

**Why the Government Does Whatever It Is That The Government Does  
October 6-7, 2017  
Sponsored by  
The Laboratory for Aggregate Economics and Finance  
University of California, Santa Barbara**



**Conference Schedule**

*\*speakers are highlighted in author listings\**

**Friday, October 6**

9:45-10:00 **Welcome**

10:00-11:00 **Geographic Cross-Sectional Fiscal Spending Multipliers: What Have We Learned**  
**Gabriel Chodorow-Reich**

11:00-12:00 **The Heterogeneous Effects of Government Spending: It's All About Taxes**  
**Gaston Navarro**

*12:00-1:30 Group Photo followed by Lunch Served in Upham Courtyard*

1:30-2:30 **The Fiscal Multiplier**  
**Kurt Mitman**

*2:30-2:45 Break*

2:45-3:45 **Debt Burdens and the Interest Rate Response to Fiscal Stimulus: Theory and Cross-Country Evidence**  
**Dan Murphy**

*8:15 Dinner at Opal Restaurant & Bar, 1325 State Street*

**Saturday, October 7**

10:00-11:00 **Sovereign Risk and Fiscal (In)attention: A Look at the U.S. State Default of the 1840s**  
**Huixin Bi**

11:00-12:00 **Fiscal Foundations of Inflation: Imperfect Knowledge**  
**Stefano Eusepi**

*12:00-1:30 Lunch Served in Upham Courtyard*

1:30-2:30 **Taxing Top Earners: A Human Capital Perspective**  
**Mark Huggett**

*2:30-2:45 Break*

2:45-3:45 **The Politics of Flat Taxes**  
**Daniel Carroll**

*3:45-4:00 Break*

4:00-5:00 **Rethinking the Welfare State or Child-Related Transfers Household Labor Supply, and Welfare**  
**Gustavo Ventura**

**Conference Organizers:** Zachary Bethune and Eric Young