ANDREW J MORGAN

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EDUCATION

University of Illinois at Chicago

Expected May 2021

Doctor of Philosophy in Economics

Fields: Applied Microeconomics, Labor Economics, Economics of Education

University of New Hampshire

2014

Master of Arts in Economics

University of Oklahoma

2013

Bachelor of Arts in Economics, cum laude

WORKING PAPERS

Job Market Paper

"Understanding Incentives in Subjective Evaluations: Evidence from Educators"

Employee evaluation is a central function of any firm, yet implementing a system that aligns incentives between the firm, employees, and supervisors while providing meaningful feedback remains a difficult task. Supervisor ratings that are more lenient and more compressed than the underlying distribution of employee productivity remain a subject of concern for organizations in the public and private sectors. I investigate the use of subjective evaluations in a novel setting in a large, urban public school district in which supervisors are penalized for reporting ratings that misalign with an objective measure of individual employee productivity. First, I document that subjective evaluations of teachers consistently increased throughout my sample period, with mixed evidence on the relationship of this increase to teacher productivity. I then turn to investigating the mechanisms by which ratings assignment could be influenced by the incentives principals and teachers face in this system. I document no evidence that supervisors alter their rating behavior in response to the penalty, using a difference in differences approach to determine that teachers who were and were not included in the penalty calculation received no different ratings after the introduction of the penalty. Using regression discontinuity and difference in discontinuity estimates I also find that teachers who are marginally close to a salary increase and thus face a strong financial incentive for higher ratings are assigned higher ratings that do not correspond to productivity improvements. Finally, observation scores appear to rise with every repeated interaction with a supervisor, accounting for other factors that may influence productivity, but whether this reflects increased productivity or more lenient ratings is less clear.

"Getting Effective Educators into Hard-to-staff Schools" (with Nguyen, M., Hanushek, E., Ost, B., and Rivkin, S.)

"Elementary and Middle School Principal Effects on Future Academic, Behavioral, and Labor-Market Outcomes" (with Hanushek, E., Rivkin, S., Schiman, J., and Sartain, L.)

WORKS IN PROGRESS

"A Synthetic Control Analysis of Educator Compensation Reform" (with Hanushek, E., Luo, J., Nguyen, M., Ost, B., and Rivkin, S.)

"Understanding Stability of Value-added in a High Stakes Setting"

PUBLIC REPORTS

Morgan, A. J., Nguyen, M., Ost, B., & Rivkin, S. (2020). A Consideration of Educator Evaluation and Compensation Reform. Hoover Institution.

Morgan, A. J., & Feigenberg, B. (2017). A Statistical Analysis of TNP and Taxi Driving Behaviors and Public Safety Outcomes. Report for City of Chicago-Business Affairs & Consumer Protection

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant

Fall 2015-Fall 2020

For Dr. Steven Rivkin

- Utilized confidential administrative data on academic, labor force and criminal activities for individuals who had attended the Chicago and Texas public school systems
- Performed data analysis on the impacts of education reforms in the Dallas public schools system

Independent Contractor

May 2017 - November 2017

University of Chicago Urban Labs

- Cleaned and analyzed administrative data culminating in a report on criminal activity in the taxi and rideshare sectors for the City of Chicago
- Coordinated with policy-making partners in the Office of the Mayor of Chicago to deliver a public facing report on a strict deadline

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Econometrics Spring 2020

Instructor

Intermediate Microeconomics Fall 2013, Spring 2018

Teaching Assistant

Econometrics Fall 2014 -Spring 2015

Teaching Assistant

Health Economics Spring 2014

Teaching Assistant

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

Economics Active Research Lunch

October 2020

University of Illinois at Chicago, Presentation

Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management

November 2018

Washington, D.C., Presentation

Association for Education Finance and Policy

March 2018

Portland, OR, Presentation

SKILLS AND MISCELLANEOUS

Stata, LATEX, R, MS Office

U.S. Citizenship

REFERENCES

Chair: Dr. Steven Rivkin

Professor of Economics University of Illinois at Chicago sgrivkin@uic.edu (312)413-2368

Dr. Ben Ost

Associate Professor of Economics University of Illinois at Chicago bost@uic.edu (312)996-3913

Dr. Javaeria Qureshi

Associate Professor of Economics University of Illinois at Chicago javaeria@uic.edu (312)355-3216