

DAVID J. DEMING
Isabelle and Scott Black Professor of Political Economy

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Personal Website
Google Scholar Profile

Primary Academic Positions

2021– Isabelle and Scott Black Professor of Political Economy, Harvard Kennedy School
2020– Faculty Dean of Kirkland House
2024–25 Visiting Professor, MIT Department of Economics
2021–24 Academic Dean, Harvard Kennedy School
2019–22 Faculty Director, Malcolm Wiener Center for Social Policy
2017-19 Faculty Director, Stone Program in Wealth Distribution, Inequality, and Social Policy
2016–20 Professor of Public Policy, Harvard Kennedy School
2016– Professor, Harvard Graduate School of Education
2011-16 Assistant and Associate Professor, Harvard Graduate School of Education
2010-11 Assistant Professor of Public Policy and Economics, Carnegie Mellon University

Other Selected Positions

2022– Associate Editor, *Journal of Economic Perspectives*
2020– Faculty Lead, Harvard Project on Workforce
2019–2022 *New York Times Economic View*, Columnist
2019–2022 Member, BLS Technical Advisory Committee
2018–2021 Coeditor, *AEJ: Applied*
2018– Faculty Affiliate, J-PAL
2017- Principal Investigator, CLIMB Initiative
2016– Research Associate, NBER
2016–17 Coeditor, *Journal of Human Resources*
2016–17 Board of Editors, *AEJ: Policy*
2013– Member, CESifo Research Network (Economics of Education)

Education

- 2010 HARVARD UNIVERSITY
Ph.D. in Public Policy, Harvard Kennedy School
- 2005 UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA-BERKELEY
M.P.P., Goldman School of Public Policy
- 2002 THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
B.S./B.A. in Economics and Political Science

Publications in Economics

- “Skills and Human Capital in the Labor Market” (with Mikko Silliman) , *Handbook of Labor Economics, forthcoming.*
- “The School to Prison Pipeline: Long-Run Impacts of School Suspensions on Adult Crime” (with Andrew Bacher-Hicks and Steve Billings), *AEJ: Policy, forthcoming.*
- 2023 “Multidimensional Human Capital and the Wage Structure” , *Handbook of the Economics of Education, Volume 7, 469-504.*
- 2022 “Four Facts about Human Capital” , *Journal of Economic Perspectives, 36(3): 75-102.*
- 2021 “Team Players: How Social Skills Improve Group Performance” (with Ben Weidmann), *Econometrica, 89(6): 2637-2657.*
- 2020 “Earnings Dynamics, Changing Job Skills, and STEM Careers” (with Kadeem Noray), *Quarterly Journal of Economics, 135(4): 1965-2005.*
- 2020 “Providing Performance Information in Education: An Experimental Evaluation in Colombia” (with Felipe Barrera-Osorio, Kathryn Gonzalez and Francisco Lagos), *Journal of Public Economics, 186: 104185.*
- 2020 “Structural Increases in Skill Demand after the Great Recession” (with Peter Blair), *American Economic Association Papers and Proceedings, 110: 362-365.*
- 2019 “Toward understanding the impact of artificial intelligence on labor” (with Morgan Frank, David Autor, James Bessen, Erik Brynjolfsson, Manuel Cebrian, Maryann Feldman, Matthew Groh, Jose Lobo, Esteban Moro, Dashun Wang, Hyejin Youn, and Iyad Rahwan), *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, 201900949.*
- 2019 “Partners in Crime” (with Steve Billings and Steve Ross) , *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, 11(1): 126-150.*
- 2018 “Skill Requirements across Firms and Labor Markets: Evidence from Job Postings for Professionals” (with Lisa Kahn), *Journal of Labor Economics, 36.S1: S337-S369.*
- 2017 “The Growing Importance of Social Skills in the Labor Market” , *Quarterly Journal of Economics, 132(4): 1593-1640.*
- 2016 “School Accountability, Postsecondary Attainment and Earnings” (with Sarah Cohodes, Jennifer Jennings and Sandy Jencks), *Review of Economics and Statistics, 98(5): 848-862.*
- 2016 “The Value of Postsecondary Credentials in the Labor Market: An Experimental Study” (with Noam Yuchtman, Amira Abulafi, Claudia Goldin and Lawrence Katz), *American Economic Review, 106(3): 778-806.*

