

VITA

MELISSA S. WATERS, Ph.D.

Professor of Economics
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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, Louisiana State University, August 1989
M.A., Economics, Kansas State University, May 1983
B.A., Economics, Kansas State University, May 1980

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Professor of Economics, Southern University, August 2006-present.
Associate Professor of Economics, Southern University (with tenure 2003), August 2002-2006.
Associate Professor of Economics, UL-Lafayette (with tenure 1997), 1999-2002.
Assistant Professor of Economics, UL-Lafayette, 1991-1999.
Visiting Assistant Professor of Economics, UL-Lafayette, 1990-1991.
Assistant Professor of Economics, Appalachian State University, 1989-1990.
Graduate Teaching Assistant, Louisiana State University, 1986-1989.

COURSES TAUGHT

Undergraduate Econometrics, Statistics for Business and Economics, Quantitative Methods I and II (Ph.D. Level), MBA Statistics, Quantitative Forecasting Methods, Business Cycles and Forecasting, MBA Managerial Economics, Principles of Microeconomics, Principles of Macroeconomics.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Applied Microeconomics, Economics of Household Behavior, Economics of Religion.

PUBLICATIONS IN REFEREED JOURNALS

"Welfare Reform and the Spread of HIV." 2011. *REVIEW OF APPLIED ECONOMICS* 7(1-2):1-15. Rand W. Ressler, Melissa S. Waters, R. Carter Hill.

"Theoretical Determinants of Catholic Annulment Rates in the United States." 2006. *E-JOURNAL OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC ISSUES* 1(1). Will Carrington Heath, Melissa S. Waters, Rand W. Ressler.

"An Economic Model of Sexually Transmitted Diseases." 2006. *THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF ECONOMICS AND SOCIOLOGY* 65(4):943-961. Rand W. Ressler, Melissa S. Waters, John Keith Watson.

"Welfare Payments and the Spread of HIV in the United States." 2005. *CONTEMPORARY ECONOMIC POLICY* 23(1):40-49. Rand W. Ressler, Melissa S. Waters, R. Carter Hill, and John Keith Watson.

"Female Earnings and the Divorce Rate: A Simultaneous Equations Model." 2000. *APPLIED ECONOMICS* 32:1889-1898. Rand W. Ressler and Melissa S. Waters.

"An Economic Model of Cohabitation and Divorce." 1999. *JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC BEHAVIOR AND ORGANIZATION* 40:195-206. Melissa S. Waters and Rand W. Ressler.

"The Determinants of State Per Capita Income." 1999. *JOURNAL OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVES* 24(2):95-101. Bruce C. Payne, Philip A. Boudreaux, and Melissa S. Waters.

"The Economic Effects of Three Branches of American Protestantism: Strict Fundamentalists, Evangelicals, and Liberal Protestants." 1996. *RIVISTA INTERNAZIONALE DI SCIENZE ECONOMICHE E COMMERCIALI* 43(2):251-265. Melissa S. Waters and Will Carrington Heath.

"A Positive Model of the Determination of Religious Affiliation." 1995. *SOCIAL SCIENCE QUARTERLY* 76(1):105-123. Melissa S. Waters, Will Carrington Heath, and John Keith Watson.

"The Economics of Cohabitation." 1995. *KYKLOS* 48:577-592. Rand W. Ressler and Melissa S. Waters.

"Religion and Economic Welfare: An Empirical Analysis of State Per Capita Income." 1995. *JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC BEHAVIOR AND ORGANIZATION* 27:129-142. Will Carrington Heath, Melissa S. Waters, and John Keith Watson.

"Going Private: A Financial Profile." 1995. *JOURNAL OF FINANCIAL AND STRATEGIC DECISION-MAKING* 8(3):53-59. Spuma M. Rao, Melissa S. Waters, and Bruce C. Payne.

"Estimation of a Simultaneous Equations Model with an Ordinal Endogenous Variable: The Extent of Teacher Bargaining and the State Legal Environment." 1995. *JOURNAL OF ECONOMICS AND FINANCE* 19(2):45-63. R. Carter Hill and Melissa S. Waters.

"A Simultaneous-Equations Model of the Relationship Between Public Sector Bargaining Legislation and Unionization." 1994. *JOURNAL OF LABOR RESEARCH* 15(4):355-372. Melissa S. Waters, R. Carter Hill, William J. Moore, and Robert J. Newman.

"The Theory of Economic Regulation and Public Choice and the Determinants of Public Sector Bargaining Legislation." 1990. *PUBLIC CHOICE* 66(2):161-175. Melissa S. Waters and William J. Moore.

CURRENT RESEARCH/WORKING PAPERS

"The Impact of Welfare Reform on Rates of Abortion." Rand W. Ressler, Melissa S. Waters, and R. Carter Hill.

"Cameras in the Courtroom: Determinants of State-Wide Variations in Judicial Openness." Melissa S. Waters and Will Carrington Heath.

ABSTRACTS and PROCEEDINGS PUBLISHED

"Entrepreneurial and Business Activity in the United States from 1992 to 2002: A Lost Decade for Black Businesses?" 2007. Eric Horent and Melissa S. Waters. *Reading Book* June/July. The National Conference of the Academy of Business Administration.

"The Theory of Economic Regulation and Public Choice and the Determinants of Public Sector Bargaining Legislation." *International Political Science Abstracts* 41(3):41.2659. Melissa S. Waters and William J. Moore.

"A Positive Model of the Determinants of Church Membership." *The Southwestern Journal* 1992, 13(1). Melissa S. Waters, Will C. Heath, and John K. Watson.

"Religion and Economic Welfare: An Empirical Analysis of State Per Capita Income." *The Southwestern Journal of Economic Abstracts* 1993, 14(1):36. Will C. Heath, Melissa S. Waters, and John K. Watson.

PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURES

"Collinearity Diagnostics in Gretl." Presented at the 4th Annual Gretl Conference. June 2015. Berlin, Germany. Lee C. Adkins, Melissa S. Waters and R. Carter Hill.

"Crime Severity and Housing Price: Evidence from a Panel of 20 Metropolitan Areas." Presented at the Academy of Economics and Finance Meetings. February 2015. Jacksonville, FL. Eric Horent

and Melissa S. Waters

“The Impact of Welfare Reform on Rates of Abortion.” Presented at the SEA Meetings. November 2012. New Orleans, LA. Rand W. Ressler, Melissa S. Waters, and R. Carter Hill.

“From Welfare to Welfare Reform: Consequences of Changes in Fertility Behavior.” Invited Lecture. Department of Accounting, Economics and Finance. Texas A & M University-Commerce. Commerce, TX. March 23, 2009. Rand W. Ressler, Melissa S. Waters, and R. Carter Hill.

“Entrepreneurial and Business Activity in the United States from 1992 to 2002: A Lost Decade for Black Businesses?” Eric Horent and Melissa S. Waters. ***Presentations:***
The National Conference of the Academy of Business Administration. Denver, Colorado: April 2007.
The Conference of the Academy of Economics and Finance. Jacksonville, Florida: February 2007.

“Welfare Reform and the Spread of HIV.” Presented at the Southern Economic Association Meeting. Charleston, SC: November 2006. Rand W. Ressler, Melissa S. Waters, and R. Carter Hill.

"X-files Econometrics, Episode 37: The Hausman Test." Viera Chmelarova, R. Carter Hill, and Melissa S. Waters. ***Invited Lectures:***
Microeconometrics Workshops. Centre for Microeconometrics. The University of Melbourne. Melbourne, Australia: May 10, 2006.
Department of Economics and Finance. Texas A&M University-Commerce. Commerce, TX: February 3, 2006.
Department of Economics and Legal Studies Seminar Series. Oklahoma State University. Stillwater, OK: April 8, 2005.

“The Hausman Test, and Some Alternatives, with Heteroskedastic Data.” Viera Chmelarova, R. Carter Hill, and Melissa S. Waters. Invited Lecture. Econometrics and Business Statistics Seminars. Monash University. Melbourne, Australia: May 5, 2006.

“An Economic Model of the Demand for Catholic Annulments.” Presented at the Southern Economic Association Meeting. New Orleans, LA: November 2004. W. C. Heath, Melissa S. Waters, and Rand W. Ressler.

“Welfare Payments and the Spread of Aids in the United States.” Invited Lecture. Department of Economics Seminar Series. Mississippi State University. Starkville, MS: September 26, 2003. Rand W. Ressler, Melissa S. Waters, R. Carter Hill, and John Keith Watson.

“An Economic Model of Marriage, Divorce, and Earnings.” Presented at Tulane University for the Newcomb College Conference *Facing Facts: Research, Policy and Grassroots Perspectives on Women in Louisiana*. New Orleans, LA: September 2002. Melissa S. Waters.

"AFDC Payments and the Spread of AIDS: An Empirical Note." Presented at the Southern Economic Association Meeting. New Orleans, LA: November 1999. Rand W. Ressler, Melissa S. Waters and John Keith Watson.

"Male and Female Earnings and Divorce Rates: A Simultaneous Model." Presented at the Southern Economic Association Meeting. Washington, D. C.: November 1996. Melissa S. Waters and Rand W. Ressler.

"An Economic Model of Cohabitation and Divorce." Presented at the Southern Economic Association Meeting. New Orleans, LA: November 1995. Melissa S. Waters and Rand W. Ressler.

"A Positive Model of the Determination of Religious Affiliation." Melissa S. Waters, Will C. Heath, and John K. Watson. ***Presentations:***

Australasian Meeting of the Econometric Society. University of New England, New South Wales, Australia: July 1994.

American Economic Association Meeting. Anaheim, California: January 1993.

Southwestern Economic Association Meeting. Austin, Texas: March 1992.

"An Economic Analysis of the Protestant Split: Fundamentalists versus Nonfundamentalists." Presented at the Southern Economic Association Meeting. New Orleans, LA: November 1993. Melissa S. Waters and Will C. Heath.

"Going Private: A Financial Profile." Presented at the Southern Finance Association Meeting. New Orleans, LA: November 1993. Spuma M. Rao, Melissa S. Waters, and Bruce C. Payne.

"Private vs. Public Ownership: Information Asymmetry and Agency Costs." Presented at the Eastern Finance Association Meeting. Richmond, VA: April 1993. Spuma M. Rao, Melissa S. Waters, and Bruce C. Payne.

"Religion and Economic Welfare: An Empirical Analysis of State Per Capita Income." Presented at the Southwestern Economic Association Meeting. New Orleans, LA: March 1993. Will C. Heath, Melissa S. Waters, and John K. Watson.

"The Relationship Between the Extent of Teachers' Bargaining and the State Legal Environment: A Simultaneous Model." Presented at the Southern Economic Association Meeting. Nashville, Tennessee: November 1991. R. Carter Hill and Melissa S. Waters.

"A Simultaneous Equations Model of the Relationship Between Public Sector Bargaining Legislation and Unionization." Presented at the Southwestern Economic Association Meeting. San Antonio, Texas: March 1991. Melissa S. Waters, R. Carter Hill, William J. Moore, and Robert J. Newman.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Associate Editor. E-Journal of Business and Economic Issues. 2006-present.

Referee. *Social Science Quarterly, Contemporary Economic Policy, Journal of Macroeconomics, Journal of Business Research, E-Journal of Business and Economic Issues.*

Commission Member. Louisiana Women's Policy and Research Commission. 2000-2004.