

Abstracts from the 2005 USBIG Conference

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Author	Title	Abstract
Adrian Kuzminski	A Populist Alternative to a Basic Income Guarantee (BIG)	By near-consensus, advocates of BIG envision a central bank or government issuing a minimal basic income directly to individuals. A simple issuance of fiat money would be inflationary, however, unless money to cover the cost were somehow withdrawn from the system by taxation, or covered by some other income of the government. BIG advocates differ over where this money could come from. One criticism of BIG is that these differences might constitute a source of political strife should some kind of BIG be established. Another is that BIG's reliance on big government' means concentrated decision-making in centralized state bureaucracies with too much power and too little accountability. A further criticism is that BIG completes the divorce between production and consumption begun by the displacement of work from self-owned production to wage-labor, thereby encouraging social vice rather than virtue. BIG is focused on providing citizens with a direct income for which their responsibilities will be indirect at best.
Ajit Zacharias	The Levy Institute Measure of Economic Well-Being: United States, 1989-2001	No abstract
Al Sheahan	A Proposal to Transform the Standard Deduction into a Refundable Tax Credit	This proposal discusses how to begin the phase-in of a basic income guarantee in the United States by transforming the standard income tax deduction into a refundable tax credit. This small reform would establish the principle of a universal payment, a necessary step toward a full-sized basic income guarantee. (coauthored by Karl Widerquist)
Alanna Hartzok	Costing the Commons for Earth Dividends	Drawing upon research by ecological and natural resource economists, data will be presented on the enormous amount of "resource rent," now accruing as unearned income to those who have enclosed the

		commons, which could be captured for distribution to all on an equal basis as "earth dividends". Resource rents will be costed for: surface land, oil and minerals, lands used for timber & grazing, ocean and freshwater resources, electromagnetic spectrum, satellite orbital zones, and emissions into air, water, soil.
Almaz Zelleke	A Feminist Critique of Reciprocity and Conditionality	The ideal of reciprocity has been used by advocates of a conditional basic income to justify work requirements as an answer to the exploitation objection to an unconditional basic income. But the reciprocity principle and the exploitation objection rely on a male-centric, ideologized view of paid employment as the paradigmatic form of social contribution, and fail to account for many of the social contributions made by women (and men) who perform caregiving, volunteer, and other unpaid but socially useful activities. The substitution of participation requirements for work requirement is one answer to this problem, but a feminist critique suggests a more comprehensive rethinking of the way we assess distributive justice, property rights, and redistributive policies, and provides support for the argument for unconditionality.
Andrea Fumagalli	Testing the Value of Solidarity and Implementation of Social Cohesion Policies	The scope of our paper will be that of elaborating a plural model of socially sustainable development. In accomplish our task we will refer to two well-established fields of research: economics and ethics. In this project, we will assume that an ideally just system of social cooperation is the one based upon the Contract of Reciprocal Solidarity (CRS), according to which all the members of a given system of social cooperation should benefit from it according to their needs as well as voluntarily contribute to it according to their ability. We will suggest that in order to attain social cohesion and social cooperation two structural policies such as Universal Basic Income and a reduction of working time with no loss in earning should be introduced. These two structural policies, it will be contended, indeed enhance what people are actually able to do and to be, that is, their freedom to enjoy valuable beings and doings.
Axel Marx	A Lottery Based Social	Recently, some authors have proposed different research designs to empirically explore possible

