



a place of mind

VANCOUVER SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

Fall Conference
September 20, 2013

SPEAKER & DISCUSSANT BIOS

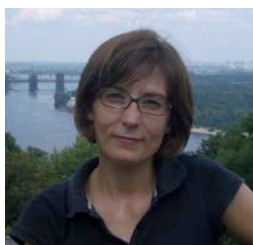
Session 1: “*Unemployment and Business Cycles*”



Speaker: Martin Eichenbaum

Martin Eichenbaum is the Charles Moskos Professor of economics at Northwestern University and the co-director of the Center for International Economics and Development at Northwestern University. He is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the Econometric Society. Eichenbaum has been at Northwestern University since 1988. In addition to teaching at Carnegie Mellon University, he has also been a Visiting Professor at the Chicago Booth and Wharton School of Business. Eichenbaum earned his B.Comm from McGill University and his PhD in economics from the University of Minnesota.

Eichenbaum is currently the co-editor of the *American Economic Review*. He is a consultant for the Federal Reserve Banks of Atlanta and Chicago, as well as a research associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research. He has also served as a consultant for the IMF and the World Bank. Eichenbaum's research focuses on business cycles and international economics. His most recent work has been on the effects of changes in monetary and fiscal policy on aggregate economic fluctuations.



Discussant: Viktoria Hnatkovska

Viktoria Hnatkovska is an Associate Professor of economics at the Vancouver School of Economics, University of British Columbia. Her work focuses on topics in international finance and macroeconomics, as well as development economics, with a particular focus on India. She obtained her Ph.D. from Georgetown University in Washington, DC, USA. Her professional experience includes: United Nations Development Programme, Hanoi, Vietnam World Bank Group, PREM Network, Washington, D.C., Harvard Institute for International Development, Kyiv, Ukraine.



a place of mind

VANCOUVER SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

Session 2: “*The Elusive Pro-Competitive Effects of Trade*”



Speaker: Dave Donaldson

Dave Donaldson is the Gary Loveman Career Development Associate Professor of Economics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. After growing up in Canada, Donaldson received a Masters degree in Physics from the University of Oxford in 2001. He then switched to the study of economics, and received an MSc (2003) and PhD (2009) from the London School of Economics. Since joining MIT in 2009, Donaldson has won the WTO Young Economist Prize and has been a finalist for the PhD Teacher of the Year Award. Donaldson is also an Associate Editor at the *Journal of International Economics*, a former Visiting Professor of Economics at Harvard University and Stanford University, a Faculty Research Fellow at the NBER, and a Research Affiliate of CEPR and BREAD. Donaldson's teaching and research interests focus on international trade, economic development and economic history. His research has been published in the *American Economic Review* and the *Review of Economic Studies*. He currently lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts with his wife and their four children.

Discussant: Matilde Bombardini

Matilde Bombardini is an Associate Professor of economics at the Vancouver School of Economics, University of British Columbia, a Fellow in the Institutions, Organizations and Growth Program of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research, and a Research Associate in the Political Economy Program of the National Bureau of Economic Analysis.

Her research covers various aspects of International Trade and Political Economy. In particular she has worked on the link between skill distribution and comparative advantage, the lobbying decision of firms and the behavior of lobbyists.



She obtained her PhD in 2005 from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and her undergraduate degree from the University of Bologna in Italy.



a place of mind

VANCOUVER SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

Luncheon Address: “*The Rising Importance of Firms in Labour Market Outcomes*”



Speaker: David Card

David Card is the Class of 1950 Professor of Economics at the University of California, Berkeley, and Director of the Labor Studies Program at the National Bureau of Economic Research. His research interests include wage inequality, immigration, wages, education, anti-poverty programs, and health insurance. He co-authored the 1995 book *Myth and Measurement: The New Economics of the Minimum Wage*, and co-edited *The Handbook of Labor Economics* (1999 and 2011 editions), *Seeking a Premier Economy: The Economic Effects of British Economic Reforms* (2004); and *Small Differences that Matter: Labor Markets and Income Maintenance in Canada and the United States* (1992). He has also published over 90 journal articles and book chapters.

