

Jere R. **Behrman** (Ph.D. Economics, MIT, 1966) is the Kenan Professor of Economics; he served 7 years as the prior PSC Director and has been Chair of Economics. He has published over 300 mostly peer-reviewed papers (including 37 in the leading general economic and population journals) and 32 books/monographs. His research has been supported by 30 NIH, 13 NSF and 34 other grants on which he has been a PI or co-PI, as well as numerous international organizations. He is a Fellow of the Econometric Society and has received Compton, Guggenheim and Ford Foundation Fellowships. He recently served on the PAA Board of Directors and as Head of the PAA Finance Committee. He currently is a member of the NIH SPSS Study Section.

Scientific Accomplishment. (1) Schooling is associated with many positive outcomes. But these associations do not reflect causal effects if schooling is determined by unobserved factors such as genetic, motivation and family background endowments that also directly affect the outcomes. Behrman pioneered in using identical twins to investigate schooling impacts with control for endowments. His articles in leading journals (*Am Ec Rev*, *J Pol Ec*, *PDR*, *REStat*) indicate that standard studies misrepresent, and generally overstate, schooling impacts on labor and marriage market outcomes and investments in children. His recent *Am Ec Rev* articles, for example, suggest that, with control for endowments, estimated impacts of US women's schooling on their children's schooling are not positive but negative, apparently due to more-schooled women spending more time in labor markets and less time in child care. (2) Behrman's studies show that endowments and early-life experiences have substantial impacts on outcomes over the life cycle. A recent *REStat* study, for example, finds both that endowments have important effects well into middle age through using identical twins, and that birthweight has larger impacts than normally estimated on human capital and labor market outcomes if there are controls for endowments. Another in the *PDR*, with **Kohler**, finds that endowment effects on adult happiness are strong, but happiness also is affected by fertility and marital experience (though less than would appear without control for endowments). (3) The proximate determinants of most human capital investments, at least from birth well into adolescence, are households. So an important question is whether households invest so as to reinforce or to compensate for endowment differentials among siblings. Behrman co-authored two important *J Pol Ec* papers that developed a new model for parental investments in their children and a methodology for using identical and fraternal twins to estimate the impact of individual-specific endowments, which are found to have strong effects on US labor market outcomes. (4) Empirical focus on human capital usually is on schooling, but Behrman has authored a number of studies that find that health and nutrition, particularly in early life, have substantial returns over the life cycle, not only in poor populations but also in the US, perhaps in part by working through education. (5) To assess policies it is important to have good estimates of impacts, on which there has been considerable emphasis in the literature. But relatively little attention has been paid to placing multiple impacts of human resource related policies within life-cycle frameworks and to incorporating costs as well as benefits. Behrman has worked on such issues including his contribution for policies related to hunger and malnutrition in the well-known 2004 Copenhagen Consensus prioritization of policies in ten broad topic areas to best use resources for developing countries.

Present and Future. Behrman continues to work on the (1) impacts of early-life investments on adult outcomes using longitudinal data (35 yrs) from infancy to adulthood in Guatemala, (2) impacts of innovative social protection programs on micro outcomes in Chile using household survey data linked with over 25 years of administrative data (with **Todd, Mitchell, Pauly, Soldo**), (3) impacts of education on health, health-related behaviors and mortality using twins data from China, Denmark and the US to control for endowments (with **Kohler, Schnittker**), (4) roles of social networks in coping in the high HIV/AIDS environment of Malawi and consequences of HIV/AIDS in that context (with **Kohler, Chao, Watkins**), (5) evaluations of social and human resource programs, particularly in Chile and Mexico (with **Todd, Wolpin**), (6) multiple impacts of early childhood development programs as children age, particularly in the Philippines, (7) intergenerational relations among 3 generations in Guatemala, (8) mismatches between social science research and health conditions (with **Perez**), (9) effects of random shocks on transfers and inequalities among indigenous peoples in Bolivia.

PSC and Research. Behrman, as past Director, remains a pillar of the PSC, involved in many dimensions of the PSC through collaborative research and mentoring of trainees and younger PSC Research Associates, regular participation in PSC colloquia and other activities. He is a major link between economists and other scientists in the PSC. He will head the new Best Practices core for work that crosses borders, international and interdisciplinary. He has recently been on 10 NIH grants and draws heavily on the Administrative Core.