

RESUME

Betty J. Blecha

Academic Background:

- 1976 Ph.D. University of Iowa, Economics.
- 1972 M.A. University of Iowa, Economics.
- 1970 M.A. University of Iowa, Political Science.
- 1968 B.A. University of Arizona, Political Science.

Work Experience:

- 1989 - present Professor of Economics, San Francisco State University.
- 1983 - 1989 Associate Professor of Economics, San Francisco State University.
- 1981 - 1983 Associate Professor of Economics, University of San Francisco.
- 1976 - 1981 Assistant Professor of Economics, University of San Francisco.
- 1975 - 1977 Staff economist for an HEW funded study of social service effectiveness in Santa Clara County, Ca. Duties included doing cost effectiveness analysis, designing social indicators, administering a contributed staff of seven people, and working with community groups.
- 1972 - 1975 Lecturer in Economics, San Jose State University.
- 1970 - 1972 Teaching Assistant in Economics, University of Iowa.
- 1969 - 1970 Research Assistant in the Laboratory for Political Research, University of Iowa.

Awards:

- PRDC Summer Research Stipend (1998).
- Performance Salary Award (1997).
- Community Service Learning Course Development Grant (Fall 1996).
- Academic Program Improvement Grant from the CSU Chancellor's Office (1988).
- SFSU Award for Meritorious Performance and Professional Promise (1988).
- PRDC Research Fellow (Fall 1987).
- BSS Research Fellow (Spring 1986).
- Teaching-Research Fellowship to the University of Iowa (Fall 1968 – Spring 1972).
- Phi Beta Kappa.
- Phi Sigma Alpha (Political Science Honorary).

Sample Professional Activities:

- Aplia Advocate Board member, Spring 2006-present.
- Co- PI along with Kim Sosin on a \$375,000 grant from the Andrew Mellon CEUTTI program. The grant ran from Spring 2001 to Summer 2005 and was managed at San Francisco State. Represented the project at a special PI conference at Northwestern University in November of 2002.
- Invited participant to the American Economic Association's San Antonio Research in Economics Education Conference, Spring 2000.
- Reader for the National Science Foundation's National Digital Library program: 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005.
- Reader for the National Science Foundation's STEP program: 2003, 2004, 2005.

- Editor for a special issue of the *Social Science Computer Review* (Winter, 2004) dealing with the use of computer technology in economics instruction. Wrote an introduction to the volume titled “Technology and the Challenge of Excellence.”
- Presentation at the meetings of the Eastern Economic Association (March 2000) in Washington D.C. titled “Constructing Economic Theories using Flash: A Hands-On Demonstration.”
- Associate Editor for Economics for the *Social Science Computer Review* (Spring 1999 – Present).
- Discussant on computer assisted instruction at the Conference on Innovative Techniques for Teaching Principles of Economics. Hosted by the Center for Economic Policy Research at Stanford University (December 1998).
- Session moderator at the conference on Advancing the Integration of New Technologies into the Undergraduate Teaching of Economics held at the University of Pittsburgh (May 1998). Hosted by the National Science Foundation and the National Council on Economic Education.
- Principal organizer of the Computer Assisted Instruction sessions held at the meetings of the American Economic Association (January 1999-present) .
- Developed web page on distance learning in economics for Archipelago Productions (Spring 1998).
- Associate Editor of the European journal *Computers in Higher Education Economics Review* (Spring 1998 – Present).
- Maintains the web page for the Computer Assisted Instruction Group in Economics (September 1997 - Present).
- One of four university representatives to CSU Java Applications Workshop (March 1997).
- Presentation to the Finance and Governmental Affairs Committee of the State Academic Senate on Dr. Blecha’s policy paper: “Funding the California State University: A New Issue of Equity” (October 1997).
- Organized and chaired a session on computer assisted instruction in economics at the 1997 and 1998 meetings of the American Economic Association.
- External reviewer of CSU Bakersfield Economics Department (Spring 1997).
- Discussant on computer assisted instruction in economics at the 1996, 1995, and 1993 meetings of the American Economic Association.
- External reviewer of CSU Bakersfield Economics Department (Spring 1992).
- Panelist on outcomes assessment in higher education at the meetings of the American Association of Colleges in Washington D.C. (January 1989).
- Reviewed an article for the *American Economic Review* (1989).
- Presenter at a special lottery-funded conference on the microcomputer in the economics curriculum sponsored by San Diego State University. Presentation was based on the API grant materials (October 1988).
- Presenter at a special conference organized by Santa Clara University on the use of MathCAD in the classroom (October 1988).
- Organizer of a session on the current state of econometric software and the impact of new microcomputer operating systems on the academic environment at the meetings of the Western Economic Association in Vancouver, British Columbia (July 1987).
- Test review consultant for the American College Testing Service (Spring 1982 – Fall 1987).
- Facilitator for a workshop on fiscal impact analysis for local government officials conducted by the California Governor's Office of Planning and Research (August, 1979).