Card was co-editor of *Econometrica* from 1991 to 1995 and co-editor of the *American Economic Review* from 2002 to 2005. He taught at Princeton University from 1983 to 1996, and has held visiting appointments at Columbia University and the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences. In 1992 he was elected a fellow of the Econometric Society, and in 1998 he was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. In 1995 he received the American Economic Association's John Bates Clark Prize, which is awarded every other year to the economist under 40 whose work is judged to have made the most significant contribution to the field. He was a co-recipient of the IZA Labor Economics Award in 2006, and was awarded the Frisch Medal by the Econometric Society in 2007.



a place of mind

VANCOUVER SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

Session 3: “*The Roots of Economic Underdevelopment*”



Speaker: Nathan Nunn

Nathan Nunn is a Professor of economics at Harvard University. Professor Nunn was born in Canada, where he received his PhD from the University of Toronto in 2005. Professor Nunn’s primary research interests are in economic history, economic development, political economy and international trade. He is an NBER Faculty Research Fellow, a Research Fellow at BREAD, and a Faculty Associate at Harvard’s Weatherhead Center for International Affairs (WCFA). He is also currently co-editor of the *Journal of Development Economics*.

One stream of Nunn’s research focuses on the long-term impact that historic events can have on current economic development. In “Historical Legacies: A Model Linking Africa’s Past to its Current Underdevelopment” (*Journal of Development Economics*, 2007), Nunn develops a game-theoretic model showing how the slave trade and colonial rule could have had permanent long-term effects on economic performance. In “The Long-Term Effects of Africa’s Slave Trades” (*Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 2008), Nunn documents the long-term adverse economic effects of Africa’s slave trades. His current research continues to examine the specific channels through which the slave trade affects current development within Africa. In “The Slave Trade and the Origins of Mistrust in Africa” (*American Economic Review*, 2011), coauthored with Leonard Wantchekon, he empirically documents how the slave trade engendered a culture of mistrust amongst the descendants of those heavily threatened by the slave trade.

A second stream of Professor Nunn’s research focuses on the importance of hold-up and incomplete contracting in international trade. He has published research showing that a country’s ability to enforce written contracts is a key determinant of comparative advantage (“Relationship-Specificity, Incomplete Contracts and the Pattern of Trade,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 2007). Other work, coauthored with Daniel Trefler, examines the relationship between the cross-industry structure of a country’s tariffs and its long-term economic growth (“The Structure of Tariffs and Long-Term Growth,” *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics*, 2010). The study identifies growth promoting benefits of a tariff structure focused in skill-intensive industries. It also shows how and why governments that succumb to political influence and rent-seeking are unable to focus tariffs in these key industries.



Discussant: Siwan Anderson

Siwan Anderson is an Associate Professor of economics at the Vancouver School of Economics, University of British Columbia. Her main area of research is development economics with a focus on micro-level institutions. Some of her work focuses on the role of gender. Recent projects include studies of rural governments and credit cooperative in India and missing women in developing countries. She is currently collecting data in rural Maharashtra, India with the aim to understand some implications of the new UID government initiative.

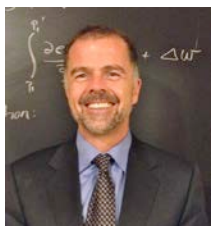
In addition to her work at UBC, Professor Anderson is an Associate, Canadian Institute for Advanced Research (CIFAR), a Fellow of the Bureau for Research and Economic Analysis of Development (BREAD), and an Associate of the Theoretical Research in Development Economics (ThReD).



a place of mind

VANCOUVER SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

Session 4: "Back to the Future of Green Powered Economies"



Speaker: Scott Taylor

M. Scott Taylor is the Canada Research Chair in International, Energy and Environmental Economics at the University of Calgary, Alberta. He is also a Research Associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) in both the International Trade and Investment, and Energy and Environmental Economics working groups and a fellow of the Beijer Institute of Ecological Economics. In addition, he is the co-leader and principle investigator of Environment Canada's Economic and Environmental Policy Research Network and a CESifo associate and a research professor at the Ifo Institute, Germany. Taylor is currently an Associate Editor of the Journal of International Economics.

