

## **Agenda for INET call on Identity and Personality**

**August 2, 2011**

- I. Introduction to INET – Jim Heckman (10 minutes)**
- II. Ideas for what the Identity and Personality group could accomplish – Brent and Angela (10 minutes)**
  - a. Creation of a standard measure of economic outcomes which psychologists can insert into ongoing research studies
  - b. Comparison and synthesis of the analytic tools used to discern causality in economics and personality
  - c. The econometric approach to evaluating interventions
    - i. Using the Perry Preschool Project as a model for analyzing the effects of other psychological interventions
  - d. A theoretical framework for psychology which starts from the assumptions of neoclassical economics
- III. Introductions (20 minutes)**
  - a. Group members identify themselves, their institutions, their major foci of research, and interest in any of the suggested or ideas as well as new ideas not yet discussed
- IV. General discussion and summary (20 minutes)**
  - a. Research Ideas from Professor Ferguson and Professor Corr
    - i. Generic overlap (correlation) between traits and preferences. The idea is to examine both the phenotypic and genotypic correlation. We know that preferences (e.g., ultimatum game performance) and potentially associated traits (agreeableness, empathy and alexithymia) are all heritable. As part of looking at the overlaps between traits and preferences a key place to start would be generic overlap. A twin study is the aim here. Preferably added economic preference tasks to an existing twin registry.
    - ii. A related issue would be to explore performance on economic tasks in a scanner and look to see if neural activation to the task is modified (moderated) by traits.
    - iii. To explore how well traits compared to preferences predict real world outcomes (earnings, life satisfaction following positive and negative experiences, scholastic achievements, longevity etc)
    - iv. To explore the psychometrics of preferences (test retest stability, construct validity).