

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Survey Research Center

CALL FOR PAPERS

Conference on New Evidence for Understanding Economic Decisionmaking

September 5-6, 2008
Jackson Lake Lodge, WY

Households must make complex decisions concerning consumption and saving, retirement, health care, financial investments, and purchase of insurance. While the quality of decisions is difficult to measure there is considerable evidence that in some situations individuals leave "money on the table." This conference will bring together researchers presenting new evidence from surveys, experiments (particularly field experiments), and clinical studies on such economic decisionmaking and quantifying how and why economic decisions differ from the predictions of the standard economic model. Of particular interest is evidence on how cognition and non-cognitive factors (e.g., personality, emotion) affect economic decisionmaking and how economic decisionmaking and these factors interact as individuals age or their health changes. We also encourage papers that advance our knowledge of how to translate results from laboratory experiments into survey questions in large population-based surveys such as the HRS. Submissions from economists, psychologists, and other social scientists and from neuroscientists are encouraged.

This conference is supported by the Program Project "Behavior on Surveys and in the Economy Using the HRS" sponsored by the National Institute on Aging.

Conference co-organizers: Michael Hurd (Rand), Norbert Schwarz (Michigan), Matthew Shapiro (Michigan), and Robert Willis (Michigan). The conference will support costs of travel and lodging.

Completed papers and abstracts of work in progress will be considered. Please send submissions by April 30, 2008 in the form of a PDF file to

Heather Hewett
Survey Research Center
University of Michigan
Heatherh@isr.umich.edu