

# BENJAMIN B. LOCKWOOD

---

ben.lockwood@wharton.upenn.edu

bepp.wharton.upenn.edu/profile/benlo

## CURRENT POSITION

Assistant Professor of Business Economics and Public Policy,  
The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, 2016–present

National Bureau of Economic Research, Faculty Research Fellow, 2017–present

## RESEARCH AND TEACHING FIELDS

Public Economics, Applied Microeconomics, Behavioral Economics

## EDUCATION

PhD in Business Economics. Harvard University, May 2016

Dissertation title: “Essays in Optimal Taxation”

Advisors: Raj Chetty, Nathaniel Hendren, David Laibson, Matthew Weinzierl

BA in Economics, Philosophy *summa cum laude*, Amherst College, May 2008

## PUBLICATIONS

“Ramsey Strikes Back: Optimal Commodity Taxes and Redistribution in the Presence of Saliency” (with Hunt Allcott and Dmitry Taubinsky)  
*American Economic Association Papers and Proceedings*, Vol. 108, no. 5, forthcoming.

“Taxation and the Allocation of Talent” (with Charles Nathanson and Glen Weyl),  
*Journal of Political Economy*, Vol. 125, no. 5, Oct 2017, pp. 1635–1682.

“Positive and Normative Judgments Implicit in U.S. Tax Policy”  
(with Matthew Weinzierl)  
*Journal of Monetary Economics*, Vol. 77, Feb. 2016, pp. 30–47.

“De Gustibus non est Taxandum: Heterogeneity in Preferences and Optimal Redistribution” (with Matthew Weinzierl)  
*Journal of Public Economics*, Vol. 124, Apr. 2015, pp. 74–80.

“Stuck in the Middle: Impacts of Grade Configuration in Public Schools”  
(with Jonah Rockoff)  
*Journal of Public Economics*, Vol. 94, Dec. 2010 pp. 1051–1061.

#### **WORKING PAPERS**

“Regressive Sin Taxes, with an Application to the Optimal Soda Tax”  
(with Hunt Allcott and Dmitry Taubinsky)

“Should We Tax Soda? An Overview of Theory and Evidence”  
(with Hunt Allcott and Dmitry Taubinsky)

“Optimal Income Taxation with Present Bias”

#### **OTHER WRITING**

“What If Socially Useful Jobs Were Taxed Less Than Other Jobs?”  
(with Charles Nathanson and E. Glen Weyl)  
*Harvard Business Review* (10/11/2017)

#### **HONORS AND AWARDS**

National Tax Association Doctoral Dissertation Award, 2016

Roger Martin Award for Excellence in Doctoral Research,  
Harvard University, 2015

Certificates of Distinction in Teaching, Bok Center for Teaching and Learning,  
Harvard University, 2014, 2015

Sandra Ohrn Family Graduate Student Dissertation Fellowship, 2015–2016

Beinecke Scholarship for Graduate Studies, 2007

## **TEACHING**

MGEC 611: Managerial Economics (MBA), Wharton, 2016

MGEC 612: Managerial Economics (MBA), Wharton, 2017

MGEC 611 / 612: Managerial Economics (MBA), Wharton, 2018

## **INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

2018 (including scheduled): American Economic Association Annual Meeting, Michigan State University Applied Microeconomics Seminar, Society for Benefit Cost Analysis Annual Conference, NBER Spring Public Finance Meeting, Columbia Applied Microeconomics Seminar, University of Bonn Applied Micro Workshop, University of Cologne Center for Macroeconomic Research Seminar, Yale Labor and Public Economics Seminar.

2017: University of Michigan Public Economics Seminar, Brown Applied Microeconomics Seminar, Wharton Applied Economics Seminar, Penn Law & Policy Workshop, National Tax Association Annual Conference.

2016: Cornell Public Finance and Behavioral Economics Workshop, Normative Ethics and Welfare Economics Conference, National Tax Association Annual Conference.

2015: Carnegie Rochester NYU Conference on Public Policy, American Economic Association Annual Meeting.

2014: National Tax Association Annual Conference, Meeting of the Society for Social Choice and Welfare.

2013: Princeton Social Choice and Public Economics Workshop.

2012: National Tax Association Annual Meeting.

## **ACADEMIC SERVICE**

Journal reviewing: *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, *American Economic Review*, *American Political Science Review*, *Contemporary Economic Policy*, *Econometrica*, *Economica*, *Economic Inquiry*, *Fiscal Studies*, *Journal of the European Economic Association*, *Journal of Economic Inequality*, *Journal of Human Resources*, *Journal of Law, Economics, and*

*Organization, Journal of Health Economics, Journal of Political Economy, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Public Economic Theory, National Tax Journal, Review of Economics and Statistics, Review of Economic Studies, Social Choice and Welfare, Quarterly Journal of Economics.*

Grant reviewing: *National Science Foundation.*

Conference organizing (including scheduled): Organizer, "Normative Ethics and Welfare Economics Conference," 2018. Scientific Committee Member, International Institute for Public Finance Annual Congress, 2018. "Behavioral Public Finance" Field Organizer, NTA Annual Meetings, 2018.

## **MEDIA**

"Measuring the Effectiveness of Philly's Sugary Drink Sin Tax"  
National Public Radio: Philadelphia WHYY (03/06/2017)

"Do Sin Taxes Really Work?" Yahoo Finance (03/05/2017)

"Building a Better Earned Income Tax Credit"  
Knowledge@Wharton podcast (01/19/2017)

"Do 'Sin Taxes' Really Change Consumer Behavior?"  
Knowledge@Wharton podcast (02/02/2017)

"The Case for a Maximum Wage" Vox (08/06/2014)

"Study: Tax Hikes Could Grow the Economy" Vox (04/20/2014)

"Taxation and the Distorted Allocation of Talent"  
Marginal Revolution (04/05/2014)

Updated August 2018.