The Journal of Labor Economics

Race and Gender Gaps in Earnings

As part of its 2009 Community Lectures Series, The Ohio State University Department of African American and African Studies Community Extension Center presented The Race and Gender Gaps in Earnings: What’s Happened and What Does It Say? By Bruce A. Weinberg, PhD, associate professor of economics and public administration.

After years of progress, the race gap in earnings stopped closing in the late 1970s. By contrast, the gender gap, after years of stagnation, started closing around the same time. Professor Weinberg discussed reasons that the racial-wage gap is no longer closing and why the gender gap did close. His talk highlighted the increased importance of interpersonal skills in the labor market, which have favored women but hurt African Americans, especially African American men.

Bruce A. Weinberg received his PhD from the University of Chicago in 1996 before joining the faculty at Ohio State. His research has been published in journals including Economic Perspectives, The Review of Economics and Statistics, and The Race and Gender Gaps in Earnings: What’s Happened and What Does It Say?

The 2009 Lecture Series on African American Sociology Lectures is sponsored by the Martha King Center for Research and Training and the University Department of African American and African Studies. The series also hosted Dr. Ronald D. Brown from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The series was funded in part by Ohio State University’s Arts and Sciences.

Disability Services will be celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. The year 2009 marks the 20th anniversary of Disability Services, an Ohio State department offering support services for students with disabilities. Disability Services is one of the oldest programs in the country and serves one of the largest populations of students (1,600-2,400 students served last year—up from 600 in the mid 1990s). The department was founded one year after the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and many years before the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Disability Services will be celebrating its anniversary with events throughout the year. With April being the largest celebration month.

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Angeles to the historic contemporary Civil Rights movement. The research examines the intersection of contemporary U.S. culture, race, and the media in terms of African American studies, comparative race, and women of color feminism.

Last December, to celebrate the 25th International Day of Persons with Disabilities, the United Nations announced Disability Awareness Month, October 2009. This month, the United Nations is focusing attention on the human rights and dignity of persons with disabilities. The year 2009 marks the 20th anniversary of Disability Services, an Ohio State department offering support services for students with disabilities. Disability Services is one of the oldest programs in the country and serves one of the largest populations of students (1,600-2,400 students served last year—up from 600 in the mid 1990s). The department was founded one year after the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and many years before the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Disability Services will be celebrating its anniversary with events throughout the year. With April being the largest celebration month.

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Student Recruitment

The National Science Foundation awarded more than one million dollars to The Ohio State University, the State Community College, and Wright State University to implement the Ohio Alliance program. The Ohio Alliance couples research excellence with the goals of increasing diversity in the sciences and improving retention in the sciences. Diversity Update • Winter 2009

African American Male), and visiting associate professor

Randy Hodson

Kirwan Institute and the College of Education and Human Development are leading university programs that focus on the needs of African American males through holistic strategies and public policies to foster increased positive connection, personal development, and academic success. The Kirwan Institute is at the forefront of research and development in this arena, with a special emphasis on increasing awareness of the needs of African American males and national, and international efforts to create a vibrant public policy agenda focused on the needs of African American males.
Biosciences Institute, and the Office of was co-sponsored by the Department earned their doctorates in mathematics advisor for four Hispanic Americans who has been honored by the American to graduate school. For his efforts to present her research at a number of the state’s African American males. The study also found unusual benefits for Native people who had more autonomy who were more likely to experience any kind of sexual harassment. Women are often protected against the more serious kinds of sexual harassment. Hodson said, they are left to bear less severe forms due to inadequate or inappropriate classifications of acts' harm. A report mapping the dynamics of neighborhood poverty in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts was presented to Massachusetts leaders at the National Conference of State Legislatures. The report, The Geography of Opportunity and Challenges of Economic Opportunity in Massachusetts, was based on available data from the Commonwealth Institute on behalf of the Massachusetts legislature, the Mathematical Sciences Institute joined several successful Crowns Center is part of the AATB (American Association for the Advancement of Science) with the 2007 AAAS presented her research at a number of the University Career Center and policies of other cities and presented her hometown visit to encourage scholastic the Kirwan Institute joined several (continued on back panel)
A licensed psychologist, she has held many positions in the university's Division of Student Affairs. With more than 25 years experience in the field, she has been the director of the Office of Student Life at the University of Maryland in College Park, as well as equity administrator at the University of Maryland in College Park. For the past five years, she was the executive director of the Institute for Strengthening the Black Academic Community.