	Experiment: An Alternative Proposal for Basic Income Research	behavioral consequences of introducing a Basic Income. One possible research design is to conduct a genuine social experiment (cf. proposal of Loek Groot). Others argue for the use of natural quasi-experiments such as lotteries. Both research-designs and proposals have some distinctive strengths. However, they are also confronted with some important limitations. The paper discusses these limitations and proposes an alternative research-design, a lottery based social experiment, which combines the best of both designs. (Coauthored by Hans Peters.)
Buford Farris	The <i>Compassionate</i> Face of Religion: as Grounding for a <i>Guaranteed Income</i>	This paper uses Max Weber to make a distinction between the <i>Compassionate</i> face and the <i>Punitive</i> face of religion. In Weber's view, the <i>Punitive</i> face is a reaction to the threat to political and economic power that are implied in the norms of the <i>Compassionate</i> face. Various examples of the <i>Compassionate</i> face from a variety of religious traditions are described. All imply implicitly and some times explicitly a concept of a <i>guaranteed income</i> . The possible political use of these religious beliefs as support for the implementation of a <i>guaranteed income</i> are also discussed. The present use of the <i>Punitive</i> face to destroy the meagre welfare state in America is also discussed.
Carla Theodore	Utopia or Oblivion	BIG is an important first step, but easing poverty is not enough, we must ensure a habitable environment as well. This means we must stop endless economic growth. Unfortunately, our economy must expand, otherwise it collapses. Profound reforms are needed so that the economy can meet our needs and wishes without having to expand. The answer is a Sane Economy that breaks the link between work and income.
Cristian Pérez Muñoz	What is the role of the public education in a Basic Income Proposal?	Current debates on Unconditional Basic Income (UBI) theory are centered in two main aspects: the technical and the normative. In my paper, I will focus on some normative dimensions of this debate. In particular, I will explore the potentialities and limits of Philippe Van Parijs' idea of "Real Freedom" as the core of the main normative justification of UBI. I argue that the UBI proposal can be regarded as outstanding compensation policy and as a supplementary part of a larger social welfare package. In other words,

		<p>it can be an instrument to improve living conditions in a liberal-egalitarian democracy. However, I believe that a UBI, under some institutional conditions, can be counterproductive with respect to justice because it is only conceived as a means to real libertarianism, rather than focusing on people's unequal capabilities in converting this income into real freedoms. To sum up, my aim in this paper is to analyze the Arneson's and Sen's principal objection to the Van Parijs proposal, and to examine the role of some important social institutions such as public education, in improving the capabilities of people.</p>
<p>Dale Carrico</p>	<p>Pay to Peer: How Basic Income Will Support the Emerging Peer-to-Peer Networked Society</p>	<p>The ease with which content can now be published and circulated via emerging digital networked information and communication technologies has inspired an unprecedented outpouring of creativity. The common wisdom that the protection and extension of copyright is necessary to promote ongoing innovation has been disrupted, probably irreparably, as free content proliferates on these digital networks and as copyright regimes become instead the pretext for the oppressive policing of creative and collaborative work to preserve profits for established interests. In a related development, as conservative consolidated corporate broadcast media relinquish their traditional function to help educate the electorate and demand accountability in the conduct of the powerful, a vast archipelago of online blogs, columns, and communities of advocacy have suddenly materialized to do so in their place. The emerging peer-to-peer networked society is creating an incomparable archive of intellectual resources as well as tools to facilitate new practices of collaboration, exchange, and oversight, and I propose that a guaranteed basic income may be necessary to compensate this increasingly socially indispensable work since traditional economic incentives and models seem inadequate to accommodate these developments. I mean for my argument to complement Marshall Brain's recent thesis that a guaranteed basic income may be necessary to stave off the social disruption that is likely to eventuate as widespread automation eliminates traditional jobs and concentrates wealth</p>

		in fewer and fewer hands. Brain argues that a guaranteed basic income will ameliorate the negative impact of current technological developments, and I argue that the same income guarantee will likewise consolidate the positive impact of other current technological developments.
Dan Sullivan	The Local BIG	In the current US political climate, it is more feasible to get one state to allow local taxing jurisdictions to enact BIGs as an experiment than to get a national BIG. Per capita payments can be made from a land value tax at the county or even municipal level. The close correlation between idle, absentee land-ownership and poverty means less of the tax cost will fall on local residents and productive employers in poor jurisdictions than in wealthy ones. Commercial interests can be accommodated, either by making a per capita grant to each employee as well, or by reducing local business taxes while phasing in the BIG. The grants can be in cash, or in health-care vouchers.
David Swanson	A Basic Income Guarantee and Media Reform	A basic income guarantee is not possible in the United States without serious media reform. The corporate media hold a tight grip on our political agenda. No one will ever buy enough commercials for a BIG to make it happen. No one will ever spin it with the perfect sound bite to force the corporate media in their current formation to present a BIG in a positive light. And we need to be creative in our approach to reforming the media. Not only must we work to re-regulate and diversify the major corporate media, but we must also develop our own media -- and fundamentally that means rebuilding the labor media. In addition, we ought to combine the living wage movement with the media reform movement with the labor movement, and an ideal way to do that is through a campaign for a Living Wage for Reporters that targets for union organizing large chains of small newspapers paying poverty wages, and doing so with a focus on the effects of high turnover and poor training on the quality of reporting and the failure of these paper to cover the issues that community organizations care about.
Dean Herd	Living on the Edge: Tracking	This paper reports the results of the third round of in-depth qualitative interviews with a longitudinal

