhood obesity. Butcher has also worked on higher education and the economics of crime. She teaches introductory economics, econometrics and an upper-level seminar on the Economics of Immigration at Wellesley College, where a large fraction of its all-female student body majors in economics.

**Rachel Friedberg** (Brown University) [rachel\\_friedberg@brown.edu](mailto:rachel_friedberg@brown.edu)

Rachel Friedberg is a Senior Lecturer of Economics at Brown University. She has taught principles for some time, as well as econometrics and research methods for causal inference. Friedberg's research has focused on topics related to the economics of immigration and labor economics, including the labor market assimilation of immigrants in Israel and in the U.S., the transferability of human capital, and the impact of immigration on native labor market outcomes.

**Claudia Goldin** (Harvard University) [cgoldin@harvard.edu](mailto:cgoldin@harvard.edu)

Claudia Goldin is the Henry Lee Professor of Economics at Harvard University and the director of the NBER's Development of the American Economy program. Goldin's research spans many areas, including the economic history of women and education. In 2013/14, she was the president of the AEA and made the increase of women as undergraduate majors one of her goals. Her recent work concerns the increased employment of older women.

**Jane Leber Herr** (Harvard University) [jlherr@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:jlherr@fas.harvard.edu)

Jane Herr is an Undergraduate Concentration Adviser in the Economics Department at Harvard University. Her research focuses on economic demography and labor economics, and estimates the effect of fertility on women's career outcomes. Her current research continues to focus on fertility, both the influence of anticipated fertility on career choices, and actual fertility on career outcomes. She has been teaching a sophomore tutorial related to her research.

**Jane Katz** (Freelance economist) [janepkatz@gmail.com](mailto:janepkatz@gmail.com)

Jane Katz has served as officer and director of economic education at the New York Fed where she oversaw educational programs for college and high school students and teachers. Prior to that, she was an economist in the research department at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston and wrote on a variety of topics. In Spring 2015 Jane will be offering a course in labor economics at Harvard's extension school.

**Larry Katz** (Harvard University) [lkatz@harvard.edu](mailto:lkatz@harvard.edu)

Larry Katz is the Elizabeth Allison Professor of Economics at Harvard University, a Research Associate at the NBER, and the co-Scientific Director of J-PAL North America. His research has focused on the wage structure and labor markets, unemployment, and social problems generally. He and Claudia Goldin are jointly working on several projects, including the increase of female participation at older ages.

**KimMarie McGoldrick** (University of Richmond) [kmcgoldr@richmond.edu](mailto:kmcgoldr@richmond.edu)

KimMarie McGoldrick holds the Joseph A. Jennings Chair in Business and is Professor of Economics at the University of Richmond. Her pedagogical research documents the use and efficacy of pedagogical practices within the discipline. She co-edited *The International Handbook on Teaching and Learning Economics* (Elgar Press, 2012). Her more recent research explores gender differences in the choice to study economics.

**Jessica W. Reyes** (Amherst College) [jwreyes@amherst.edu](mailto:jwreyes@amherst.edu)

Jessica Wolpaw Reyes is Associate Professor in the Department of Economics at Amherst College. Her research focuses on public health and social impacts of environmental pollution, malpractice and physician behavior, factors influencing judicial decision-making, and other topics in applied microeconomics. She is currently studying the effects of environmental toxicants on social behavior and has recently worked on teaching economics research techniques in a senior honors seminar.

**Heather Sarsons** (Harvard University) [hsrsns@gmail.com](mailto:hsrsns@gmail.com)

Heather Sarsons is a third year Ph.D. student in Economics at Harvard University. She received her BA in Economics from the University of British Columbia. Her research interests include economic development, social economics, and gender issues.

**Grace Tsiang** (University of Chicago) [gtsiang@uchicago.edu](mailto:gtsiang@uchicago.edu)

Grace Tsiang is a Senior Lecturer and Co-Director of Undergraduate Studies in Economics at the University of Chicago. Tsiang's research focuses on labor economics, development economics, and human capital and wage distributions. Grace loves to teach and has been an active force in building one of the strongest undergraduate economics programs in the nation.

**Akila Weerapana** (Wellesley College) [aweerapa@wellesley.edu](mailto:aweerapa@wellesley.edu)

Akila Weerapana is an Associate Professor of Economics and the Faculty Director of the Pforzheimer Learning and Teaching Center at Wellesley. His primary research interests are in the fields of international monetary economics and the economics of conflict. Weerapana teaches introductory macroeconomics and has co-authored a macroeconomics principles textbook. He (with Butcher) wrote a *JEP* paper (Summer 2013) on the impact of the Wellesley experiment that reduced grade inflation.