

Derek Neal received his PhD in economics from the University of Virginia. He began his academic career at the University of Chicago in 1991. From 1998-2001, he served on the faculty of the University of Wisconsin before returning to Chicago where he is now Professor of Economics and also a member of the Committee on Education.

Professor Neal's current research agenda explores the design of education policies. He is particularly interested in how education policy affects inequality in the United States.

Professor Neal directs the *Chicago Workshop on Black-White Inequality*. Beginning in 2006, the workshop has held bi-annual conferences that explore various aspects on black-white inequality and why relative progress for blacks in the United States stopped in many respects during the past two decades.

He has served as an Advisory Editor for *Economics Letters* and as a co-editor for the *Journal of Human Resources*. He served as the Editor-in-Chief for the *Journal of Labor Economics* from 2001 through 2007. He is now editor of the *Journal of Political Economy*.