

Michael D. Makowsky

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Department of Economics (office 101M)

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Current Employment

Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Towson University

Education

Ph.D. George Mason University, 2008

Complex Systems Summer School, Santa Fe Institute, 2006

BA, Biology and Economics, University of Virginia, 1999

Fields of Interest

Multi-Agent Computational Economics, Applied Microeconomics, Group Formation, Economics of Religious Groups

Articles Published in Peer Reviewed Journals

“Emergent Extremism in a Multi-Agent Model of Religious Clubs” *Economic Inquiry*, forthcoming

“Innovation, Price Dispersion, and Emergent Increasing Returns to Scale” (with David M. Levy) *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, 2010, volume 73, pp 406-17

“Determinants of Traffic Citations: Political Economy at Any Speed,” *American Economic Review*, March 2009 Volume 99, No. 1, (with Thomas Stratmann)

“The Spontaneous Emergence and Evolution of Economic Institutions: Cost-Benefit Analysis,” *Constitutional Political Economy*, March 2009 Volume 20 Issue 1, (with Richard E. Wagner)

“Accidental Atheists: An Agent-Based Model of Religious Regionalism,” *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, 2007, volume 46, Issue 1, pages 1–16 (with Laurence R. Iannaccone)

“An Agent-Based Model of Mortality Shocks, Intergenerational Effects, and Urban Crime” *Journal of Artificial Societies and Social Simulation*, 2006, vol. 9, no. 2,

Papers Under Review

“A Theory of Liberal Churches” *Revise and Resubmit*

“Religion, Clubs, and Emergent Social Divides”

“More Tickets, Fewer Accidents: How Cash Strapped Towns Make for Safer Roads” (with Thomas Stratmann) *Revise and Resubmit*

“Patent Length and Search Costs in a Multi-Agent Model of Endogenous Growth” (with David M. Levy)

Working Papers/Works In Progress

“Endogenous Group Formation with Unproductive Costs” (with Jason Aimone, Laurence Iannaccone, and Jared Rubin)

“The Political Economy of Property Appraisal Values” (with Shane Sanders)

Other Publications

“An Agent-Based Model of Crisis-Driven Migration” *Proceedings of the Complex Systems Summer School*, 2006, Santa Fe Institute, Santa Fe, NM (with J. Tavares, T. Makany and P. Meier)

Book Review: “Social Dynamics” Edited by H. Peyton Young and Steven N. Durlauf, *Journal of Artificial Societies and Social Simulation*, Vol 8 Issue 3, June 2005

Courses Taught

Introductory Microeconomic Principles, Economics of a Global and Domestic Business Environment, Economics of Religion

Awards

William P. Snavely Award (Top Graduate Student in Economics, GMU) 2008

Grants

2009 Towson College of Business and Economics Faculty Research and Development Grant (\$3,500)

Fellowships

2006/2007 H.B. Earhart Fellow
2005/2006 Graduate Research Fellow, Mercatus Center
2006 Earhart APEE Fellow
2005/2006 Absentia Fellowship, *American Institute for Economic Research*
2005 Summer Fellow, *American Institute for Economic Research*
2005 Mercatus Center Graduate Research Fellowship

Other Media Appearances/References to My Work

“Slow, Recession Ahead” *Boston Globe*, February 15th, 2009

“Welcome Stranger, Here’s a Speeding Ticket” *New York Times*; September 2nd, 2007

“The Out of Towners” *The Atlantic Monthly*; May 2007; Primary Sources; Vol 299 No. 4

“Complexity at Large” *Complexity*, Volume 11, Issue 6; News Items; “Studying Criminal Phenomena”

Other news references: *Chicago Tribune*, *Tampa Tribune*, *Fairfax Sun-Gazette*, *Knoxville News Sentinel*, *San Antonio Express News Blog*, *Fredericksburg Freelance Star*, *Business Week (Blog)*, *MarginalRevolution.com*, *EconomistsView.com*

Television Appearances: *Fox WTTG 5 News Washington*, *ABC WHDH-TV Boston*

Radio Appearances: *WTOP Washington*

Selected Presentations

October 16th, 2009 GMU Department of Social Complexity “Patent Length and Search Costs in a Multi-Agent Model of Endogenous Growth”

