Hilary W. Hoynes Recipient of the 2014 Carolyn Shaw Bell Award

HILARY W. HOYNES, Professor of Economics and Public Policy and Haas Distinguished Chair in Economic Disparities in the Richard & Rhoda Goldman School of Public Policy at the University of California at Berkeley, is the recipient of the 2014 Carolyn Shaw Bell Award. Given annually since 1998 by the American Economic Association's (AEA) Committee on the Status of Women in the Economics Profession (CSWEP), the Bell Award recognizes and honors an individual who has furthered the status of women in the economics profession. Professor Hoynes will accept the Bell Award at the annual CSWEP business meeting and luncheon held during the 2015 AEA Meeting in Boston.

Professor Hoynes works at the intersection of public and labor economics. Best known for her work on poverty, she has advanced our understanding of the impact of government tax and transfer programs on low income families, the poor more generally and on female-headed families in particular. Distinguished by a focus on critical policy-related issues and methodological rigor, Professor Hoyne's wide ranging research has covered every major government anti-poverty program (the earned income tax credit, food stamps and welfare) and identified an array of outcomes regarding labor supply, employment, female headship, marriage, and divorce. Professor Hoyne's scrupulous objectivity and even-handedness has made her work influential both in terms of its specific findings and empirical methodology.

Leading by example and working with “energy, enthusiasm and optimism,” Professor Hoyne is well known as a tireless and effective teacher and mentor. For her nomination, no less than 19 economists from every walk of the profession, male and female, current and former students, colleagues and coauthors described her as an “equal opportunity mentor” whose deep engagement in daily academic work modeled the professional behaviors that spurred their own professional growth and success. One wrote, "She is a role model for the type of professional behavior that I believe is necessary to expand access to anyone along the academic pipeline who needs a helping hand, including, but not limited to women.”

Currently, Dr. Hoyne co-edits the American Economic Review, the main journal of the AEA. Her affiliations include the NBER, the UC Davis Center for Poverty Research and the Institute for Fiscal Studies and the Advisory Board of the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research. She has served on the National Advisory Committee of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Scholars in Health Policy Research Program and the Advisory Committee for the Directorate for the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences of the National Science Foundation. Prior to joining the Goldman School Dr. Hoyne was on the faculties at UC Davis and UC Berkeley. She received her undergraduate degree from Colby College and her PhD from Stanford University.

Named after the first Chair of CSWEP, the Carolyn Shaw Bell Award was created as part of the 25th Anniversary celebration of the founding of the CSWEP and is given annually to an individual who has furthered the status of women in the economics profession through example, achievements, increasing our understanding of how women can advance in the economics profession or mentoring others. From most recent to first, previous recipients of the Carolyn Shaw Bell Award are: Rachel McCulloch, Catherine C. Eckel, Sharon Oster, Elizabeth Hoffman, Elizabeth E. Bailey, Anne Carter, Olivia S. Mitchell, Barbara Fraumeni, Claudia Goldin, Barbara Bergmann, Robin L. Bartlett, Margaret Garritsen de Vries, Francine Blau, Marianne Ferber, Eva Mueller, Sandra Ohrn Moose, and Alice M. Rivlin.

CSWEP is a subcommittee of the AEA charged with increasing the status of women in the economics profession. CSWEP sponsors mentoring activities for women, organizes sessions at the annual meetings of the AEA and the regional economics associations, publishes a thrice yearly newsletter, monitors the progress of women within the profession, and reports annually to the AEA on the status of women in economics. CSWEP associates are women and men in the diverse areas of the profession — in academe, government and business.

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