

Nestor Lovera Nieto

15 rue Jean d'Aulan, chez Monsieur Patrice Farrugia

51100, REIMS

07 88 26 67 00

lovera.nestor@gmail.com

CURRENT SITUATION

From February 2024 to December 2028:

Qualified for the position of Associate Professor in Section 05 (Economic Sciences) by the National Council of Universities – No. 24205367626.

From September 2023 to August 2024:

- **Research Scholar** at the Rubenstein library, Duke University, United States.

Functions:

Arranging, rehousing, inventorying, and describing Jack L. Treynor's collection to ensure it is available for consultation by researchers.

ACADEMIC BACKGROUND AND DEGREES

From September 2023 to April 2024:

Visiting scholar at the Center for the History of Political Economy, Duke University, United States.

November 2022:

Doctorate in Economics and PhD in Management under the supervision of Cyril Hédoin (PU, Section 05, REGARDS, Université de Reims Champagne-Ardenne) and co-supervised by Stéphane Lhuillery (Full Professor, NEOMA Business School).

Double degree program between Université de Reims Champagne-Ardenne (Laboratoire REGARDS) and NEOMA Business School.

Dissertation: “Elucidating the Role of Value Judgments in Normative Economics”, defended on November 17, 2022.

Committee members:

- Herrade Igersheim, Directrice de Recherche, Université de Strasbourg.
- Cyril Hédoïn, Professeur des Universités, Université de Reims Champagne-Ardenne.
- Stéphane Lhuillery, Full Professor, Neoma Business School.
- Constanze Binder, Associate Professor, Erasmus University Rotterdam.
- Marc Fleurbaey, Director de Recherche, Paris School of Economics.
- Rouslan Koumakhov, Full Professor, Neoma Business School.
- Fouad Ben-Abdelaziz, Full Professor, Neoma Business School.
- Richard Arena, Professeur émérite, Université Côte d’Azur.

September 2019 to August 2022:

PhD program at Neoma Business School.

October 2018 to August 2021:

Contractual PhD student in Economics, Laboratoire REGARDS. Faculty of Economics, Social Sciences, and Management, Université de Reims Champagne-Ardenne.

September 2017 to June 2018:

Master’s degree in history of economic thought, Université Lumière LYON 2.

- Research project: “The pros and cons of being simple: Solow on growth,” supervised by Michaël Assous.

September 2016 to June 2017:

Master’s degree in economics and social sciences, Université Lumière LYON 2.

- Research project: “The present and future of Globalization according to Dani Rodrik. Reactions to his work, conception of globalization and globalization outlooks,” supervised by Rebeca Gomez Betancourt.

September 2007 to December 2012:

Bachelor’s degree in economics, Universidad Central de Venezuela.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

February 2019 to December 2020:

Teaching assignments as a contractual PhD student, Laboratoire REGARDS. Faculty of Economics, Social Sciences, and Management, Université de Reims Champagne-Ardenne.

September 2021 to August 2023:

Attaché Temporaire d'Enseignement et de Recherche (2 years, full time), Laboratoire REGARDS. Faculty of Economics, Social Sciences, and Management, Université de Reims Champagne-Ardenne.

February 2013 to March 2016:

Economist, Central Bank of Venezuela, Macroeconomic Accounts Department

Responsibilities:

- Actively participated in the launch of a new quarterly GDP analysis tool to enhance estimations.
- Coordinated the consolidation process of the Venezuelan economy's quarterly GDP.
- Analyzed key macroeconomic variables of the Venezuelan economy to present to the Central Bank authorities.
- Led a team to improve productivity through the use of new methodological tools.

August 2011 to December 2011:

Intern, Central Bank of Venezuela, Economic Studies Department

- Internship Report: "The Capital Stock by Economic Activities of the Venezuelan Economy: 1997 to 2007."

SUMMARY TABLE OF TEACHING ASSIGNMENTS

| Core Courses in Economics, Social Sciences, and Management | | |
|---|--|---|
| 2021-2023 | Microeconomics, Strategic Interactions, and Incomplete Contracts (24h of lecture and 72h of recitation sessions) | Level Undergraduate/ third year (L3) |
| 2021-2023 | Macroeconomics (105h of recitation sessions) | Level Undergraduate/ second year (L2) |
| 2019-2023 | Introduction to Economic Analysis (240h of recitation sessions) | Level Undergraduate/ first year (L1) |
| 2018-2020 | Macroeconomic Dynamics (45h of recitation sessions) | Level Undergraduate/ second year (L2) |

LANGUAGES

Spanish (native), **French** (bilingual), **English** (bilingual)

Basic knowledge of Visual Basic programming language.

