

LoWER

European Low-Wage Employment Research Network
www.uva-aias.net/lower

October 2008

Summary of Accomplishments 1996-2008

A. THREE NETWORK PHASES (with 4th, 5th and 6th Framework Programme funding)

LoWER1, *Data Analysis Policies*

January 1996 – December 1998; EU-FP4 support ECU 300,000

LoWER2, *Can Professionalising Low-skilled Consumer Services Help European Job Growth ?*

April 2000 – May 2004; EU-FP5 support Euro 517,000

LoWER3, *The Insecure Perspectives of the Low Skilled in the Knowledge Society*

July 2004 – April 2008; EU-FP6 support Euro 760,000

B. MAIN PUBLICATIONS (Books, Journal issues and Reports)

1. LOW PAY AND EARNINGS MOBILITY IN EUROPE

Editors Rita ASPLUND, Peter SLOANE and Ioannis THEODOSSIOU
Edward Elgar, Cheltenham; 200 pages, July 1998

2. LOW-WAGE EMPLOYMENT IN EUROPE

Editors Stephen BAZEN, Mary GREGORY, Wiemer SALVERDA
Edward Elgar, Cheltenham; 200 pages, December 1998

3. POLICIES FOR LOW-WAGE EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION IN EUROPE

Editors Claudio LUCIFORA and Wiemer SALVERDA
FrancoAngeli, Milano, 169 pages, October 1998

4. THE OVEREDUCATED WORKER? THE ECONOMICS OF UNDERUTILIZATION OF SKILLS

Editors Andries DE GRIP and Lex BORGHANS
Edward Elgar, 260 pages, March 2000

5. LABOUR MARKET INEQUALITIES: PROBLEMS AND POLICIES OF LOW-WAGE EMPLOYMENT IN INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE

Editors Mary GREGORY, Wiemer SALVERDA, Stephen BAZEN
Oxford University Press, 248 pages, August 2000

6. POLICY MEASURES FOR LOW-WAGE EMPLOYMENT IN EUROPE

Editors Wiemer SALVERDA, Brian NOLAN and Claudio LUCIFORA
Edward Elgar, 256 pages, November 2000

7. LOW-WAGE EMPLOYMENT IN EUROPE: PERSPECTIVES FOR IMPROVEMENT

Editors Ive MARX and Wiemer SALVERDA
ACCO, Leuven, February 2005

8. JOB QUALITY AND EMPLOYER BEHAVIOUR

Editors Stephen BAZEN, Claudio LUCIFORA and Wiemer SALVERDA
Palgrave, August 2005

9. SERVICES AND EMPLOYMENT: EXPLAINING THE US-EUROPEAN GAP

Editors Mary GREGORY, Wiemer SALVERDA and Ronald SCHETTKAT
Princeton University Press, 2007 (DEMPATEM Research Project)

10. THE OXFORD HANDBOOK OF ECONOMIC INEQUALITY

Editors Wiemer SALVERDA, Brian NOLAN and Timothy Smeeding
Oxford University Press, Dec. 2008 (in cooperation with EQUALSOC)

11. COMPANY TRAINING AND SERVICES WITH A FOCUS ON LOW SKILLS

Special issue of the *International Journal of Manpower*

Guest editors Rita ASPLUND and Wiemer SALVERDA, Volume 25 nr 1, 2004

12. WOMEN WORK AND WAGES

Special issue of *Oxford Economic Papers*

Guest editors Mary GREGORY, Miriam BEBLO, Ioannis THEODOSSIOU, and Wiemer SALVERDA
Forthcoming, March 2009