- 2016 “Accountability in U.S. Higher Education: Applying Lessons from K-12 Experience to Higher Education” (with David Figlio), *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 30(3): 33-56.
- 2015 “Can Online Learning Bend the Higher Education Cost Curve?” (with Claudia Goldin, Lawrence Katz and Noam Yuchtman), *American Economic Review Papers & Proceedings*, 105(5): 496-501.
- 2014 “Using School Choice Lotteries to Test Measures of School Effectiveness”, *American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings*, 104(5): 406-411.
- 2014 “School Choice, School Quality and Postsecondary Attainment” (with Justine Hastings, Tom Kane and Doug Staiger) *American Economic Review*, 104(3): 991-1014.
- 2014 “School Segregation, Educational Attainment and Crime: Evidence from the End of Busing in Charlotte-Mecklenburg” (with Steve Billings and Jonah Rockoff), *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 129(1): 435-476.
- 2012 “The For-Profit Postsecondary Education Sector: Nimble Critters or Agile Predators?” (with Claudia Goldin and Lawrence Katz), *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 26(1): 139-164.
- 2011 “Better Schools, Less Crime?” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 126(4): 2063-2115.
- 2009 “Early Childhood Intervention and Life-Cycle Skill Development: Evidence from Head Start” *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 1(3): 111-134.
- 2008 “The Lengthening of Childhood” (with Susan Dynarski), *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 22(3): 71-92.

Working Papers (see website or email me for the most current draft)

- “Why Do Wages Grow Faster for Educated Workers?”, NBER Working Paper No. 31373, *Journal of Labor Economics*, conditionally accepted.
- “Diversifying Society’s Leaders? The Causal Effects of Admission to Highly Selective Private Colleges” (with Raj Chetty and John Friedman), NBER Working Paper No. 31492, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, revise and resubmit.
- “The Rapid Adoption of Generative AI” (with Alex Bick and Adam Blandin), NBER Working Paper No. 32966, under review.
- “How Do You Find a Good Manager?” (with Ben Weidmann, Joe Vecchi, Farah Said, and Sonia Bhalotra), NBER Working Paper No. 32699, under review.
- “Economic Decision-Making Skill Predicts Income in Two Countries” (with Andrew Caplin, Soren Leth-Petersen, and Ben Weidmann), NBER Working Paper No. 31674, under review.
- “The Growing Importance of Decision-Making on the Job”, NBER Working Paper No. 28733.
- “The Impacts of State Budget Cuts on U.S. Postsecondary Attainment” (with Chris Walters), NBER Working Paper No. 23736, revise and resubmit, *Journal of Human Resources*.

Other Academic Publications, Conference Volumes and Policy Writing

- “A Young Person’s Guide to Lawrence F. Katz” (with David Autor), in preparation for the *Palgrave Companion to Harvard Economics*.
- 2024 “Break Up Big Econ”, *The Atlantic*, September.