Basic knowledge of SPSS statistical software.

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Research topics:

Value judgments in the study of normative economics, Axiological neutrality in economic sciences, Freedom of choice, Social choice theory, Progress in normative economics.

Ongoing project:

I am currently working on the following project, which I started at the Center for the History of Political Economy, Duke University:

At least five branches of normative economics are identified in the literature (economics of welfare, new welfare economics, social choice theory, public economics, and theories of justice and equity) (Mongin 2002). I focus on the study of only two of them: new welfare economics and social choice theory. The transition between these two branches deserves to be analyzed, because the publication of Kenneth Arrow's *Social Choice and Individual Values* (1951) created a major setback for new welfare economics by stating that it is not systematically possible to obtain a social welfare function based on individual preferences given a list of normative constraints.

In order to study the progress from new welfare economics to social choice theory, I use the following definition of progress:

A shift from theory T to theory T' is progressive if: (1) T' provides a solution to at least one unresolved problem of T; (2) T' provides a solution to the main problems that T had already addressed and resolved in its own way; (3) T' raises new problems and manages to solve at least one of them; (4) T does not satisfy the previous conditions with respect to T' (Mongin 2006, 25).

Mongin's conception does not make explicit the role of value judgments of economists in the progress of normative economics. I think specifically of value judgments that have an influence on the choice of research topics and on the approaches and methods to carry out research. Value judgments also have an impact when accepting or rejecting a hypothesis or theory, when studying economic concepts, or when giving practical advice on economic policy. I will determine how the value judgments of the economist *qua economist* play a role in the satisfaction of these four requirements for progress. This allows one to better understand not only the progress from one form of normative economics to another form (intertheoretic progress) but also the progress of different variants of the same theory (intratheoretic progress).¹

In order to study the progress from new welfare economics to social choice theory, I am going to start by analyzing the different debates within new welfare economics itself, that is, to make a diagnosis of the intratheoretic progress of new welfare economics. This will allow me to analyze two schools of the new welfare economics that have emerged in response to Robbins's criticism that rejected the idea of making interpersonal comparisons of utility because these comparisons were based on value judgments and not on empirical facts. These two schools are the Bergson-Samuelson School of the new welfare economics and the Kaldor-Hicks school of the new welfare economics (Suzumura 2002; 2021).

The intratheoretic analysis will allow me to understand the role played by the value judgments of economists in the debates between the two schools of the new welfare economics and how these debates will later be important to understand the intertheoretic progress between new welfare economics and social choice theory. Paul Samuelson (1947, Chapter VIII; 1950) played a major role in the progress of new welfare economics and made contributions to the two schools. Such contributions were made possible in part by the rich intellectual atmosphere nurtured by authors such as Abram Bergson (Burk), Nicholas Kaldor, John Hicks, Tibor Scitovsky, W. M. (William Moore) Gorman, John Chipman, William Baumol, and many others. This same intellectual atmosphere surrounded the publication of Arrow's *Social Choice and Individual Values* in 1951.

¹ In the case of intratheoretic progress, T and T' refer to different forms of the same theory (Mongin 2006, 25).

The analysis of the archival material of Baumol, Chipman, Gorman and Scitovsky can be enlightening in order to understand their position regarding value judgments in new welfare economics. What allows me to make this statement are the following facts: Baumol's (1946) early criticism of the Kaldor compensation principle, the alternatives proposed by Scitovsky (1941) and Gorman (1955) to avoid the inconsistencies of the Kaldor-Hicks compensation principles, and the strong criticism of Chipman (in his article with James Moore in 1978) who declared that new welfare economics was a failure. Furthermore, most of these authors had a professional correspondence with Samuelson, which will allow me to analyze their exchanges and the key points of the debate between the two schools of the new welfare economics.

Then, it is through the analysis of primary and secondary sources that we are going to determine the importance of the value judgments of economists not only in the intratheoretic progress of new welfare economics but also in the intertheoretic progress between new welfare economics and social choice theory.

