Human Resource Economics and Public Policy

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“This marvelous book is not simply a festschrift in honor of one of the finest human resource economists on the planet, but a spectacular set of well-researched essays by leading social scientists reminding us of the great debate over the causes of unemployment and inequality in U.S. labor markets that first took place in the early 1960s. This volume’s first-rate analysis of structural unemployment, training, immigration policy, and the economics of disability should not be missed.”

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“The superb essays in this volume constitute a splendid tribute to my longtime colleague, Vernon Briggs. Over the course of his distinguished career, Vernon has always combined passion and conviction with impeccable scholarship on immigration, low-wage workers, and labor market policy. Often sailing against the prevailing winds, he has also insisted on the continuing relevance of institutional economics in the study of critical policy questions. With hindsight it is obvious that if policymakers had more closely followed his advice, our nation would be much better off. Charles Whalen has gathered an outstanding group of contributors who capture the spirit of Vernon’s lifelong pursuits.”

—David B. Lipsky, Anne Evans Estabrook Professor of Dispute Resolution, Cornell University School of Industrial and Labor Relations