Cormac O'Dea

Curriculum Vitae updated March 2022

Personal

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Citizenship: Irish, US Green Card holder

Current Employment

Yale University

- Assistant Professor, Department of Economics (July 2018-)
- Postdoctoral Associate, Cowles Foundation (July 2017- June 2018)

Past Employment

Institute for Fiscal Studies, London

- Associate Director (January 2016-June 2017), Senior Research Economist (October 2010-December 2015), Research Economist (October 2007-September 2010)

Affiliations

National Bureau of Economic Research, Faculty Research Fellow (2020 - present)

Institute for Fiscal Studies, Research Fellow (2017 - present)

Cowles Foundation for Research in Economics, Member, (2018 - present)

Economic and Social Research Institute, Research Affiliate (2016 - present)

DIW Berlin, Research Fellow (2019 - present)

Education

PhD, University College London, UK, 2016

MPhil, University of Cambridge, UK, 2007

BA, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland, 2006

Working Papers

Who Benefits from Retirement Saving Incentives in the U.S.? Evidence on Racial Gaps in Retirement Wealth Accumulation, with Taha Choukhmane, Jorge Colmenares Jonathan Rothbaum and Lawrence Schmidt **(draft available)**.

Efficiency in Household Decision Making: Evidence from the Retirement Savings of US Couples, with Taha Choukhmane and Lucas Goodman **(draft available)**.

Labor Supply and the Pension Contribution-Benefit Link, with Eric French, Attila Lindner and Tom Zawisza (**submitted**).

"The Intergenerational Elasticity of Earnings: Exploring the Mechanisms" (with Uta Bolt, Eric French and Jamie MacCuish) (**submitted**)

'Recursive Preferences, the Value of Life and Household Finance", with A. Bommier, D. Harenberg, F. Le Grand (**submitted**)

'Expectations Data in Structural Microeconomic Models", with Gizem Kosar (**draft available, in preparation for Handbook of Economic Expectations**)

"Insurance, Efficiency and the Design of Public Pensions" (**on hold due to loss of data access**)

Peer-reviewed publications

'Survival Pessimism and the Demand For Annuities", With David Sturrock **Review of Economics and Statistics**) (forthcoming)

"Household portfolios and financial preparedness for retirement", With Rowena Crawford, **Quantitative Economics** 11(2): 637-670 (May 2020)

"Why are households that report the lowest incomes so well-off?", With Mike Brewer and Ben Etheridge, **Economic Journal**, 127: F24-F49 (October 2017).

Do the rich save more? Evidence from linked survey and administrative data, With Antoine Bozio, Carl Emmerson and Gemma Tetlow. **Oxford Economic Papers**, 69(4):1101-1119, (October 2017).

"Heterogeneity in time preference among older households: A Puzzle?", With Antoine Bozio and Guy Laroque, **Journal of Population Economics**, 30(2):647-680 (February 2017),

"Cash by any other name? Evidence on labelling from the UK Winter Fuel Payment", **Journal of Public Economics**, 118:86-96. (October 2014). With Tim Beatty, Laura Blow and Thomas F. Crossley.

"Household consumption through recent recessions",With Thomas F. Crossley and Hamish Low, **Fiscal Studies**, 34(2): 203-229 (June 2013).

"Cognitive function, numeracy and retirement saving trajectories",With James Banks and Zoe Oldfield, **Economic Journal** 120:F381-F410 (November 2010).

Articles in Conference Volumes (not peer reviewed)

"Household Wealth Data and Public Policy".With Thomas F. Crossley. **Fiscal Studies**, 37(1):5-11 (March 2016).

"Household wealth in Great Britain - distribution, composition and changes 2006-2012", With Rowena Crawford and Dave Innes, **Fiscal Studies**, 37(1):35-54 (March 2016).

"The stimulus effect of the 2008 UK temporary VAT cut"., With Janjala Chirakijja, Thomas Crossley and Melanie Lührmann. **Proceedings of the 102nd Annual Conference on Taxation, National Tax Association**. (2010)

Invited seminars, (including scheduled)

2021/22: New York University, University of Copenhagen, University of Cambridge, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, University of Limerick, University of Regensburg, University of Wurzburg, University of Georgia, Georgetown University

2020/21: University of Pennsylvania (Wharton), University of Pennsylvania (Economics), Mannheim, Berlin Applied Micro Seminar, Birkbeck

2019/20: Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta

2018/19: New York Fed, McMaster University, University of Connecticut, World Bank

2017/18: Stanford, Tennessee, Wisconsin-Madison

2016/17: Bristol, Essex, Cambridge, Oxford, Michigan, Minnesota, Surrey, UC San Diego, Warwick, Washington University St Louis, Yale

