

JAVIER OLIVERA

<http://www.econ.kuleuven.be/public.economics/Members/javier.htm>
javier.olivera@econ.kuleuven.be

Contact Information

Catholic University of Leuven
Department of Economics
Naamsestraat 69. Leuven, B-3000. Belgium
0032-16326654 / 0032485914126

Pre-doctoral Studies:

BA in Economics, Pontifical Catholic University of Peru (PUCP), 1998
MSc in Economics, University of Essex (UK), Merit, 2004
MAS in Economics, Catholic University of Leuven (Belgium), Distinction, 2006

Doctoral Studies:

PhD in Economics, Catholic University of Leuven (Belgium), 15.09.2011
Thesis Title: "Pensions and Intergenerational Transfers within the Family"
Advisor: Erik Schokkaert. Members of doctoral committee: Pierre Pestieau, Carmen Li, Frans Spinnewyn, Maarten Goos.

References:

Prof. Erik Schokkaert
Department of Economics
Catholic University of Leuven
Naamsestraat 69. B-3000. Belgium
erik.schokkaert@econ.kuleuven.be
Tel. 0032-16326803

Prof. Carmen Li
Department of Economics
University of Essex
Wivenhoe Park, Colchester C07 9NL, UK
carma@essex.ac.uk
Tel. 0044-1206872723

Prof. Andre Decoster
Department of Economics
Catholic University of Leuven
Naamsestraat 69. B-3000. Belgium
andre.decoster@econ.kuleuven.be
Tel. 003216326823

Prof. Pierre Pestieau
Department of Economics
University of Liege / CORE
Boulevard du Rectorat 7 (B31)
4000 Liège. Belgium
P.Pestieau@ulg.ac.be
003243663109

Teaching and Research Fields:

Public Economics, Economic Demography, Development Economics, Applied Microeconomics, Intergenerational Transfers, Income Distribution, Welfare Economics

Teaching Experience:

2010-II Economic Growth (Undergraduate), University of Piura (Peru)
2007-II Microeconomics 1 (Undergraduate), University of Piura (Peru)
2007-II Seminar on the Economics of Pensions (Undergraduate), University of Piura (Peru)
2005-I Labour and Social Security Policies (Postgraduate), PUCP
2005-I Introduction to Microeconomics, General Economics (Undergraduate), PUCP
2002-2003 Economic Analysis (Undergraduate), PUCP

Research Experience and Other Employment:

| | |
|-----------|---|
| 2011-2012 | Member of the expert committee to reform the Peruvian pension system |
| 2010-2012 | Researcher in the Project of No-Contributory Pensions and Personal Income Taxation in Peru and Colombia, Fundación Carolina (Spanish Government). |
| 2010 | Lead Consultant, United Nations Population Fund, National Transfers Account Project for Peru |
| 2005 | Senior Consultant, Economic and Social Affairs, Ministry of Economy and Finance of Peru |
| 1998-2003 | Economic Analyst, Economic Research Unit, Superintendence of Banking, Insurance and Pension Funds |

Honors, Scholarships, and Fellowships:

| | |
|-----------|--|
| 2010 | Fundación Carolina (Spanish Government), Research Funding Award |
| 2009 | Inter-American Award on Social Security Research, Mexico |
| 2006-2010 | IRO Scholarship (KULeuven) for doctoral studies |
| 2005 | Belgian Technical Cooperation Scholarship for postgraduate studies |
| 2004 | Inter-American Award on Social Security Research, Mexico |
| 2003 | Research Project Funding Award, PUCP |
| 2001 | Annual Prize for Research, PUCP |

Publications:

Refereed journals

“Voluntary affiliation to Peru’s individual accounts pension system”, *International Social Security Review*, 62(3), pp. 23-48, Sept. 2009. (with Carmen Li)

Books:

“Recuperando la solidaridad en el sistema peruano de pensiones. Una propuesta de reforma”, Consorcio de Investigación Económica y Social - Universidad de Piura. Lima, 2010. 151pp.

“El Derecho a la oportunidad: mujeres gerenciando empresas”. *Movimiento Manuela Ramos*. Lima, 1999. 198pp. (with Julia Velazco)

Chapters in books:

“Estudio sobre el diseño y costo de una pensión no contributiva en Perú”. In: *Envejecimiento con dignidad, por una pensión no contributiva*. Oficina Internacional del trabajo (OIT) y PUCP. Lima, 2011. Pp. 171-186.

“Cobertura y afiliación al Sistema Privado de Pensiones del Perú”. In: *Desarrollo económico y bienestar. Homenaje a Maximo Vega-Centeno*. E. Gonzales de Olarte y J. Iguiniz Editors. Fondo Editorial PUCP. Lima, 2009. Pp. 221-239. (with Carmen Li)

Research Papers:

Job Market Paper

“The division of parental transfers in Europe”

In the extensively studied equal division puzzle, one finds very large shares of equal bequests and unequal *inter-vivos* transfers given to adult children. However, such puzzle is less evident in Europe as we find a higher prevalence of parents giving equal *inter-vivos* transfers. We argue that altruistic parents are also concerned with norms of equal division. Thus, parents do not fully offset child income inequality. The parents start to give larger transfers to poorer children if the child income inequality becomes unbearable from the parent’s view. We find econometric evidence for this behaviour using microeconomic data of 12 European countries from the two waves of the Survey of Health, Aging, and Retirement in Europe (SHARE).

Other Papers

“Old-age support and demographic change in developing countries. A cultural transmission model”

We model intergenerational old-age support in the context of a developing country that faces demographic changes: declining fertility and increasing life expectancy. We attempt to answer if agents will be able to support their parents during the next generations and under what conditions. For this purpose we use a three period overlapping generations model and a cultural transmission process, in which agents may be socialized to different cultural family models (old-age supporters and non-supporters). As life expectancy increases, we find conditions under which a reduced fertility rate is compatible with the expectation to be supported during old-age. This offers an additional explanation for persistency of family old-age support in developing countries with demographic change.

“Optimal enrolment in a pension system and family old-age arrangements”

The aim of this paper is to assess the role of old-age family arrangements and life-cycle considerations in the enrolment and contribution behaviour to the pension system. A rich Peruvian dataset on beliefs, preferences and attitudes to risk, allows us to find econometric evidence suggesting that both dimensions are complementary to better understand the low enrolment and contribution rates. Furthermore, we stress the possible limitations of success of pension policies directed to increase the enrolment and contribution rates in the pension system.

“Welfare, inequality and financial consequences of a multi-pillar pension system”

The distributional impact of the structural pension reform in Latin American countries has been largely absent in the economic debate. However, this reform may widen inequality in old-age and reduce welfare. In this paper we study the consequences of implementing a multi-pillar system in one of these countries. We use available administrative records for Peruvian workers to estimate factual and counterfactual distributions of inequality in pensions, pension debt and welfare. Overall, our results show that the pension debt and inequality can be substantially reduced without welfare losses.

Languages:

Spanish: Mother tongue; English: Fluent; French: Intermediate

07 November, 2011