

Sixth Luxembourg Income Study Summer Workshop

The Luxembourg Income Study has made comparable several large microdata sets that contain comprehensive measures of income and economic well-being for a set of modern industrialized welfare states. The LIS databank currently covers Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Israel, Italy, Ireland, Poland, the Netherlands, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the United States from 1980 through 1990. Data for Taiwan, Finland, Spain, and several Eastern European nations, including Hungary and the Czech Republic, are expected to be available by 1994.

The LIS Summer Workshop is a two-week pre- and postdoctoral workshop designed to introduce young scholars in the social sciences (economics, sociology, other) to comparative research in income distribution and social policy using the LIS database. The 1993 workshop attracted 35 attendees from 19 countries. The sixth workshop will be held July 17–29, 1994, in Luxembourg. The cost will be 40,000 Belgian Francs (about \$1200), which includes tuition, local travel, and full room and board. International transportation is not included. Students are expected to be subsidized by home countries, national and international research foundations, universities, and other sources, including at least two special scholarships for Eastern European or Russian/CIS scholars sponsored by the Ford Foundation.

The language of instruction will be English. The course of study will include a mix of lectures and assistance and direction using the LIS database to explore a research issue chosen by the participant. Faculty are expected to include Frank Cowell (UK), Peter Gottschalk (US), Richard Hauser (Germany), Stephen Jenkins (UK), Shelly Phipps (Canada), and the entire LIS staff. Several topics to be analyzed in 1994 include income security programs in Eastern Europe, cross-national trends in income inequality from 1980 to 1990, the economics of gender, and comparisons between Asia and the West of income and poverty status.

Additional information, including application forms and brochures, is available from Timothy Smeeding, LIS Project Director (Professor of Economics & Public Administration, 400 Maxwell Hall, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY 13244, US); Lee Rainwater, LIS Research Director (Sociology, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA 02138, US); or Caroline de Tombeur (LIS at CEPS/INSTEAD, B.P. #65, L-7201 Walferdange, Luxembourg). Applications are due by May 2, 1994.

Small Grants workshop

The Institute and the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, jointly sponsor annual competitions for grants to researchers who wish to do work related to poverty and its amelioration.

A workshop was held at the University of Wisconsin–Madison on September 30–October 1, 1993, during which current recipients of Small Grants (Round XII of the competition) informally described their projects, commentators reacted, and all participated in open discussion. The following projects were presented.

Dwight B. Billings and Kathleen M. Blee, University of Kentucky, “Historical Origins of Chronic Poverty: A Longitudinal Case Study”

Daniela Del Boca, University of Turin, and Christopher J. Flinn, New York University, “Welfare Effects of Lump Sum and Proportionate Child Support Awards”

Barry T. Hirsch and David A. Macpherson, Florida State University, “Racial Composition, Quality Sorting, and the Black-White Wage Gap”

Harry J. Holzer, Michigan State University, “Structural Changes, Employment Outcomes, and Population Adjustments, 1970–1990”

Paul A. Jargowsky, University of Texas at Dallas, “Economic Segregation in U.S. Metropolitan Areas”

Jane E. Miller, Rutgers University, and Sanders Korenman, University of Minnesota, “Poverty, Nutritional Status, and Growth of Children in the U.S.”

Pamela J. Smock, Louisiana State University, “Women’s Economic Independence in Marriage over the Past Two Decades: Implications for Divorce and Its Economic Consequences”

Comments on these works-in-progress were made by Peter Brandon, Maria Cancian, Aimee Dechter, Linda Gordon, Robert Haveman, Daniel Meyer, Maurice MacDonald, Marsha Mailick Seltzer, Gene Summers, Franklin Wilson, and Michael Wiseman.