

JUDITH SCOTT-CLAYTON

TEACHERS COLLEGE, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY / COMMUNITY COLLEGE RESEARCH CENTER
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EMPLOYMENT

2015 – present TEACHERS COLLEGE, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, Associate Professor of
Economics and Education, Dept. of Education Policy and Social Analysis
2009 – 2015 TEACHERS COLLEGE, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, Assistant Professor
2009 – present COMMUNITY COLLEGE RESEARCH CENTER, Senior Research Scholar

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2011 – present NATIONAL BUREAU OF ECONOMIC RESEARCH, Research Associate since 2017
2015 – present *EDUCATION FINANCE AND POLICY*, Editorial Board
2016 – present *EDUCATIONAL EVALUATION AND POLICY ANALYSIS*, Editorial Board

EDUCATION

2009 HARVARD KENNEDY SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT, Ph.D. in Public Policy
2000 WELLESLEY COLLEGE, B.A., Sociology (Economics minor) *summa cum laude*
1999 LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS, General Course (visiting student)

TEACHING & ADMINISTRATION

Program Director, Economics & Education MA, EdM & PhD programs. Teaching: Economics of Education, Causal Methods for Education Policy Research, Applied Labor Economics

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

2015 Spencer Foundation Grant #201500101 (\$50,000) “Financial Aid, Debt Management, and Socioeconomic Outcomes”
2011-2016 IES Center for the Analysis of Postsecondary Education and Employment (CAPSEE) (\$10,000,000; PI: Thomas Bailey, my projects ~ \$760,000 of total)
2012-2013 AERA Research Grant (\$30,000) “The Labor Market Returns to Content and Quality of Baccalaureate Degrees”
2010-2011 Spencer Foundation Grant #201100078 (\$25,000) “Does Federal Work-Study Improve Student Outcomes?”
2008-2009 Spencer Foundation Dissertation Completion Fellowship (\$25,000)
2005-2008 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship
2004-2009 Doctoral Fellowship, Harvard University Multidisciplinary Program in Inequality and Social Policy (National Science Foundation IGERT Program)

HONORS & AWARDS

2018 [Featured Innovator](#), Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
2018 EEPA Outstanding Reviewer Award for 2017
2016 AERA Division L (Educational Policy & Politics) Early Career Award
2016 National Assn. of Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA) Golden Quill Award
2010 Spencer Foundation Exemplary Dissertation Award

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- 2017-19 Technical Working Group member, Regional Education Lab – Northwest
2016-18 Brookings Institution, Nonresident Senior Fellow
2015-18 The Association for Education Finance and Policy, Board of Directors

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

2019. "[Financial aid, debt management, and socioeconomic outcomes: Post-college effects of merit-based aid](#)" (with Basit Zafar). *Journal of Public Economics*, 170: 68-82.
- In press. "[The Consequences of Performance Standards in Need Based Aid: Evidence From Community Colleges.](#)" (with Lauren Schudde). *Journal of Human Resources*. Preprint available March 2019 online.
- In press. "[The End of Free College in England: Implications for Quality, Enrolments, and Equity.](#)" (with Richard Murphy and Gillian Wyness). *Economics of Education Review* Preprint available Dec. 2018 online.
- In press. "[Estimating Returns to College Attainment: Comparing Survey and State Administrative Data Based Estimates.](#)" (with Qiao Wen). *Evaluation Review*. Preprint available Nov. 2018 online.
2018. "[The impact of Pell Grant eligibility on community college students' financial aid packages, labor supply, and academic outcomes.](#)" (with Rina S.E. Park). *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis* 40, no. 4: 557-585.
2016. "[Pell Grants As Performance-Based Aid? An Examination of SAP Requirements in the Nation's Largest Need-Based Aid Program.](#)" (with Lauren Schudde). *Research in Higher Education*, 57 (8): 943-967.
2016. "[Improving College Access in the United States: Barriers and Policy Responses.](#)" (with Lindsay Page. *Economics of Education Review* 51: 4-22. Also available as [NBER Working Paper No. 21781](#).
2016. "[Should We Subsidize Student Employment? Conditional Counterfactuals and the Outcomes of Work-Study Participation.](#)" (with Veronica Minaya). *Economics of Education Review* 52: 1-18. Also available as [NBER Working Paper No. 20329](#).
2015. "[The Role of Financial Aid in Promoting College Access and Success: Research Evidence and Proposals for Reform.](#)" *Journal of Student Financial Aid* 45(3): 7-22.
2015. "[Development, Discouragement, or Diversion? New Evidence on the Effects of College Remediation.](#)" (with Olga Rodriguez). *Education Finance and Policy*, 10(1): 4–45. Also available as [NBER Working Paper No. 18328](#).
2014. "[Improving the Targeting of Treatment: Evidence from College Remediation](#)" (with Peter Crosta and Clive Belfield). *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*, 36(3): 371–393. Also available as [NBER Working Paper No. 18457](#).
2013. "[Financial Aid Policy: Lessons From Research](#)" (with Susan M. Dynarski). *The Future of Children*, 23(1): 67-92.
2012. "[What Explains Trends in Labor Supply Among U.S. Undergraduates?'](#)" *National Tax Journal* 65(1): 181-210.