Awards

Best Dissertation Advisor, Yale Economics Graduate Students, (2018 and 2019)

Merton J. Peck Prize for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, Yale Economics Dept (2019)

Economic Journal Referee Prize, for exceptional contribution in reviewing

Atkinson Award for best paper published in Journal of Public Economics in 2014-16

Netspar PhD Thesis Prize

Denis Conniffe Prize, for best paper by young author at Irish Econ. Assoc. Ann. Conf. (2014)

UCL Outstanding Teaching Teaching Assistant Award

Teaching (at Yale)

Econ 115 Introductory Microeconomics, 230-500 students, (Spring 2019, Spring 2020, Fall 2021)

Econ 681 Graduate Public Finance (Spring 2018, Fall 2018, Fall 2019)

Recent Research Grants

2020-2021 (Principal investigator) "Heterogeneity in Household Spending and Well-being on Retirement", Social Security Retirement and Disability Research Consortium $75,000

2020-2021 (Principal investigator) "Individual-level vs. Household-level Responses to Incentives in U.S. Retirement Savings Plans", Social Security Administration Retirement and Disability

Research Consortium \$98,000 via NBER Retirement and Disability Research Center

2021-2024 (Co-investigator) Intergenerational transfers, insurance, and the transmission of inequality. Economic and Social Research Council. £881,000.

2019-2020 (Principal investigator) "The Determinants and Evolution of Firm Retirement Saving Plans: Evidence from a New Panel Data Set", Social Security Administration Retirement and Disability Research ≈\$85,000 via NBER Retirement and Disability Research Center

2017-2020 (Co-investigator) "Inequality and the insurance value of transfers across the lifecycle", Economic and Social Research Council £780,000

2016-2018 (Principal investigator) "The adequacy and optimality of retirement provision: household behaviour and the design of pensions", Economic and Social Research Council - Secondary Data Initiative, £180,040

2016-2017 (Co-investigator) "Intergenerational transfers, wealth accumulation and inequality", Social Security Administration via University of Michigan Retirement Research Center, \$50,000

Refereeing

American Economic Review: Insights, American Economic Journal: Applied, American Economic Journal: Macro, American Economic Journal: Policy, Economic Journal, Economica, Economics Letters, European Economic Review, Fiscal Studies, International Economic Review, International Tax and Public Finance, IZA Journal of European Labour Studies, Journal of Econometrics, Journal of European Economic Association, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Population Economics, Journal of Public Economics, Labour Economics, Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics, Oxford Economic Papers, Quantitative Economics, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Economics and Statistics, Review of Income and Wealth, Review of Economic Dynamics, Review of Economic Studies

Past Professional Experience

Irish Fiscal Policy Research Centre (PublicPolicy.ie)

- Board Member (September 2011 - August 2017)

Pension and Lifetime Saving Association/National Association of Pension Funds steering group on the adequacy of household pension saving. Steering Group Member (2016)

World Bank Consultant, Advisory Group on Measuring the Distributional Impact of Public Spending

Selected policy writing

"The Evolution of U.S. Firm's Retirement Plan Offerings: Evidence from a New Panel Data Set". 2021. With Antoine Arnoud, Taha Choukhmane, Jorge Coolmenares & Aneesha Parvathaneni, NBER SSA Retirement and Disability Research Center Paper

"Employment Effects of Unemployment Insurance Generosity During the Pandemic". 2020. With Joseph Altonji, Zara Contractor, Lucas Finamor, Ryan Haygood, Ilse Lindenlaub, Costas Meghir, Dana Scott, Liana Wang, and Ebonya Washington. Yale Tobin Center for Economic Policy

"The Effects of the Coronavirus on Hours of Work in Small Businesses", 2020. With Joseph Altonji, Zara Contractor, Lucas Finamor, Ryan Haygood, Ilse Lindenlaub, Costas Meghir, Dana Scott, Liana Wang, and Ebonya Washington. Yale Tobin Center for Economic Policy

"Financial Incentives to Work, Comparing Ireland and the UK, 2016", With Tim Callan, Barra Roantree and Michael Savage

"The evolution of wealth in Great Britain: 2006-08 to 2010-12". IFS Report R109. 2015. With Rowena Crawford and Dave Innes.

"Can we measure who loses most from public service spending cuts?". Economic and Social Research Institute, Budget Perspectives. 2014. With Ian Preston

For more of my policy work undertaken at the IFS (pre 2018) see here:
https://sites.google.com/site/cormacodea/policy-papers-1