	<p>the experiences of current and former welfare recipients in Toronto</p>	<p>panel of current and former welfare recipients in Toronto two years after we first interviewed them. In Ontario, as elsewhere, welfare has been fundamentally transformed in recent years and more than 630,000 people have left the caseload since 1995. Little is known, however, about the longer-term circumstances of people who have left welfare or, indeed, of those who remain on a much-changed system. Contrary to claims of success, the experiences of most respondents suggest that the “work-first” focus of Ontario Works has only impoverished and isolated them more. Most leavers who find work enter low paying, insecure jobs and still report extreme poverty, with the fundamental fear of hunger still present. Those left behind, meanwhile, report slipping into even deeper poverty, hunger and poor health.</p>
<p>Eri Noguchi</p>	<p>So Long As There Are Bad Jobs, There Will Be Poor Workers: An Argument for an Anti-Poverty Policy NOT Dependent on the Labor Market</p>	<p>Characteristics of labor markets go a long way to explain the persistence, and more recently, the growing numbers, of the working poor. Labor markets create the reward structures of the jobs they offer, not only with respect to their relative compensation, but also with respect to their provision of other supports that help sustain an adequate standard of living, such as health insurance and security. As the existence of good jobs ensures that their incumbent workers will enjoy decent livelihoods, the existence of bad jobs ensures that their incumbent workers will be poor, disadvantaged, and insecure. Labor markets generate a large pool of “bad jobs” through specific industries and occupations. Job quality is a function of the industrial and occupational sectors within which jobs are found, and the persistence of the working poor can be attributed to the sectors that create the worst jobs in the American labor market. The effect of industry and occupation on workers’ employment outcomes is independent of the effects of other factors such as education, training, skill, and work experience. In fact, the ability to accumulate work experience is itself dependent on the industrial and occupational sectors within which workers are located. Thus, labor market structures are stronger determinants of the existence of the working poor than their</p>

		individual attributes. So long as these “bad jobs” exist, the effectiveness of social welfare policies that depend on workforce training and education to reduce poverty will be constrained, and poor people who enter the labor market to escape their poverty will only be escaping into the ranks of the “working poor.”
Francois Blais	Why Free Health Care System and not a Basic income?	The arguments in favour of free health services are numerous. In countries, such as Canada, these arguments are shared by a large portion of society. It is thus surprising to realize the extent to which those who defend free access to basic health services do not necessarily share the same passion for the promotion of economic security. This position seems to led to the conclusion that health care should be considered as the priority of social justice. My presentation will question this assertion
Gary Flomenhoft	Common Assets Permanent Fund	This presentation will review common assets at the global level in an “Earth Shareholder Equity Report”, as well as a common assets permanent fund for the US state of Vermont. The common assets approach to Basic Income avoids many objections, since it is based on rights to common property rather than redistribution of income. The value of some natural and common assets will be presented as well as a dividend scheme through permanent funds modeled on the Alaska oil dividend.
George McGuire	Is a Truly Progressive System of Taxation Possible in the United States?	The current Progressive, Left, Liberal ideas of progressivity, or regressivity, of the various kinds of taxation (Income, Sales, Payroll [FICA], etc.) are easy enough to state. But are they true? If it can be shown that our present tax system is progressive, then where is the cause of the ever increasing disparity, in income, wealth, and other assets, between the rich and the poor, to be found? This paper argues that by considering our system of taxation together with some aspects of our monetary system one major cause of this growing inequality becomes obvious, and that a democratization of our monetary system is one possible and necessary solution to the problem.
Gianluca Busilacchi	Two Problems, One Solution: The Earth Basic Income	The great inequality in the distribution of world resources is well represented by the co-existence of two opposite phenomena: the scarcity of resources that relegates billions of individuals in extreme

