PRESENTERS

Early Findings from the Benefit Offset National Demonstration (BOND)

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Stephen H. Bell, Abt Associates

Stephen H. Bell is a principal scientist, senior fellow, and vice president at Abt Associates whose three decades of research focus on measuring the effectiveness of an array of social interventions for different groups of disadvantaged Americans. A specialist in econometric impact analysis, Dr. Bell has helped design many large-scale social experiments in the workforce, disability, and welfare-to-work fields. His work on impact evaluation methods, combining analytic creativity with a commitment to scientific reliability, is widely published in scholarly and other bodies of literature. Dr. Bell earned a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Wisconsin—Madison.

Howard Rolston, Abt Associates

Howard Rolston is a principal associate at Abt Associates and principal investigator for the BOND project. He has over 30 years of experience in the design and implementation of social policy experiments. Prior to joining Abt, Dr. Rolston had a 28-year career at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), where he served as the director of planning, research, and evaluation in the Administration for Children and Families. Reflecting that experience, he co-authored *Fighting for Reliable Evidence*, a book on welfare-to-work experiments, with Judith Gueron. He holds a doctorate in philosophy from Harvard University.

David Stapleton, Mathematica Policy Research

Senior fellow David Stapleton directs Mathematica's Center for Studying Disability Policy. He is also the director of Mathematica's five-year cooperative agreement with the Social Security Administration (SSA) for the agency's Disability Research Consortium. Since 1991, Dr. Stapleton's research has focused on the impacts of public policy on the employment and income of people with disabilities. After joining Mathematica in 2007, he became co-leader of SSA's BOND evaluation and has also served as principal investigator for the HHS Center of Excellence for Comparative Effectiveness Research on Disability Services, Coordinated Care, and Integration. In addition, he has led SSA's Ticket to Work evaluation and the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Disability Statistics and Demographics. Dr. Stapleton was director of Cornell University's Institute for Policy Research, senior vice president at the Lewin Group, and an associate professor at Dartmouth College and the University of Maryland, College Park. He has a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Wisconsin—Madison.

DISCUSSANT

Susan Wilschke, Social Security Administration

Susan Wilschke is the Deputy Associate Commissioner for Research, Demonstration, and Employment Support, within SSA's Office of Retirement and Disability Policy. She oversees the development of research and demonstration projects supporting SSA's disability programs, including the Benefit Offset National Demonstration (BOND) and efforts to collect updated occupational data. She previously served as Director of the Office of Program Evaluation within the Office of Program Development and Research, where she was responsible for research and policy analysis focused on improving SSA's disability and income support programs and for developing and implementing policies on Social Security's work incentives. Susan started with the Social Security Administration in 1998 as a Presidential Management Intern, and completed assignments in a field office, the Office of Budget, and the House Ways and Means Committee. She also completed the USDA Graduate School's Executive Leadership Program. She spent nearly 10 years working in SSA's Office of Policy, where her work included analyzing options for simplifying the SSI program and studying the effects of Social Security reform on disabled workers. Susan received a Master's degree in Social Service Administration from the University of Chicago.

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