2011. [“The Causal Effect of Federal Work-Study Participation: Quasi-Experimental Evidence From West Virginia.”](#) *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*, vol. 33, no. 4 (December), pp. 506-527.
2011. [“Assessing Developmental Assessment in Community Colleges: A Review of the Literature”](#) (with Katherine Hughes). *Community College Review*, vol. 39, no. 4 (October), pp. 327-351.
2011. [“On Money and Motivation: A Quasi-Experimental Analysis of Financial Incentives for College Achievement.”](#) *Journal of Human Resources*, vol. 46, no. 3: pp. 614-646.
2006. [“The Cost of Complexity in Federal Student Aid: Lessons from Optimal Tax Theory and Behavioral Economics”](#) (with Susan M. Dynarski). *National Tax Journal* 59:2 (June 2006), pp. 319-356.

BOOK CHAPTERS

- Forthcoming. [“Labor Market Outcomes and Postsecondary Accountability: Are Imperfect Metrics Better than None?”](#) (with Veronica Minaya). NBER Working Paper 22880. forthcoming in *Productivity in Higher Education*, edited by Caroline Hoxby and Kevin Stange, University of Chicago Press.
2017. [“Tax Benefits for College Enrollment”](#) (with Susan M. Dynarski). NBER Working Paper 22127 (March 2016). In *The Economics of Tax Policy*, edited by Alan Auerbach, Kent Smetters, and Len Burman. Oxford University Press.
2015. “The Shapeless River: Does a Lack of Structure Inhibit Students’ Progress at Community Colleges?” in Baum, S., Castleman, B., & Schwartz, S. (eds.). *Decision Making for Student Success: Behavioral Insights to Improve College Access and Persistence*. London: Routledge.
2013. [“Information Constraints and Financial Aid Policy,”](#) in Heller, D. & Callender, C. (eds.), *Student Financing of Higher Education: A Comparative Perspective*, London: Routledge International Studies in Higher Education. [Also NBER Working Paper No. 17811.]
2013. [“Simplifying Tax Incentives and Aid for College: Progress and Prospects”](#) (with Susan M. Dynarski and Mark Wiederspan). *Tax Policy and the Economy*, vol. 27, edited by Jeffrey R. Brown. Cambridge, MA: National Bureau of Economic Research.
2008. [“Complexity and Targeting in Federal Student Aid: A Quantitative Analysis”](#) (with Susan M. Dynarski). *Tax Policy and the Economy*, vol. 22, edited by James Poterba. Cambridge, MA: NBER.

WORKS UNDER REVIEW

2017. [“Labor Market Trajectories for Community College Graduates: New Evidence Spanning the Great Recession,”](#) (with Veronica Minaya). A CAPSEE Working Paper. *Revise & Resubmit at Education Finance and Policy*.