		<p>poverty conditions, and the over-consumption of resources by a minority of inhabitants who waste and pollute the planet earth. In addition to the serious ethical paradox produced by the combination of these negative forces, every year poverty and pollution cause severe economic losses, both directly and for negative externalities. Is it possible to reverse this ethical and economic paradox and find a joint solution to these two forms of world pollution? This paper illustrates a simple model of earth basic income: a taxation mechanism on waste production to finance a basic income appears to be a simple solution to both problems.</p>
Hans Peeters	A Lottery Based Social Experiment: An Alternative Proposal for Basic Income Research	<p>Recently, some authors have proposed different research designs to empirically explore possible behavioral consequences of introducing a Basic Income. One possible research design is to conduct a genuine social experiment (cf. proposal of Loek Groot). Others argue for the use of natural quasi-experiments such as lotteries. Both research-designs and proposals have some distinctive strengths. However, they are also confronted with some important limitations. The paper discusses these limitations and proposes an alternative research-design, a lottery based social experiment, which combines the best of both designs. (Coauthored by Axel Marx.)</p>
Harry F. Dahms	What it will take to make the Leap: Globalization, Economic Rights, and the Future of Capitalism	<p>Following T.H. Marshall's argument, proponents of basic income have argued that establishing economic citizenship rights will be the challenge par excellence of the 21st century, as far as economic and social policies are concerned. However, while establishing civil, political, and social rights during the 18th, 19th, and 20th century, respectively, was conducive to the proliferation of economic principles and the spread of capitalism, establishing economic rights will pose a major threat to the predominance of capitalism. For this reason, we must brace against major efforts to prevent the establishment of economic rights, and to resist related discussions and arguments. Proponents of basic income must develop strategies to tackle the resistance, as recent trends ("globalization") suggest that sustained efforts are underway, on the part of decision-</p>

		makers in advanced "political economies," to reverse gains that were made during the 20th century, with regard to social rights.
J. Hughes	BIG and Generational Equity in an Automated and Life Extended Future	Conservatives are pushing to privatize Social Security partly out of fear that lengthening life expectancy, combined with fixed retirement ages and publicly financed pensions, will provide a basic income guarantee for a growing proportion of the population. This will inevitably cause severe social tension as the ratio of dependents to workers passes parity. If we factor in accelerating unemployment employment as a consequence of automation and robotics, with or without public assistance for the unemployed, we can foresee an imminent and profound crisis in the social contract around public provision. Only BIG can establish a new social contract by expanding social security to all, and prevent a slide to a more atomistic and impoverished future.
James B. Bryan	The Health Insurance Tax Credit: A Basic Income Guarantee in Disguise?	Perhaps the only near term prospect for anything resembling a BIG (at the federal level in the United States) is the health insurance tax credit. Such tax credits have been discussed in the context of making health insurance more affordable for people at low levels of income, thereby increasing coverage among this population. In-kind forms of redistribution are sometimes very similar to cash grants and sometimes differ substantially from them. This paper will examine the major proposals for these tax credits with an eye toward determining the extent to which their contingency on the purchase of health insurance makes them different than a BIG.
James P. Mulvale	Reimagining Social Welfare on the Canadian Prairies? The Challenge and Potential of Basic Income	As in the other "advanced" industrial countries, the Canadian social safety net was significantly ripped and tattered as a result of neo-conservative ideological attacks and neo-liberal cuts and restructuring during the 1980s and 1990s. This presentation will look to the future, and will explore the level of interest and political readiness of anti-poverty activists and poor people in the province of Saskatchewan in advancing the Basic Income scheme as a comprehensive strategy for rebuilding economic security. The presentation will be based on key informant interviews, focus group discussions, and media reports. An

