

# IAB-Colloquium

## zur Arbeitsmarkt- und Berufsforschung

### Analysis of Activation Programs for Low-Qualified Workers

**Dr. Randall W. Eberts**

*W. E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research (Kalamazoo, Michigan)*

Randall W. Ebert's talk will briefly highlight two projects that the Upjohn Institute has conducted: One is the long-term effectiveness of temporary placement agencies for welfare recipients (study by Susan Houseman and David Autor). The second is the use of Unemployment Insurance by welfare recipients, which was conducted primarily by Chris O'Leary. Then, he will spend more time on the evaluation of the pilot they conducted on statistical targeting of services to welfare recipients. It's a random assignment evaluation of the effectiveness of targeting approaches.

The presentation describes the development, implementation and evaluation of a new assessment and referral system designed to assist staff of local welfare-to-work programs in targeting employment services more effectively to welfare recipients. The motivation for the development of this system is the potential benefit to program participants of addressing their specific needs rather than providing all customers with the same set of services, which has been the approach of most welfare-to-work programs. The assessment and referral system includes administrative tools that provide staff with a quick and efficient means to assess the needs of participants as they enroll in welfare-to-work programs and then to use the assessment to refer participants to service providers that are best suited to meet their needs. The assessment tool is based on a statistical method that uses administrative data to estimate a participant's level of employability. The employability estimate is then used to refer participants to appropriate service providers. The assessment and referral system is designed to be integrated into an existing intake process, to require minimal (if any) additional operations staff, and to comply with the procedures and practices of the various welfare-to-work programs administered by the states.

**Donnerstag, 12. Februar**  
**10:30 Uhr**

**Sitzungssaal 126a**