

Prize in memoriam of Etta Chiuri

2014 Edition

In compliance with the statutory prescriptions, the Committee in charge of awarding the prize in memoriam of Etta Chiuri, fourth edition (2014), was composed as follows:

- Prof. Massimo Bordignon, as the President of the Società italiana di economia pubblica (SIEP);
- Prof. Daniela Del Boca, as the Director of the Centre for Household, Income, Labour and Demographic economics (CHILD);
- Prof. Claudio Lucifora, as the President of the Associazione italiana economisti del lavoro (AIEL);
- Prof. Tullio Jappelli, designated by the Centre for Studies in Economics and Finance (CSEF);
- Prof. Ernesto Longobardi, on behalf of the Comitato premio Etta Chiuri.

The members of the Committee met online systematically in the months of July and August. Eventually, the selection process resulted in the decision of awarding the 2014 Etta Chiuri Prize to Ezgi Kaya for her paper “Heterogeneous Couples, Household Interactions and Labor Supply Elasticities of Married Women” (November, 2013).

The motivation for this decision is as follows.

<< Ezgi Kaya paper investigates the labour supply decisions of women and men within households. The paper makes an important contribution to the growing theoretical and empirical literature, which emphasizes the importance of modelling household’s decision-making taking into account also the presence of interactions between members. In particular, the paper estimates labour supply elasticities of household members allowing for heterogeneity (in education) among couples and explicitly modelling their interactions in labour supply decisions. It shows that labour supply decisions of husbands and wives are interdependent, particularly in the presence of pre-school age children. Conversely, when both spouses are highly educated and children are above school age, their decisions are found to be independent. Labour supply elasticities are also found to differ greatly across households: the own-wage elasticity is found to be largest for couples when both partners are low educated, while it is smallest for women with high education married to men with low education. The analysis contained in this paper provides evidence on a number of very relevant questions with important implications for policy, as well as a coherent framework to study how changes in educational attainments and household structure may affect labour supply elasticities.

The paper highly deserves the Prize in memory of Etta Chiuri for the original contribution to the literature, the rigorous implementation of the econometric techniques and the important policy implications it addresses. >>