

## JUDITH SCOTT-CLAYTON

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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
- 2009 – 2015        TEACHERS COLLEGE, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, Assistant Professor
- 2009 – present     COMMUNITY COLLEGE RESEARCH CENTER, Senior Research Associate

### PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2011 – present     NATIONAL BUREAU OF ECONOMIC RESEARCH, Research Associate since 2017
- 2016 – present     BROOKINGS INSTITUTION, Nonresident Senior Fellow
- 2015 – present     THE ASSOCIATION FOR EDUCATION FINANCE AND POLICY, Board of Directors
- 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 & PhD programs. Teaching: Causal Methods for Education Policy Research, Applied Labor Economics, Doctoral Research Seminar

### GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, & AWARDS

- 2016                AERA Division L (Educational Policy & Politics) Early Career Award
- 2016                National Assn. of Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA) Golden Quill Award
- 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?”
- 2010                Spencer Foundation Exemplary Dissertation Award
- 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)

### OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- 2017-18            Consultant for Ideas42 (a non-profit behavioral science research organization)
- 2017-19            Technical Working Group member, Regional Education Lab - Northwest

## **JOURNAL ARTICLES**

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**

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. [“Estimating Returns to College Attainment: Comparing Survey and State Administrative Data Based Estimates,”](#) (with Qiao Wen). A CAPSEE Working Paper (January 2017). *Submitted.*
2017. [“Labor Market Trajectories for Community College Graduates: New Evidence Spanning the Great Recession,”](#) (with Veronica Minaya). A CAPSEE Working Paper. *Submitted.*
2017. [“The Impact of Pell Grant Eligibility on Community College Students’ Financial Aid Packages, Labor Supply, and Academic Outcomes.”](#) (with Rina S.E. Park). A CAPSEE Working Paper. *Submitted.*
2016. [“Performance Standards in Need-Based Aid”](#) (with Lauren Schudde). NBER Working Paper 22713 (October 2016). *Submitted.*
2016. [“Financial Aid, Debt Management, and Socioeconomic Outcomes”](#) (with Basit Zafar). NBER Working Paper 22574 (August 2016). *Submitted.*
2016. [“Labor Market Outcomes and Postsecondary Accountability: Are Imperfect Metrics Better than None?”](#) (with Veronica Minaya). NBER Working Paper 22880 (December 2016). To be included in NBER volume on productivity in higher education, edited by Caroline Hoxby and Kevin Stange.

### **CCRC/CAPSEE WORKING PAPERS**

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.
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.

### **POLICY REPORTS**

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.”](#) Prepared for 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.
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.
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**

- 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](#).

### **REFEREE SERVICE (RANKED BY FREQUENCY):**

*Quarterly Journal of Economics, Journal of Labor Economics, Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, National Tax Journal, Journal of Public Economics, Economics of Education Review, American Economic Journal – Policy, American Economic Journal - Applied Economics, Education Finance and Policy, Review of Educational Research, B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis and Policy, Southern Economic Journal, Economic Inquiry, Economic Journal, National Science Foundation.*

### **BLOG POSTINGS AND OP-EDS:**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

[“Can Better Choice Architecture Improve College Completion Rates?”](#) Feb. 23, 2011. (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.), Jan 2011-present

### **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)

**RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS (SELECTED)**

University of Chicago Harris School, November 2016  
 NBER Education Meetings, November 2016, April 2015, November 2008, April 2007  
 Association for Education Finance and Policy (AEFP), March 2016, 2015, 2012, 2010  
 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