RESEARCH & POLICY REPORTS

2018. [“What accounts for gaps in student loan default, and what happens after,”](#) Evidence Speaks Reports 2 (57). Washington, DC: The Brookings Institution.

2018. "[The looming student loan default crisis is worse than we thought.](#)" *Evidence Speaks Reports 2(34)*. Washington, DC: The Brookings Institution.
2017. "[Lessons from the end of free college in England](#)" (with Richard Murphy and Gillian Wyness). *Evidence Speaks Reports 2 (13)*. Washington, DC: The Brookings Institution.
2017. "[Undergraduate Financial Aid in the United States.](#)" Primer commissioned by the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Commission on the Future of Undergraduate Education.
2016. "[Black-white disparity in student loan debt more than triples after graduation.](#)" (with Jing Li). *Evidence Speaks Reports 2 (3)*. Washington, DC: The Brookings Institution.
2016. "[Early Labor Market and Debt Outcomes for Bachelor's Degree Recipients: Heterogeneity by Institution Type and Major, and Trends Over Time.](#)" A CAPSEE Working Paper. July 2016.
2014. "[Remedial Placement Testing in Community Colleges: What Resources are Required, and What Does it Cost?](#)" (with Olga Rodriguez, Brooks Bowden, and Clive Belfield) Community College Research Center Working Paper No. 73.
2013. "[Redesigning the Pell Grant Program for the Twenty-First Century](#)" (with Sandy Baum). *Hamilton Project Discussion Paper 2013-04*. Washington, DC: The Brookings Institution.
2013. "[Rethinking Pell Grants](#)" (with Sandy Baum, Thomas Bailey, Eric Bettinger, Susan Dynarski, Arthur Hauptman, Harry Holzer, James Jacobs, Kathleen Little, Bridget Terry Long, Michael McPherson, James Rosenbaum, Donald Saleh, and Sarah Turner). New York: The College Board.
2012. "[Beyond Need And Merit: Strengthening State Grant Programs](#)" (with Sandy Baum, David W. Breneman, Matthew M. Chingos, Ronald G. Ehrenberg, Pamela Fowler, John Hayek, Donald E. Heller, Allison G. Jones, David A. Longanecker, Tim Nesbitt, Sarah E. Turner, Jane V. Wellman, and Grover "Russ" Whitehurst). *Report from the Brookings Institution State Grant Aid Study Group*. Washington, DC: The Brookings Institution.
2012. "[Do High-Stakes Placement Exams Predict College Success?](#)" Community College Research Center Working Paper No. 41.
2011. "[Institutional Variation in Credential Completion Among Young Career-Technical Students: Evidence from Washington State Community and Technical Colleges.](#)" (with Madeline Weiss). Community College Research Center Working Paper No. 33.
2011. "[The Shapeless River: Does a Lack of Structure Inhibit Students' Progress at Community Colleges?](#)" CCRC Working Paper No. 25. New York: Columbia University.
2007. "[College Grants on a Postcard: A Proposal for Simple and Predictable Federal Student Aid.](#)" (with Susan Dynarski). *Hamilton Project Discussion Paper 2007-01*. Washington, DC: The Brookings Institution.

CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY

2017 (November 28). Testimony to U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor & Pensions Full Committee Hearing. [Financial Aid Simplification: Why It Matters and Which Aspects Matter Most](#). Full video available [here](#).

2015 (June 3). Testimony to U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor & Pensions Full Committee Hearing. “[Ensuring College Affordability: What Research Tells Us About Barriers and Potential Solutions](#).” Full video available [here](#).

2013 (November 14). Testimony to U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor & Pensions Full Committee Hearing. “[Ensuring Access to Higher Education: Simplifying Federal Student Aid for Today’s College Student](#).” Full video available [here](#).

BLOG POSTINGS AND OP-EDS:

April 26, 2018. [The tax benefits for education don’t increase education](#) (with Susan Dynarski). Brookings Evidence Speaks.