Working Paper:

“Formula Funding, Enrollment Events, and Economies of Scale in Higher Education.”

Work in Progress:

“An Introduction to Mathematical Economics” A textbook project under contract with Prentice Hall.

“Learning By Doing and the Choice of Instructional Technology.” A one-agent Bayesian model of learning by doing is used to explain the choices of economics instructors to use or not use the web and other instructional technologies. A working paper was presented at the meetings of the Midwest Economic Association in March 2001. This is part of an ongoing panel project. Data for the second panel will be collected in either the Spring of 2008. Two other papers are currently in progress.

“Monsoon.” A photographic essay on the uses and abuses of groundwater in the desert southwest. The project has a substantial text sections linking photographic evidence to issues of resource management.

Publications:

Sosin, Kim. Betty J. Blecha, et.al. “Efficiency in the Use of Technology in Economics Education: Some Preliminary Results,” *American Economic Review* (May 2004), 253-258.

Blecha, Betty J. “Instructional Effectiveness, the Web, and Economics,” *Social Science Computer Review* (Fall 1999).

Blecha, Betty J. “Economic Pedagogy and Microcomputer Software,” *Social Science Computer Review* (Winter 1991), 541-557.

Blecha, Betty J. “James Tobin,” in *The Nobel Laureates in Economics*, ed. Bernard S. Katz (Garland Publishing Company: 1989).

Blecha, Betty J. *Econometric Sourcebook* (Wadsworth Publishing Company: 1989).

Blecha, Betty J. “The Crowding Parameter and Samuelsonian Publicness,” *Journal of Political Economy* (June 1987), 622-31.

Blecha, Betty J. “Estimating Demand Elasticities for Public Goods from Survey Data,” *American Economic Review* (December 1980), 1069-76.

Papers Presented:

“Teaching Mathematical Economics Using Web Materials,” presented at the meetings of the Midwest Economic Association (March 2002).

“Instructional Effectiveness, the Web, and Economics,” presented at the Conference on Information Technology and the Teaching of Economics held at Bentley College in Waltham, Mass (September 1998).

“Instructional Effectiveness and the Web,” presented at the meetings of the Southern Economic Association in Atlanta, Ga . (November 1997).

“Enrollment Events and Economies of Scale in Higher Education,” presented at the meetings of the Western Economic Association in Seattle, Wa. (July 1997).

“A Model of Learning Effectiveness,” presented at the meetings of the Western Economic Association in San Francisco, Ca. (July 1992).

“Learning Styles, Economics, and Mathematical Economics,” presented at the meetings of the American Economics Association in New Orleans, La. (January 1992).

“Learning Styles in Economics,” presented at the CSU Teaching-Learning Exchange in Los Angeles (1992).

“Mathematics and the Principles Course,” presented by a colleague at the meetings of the Western Economic Association in Vancouver, British Columbia (July 1991). Dr. Blecha was unable to present the paper because she was serving as a juror.

“The Pedagogy of Software,” presented at the meetings of the Western Economic Association in Lake Tahoe, Ca. (July 1989).

“Teaching Economics with MathCAD,” presented at the meetings of the Western Economic Association in Los Angeles, Ca. (June 1988).

“Microcomputers in the Economics Curriculum: An Update,” Co-authored with Jack Osman. Presented at the meetings of the Western Economic Association in Anaheim, Ca. (June 1985).

“Microcomputers in the Economics Curriculum,” Co-authored with Jack Osman. Presented at the meetings of the Western Economic Association in Las Vegas, Nevada (June 1984).

“A Note on the Crowding Parameter.” Presented at the meetings of the Western Economic Association in Las Vegas, Nevada (July 1984).

“Voter Preferences for Tax-User Fee Combinations.” Presented at the meetings of the Western Economics Association in Las Vegas, Nevada (June 1979).

“Demand Elasticities for Public Goods.” Presented at the meetings of the Western Economics Association in Anaheim, Ca. (June 1976).

“The Measurement of Preference Variation for Indirect Consumption Goods.” Presented at the meetings of the Western Economics Association in San Francisco, Ca. (June 1974).

Consulting:

Expert witness for statistical analysis and discounted lost earnings.

Personnel:

Born: Fargo, North Dakota, August 7, 1946.

Married James R. Gibson, divorced.