

November 2023

**ELIZABETH BRAINERD**

Department of Economics  
Brandeis University  
MS 021, 415 South Street  
Waltham, MA 02453-2728

Tel. 781-736-4816  
Fax 781-736-2269  
ebrainer@brandeis.edu  
www.ebrainerd.com

**EDUCATION**

HARVARD UNIVERSITY, CAMBRIDGE, MA  
Ph.D., Economics, November 1996. Fields: labor economics, public economics.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, NEW YORK, NY  
M.I.A., School of International and Public Affairs, May 1991.

BOWDOIN COLLEGE, BRUNSWICK, ME  
B.A. in Economics and Russian, May 1985 (*summa cum laude* with High Honors in Economics).

**CURRENT POSITION**

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS, BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY, WALTHAM, MA  
Department Chair, July 2018- June 2022. Susan and Barton Winokur Professor of Economics and Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies, 2009-present.

**OTHER POSITIONS AND AFFILIATIONS**

ASSOCIATION FOR COMPARATIVE ECONOMIC STUDIES  
Finance Subcommittee, 2019- ; President, 2016; Executive Committee, 2005 - 2008.

DAVIS CENTER FOR RUSSIAN AND EURASIAN STUDIES, HARVARD UNIVERSITY  
Visiting Scholar, Spring 2015; Davis Center Associate, 2004 - present.

INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF LABOR (IZA), BONN: Research Fellow, May 2000 - present.

FACULTY MEMBER, OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE HIGHER EDUCATION SUPPORT PROGRAM  
Program in Global Health Economics, St. Petersburg, Russia, 2011-2014.

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS, WILLIAMS COLLEGE, WILLIAMSTOWN, MA  
Assistant Professor, 1996-2002; Associate Professor, 2002-2008; Professor, 2008-2009.

RADCLIFFE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY, HARVARD UNIVERSITY  
Radcliffe Institute Fellow, 2005-2006 academic year; Radcliffe Summer Fellowship, summer 2016.

EDITORIAL BOARD, *JOURNAL OF COMPARATIVE ECONOMICS*, 2003-2006.

## **PUBLISHED PAPERS**

“Maternity Benefits and Marital Stability after Birth: Evidence from the Soviet Baltic Republics” (with Olga Malkova), *Journal of Population Economics* Vol. 36:4 (October 2023), 2309-2345.

“Mortality in Russia Since the Fall of the Soviet Union,” *Comparative Economic Studies* Vol. 63: 4 (December 2021), 557-76.

“The Lasting Effect of Sex Ratio Imbalance on Marriage and Family: Evidence from World War II in Russia,” *Review of Economics and Statistics* Vol. 99:2 (May 2017), 229-242.

“Religion and Health in Early Childhood: Evidence from South Asia,” (with Nidhiya Menon) *Population and Development Review* Vol. 41:3 (September 2015), 439-463.

“Seasonal Effects of Water Quality: The Hidden Costs of the Green Revolution to Infant and Child Health in India,” (with Nidhiya Menon), *Journal of Development Economics* Vol. 107 (March 2014), 49-64.

“Reassessing the Standard of Living in the Soviet Union: An Analysis Using Archival and Anthropometric Data,” *The Journal of Economic History*, Vol. 70:1 (March 2010), 83-117.

“Autopsy on an Empire: Understanding Mortality in Russia and the Former Soviet Union,” (with David M. Cutler), *The Journal of Economic Perspectives*, Vol. 19:1 (Winter 2005), 107-130.

“Importing Equality? The Impact of Globalization on Gender Discrimination,” (with Sandra E. Black), *Industrial and Labor Relations Review*, Vol. 57:4 (July 2004), 540-559.

“Five Years After: The Impact of Mass Privatization on Wages in Russia, 1993 - 1998,” *Journal of Comparative Economics*, Vol. 30:1 (March 2002), 160-190.

“Economic Reform and Mortality in the Former Soviet Union: A Study of the Suicide Epidemic in the 1990s,” *European Economic Review*, Vol. 45: 4-6 (May 2001), 995-1006.

“Women in Transition: Changes in Gender Wage Differentials in Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union,” *Industrial and Labor Relations Review*, Vol. 54:1 (October 2000), 138-162.

