

W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research
Employment Research -- Spring 1998
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From the Executive Director

One of the stated objectives of the Upjohn Institute is to "communicate new knowledge and scholarship effectively to a wide audience of policymakers, practitioners, and researchers." One of the ways we seek to accomplish this objective is through our publications program. In 1946, the Institute issued its first publication, entitled *Apprenticeship and On-the-Job Training for Veterans*, which explored effective ways to assimilate returning GIs into the workplace. To further its objective of disseminating important research findings, the Institute in 1978 established, and has since maintained, a program of publishing scholarly books.

We believe that this program has been effective and valuable in informing the targeted audience. In most instances, our books offer cutting-edge analysis of policy-relevant issues related to employment problems. Equally important, in our books we try to offer a single unbiased source of background information about issues being explored. Many readers, including professional economists and policymakers, seek a reference that lays out the issues, reviews what is known from the research literature, and then expands the envelope of knowledge in a form that is self-contained and accessible. The compliment I appreciate hearing the most is when someone tells me that they first turn to Upjohn Institute books as that single source of objective information about a specific employment program or policy issue.

The Institute's Publications Program

Over the years, Institute books have explored the gamut of employment issues, from the definitive two-volume treatment of unemployment insurance, to the productivity effects of employee profit sharing, to workplace training, access to health care, and international comparisons to job training programs. We have devoted several books to disability issues, including edited volumes from conferences sponsored by the National Academy of Social Insurance and by the Social Security Administration and the National Institute of Disability and Rehabilitation Research. With schooling and welfare adding the "work" to their program descriptions (school-to-work, welfare-to-work), the Institute has published several books on recent welfare reform initiatives and on educational issues such as the effect of teacher pay on teacher effectiveness and the role of teachers, other staff, and school resources on educational achievement. In addition, consistent favorites among our readers are books on labor-management relations.

Most books published by the Institute originate from our external Grant Program or from our internal staff. However, for several years we have also frequently published books whose authors are not otherwise connected with the Institute. These volumes have originated in various ways; from specific author proposals, from conference proceedings, or sometimes from sponsored research without a publications outlet. Authors are increasingly sending us unsolicited manuscripts or detailed book outlines for consideration. Among the recent publications of this type are *Lessons for Welfare Reform* by O'Neill and O'Neill; *Labor Law, Industrial Relations*

and Employee Choice, by Block, Beck and Kruger; and the volume of essays assembled by Garth and Stephen Mangum in honor of Sar Levitan entitled *Of Heart and Mind*. Such volumes have significantly enhanced the publications offerings of the Institute.

Expanding the Program

Now we are formalizing and expanding this external program, and we invite submission of publishable book-length works or proposals for books from outside scholars and policy analysts. Manuscripts and proposals will be reviewed by Institute staff, and manuscripts will receive external anonymous peer review if they appear to fit our interests. Authors will receive an assessment of their submission by the publications staff of the Upjohn Institute within four months. Assuming the project is of mutual interest, the authors and the Institute will sign a contract assigning royalties and rights to the work. The book would then be published, promoted, and distributed by the Upjohn Institute. We also consider co-publishing arrangements where that seems mutually advantageous.

We believe that expanding the program is an important investment in the future of sound, useful, policy-relevant research. We hope to continue to hear our readers say that Upjohn Institute books are their primary source of objective information about employment policy issues.

The Institute is interested in publishing books in these areas:

- Causes and consequences of unemployment
- Compensation: earnings and benefits
- Economic development of local labor markets
- Family labor issues
- Labor-management relations
- Social insurance and income maintenance programs
- Work arrangements
- Workforce quality: education and training

See our Web site (<http://www.upjohn.org/research.html>) for descriptions of these areas.

Please submit manuscripts or proposals to:

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