BPEA Fall 2020: COVID-19 and the Economy

Thursday, September 24, 2020
All times are in Eastern Standard Time.

10:00 AM  Session One: Monetary Issues and Epidemiology

“Business Credit Programs in the Pandemic Era”
Authors: Samuel G. Hanson, Harvard University; Jeremy C. Stein, Harvard University; Adi Sunderam, Harvard University; and Eric Zwick, University of Chicago
Discussant: Nellie Liang, Brookings Institution

“Epidemiological and Economic Effects of Lockdown”
Authors: Alex Arnon, University of Pennsylvania; John Ricco, University of Pennsylvania; and Kent Smetters, University of Pennsylvania
Discussant: Alessandra Fogli, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis

11:30 AM  Break

11:35 AM  Session Two: Epidemiology Across Countries and Labor Markets

“Macroeconomic Outcomes and COVID-19: A Progress Report”
Authors: Jesús Fernández-Villaverde, University of Pennsylvania; and Charles I. Jones, Stanford University
Discussant: Andrew G. Atkeson, University of California, Los Angeles

“Temporary Unemployment and Labor Market Dynamics During the COVID-19 Recession”
Authors: Jessica Gallant, University of Toronto; Kory Kroft, University of Toronto; Fabian Lange, McGill University; and Matthew J. Notowidigdo, University of Chicago
Discussant: Gabriel Chodorow-Reich, Harvard University

1:05 PM  Break

1:10 PM  Lunch break

1:55 PM  Session Three: Fiscal Policy and International

“Fiscal Effects of COVID-19”
Authors: Alan J. Auerbach, University of California, Berkeley; William Gale, Brookings Institution; Byron Lutz, Federal Reserve Board; and Louise Sheiner, Brookings Institution
Discussant: Douglas Holtz-Eakin, American Action Forum

“Will the Secular Decline in Exchange Rate and Inflation Volatility Survive COVID-19?”
Authors: Ethan Ilzetzki, London School of Economics; Carmen M. Reinhart, The World Bank; and Kenneth S. Rogoff, Harvard University
Discussant: Silvia Miranda-Agrippino, Bank of England

3:25 PM  Break
3:30 PM  Session Four: Business Dynamics and Policy

“Has the Paycheck Protection Program Succeeded?”
Authors: Glenn Hubbard, Columbia University; and Michael R. Strain, American Enterprise Institute
Discussant: Eric Zwick, University of Chicago

“Sizing Up Corporate Restructuring in the COVID Crisis”
Authors: Robin Greenwood, Harvard University; Ben Iverson, Brigham Young University; and David Thesmar, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Discussant: Edith Hotchkiss, Boston College

5:00 PM  Conference ends