



Roberto Martínez Espiñeira teaches Economics at Memorial University, particular courses relate to Applied Welfare Economics and Econometrics. His research covers issues of water demand estimation and management, as well as nonmarket valuation of public goods. His work has been published in journals such as Applied Economics, Environmental and Resources Economics, Ecological Economics, Utilities Policy, and Urban Studies.

Moose-vehicle collisions are a serious policy issue in Newfoundland, but it is unclear that any further interventions to reduce that risk would be worthwhile. Furthermore, the risk is not equally spread and the individual distribution of the costs of reducing the risk would depend on the financing scheme involved. Ability to pay for risk reductions is not equally distributed either, so the equity implications of applying plain efficiency criteria when deciding about the aggregation of individual preferences are not straightforward.

This presentation will first address practical aspects of the application of contingent valuation to estimate the benefits of reducing the risk of collisions. Then, we analyse whether changing the distribution of individual contributions given by different schemes to finance the public risk reduction result in changes in its social acceptability. The latter is measured as the expected result of a majority referendum, rather than the more theoretical efficiency test informed by the Hicks-Kaldor criterion.

Contingent valuation under scale heterogeneity and distributional incidence: considerations of policies to reduce the risk of moose-vehicle collisions in Newfoundland

Speaker: Roberto Martínez Espiñeira

Jan. 11, 2019 3:00-4:30PM
Arts & Admin. Bldg. RM A1043

This event is open to the public.
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Funding provided by the Vice-President Academic's "Support for Scholarship in the Arts at Memorial Program" and the Collaborative Applied research in Economics (CARE) initiative.

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