She has presented her research at a number of national and international conferences. She has also provided training in a specific format designed to mitigate the issues of inappropriate behavior that are often occurring in the academy. A lack of communication in these areas can lead to unfulfilled expectations for the students, often decreasing the quality of students’ lives. Breast cancer survivors at the time of her presentation, discussed how breast cancer treatment impacts communication with their peers. They said, “I am very lucky to be in a group that is very well informed in this area.”

A report mapping the dynamics of neighborhoods and the commercial areas of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts was presented at the Massachusetts Conference on Business and Government to the National Women’s Conference in Washington, D.C. The report, “The Geography of Opportunity: A Study of Economic Opportunity in Massachusetts,” was coauthored by Randy Hodson, associate professor of political science at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, and assistant professor Collette Dollarhide, visiting assistant professor of political science at the University of Florida in Gainesville.

For more information, contact Kathleen McGraw, mcgraw.36@osu.edu. (sbs.osu.edu/sbs/diversity).
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In January at numerous events we honored the memory and achievements of Martin Luther King Jr. and his contribution to the Civil Rights Movement. The 2009 Lecture Series on African American Leadership, sponsored by the Martha King Center for Public Policy and the Center for Community and Social Change, features a series of lectures intended to explore African American leadership and its impact on society. The series is part of the University’s efforts to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Disability Services.

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After years of progress, the race gap in earnings stopped closing in the late 1970s. By contrast, the gender gap, after years of stagnation, started closing around the same time. Professor Weinberg discussed reasons that the racial-wage gap is no longer closing and why the gender gap did close. His talk highlighted the increased importance of interpersonal skills in the labor market, which have favored women but hurt African Americans, especially African American men.


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**Disability Services**

In January at numerous events we honored the memory and achievements of Martin Luther King Jr., along with the current achievements of President Barack Obama. Dr. King certainly was the most memorable African American to the 20th century, just as President Obama is already the most significant African American male of the 21st century. In the 12 years between the Bus Boycott in Montgomery and the Lorraine Motel where he was killed, Dr. King accomplished so much that a single page fills with his achievements: the Nobel Prize, youngest person ever to receive it; the March on Washington; the Southern Christian Leadership Conference; the Civil Rights movement and its great achievements, the Civil Rights Act of 1960 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965; and so much more. He is especially remembered today as the true architect of the great speech he gave and his ringing voice, “I have a dream.”

President Obama will be remembered as the first African American to the electoral presidency. What other will ever remember him for? Lyndon Johnson is notable in addition to all that he accomplished, one will remember him for his intelligence and honor and for his virtues—loyalty, honor, courage, skill, flexibility, and leadership.

Both King and Obama are models of leadership. Dr. King held the view about leadership: “The urgency of the hour calls for leaders of great judgment and sound integrity—leaders not in love with money but in love with justice; leaders not in love with wealth but in love with humanity; leaders who can subject their particular egos to the greatness of the cause. The fames and privileges...often come as a result of leadership constitute only one side of the picture. The greater the privileges, the greater the responsibilities and sacrifices.”

Dr. King was speaking in the 1960s when the urgency of the hour was clear to everyone. Today, given the world we now live in, you and we should perceive a growing urgency. Now is the time for us as students and our faculty and teachers to be thinking about what world to pass on to all to build the unity that can accomplish the objectives that must be achieved for yourselves and for the rest of us.

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**Message from MAC**

Sincerely,

Mary A. Dismore