- 2024 "The Worst Way to Do College Admissions", *The Atlantic*, March
- 2023 "The Single Biggest Fix for Inequality at Elite Colleges", *The Atlantic*, December.
- 2023 "The College Backlash is Going Too Far", *The Atlantic*, October.
- 2023 "Navigating Public Job Training" (with Alexis Gable, Rachel Lipson, and Arkadijs Zvaigzne), Harvard Project on Workforce working paper, March.
- 2022 "Education and Innovation" (with Barbara Biasi and Petra Moser), in *The Role of Innovation and Entrepreneurship and Economic Growth*, University of Chicago Press.
- 2021 "Balancing Privacy with Data Sharing for the Public Good", *New York Times Economic View*, February.
- 2020 "Community Colleges can be Engines of Economic Recovery", *New York Times Economic View*, September.
- 2020 "Online Learning Should Return to a Supporting Role", *New York Times Economic View*, April.
- 2020 "The Robots Are Coming. Prepare for Trouble", *New York Times Economic View*, January.
- 2019 "In the Salary Race, Engineers Spring but English Majors Endure", *New York Times Economic View*, September.
- 2019 "Tuition Free College Could Cost Less Than You Think", *New York Times Economic View*, July.
- 2019 "The Economics of Free College", *Economists for Inclusive Prosperity Policy Brief*, June.
- 2018 "The Competitive Effects of Online Education", (with Mike Lovenheim and Rich Patterson), forthcoming in *Productivity in Higher Education* (Caroline Hoxby and Kevin Stange, eds.) Also published as NBER Working Paper No. 22749.
- 2017 "The Value of Soft Skills in the Labor Market", *NBER Reporter*, No.4, December.
- 2017 "Can States Take Over and Turn Around School Districts? Evidence from Lawrence, Massachusetts" (with Beth Schueler and Josh Goodman), *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*, 39(2): 311-332.
- 2017 "Increasing College Completion with a Federal Higher Education Matching Grant," *The Hamilton Project Policy Proposal*, April.
- 2015 "Do Differences in School Quality Matter More Than We Thought? New Evidence on Educational Opportunity in the 21st Century" (with Jennifer Jennings, Sandy Jencks, Maya Lopuch and Beth Schueler), *Sociology of Education*, 88(1): 56-82.
- 2013 "For Profit Colleges" (with Claudia Goldin and Lawrence Katz). *The Future of Children*, 23(1): 137-163.
- 2013 "Don't Expect Big Gains from Universal Pre-K", *New York Times*, Room for Debate, February.
- 2012 "Expanding Access: Response to James Heckman", *Boston Review*, Forum on Promoting Social Mobility, September/October.
- 2012 "Does School Choice Reduce Crime? Evidence from North Carolina." *Education Next*, 12(2): 71-76.
- 2010 "Into College, Out of Poverty? Policies to Increase the Postsecondary Attainment of the Poor" (with Susan Dynarski), in *Targeting Investments in Children: Fighting Poverty When Resources Are Limited*, Philip Levine and David Zimmerman (eds.), University of Chicago Press.

Major Honors and Awards

- 2023 W.J. Usery Distinguished Lecture
- 2022 Sherwin Rosen Prize for Outstanding Contributions to Labor Economics
- 2018 David N. Kershaw Prize for Distinguished Contributions to Public Policy and Management
- 2016-2017 Excellence in Refereeing Award, *American Economic Review*
- 2015 Association for Education Finance and Policy (AEFP) Early Career Award
- 2013 William T. Grant Scholar, *The Long-Run Influence of School Accountability: Impacts, Mechanisms and Policy Implications*.

Major Grants

- 2024-26 Leveraging Data and Technology for Community College Systems Transformation, *Axim Collaborative*, \$536,400.
- 2022-24 The Skills Lab (co-PI Ben Weidmann), *Schmidt Futures*, \$1,500,000.
- 2022-26 The Project on Workforce: Navigating Career Pathways / Building Pathways to Good Jobs, *WalMart Foundation*, \$2,250,000.
- 2022-24 The College to Career Connection: A Research and Practice Initiative, *Capital One Foundation*, \$700,000.
- 2022 The Workforce Almanac: Mapping the U.S. Workforce Development Sector, *Urban Institute and Strada Education Network*, \$1,060,000.
- 2013 William T. Grant Scholar, *The Long-Run Influence of School Accountability: Impacts, Mechanisms and Policy Implications*.
- 2011 Returns in the For-Profit Sector (co-PIs Claudia Goldin and Lawrence Katz), *Institute for Education Sciences (IES), Center for Analysis of Postsecondary Education and Employment (CAPSEE)*, Columbia University Teachers' College.
- 2010 Evaluating School Performance Using Long-Term Measures of Student Outcomes (co-PI Jennifer Jennings), *Spencer Foundation*, \$525,388, 2010-2013.

Recent Courses Taught

- 2024-25 Public Economics and Fiscal Policy I (Econ 2450A, Harvard Economics Department)
- 2020-21 Quantitative Analysis and Empirical Methods (API-201, HKS)
- 2016-20 The Causes and Consequences of Inequality (Economics 1084, Harvard College; SUP-206, HKS)
- 2018-20 The Causes and Consequences of Inequality (Freshman Seminar 71N, Harvard College)
- 2016-18 Proseminar on Inequality and Social Policy (Doctoral, HKS)
- 2016-17 Education Policy and Program Evaluation Core Seminar (Doctoral, HGSE)