“Winners and Losers in Russia’s Economic Transition,” *American Economic Review*, Vol. 88:1 5 (December 1998), 1094 - 1116.

“Market Reform and Mortality in Transition Economies,” *World Development*, Vol. 26: 11 (November 1998), 2013 - 2027.

“The Role of Social Capital in the Russian Mortality Crisis,” (with Ichiro Kawachi and Bruce P. Kennedy), *World Development*, Vol. 26: 11 (November 1998), 2029 - 2043.

## **BOOK CHAPTERS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS**

“Marriage and Divorce in Revolutionary Russia: A Demographic Analysis,” in *Russia’s Home Front in War and Revolution 1914–22, Book 3: National Disintegration and Reintegration*. Adele Lindenmeyr, Christopher Read and Peter Waldron, eds. Bloomington, IN: Slavica Publishers, 2018, 207-238.

“Fertility Trends in the Formerly Socialist Countries of Europe,” in James D. Wright (editor-in-chief), *International Encyclopedia of the Social & Behavioral Sciences*, 2nd edition, Vol 9 (2015). Oxford: Elsevier. pp. 99–104.

“Can Government Policies Reverse Undesirable Declines in Fertility?” *IZA World of Labor* (Institute for the Study of Labor), 2014: 23 (May 2014).

“The Demographic Transformation of Post-Socialist Countries: Causes, Consequences, and Questions,” in *Economies in Transition: The Long-Run View*, edited by Gérard Roland (Palgrave Macmillan, 2012, pp. 57-83); also circulated as United Nations University-World Institute for Development Economics Research Working Paper No. 2010/15.

## **WORKING PAPERS AND WORK IN PROGRESS**

“Culture and Fertility: How Religion Determines the Responses to Maternity Benefits” (with Olga Malkova), submitted.

“Alcohol in the Family: How an Anti-alcohol Campaign Transformed Marriage and Childbearing” (with Olga Malkova).

“The Long-Term Effects of in Utero Exposure to an Anti-Alcohol Campaign” (with Olga Malkova)

“Dying to Be Equal? Women’s Work, Smoking, and the Growing Gap in U.S. - European Female Life Expectancy” (with David M. Cutler, Harvard University).

“Missing Women in the Former Soviet Union? Son Preference and Children’s Health in the Transition from Communism,” work in progress.

“Human Development in Eastern Europe and the CIS Since 1990,” United Nations Development Program, Human Development Research Paper 2010/16, July 2010.

## **GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS**

Provost’s Teaching Innovation Grant: “Inclusive Teaching for Large Introductory Economics Courses,” June 2019.

Provost’s Teaching Innovation Grant: “Designing an Oral Communications Practicum for Economics Students,” June 2019.

Jeannette Lerman-Neubauer '69 Prize for Excellence in Teaching and Mentoring for 2018-2019, Brandeis University, April 2019.  
Radcliffe Summer Fellowship, Harvard University, Summer 2016.  
Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA Visiting Scholar, Spring 2015.  
Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA Radcliffe Institute Fellow, 2005-2006 academic year.  
National Council for Eurasian and East European Research, 2004 National Research Competition Fellowship, January 2005 - June 2006.  
William Davidson Institute 2003 Research Competition (postdoctoral research fellowship), January 1 - December 31, 2004. Project title: *Autopsy on an Empire: Understanding Mortality in the Former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe*.  
International Research and Exchanges Board, 2001 John J. and Nancy Lee Roberts Fellowship. Project title: *Living Standards and Health in Postwar Russia: Investigating Precursors to the Russian Mortality Crisis of the 1990s*. Grant period: July 2001 - February 2003.  
World Health Organization, Commission on Macroeconomics and Health, grant for study of mortality in Russia (with Elena Varavikova, Russian Ministry of Health), 2001.  
German Marshall Fund Postdoctoral Fellowship, 1999-2000 academic year.  
Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Harvard University, 1994.  
Foreign Language and Areas Studies Fellowship, Harvard University, 1991-1992.

#### SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Keynote speaker, Conference on Gender Equality and Women's Economic Empowerment in Time of Crisis, International School of Economics at Tbilisi State University, Tbilisi, Georgia, Oct. 2023  
American Economic Association (virtual) meetings, session chair, Jan. 2022  
Society of Labor Economists Annual Meetings, May 2021  
Society of Economics of the Household Annual Meeting, May 2021  
Rethinking Gender Conference: Economic and Social Costs of Gender Inequality, Kyiv School of Economics, April 2021  
American Economic Association (virtual) meetings, presenter and session chair, Jan. 2021  
Keynote speaker, Conference on Gender Issues in Formerly Socialist Countries, Stockholm School of Economics, September 2020 (canceled due to Covid)  
Université de Montréal Economics Dept. virtual seminar, October 2020  
American Economic Association meetings, San Diego, January 2020  
University of South Florida Economics Dept. seminar, March 2018  
Keynote speaker, Commodities, Well-being and Institutions Workshop, University of Guelph, Sept. 2017  
American Economic Association meetings, Chicago, January 2017.  
University of Kentucky Economics Dept. seminar, Lexington, KY, March 2016.  
First World Congress of Comparative Economics, Rome, June 2015 (presenter and discussant).  
American Economic Association meetings, Boston, January 2015 (presenter and session organizer).

European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, London, “Missing Women in the Former Soviet Union? Son Preference and Children’s Health in the Transition from Communism,” October 2013.

American Economic Association meetings, San Diego, January 2013 (session organizer).

American Economic Association meetings, Chicago, January 2012 (presenter and discussant).

Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies, “The Economic Consequences of Perestroika,” Understanding Perestroika Workshop, May 2011.

Brandeis University Women’s and Gender Studies Program, 2010 Spring Distinguished Faculty Lecture, “The Demand for Sons: An Economic Perspective on Son Preference and Missing Women,” March 2010.

United Nations University-WIDER Conference, Helsinki: Reflections on Transition: Twenty Years After the Fall of the Berlin Wall, September 2009.

Harvard History Department seminar, Harvard University, April 2009. Society of Labor Economists, 2008 meetings, New York, NY, May 2008.

Harvard Economics Department, joint Public Finance/Economic History seminar, March 2008.

#### **OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

Selection Committee member, Roland Dissertation Fellowship, Association for Comparative Economic Studies, 2019-present.

Expert Reviewer, Russian National Award in Applied Economics, 2014, 2016, 2020, 2022

Reviewer, Israel Science Foundation, 2020

President, Association for Comparative Economic Studies, 2016.

Reviewer, Radcliffe Fellowship Program, 2006 - 2020.

Research proposal evaluator, CERGE-EI/Global Development Network Global Research Competition, 2002-2017

Member, AAASS Edward A. Hewett Book Prize Committee, 2009-2012.

Selection Committee, Montias Prize 2006, awarded for the best paper published in the *Journal of Comparative Economics* between 2004 and 2005.

Selection Committee, William Davidson Institute 2006 Research Competition.

Fulbright Scholar National Selection Committee, Eurasia Region, Institute of International Education, New York, 2002, 2003, 2005.

Professional Development Fellowship Selection Committee, Institute of International Education, New York, 2001, 2002, 2003.

Invited member, The Russia Initiative Social Cohesion Task Force, Carnegie Corporation. Report published in *Russia Initiative: Reports of the Four Task Forces*, Carnegie Corp. 2000.

#### **REFEREE**

*American Economic Journal: Applied Econ.*

*American Economic Review*

*American Economic Review: Insights*

*Comparative Economic Studies*

*East European Economics*

*Economic Development and Cultural Change*

*Journal of Economic Literature*

*Journal of Health Economics*

*Journal of Human Resources*

*Journal of Political Economy*

*Journal of Population Economics*

*Labour Economics*

*Economics and Human Biology*  
*Economic Journal*  
*Economic Systems*  
*Economics of Planning*  
*Economics of Transition*  
*European Economic Review*  
*Industrial and Labor Relations Review*  
*Journal of Applied Econometrics*  
*Journal of Comparative Economics*  
*Journal of Development Economics*  
*Journal of Economic History*

National Science Foundation  
*Quarterly Journal of Economics*  
*Review of Economics and Statistics*  
*Review of Income and Wealth*  
*Scandinavian Journal of Economics*  
Social Sciences and Humanities Research  
Council  
*Studies in Nonlinear Dynamics &  
Econometrics*  
*World Bank Economic Review*  
*World Development*