Previously, he was a Co-Editor (1999-2000) and a member of Editorial Council of the Journal of Environmental Economics and Management (2000-2005), and served on the Editorial Boards of the American Economic Review (1999-2005) and the Journal of Economic Literature (2006-2010). Prior to his current position, Taylor was a Full Professor in the Department of Economics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (1998-2004), and an Assistant, Associate, and Full Professor in the Department of Economics at the University of British Columbia (1992-1998). He has also been a Visiting Scholar in the Princeton Department of Economics (1991, 2003), and a Killam Postdoctoral Fellow at the Sauder School of Business, University of British Columbia (1991). From 1995 to 1998 he was a Scholar in the Economic Growth Program of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research. In 2004, Professor Taylor's book *International Trade and the Environment: Theory and Evidence* (joint with Brian Copeland) won the Doug Purvis Prize for its outstanding contribution to Canadian Economic Policy. In 2010, he was awarded an Honorary Doctorate by the University of Basel, Switzerland for his pioneering work on trade, the environment, and renewable resources.

Professor Taylor's research focuses on the interaction of international markets, economic growth, and environmental outcomes. His most influential works examine how the level of pollution concentrations in major cities is affected by changes in industrial production brought about by international trade and/or economic growth. Other important work connects the health of biological resources such as fish and forest stocks to the pressures brought about by globalization. He has investigated the role natural resource collapses have played in the rise and fall of prehistoric societies, how growth and trade jointly determine environmental outcomes, and how access to international markets affects research, development, and long-run growth. A marked feature of his research is the use of novel methods allowing him to confront testable hypothesis with empirical evidence. Professor Taylor's publications have appeared in the American Economic Review, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Economic Studies, International Economic Review, Journal of International Economics, Journal of Environmental Economics and Management, Canadian Journal of Economics, and Resource and Energy Economics.



Discussant: Keith Head

Keith Head is a Professor in the Strategy and Business Economics division at the Sauder School of Business, University of British Columbia. He holds the HSBC Professorship in Asian Commerce. Professor Head teaches courses on international business management and government policies towards business. He obtained his B.A. at Swarthmore College in 1986 and his Ph.D. in economics (supervised by Paul Krugman) at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1991.

Professor Head's research interests include international trade, multinational enterprises, and economic geography. His recent papers include "The Economics of Cross-border Travel" (forthcoming in the *Review of Economics and Statistics*) and "Quality Sorting and Trade: Evidence from French Wine" (*The Review of Economic Studies*, 2012). His current research investigates the gains from trade and the hidden barriers to globalization.



a place of mind

VANCOUVER SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

Alumni Keynote: “*Does International Trade Raise Incomes and How Do We Know?*”



Speaker: Robert Feenstra

Robert C. Feenstra holds the C. Bryan Cameron Distinguished Chair in International Economics at the University of California, Davis. He also directs the International Trade and Investment program at the National Bureau of Economic Research, in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Feenstra has published nearly 100 articles in international trade and fifteen books, including the graduate textbook *Advanced International Trade: Theory and Evidence* (Princeton University Press, 2004), and an undergraduate textbook jointly with Alan M. Taylor, *International Economics* (Worth Publishers, 2011). His research has been supported by grants from the National Science Foundation, the Ford Foundation and the Sloan Foundation. He specializes in U.S. and global trade patterns, and has lectured in Canada, Europe, China and throughout Asia.