March 29, 2018. [Evidence-based reforms in college remediation are gaining steam – and so far living up to the hype](#). Brookings Evidence Speaks.

September 28, 2017. [Thinking “beyond the box”: The use of criminal records in college admissions](#). Brookings Evidence Speaks.

June 22, 2017. [Federal Work Study: Past its prime, or ripe for renewal?](#) Brookings Evidence Speaks/ Education Next.

January 20, 2017. [As Cuomo proposal rekindles free college movement, new research provides ammunition for skeptics](#). Brookings Evidence Speaks/ Education Next.

January 20, 2015. [The Problem With Obama's "Free Community College" Proposal](#) (with Thomas Bailey). Time.com.

June 20, 2014. [There Is a Simpler Way for Students to Apply for Financial Aid](#) (with S. Dynarski). NYT Upshot.

April 20, 2012. [Are College Entrants Overdiagnosed as Underprepared?](#) NYT Economix.

March 23, 2012. [Who Shouldn’t Go To College?](#) NYT Economix.

February 24, 2012. [The Hidden Majority of For-Profit Colleges](#), NYT Economix.

January 27, 2012. [Do Big-Time Sports Mean Big-Time Support for Universities?](#) NYT Economix.

December 2, 2011. [Student Loan Debt: Who Are the 1%?](#) NYT Economix.

November 4, 2011. [College Is Cheaper Than You Think](#). NYT Economix.

October 7, 2011. [From Kindergarten to College Completion](#). NYT Economix.

September 9, 2011. [A Jobs Program in Need of Reform](#). NYT Economix.

May 20, 2011. [The Rise of the Five-Year Four-Year Degree](#). NYT Economix.

April 15, 2011. [How Worrisome Is Student Debt?](#) NYT Economix.

March 25, 2011. [The Dark Side of Choice in Higher Education](#). NYT Economix.

February 25, 2011. [The Merits of For-Profit Colleges](#). NYT Economix.

Feb. 23, 2011. [Can Better Choice Architecture Improve College Completion Rates?](#) TC Record.

RESEARCH/POLICY WORKING GROUPS

- Pell Grant Reform Working Group (College Board), March 2011-May 2013
- Technical Work Group for the Evaluation of the Pell Grant Experiments (Social Policy Research Associates), November 2013-2015.

- State Financial Aid Policy Working Group (Brookings Institution), Jan. 2011-October 2012
- Baccalaureate and Beyond Technical Review Panel (U.S. Dept. of Ed.), 2011-12.

RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS (SELECTED)

Federal Reserve Bank of New York, March 2019
 Peking University (Beijing), April 2018
 Association for Education Finance and Policy (AEFP), March 2018, 2016, 2015, 2012, 2010
 Harvard University Graduate School of Education, February 2018
 Government Accountability Office, November 2017
 University of Chicago Harris School, November 2016
 NBER Education Meetings, November 2016, April 2015, November 2008, April 2007
 Federal Reserve Board, November 2015
 Allied Social Science Association (ASSA), January 2013, 2009
 Assoc. for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM), November 2012, 2011, 2010
 Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness (SREE), March 2014
 University of Connecticut, March 2015
 University of Virginia, February 2015
 Texas A&M University, February 2014
 New York University PIRT Seminar, September 2013
 Federal Reserve Bank of Boston (New England Study Group), May 2013
 City University of New York, Office of Policy Research, November 2011
 Stanford University, Center for Education Policy Analysis, October 2010
 U.S. Department of Education, July 2010, March 2007
 Society of Labor Economists (SOLE), May 2009

REFeree SERVICE (2018-19 ANNUAL)

Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis (4), Journal of Human Resources (1), Journal of Policy Analysis and Management (3), Economics of Education Review (3), Education Finance and Policy (1), Educational Researcher (2), AERA Open (2), Review of Educational Research (1), Journal of Higher Education (1), Education Economics (1), Organizational Behavior and Human Decision Processes (1), Journal of Research on Educational Effectiveness (1)

INTERNAL INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE (SELECTED)

Program Director, Economics & Education (2017-present). Senior Leadership Team, CCRC. President's Joint Working Group on Recruiting and Funding a Student, 2019. Faculty salary committee (2018-present). Search committee co-chair, 2017-18; search committee chair, 2015-16; search committee member, 2014-15; 2012-13. IRB member, 2012-2015.