PUBLICATIONS AND WORK IN PROGRESS

Articles under peer review evaluation:

- “Revisiting the Role of Value Judgments in Arrow’s Impossibility Theorem”, *The European Journal of the History of Economic Thought* [HCERES A]. **En revision.**

PHD thesis summary:

2023 “Elucidating the Role of Value Judgments in Normative Economics”, *Erasmus Journal for Philosophy and Economics*, 16:1, 168-171.

Book review:

2021 “Constanze Binder, Agency, Freedom and Choice”, *Revue de philosophie économique*, 22:2, 219–231.

Work in progress:

- “Exploring the Other Side of the Reading Room: Processing a Collection of Economists in the Rubenstein Library.”
- “Measurement of freedom of choice: A critical appreciation of the preference-based approach of Amartya Sen.”
- “Making Connections between Social Choice Theory and Preference-based Approaches to Freedom.”
- “The Role of Values of Economists and Economic Agents in Economics: A Necessary Distinction.”

Disponible sur : <https://hal.archives-ouvertes.fr/hal-02735869>

PRESENTATIONS

CONFERENCES AND SUMMER SCHOOLS

- **“One Way in which Social Choice Theory has Contributed to the Conception of Freedom,”**
May. 2023 16th Biennial Meeting of the International Network for Economic Method (INEM), Venice, Italie.
- **“Measurement of Freedom of Choice: A Critical Appreciation of the Preference-based Approach of Amartya Sen,”**
Sept. 2022 24th ESHET Summer School on History of Economic Thought, Economic Philosophy and Economic History: Inequality and Social Justice in Economics and Beyond, Strasbourg.

- Nov. 2021 15th Biennial Meeting of the International Network for Economic Method (INEM), online conference.
- **“Revisiting the Role of Value Judgments in Arrow’s Impossibility Theorem,”**
- June 2023 6^e Colloque international de Philosophie Économique, Lille, France.
- The 50th Annual meeting of the History of Economics Society (HES) Vancouver, Canada (online).
- 2023 Summer Institute sponsored by the Center for the History of Political Economy at Duke University, North Carolina, USA.
- 71^{eme} Colloque de l’Association Française de Science Economique, session de l’association Charles Gide: “Social Choice, Social Justice, and Political Legitimacy” avec Herrade Igersheim et Cyril Hédoïn.
- The 26th Annual Conference of the European Society for the History of Economic Thought (ESTHET), Liège, Belgique.
- Sept. 2021 23rd ESTHET Summer School on History of Economic Thought, Economic Philosophy and Economic History: Economics in Relation to other Disciplines: History and Perspectives, Paris.
- **“The Role of Values of Economists and Economic Agents in Economics: A Necessary Distinction,”**
- June 2021 5th International Economics and Philosophy Conference, online conference.
- Dec. 2020 International Conference: The Positive and the Normative in Economic Thought, online conference.
- **“Concluding Remarks on “Agency, Freedom and Choice,”**
- Nov. 2020 *Symposium on Constanze Binder’s “Agency, Freedom and Choice,”* online conference (Erasmus University Rotterdam).

- **The Summer Institute on the History of Economics**

June. 2024 Summer Institute sponsored by the Center for the History of Political Economy at Duke University, North Carolina, USA

SEMINARS

- **“Exploring the Other Side of the Reading Room: Processing a Collection of Economists in the Rubenstein Library,”**

Jan. 2024 Lunch seminar at the Center for the History of Political Economy, Duke University.

- **“Measurement of Freedom of Choice: A Critical Appreciation of the Preference-based Approach of Amartya Sen,”**

Feb. 2023 Erasmus Institute for Philosophy and Economics (EIPE) PhD seminar, Erasmus University Rotterdam.

RESEARCH-RELATED ACTIVITIES

- Member of the organizing committee for the 7th International Colloquium on Economic Philosophy, Reims, France, May 28-31, 2024.
- **Café-Eco Reims**, Cycle of three conferences in human and social sciences for non-specialized public, Reims, January 2023. (With M. Gouchon, A. Amo and A. Roux).
<https://sites.google.com/view/cafeecoreims/accueil>

- *From August 2023 to the present*

Podcast: L'heure d'une pause économique. Un podcast de philosophie économique et d'histoire de la pensée économique.

This French podcast project aims to highlight the complementarity between economic philosophy and the history of economic thought.

<https://l-heure-d-unepauseeconomique.fr/>

Last updated, June 17, 2024