**TEACHING (UNDERGRADUATE)**

Introduction to Microeconomics Labor  
Economics  
Public Economics  
Economics of Race and Gender  
Economics of Health, Gender and Population  
Intermediate Microeconomic Theory Econometrics  
Econometrics Research Practicum  
Economic Reform in Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union  
Economics of Global Health and Population

**TEACHING (GRADUATE)**

Applied Econometrics (Heller School of Social Policy PhD program)  
Women's and Gender Studies Research Methods Seminar

**SERVICE (BRANDEIS)**

Coordinator, Economics Department Seniors Honors Thesis Program (Spring 2024-Fall 2025)  
Search Committee, Program Director of the Center for Teaching and Learning, 2022  
Chair, Economics Department, 2018-2022  
Chair, Economics Department lecturer search committee, 2021-22  
Chair, Economics Department DEI Task Force, 2020 - 22  
Chair, Economics Dept. junior faculty search committee, 2020-21  
Committee member, IBS PhD Program review committee, 2021-22.  
Committee member, undergraduate Business Program review committee, 2021-22. Committee member, IBS Policy Coordinating Committee, 2018 - 22  
Co-Chair, Economics/Computer Science Search Committee, 2019-20  
Co-Chair, Economics/Environmental Studies Kay Fellow Search Committee, 2019  
Tenure Track Faculty Search Committee, Economics Department (2010-11; 2011-12, 2015-16, 2018-19, 2019-20)  
David R. Pokross Professor of Law and Social Policy Search Committee, Heller School (2018-19, 2019-20)  
Lecturer Search Committee, University Writing Program (2018-19)

Richman Fellows Selection Committee (2016-18)  
Coordinator, Economics Department Senior Honors Thesis program (2010-13, 2017-18)  
Diversity Representative, Sociology Search Committee (2015-16, 2017-18)  
Director of Graduate Studies, Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies Program (2015-17)  
Faculty Executive Committee, Women's and Gender Studies (2010-14, 2015-17)  
Dean of Heller School Search Committee (2016-17)  
Interim Chair, Women's and Gender Studies Program (Spring 2013)  
Lubin Symposium organizing committee (2012-13; 2013-14)  
Program Chair Search Committee, Women's and Gender Studies (2011-12; 2015-16, 2018-19)  
Committee for the Support of Teaching (2010-12)  
Giddon Prize Selection Committee, Women's and Gender Studies (2010-12; 2014)  
Kay Fellow Search Committee, Economics Department (2009-10)

Supervision of PhD students in Economics:

Chen Chen (2026, committee member)  
Kyeongah Lee (2021, committee chair) Raffi  
Garcia (2018, committee member) Eugene  
Kiselev (2013, committee member) Satyam  
Panday (2013, committee member)

Supervision of Heller School Social Policy PhD students:

Teresa Kroeger (current, committee member)  
Shamekka Ramirez-Kuykendall '21 (committee member)

Supervision of Heller MPP/WGS Capstone projects:

Rebecca Huber (2017-18)  
Elizabeth Olson (2017-18)  
Anna Mahathey (2016-17)  
Caroline Swaller (2016-17)

Supervision of undergraduate honors theses and independent studies

Runyi Du (2023-24)  
Frances Hoffen (2021-22, primary adviser, not completed)  
Maggie Wang (2020-21, primary adviser, not completed)  
Guille Caballero Ferreira (IGS, 2019-20, third reader) Jacob  
Judd (2018-19, primary adviser)  
Chris de Mena (2019-20, second reader)  
Isidora Filipovic (2017-18, primary adviser)  
Kim Adler (2016-17, primary adviser) Marilyn  
Bean (WGS independent study, 2016) Rose  
Wallace (Politics, 2015-16, third reader) Vicky  
Liu (2015-16, primary adviser)  
Le Wu (2015-16, second reader)  
Megan Elsayed (2013-14, independent study)  
Neelanjana Gupta (2012-13, second reader) Woo

Sang Jo (2012-13, second reader) Geraldine  
Rothschild (2011-12, primary adviser) Julia Korn  
(2010-11, primary adviser)  
Rachel Sier (History, 2010-11, third reader)  
Ezra Fishman (2009-10, second reader) Dan  
Litwok (2009-10, second reader)

Affiliated Faculty, Heller School for Social Policy and Management, 2011 - present.