

## **Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago**

### **Academic Advisory Council Meeting Agenda**

**October 9, 2020**

**9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. CDT**

The discussions are organized into blocks. We will first go around to each participant in the block to give a few comments on the questions she or he selected (please keep these remarks to 5 minutes per speaker). At the end of the block go-around, we will have some time for Q&A and discussion by the entire group.

The meeting follows Chatham House rules – particulars of the communications guidelines are at <https://www.chicagofed.org/people/academic-advisory-council>.

#### **9:30 – 9:35 Welcome and logistics**

#### **9:35 – 9:55 Labor Markets:** Katharine Abraham, Barry Eichengreen, Karin Kimbrough

What have we learned about the efficacy of U.S. policy actions to support workers through the virus-related shutdowns? What has been their effect on return-to-work during the re-openings? How do these compare with the impacts of European-style labor market policies?

How much of the disparate impact of the virus and the shutdown on different demographic groups has been undone with the return-to-work in recent months? Do you see any evidence of a permanent (or very persistent) increase in the long-standing inequalities in the U.S. because of the pandemic?

Can we say anything yet about the effect of households' adaption to back-to-school issues on labor force participation or productivity? How are firms adapting to these issues? How lasting might these developments be?

#### **10:00-10:55 Economic Outlook**

#### **Fiscal Policy (10 minutes):** Alan Auerbach, Matthew Shapiro

Where do you think fiscal policy might be headed in the short and medium runs? What will it mean for the economy?

#### **Business cycle dynamics, structural change (30 minutes):** Catherine Mann, Jan Hatzius, Bob Gordon, Rob Shimer

What have we learned since we last met about households' and business' ability to adapt to (or to simply ignore) the presence of the virus and how does this influence your outlook?

To what degree do you think “typical” business-cycle dynamics (as opposed to direct shutdown and restart effects) are influencing activity today and how much are they embedded in your outlook over the coming quarters?

Last meeting we speculated on a variety of permanent structural changes that might occur due to the pandemic. Have you seen any evidence that some of these changes are in fact in train? How do they influence your medium and longer-term economic outlook?

**Financial conditions (15 minutes):** Jan Eberly, Dan Ivascyn (15 minutes)

How supportive for growth are current financial market conditions? Do you see any issues today or arising in the near future that could weigh on credit conditions – either on average for the economy as a whole or for certain groups or sectors in the economy?

**10:55 – 11:15 Break**

**11:15 – 12:00 Monetary Policy:** Lisa Cook, Marty Eichenbaum, Monika Piazzesi, Randy Kroszner

Do you think the Fed’s new long-run strategy statement is an improvement over the previous strategy? Does the new strategy statement have the appropriate degree of specificity regarding policy objectives? Over time, how should we judge the success or failure of the new strategy?

What do you think of the statement’s description of the maximum level of employment as a broad-based and inclusive goal? What is your interpretation of “broad-based and inclusive?”

Do you think the September post FOMC meeting statement was an effective execution of the new strategy statement? Would have preferred to see different forward guidance on interest rates and/or asset purchases?

**We’ll leave the WebEx session open 12:00 – 12:30 for anyone interested**

***Members of the Panel***

Katharine Abraham	University of Maryland
Alan Auerbach	University of California, Berkeley
Lisa Cook	Michigan State University
Jan Eberly	Northwestern University
Marty Eichenbaum	Northwestern University
Barry Eichengreen	University of California, Berkeley
Robert Gordon	Northwestern University
Jan Hatzius	Goldman Sachs
Dan Ivascyn	Pimco
Anil Kashyap	University of Chicago
Karin Kimbrough	Linkedin
Randy Kroszner	University of Chicago
Catherine Mann	Citibank
Monika Piazzesi	Stanford University
Matthew Shapiro	University of Michigan
Rob Shimer	University of Chicago

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Charles Evans  
Dan Aaronson  
Gene Amromin  
Jonas Fisher  
Hesna Genay  
Spencer Krane  
Leslie McGranahan  
Ralf Meisenzahl  
Leo Melosi  
Anna Paulson  
Sam Schulhofer-Wohl  
Dan Sullivan