DOCTORAL DISSERTATION COMMITTEE SERVICE (*INDICATES SPONSORSHIP)

2018-19: Josefa Aguirra Brautigman, Eric Chan, Yuxin Lin*, Ji Liu, Seung Eun (Rina) Park*, Sidra Rehman*, Vania Salgado
 2017-18: Shuangshuang Liu*
 2016-17: Barbara Hanisch-Cerda, Elizabeth Kopko, Vivian Liu, Siowchin Ng*
 2015-16: Jihye Kim*, Jing Li, Veronica Minaya*, Robert Shand*
 2010-15 (selected): Lesley Turner (GSAS Econ, 2012), Di Xu (2013), Rebecca Natow (2013), A. Brooks Bowden (2014), Fei Guo (2014), Mark Wiederspan (U. Michigan, 2015)

MEDIA/POLICY CITATIONS (SELECTED)

Coverage of research on black-white disparities in student loan debt:

- *The Atlantic* (Emily Deruy, October 24, 2016), "[The Racial Disparity of the Student-Loan Crisis.](#)"
- *The Wall Street Journal* (Josh Mitchell, October 20, 2016), "[Black College Grads Owe Nearly Twice as Much Student Debt as Whites Four Years Out.](#)"

Coverage of research on low predictive value of remedial placement tests:

- *Inside Higher Ed* (Paul Fain, June 18, 2015), "[ACT drops popular COMPASS placement test, acknowledging its predictive limits.](#)"
- *New York Times* (Tamar Lewin, February 28, 2012), "[Colleges Misassign Many to Remedial Classes, Studies Find.](#)"
- *New York Times* (Editorial, March 3, 2012), "[A Better Chance to Succeed.](#)"
- *Los Angeles Times* (Carla Rivera, June 25, 2012), "[Long Beach City College tries an alternative to placement tests.](#)"
- *Inside Higher Ed* (Paul Fain, April 4, 2012), "[Connecticut legislature mulls elimination of remedial courses.](#)"

Coverage of FAFSA simplification research:

- *The New York Times* (op-ed by Senators Lamar Alexander and Michael Bennet, June 18, 2014), "[An Answer on a Postcard: Simplifying FAFSA Will Get More Kids into College.](#)"
- *New York Times* (David Leonhardt, January 25, 2011), "[Cut Waste or Invest? Try Both.](#)"
- *Executive Office of the President* (September 2009), "[Simplifying Student Aid: The Case for an Easier, Faster, and More Accurate FAFSA](#)" (see pp. 2-4).
- *National Public Radio* (Claudio Sanchez, February 23, 2008), "[College Aid Forms Prove Too Tough a Test.](#)"

Coverage of "Shapeless River" community college research:

- *The Atlantic* (Ann Hulbert, Jan/Feb 2014), "[How to Escape the Community College Trap.](#)"
- *Washington Monthly* (Daniel Luzer, April 27, 2011), "[Too Much Choice?](#)"

Coverage of WV PROMISE research:

- *CNN Newsroom* (Ali Velshi, May 12, 2010), "[Turning Students to Graduates.](#)"
- *The New York Times Magazine* (David Leonhardt, February 1, 2009), "[The Big Fix](#)" (cited on p. 8).

Other commentary:

- *NPR On Point with Tom Ashbrook* (panel member, August 27, 2013), "[President Obama's College Rating Plan.](#)"
- *PBS Newshour* (interview with Paul Solman, May 30, 2012), "[Student Loans: More Debt, More Defaults, More Problems.](#)" (Begins at 4:15)