Human Resource Economics and Public Policy

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“This book honors an outstanding scholar, but also makes a contribution of great scholarly and public policy value. It contains important discussions of issues at the forefront of a specialty that began as labor economics, became manpower policy, transformed into human resource economics, and is now often described as workforce development. Under any label, it is a subject at the heart of economic well-being, and the book is required reading for all who want to be up-to-date in the field.”

—Garth L. Mangum, Professor of Economics Emeritus, University of Utah

“The work presented here attests to the quality of the scholarship that Vernon Briggs inspires as a teacher and colleague and to the role he has come to play as a model of committed, passionate scholarship, even for those of us who often disagree with the policy changes he wants to introduce. It is a fitting tribute to a man who studies the world in order to change it and make it better and whose research has always come from the heart as well as the head.”

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“The case for an active set of national human resource policies, as supported by Vernon Briggs over his professional life, is greater than at any time in the past 30 years. This book offers much research information and policy analysis that can be used to develop what is needed.”

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“Vernon Briggs has long been a prolific and influential scholar advocating for progressive and humane labor market policies. This book does full justice to his career by including wide-ranging and useful essays on immigration, education, job training, disability policy, and workforce intermediaries. These chapters will be of interest to both researchers and policymakers as they consider how to rebuild labor market institutions in the face of the dramatic transformations that we have witnessed in recent years.”

—Paul Osterman, Nanyang Technological University Professor of Human Resources and Management, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

“With unemployment soaring, it is both pertinent and timely to introduce a new generation of economics students to Vernon Briggs’s grand vision of human resources as the source of value creation, stability, and growth. While Briggs’s contributions to the immigration policy debate remain controversial, they are clarified and challenged in this volume in ways that are useful in moving that vital conversation forward.”

—Eileen Appelbaum, Professor and Director of the Center for Women and Work, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey
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