13. JOB INSECURITY AND TRAINING

Special issue of *Labour, Review of Labour Economics and Industrial Relations*

Editors Antje MERTENS, Thomas ZWICK and Wiemer SALVERDA
Forthcoming, early 2009

14. INSTITUTIONS, MARKETS AND EUROPEAN UNEMPLOYMENT REVISITED: WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED?

Special issue of *Oxford Review of Economic Policy*

Editors Ken MAYHEW and n.n., Guest Editor Wiemer SALVERDA
Forthcoming 2009

16. STATISTICAL DATA AVAILABLE ON LOW-WAGE EMPLOYMENT IN THE EUROPEAN UNION AND ITS MEMBER STATES

Special Report to European Commission

LoWER/University of Groningen, April 1997

17A. BENCHMARKING LOW-WAGE AND HIGH-WAGE EMPLOYMENT IN EUROPE AND THE UNITED STATES

A Study of New European Datasets and National Data for France, Germany, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States

Wiemer SALVERDA, Brian NOLAN, Bertrand MAÏTRE and Peter MÜHLAU
European Commission, DG Employment and Social Affairs, June 2001, 76 p.
http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/docs/study.pdf

17B. THE EUROPEAN-AMERICAN EMPLOYMENT GAP, WAGE INEQUALITY, EARNINGS MOBILITY AND SKILL: A STUDY FOR FRANCE, GERMANY, THE NETHERLANDS, THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE UNITED STATES

Final Report

Wiemer SALVERDA, Mary GREGORY and Stephen BAZEN
European Commission, DG Employment and Social Affairs, June 2001, 203 p.

C. CONFERENCES ORGANISED**1. Developments in Low-Wage Employment**

Université Montesquieu, Bordeaux, France, January 1997

2. Analysis of Low-Wage Employment

Centre for Economic Performance, London School of Economics, London, UK, December 1997

3. Policies for Low-Wage Employment and Social Exclusion in Europe

Rijksuniversiteit Groningen, the Netherlands, November 1998

4. Role of Mobility for Low and High Earnings in the European Union and the United States

University of Aberdeen, November 2000

5. Combining Work, Home and Education

Universidade do Minho, Braga, Portugal, October 2001.

6. Adapting Education and Training for the Enhancement of Low-Skilled Jobs

ETLA, Helsinki, May 2002

7. Consumption and Employment in the US and Europe: Can Product Demand Explain the Increase in the Jobs Gap between Europe and the US since the 1970s?

Amsterdam Institute for Advanced Labour Studies, Universiteit van Amsterdam, April 2003

8. High-level scientific conference Demand Patterns and Employment Growth in Europe and the United States: Consumer Demand, Production Structure and Employment

Seville, 17-18 October 2003 (DEMPATEM)

9. LoWER Annual Conference 2004

CEP/LSE, London, 23-24 April 2004

10. LoWER Dissemination Conference

CSB/UA, Antwerp, 27 May 2004

11. LoWER Annual Conference 2005

ZEW, Mannheim, 15-16 April 2005

12. LoWER Annual Conference 2006

Århus School of Business, Denmark; 28-30 April 2006

13. What Works for Women ?

Volos, Greece, 10 and 11 September 2007

14. High-level conference Economic Inequality

Seville, Spain. 23-29 September 2007 (In cooperation with EQUALSOC Network of Excellence)

15. High-level conference Institutions, Markets and European Unemployment Revisited: What Have We Learned?

Amsterdam Institute for Advanced Labour Studies, Amsterdam, 18-19 April 2008

D. CONFERENCE KEYNOTES

Peter Sloane (University of Aberdeen)

Conceptual Issues in Measurement and International Comparisons of Low-Wage Employment

Stephen Nickell (Oxford University)

Wages and Unemployment among the Unskilled (1997)

François Bourguignon (Ecole Normale Supérieure/Delta, Paris)

Changes in the French Distribution of Income since 1980: Partial Explanations

Per-Anders Edin (University of Uppsala)

Unemployment and Wage Inequality in Sweden

Richard Freeman (London School of Economics, Harvard University and NBER)

Low-Wage Employment: Is More or Less Better? (1998)

The Ten Commandments of the OECD face the Evidence in Europe and the US (2008)

Francis Kramarz (CREST-INSEE)

Interventions in the French Low-wage Labour Markets

Alan Krueger (Princeton University)

The U.S. Wage Structure, Employment and the Minimum Wage

Philip O'Connell (ESRI, Dublin)

Effectiveness of Active Labour Market Programmes

Paul Osterman (MIT)

Making Bad Jobs Good: Strategies for the Service Sector

Damian Grimshaw (UMIST)

Qualitative research on employment behaviour in low-wage labour markets – promises and limitations

Harry Holzer (Georgetown University, Washington DC)

Employers in the low-wage labor market: is their role important?