April 20th, 2009 California State-Fullerton Economics Department “Endogenous Group Formation with Unproductive Costs”

April 4th, 2009 *7th Annual Conference on Religion, Economics and Culture*, “Teaching the Economics of Religion”

November 23 rd , 2008	<i>Southern Economic Meetings</i> , “More Tickets, Fewer Accidents: How Cash Strapped Towns Make for Safer Roads”
October 18 th , 2008	<i>Society for the Scientific Study of Religion</i> , “Religious Clubs and Social Divides”
July 11 th , 2008	<i>2008 World Congress of Social Simulation</i> “The Dynamics of Religious Groups”
June 19 th , 2007	<i>ESHIA 2007 Workshop</i> “Price Dispersion, Innovation, and Increasing Returns to Scale” (with David M. Levy)
June 19 th , 2007	<i>ESHIA 2007 Workshop</i> “Religious Extremism, Institutions, and Income”
April 6 th , 2007	<i>Computational Social Science Seminar</i> “A Model of Decentralized Market Competition Compatible with Increasing Returns to Scale” (with David M. Levy), George Mason University
July 7 th , 2006	<i>Summer Institute for the Preservation of Economic History</i> “The Dynamics of Sects and Religious Extremism”
June 29 th , 2006	Santa Fe Institute “An Agent-based Model of Crisis-Driven Migration and Ethno-Religious Conflict” (with Tamas Makany, Patrick Meier, and Jorge Taveras)
March 30 th , 2006	Public Choice Society Meetings, “Determinants of Traffic Citations: Political Economy at Any Speed” (with Thomas Stratmann)
June 24 th , 2005	Society for Computational Economics “An Agent-Based Model of Mortality Shocks, Intergenerational Effects, and Urban Crime” 11 th <i>International Conference on Computing in Economics and Finance</i>
April 29-30, 2005	Harvard University, (by panel invitation), “Russians Fatal Half Measures: Demographic crisis and Econometric Half Measures” (with Bridget Butkevich), <i>Conference on Health and Demography in the Former Soviet Union</i>
April 7-8, 2005	University of Surrey, UK, Travel Fellowship, “An Agent-Based Model of Mortality Shocks, Intergenerational Effects, and Urban Crime” <i>Workshop on Modeling Urban Social Dynamics</i>
December 4-5, 2004	<i>The 36th Annual AAASS National Convention</i> , (by panel invitation) “Russians Fatal Half Measures: Demographic crisis and Econometric Half Measures” (with Bridget Butkevich)
November 22-24, 2004	<i>Third Annual Conference on Religion, Economics and Culture</i> , “Accidental Atheists: An Agent-based Model of Religious Regionalism” (with Laurence R. Iannaccone)

Other Conference Activities

Discussant Association of Religion, Economics, and Culture meetings (2009), American Economic Association meetings (2009, 2010), Southern Economic Association Meetings (2008), Public Choice Meetings (2006)

Journals Refereed for

Journal of Applied Econometrics, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Crime and Delinquency, Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion, Journal of Artificial Societies and Social Simulation, Sociology of Religion, Economics Bulletin

Economics Pedagogy and Methodology Workshops: Participation & Assistance

November 12-14, 2005 Panel Participant, *Religion in Social Science and Computational Modeling Workshop*, Krasnow Institute for Advanced Study, George Mason U.

Summer 2004-08 Summer Institute, History of Economic Thought

Past Employment

2007/2008 Center for the Economic Study of Religion, Research Associate

2004/2005 George Mason University, Research Assistant (Richard E. Wagner)

Professional Association Memberships

American Economic Association, Southern Economic Association
Association for the Study of Religion, Economics, and Culture

References

Professor Laurence R. Iannaccone
Department of Economics,
Chapman University
Larry@econzone.com

Professor David M. Levy
Department of Economics,
George Mason University
DavidMLEvy@gmail.com

Professor Robert Axtell
Department of Social Complexity,
George Mason University
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