

**Columbia Univ. Seminar on Full Employment, Social Welfare and Equity
December 14, 2009**

The Columbia University Seminar on Full Employment, Social Welfare and Equity

TOPIC: *NYC: A Tale of Two Recessions: While Wall Street recovers, New York City's Main Street economy remains mired in the "Great Recession."*

This report from FPI (Fiscal Policy Institute) is an examination of the impact of the country's "Great Recession" on the New York City economy. The data show the shallowness of the previous expansion from 2003 to 2007 before the onset of the Great Recession, and recession-related job losses and rising economic insecurities. The report also explores in detail the character and extent of unemployment in New York City - and finds that despite Wall Street's faster-than-expected recovery, the city's Main Street economy continues to struggle with high unemployment and widespread economic insecurity.

DATE: Monday December 14, 7:15 - 9:00 p.m. in Faculty House (<http://facultyhouse.columbia.edu/>). The seminar is at 7:15 p.m. in a room that will be announced in the Faculty House lobby. Please look for a bulletin board posting. To reach Faculty House, enter the Columbia University campus via the gate on the east side of Broadway at 116th Street; go through campus and cross Amsterdam Avenue. Continue on West 116th past the Law School and turn left through the gate, turn right beyond Wein Hall on the right and go down the ramp to Faculty House.

OPTIONAL DINNER: There will be an optional buffet dinner at 6:00 p.m. on the second floor of Faculty House. The price for dinner is \$22. Lighter options, including sushi or sandwiches, are also available in place of the buffet dinner (**RSVP required** - please see bottom of email.)

SPEAKER: For 10 years, James Parrott has been the Deputy Director and Chief Economist of the Fiscal Policy Institute (FPI), a non-partisan public policy research organization dealing with New York fiscal, economic and labor market issues. Parrott has directed numerous studies of key sectors in the New York economy, and leads FPI's work on local, state and national economic policies. His recent research has focused on unemployment, the role of labor standards, and regional economic trends. He is the lead author of FPI's biennial report *The State of Working New York*, the latest edition of which was released in September 2009. FPI's publications can be found at www.fiscalpolicy.org.

In previous positions, Parrott worked in the State Comptroller's office that monitors the New York City budget, he was the Chief Economist for the City of New York under Mayor David N. Dinkins, and before that, he was Executive Assistant to the President of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union (1983-1992).

Parrott writes a regular column on the New York City economy for the online Gotham

Gazette and is a frequent media commentator on economic and fiscal issues. He is a member of Governor Paterson's Economic Advisory Panel and was a member of Governor Spitzer's economic development transition committee.

He received his B.A. in American Studies from Illinois Wesleyan University and his M.A. and Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

Please RSVP to Rebecca Fitle (raf2131@columbia.edu) by Friday 12/11/2009.

University Seminar on Full Employment #613

___ I will ___ I will not attend the meeting on November 16th.

___ I will ___ I will not join the group for the *buffet* dinner.

___ I will ___ I will not join the group for the *lighter options* dinner.

The seminar on Full Employment is chaired by Helen Lachs Ginsburg, helenginsburg@yahoo.com, Trudy Goldberg, trudygoldberg@msn.com and Sheila Collins, Sheila.Collins65@verizon.net.