Bob Gregory (Australian National University)

Labour Economics and Labour Market Policy

John Ermisch (University of Essex)

Labour market influences on investment in children by families

Peter Gottschalk (Boston College)

Work in the New Economy

Margaret Stevens (Lincoln College and Department of Economics, Oxford University)

The Financing of Training

Barry McGaw (Directorate for Education, Employment, Labour and Social Affairs, OECD)

Can Lifelong Learning Really Be a Reality For All?

Mark Pearson (OECD-DEELSA)

The Public and Private Provision of Social Services

Duncan Ironmonger (Households Research Unit, Department of Economics, University of Melbourne, Australia)

The Market and the Household Economy

Annamaria Lusardi (Dartmouth College, Hanover New Hampshire)

Household Savings and Public Policy in the US and Europe

Jane Waldfogel, (Columbia University and CASE/LSE)

Combining Work and Family: How do Low-Income Families Fare?

Josh Angrist (MIT Department of Economics)

Using quantile regression to characterize changing wage inequality

Stephen Nickell (London School of Economics)

The LoWER lecture: Employment, Unemployment and Low Pay

Tony Atkinson (Oxford University)

Changing Inequality: The US versus Europe

Robert Gordon (Northwestern University and NBER)

Differences in Growth Patterns: Europe Chasing the American Frontier

Richard Freeman (Harvard University, NBER, London School of Economics)

Markets, Institutions, Employment

Markus Jantti (IKI, Finland)

Nature and Nurture in the Intergenerational Transmission of Socioeconomic Status: Evidence from Swedish Children and Their Biological and Rearing Parents

Denis Fougere (CNRS, CREST, Paris)

The Returns to Seniority in France (and why they are lower than in the United States)

Yves Fluckiger (Université de Genève)

Low Wages, Poverty and Labour Mobility: A Survey for Switzerland

Julia Lane (NORC at University of Chicago)

The Impact of Employers on the Outcomes of Low-wage Workers

Sheldon Danziger (U. of Michigan)

Assessing welfare reform in the U.S.: From cash assistance to low-wage employment

Inga Persson (

Some reflections on institutions and women's labour market/economic outcomes - what have we learnt?

Ronald Oaxaca (U. of Arizona)

Technological Change and Trends in the Gender Wage Gap

Joop Hartog (U. of Amsterdam)

Skilling Immigrants

George Borjas (Harvard)

The labour market impact of Immigration: What have we learned?

Klaus Zimmermann (IZA)

Migration potential and its labour-market impact after EU enlargement: A review

Emilio Reyneri (Bicocca)

Migrants and the underground economy in Southern Europe

Christian Dustmann (UCL)

The impact of immigration on the distribution of wages: new evidence for the UK

Daniela del Boca (CHILD and U. of Turin)

Women Work and Fertility

Heidi Hartmann (IWPR, Washington)

Gender, Race, and Class in the US Low-Wage Labor Market

Michael Burda (Humboldt Universität Berlin)

Temporary Employment

Giorgio Brunello (Università degli Studi di Padova)

Changes in Compulsory Schooling, Education and the Distribution of Wages in Europe

Robert Solow (MIT)*Inflation, Unemployment, Institutions – Theoretical Frontiers***Richard Freeman (London School of Economics, Harvard University and NBER)***The Ten Commandments of the OECD face the Evidence in Europe and the US***E. CURRENT CONTRACTUAL NETWORK MEMBERS**

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