		<p>assessment will be offered as to whether Saskatchewan can play a role in initiating and leading a national debate on Basic Income in Canada. There will also be some exploration of whether some sort of Basic Income scheme could be piloted at the provincial level, with the goal of demonstrating its feasibility and positive features for possible later adoption at the national level. Historically, Saskatchewan played precisely this type of role during the decades leading up to the adoption of national health insurance in Canada in the 1960s.</p>
<p>Jason Burke Murphy</p>	<p>Deliberative Autonomy, Voluntary Agreement, and a Basic Income</p>	<p>The purpose of this paper is, first, to present “deliberative autonomy” as the right basis for democratic politics and, second, to show how a basic income guarantee (BIG) would promote such autonomy. In the course of the first part, I seek to show what would be missing, from a deliberative autonomy perspective, if a political program were limited to implementing Karl Widerquist’s Effective Control Social Ownership (ECSO), as presented in last year’s conference. My purpose is strictly illustrative—Karl Widerquist specifically stated then, in “The Freedom to Say No”, that ECSO is “not all there is to freedom, liberty, or social justice.” (Note: I am citing a draft document with a final version forthcoming.) I do this to show that securing a just society, described by Widerquist as one marked by “voluntary agreement,” requires the promotion of institutions that enable their participants to develop considered judgments about what is good and what is fair and also to live according to those judgments. The ability to do this is what I call “deliberative autonomy.” If one cannot have access to actual exchanges of different conceptions of the good and fair, then one cannot enter agreements in any robustly voluntary sense. There are some aspects of public policy that I see deliberative autonomy informing in ways that ECSO is not meant to do. Cultural, educational, media, and science policy come to mind. These policy matters require some judgments pertaining to quality that lack the elegant and neutral features of ECSO. In the second part of this paper I explain why I agree with Widerquist “that [ECSO] is a critically important</p>

		concern for social justice.” ECSO and, likewise, BIG are important precisely because they promote deliberative autonomy. With ECSO secured by a basic income (direct and in-kind), recipients gain an increased capacity to enter and exit deliberative fora and organize new ones to find out what they want and to better negotiate fair terms of cooperation. Also, with more income guaranteed outside of employment, recipients are less vulnerable to pressure to keep an item off the agenda.
Jeff Smith	A Polynesian Play Ethic Yields a Unique Indicator: Leisure	No abstract
John Marangos	Paine and Spence on Basic Income Guarantee	The aim of the paper is to outline and compare the Basic Income Guarantee proposals by T. Paine and T. Spence. Paine wrote “Agrarian Justice” in which he argued that every proprietor of cultivated land owes to the society a ground-rent for the land which the person holds because it is common property. This ground rent would take the form of a tax per year of 10% on inheritances. It is this ground-rent that would fund the payments made to every person. In response, T. Spence wrote “The rights of Infants” in which he went a step further as he recommended the abolition of aristocracy. All revenue from lands be given to parishes to administer and distributed to everyone equally. The justification is based on the right of every member of the society to the natural fruits of the earth, being undoubtedly common fruits.
Karl Widerquist	Ethics under uncertainty	Uncertainty effects ethical theory in three ways: First, are the theories we propose genuinely ethical? Second, will the institutions we put in place to create a just society actually work as intended? Third, can the ethical theory be misused maliciously? This paper proposes justice as voluntary agreements is a strategy of minimizing the maximum loss under ethical uncertainty.
L. Randall Wray	Argentina's JEFES Program: bringing together Job and Income Guarantees under one policy	(We) argue that BIG should be designed as a participation income, concentrate(ing) on how this could be accomplished drawing on the recent Argentinean experience with a job guarantee program. The idea is to show how the Argentineans have addressed the common

	proposal	criticisms associated with ELR programs and how it can in fact be viewed as a ‘participation income’ and can serve as a vehicle for achieving a number of goals advanced by BIG proponents.
Leland G. Neuberg	Burial of a Negative Income Tax and Birth of the Earned Income Tax Credit Under the Carter Administration	The conservative economist Milton Friedman was the first to propose a negative income tax (NIT), but it was largely liberals who supported efforts to enact one under Nixon. After the defeat of an NIT under Nixon, liberals regrouped during the Carter Administration to try again. At the same time, conservatives led by Senator Russell Long proposed the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) that was enacted. This paper examines the political conflict under Carter that resulted in the burial of an NIT and the birth of the EITC. It examines the role of the income maintenance experiments in the outcome of the conflict and the subsequent failure of the minimum wage-EITC combination to assure all who work an income above the poverty line.
Lew Daly	Whatever Happened to Unearned Income	My paper will examine the problem of the “new inequality” in the United States as one that is consistently diverted from real debate by unexamined moral assumptions in public life. In particular, the disappearance of “unearned income” from public opinion on economic differences will be probed in relation to still-pervasive desert-based notions of entitlement. This contradiction can be better understood in light of two overlapping legacies of nineteenth century liberal thought—rent theory and the theory of unearned income. Narrow contemporary applications of these theories include windfall profits taxation and recent legal decisions that grant a spousal property right to a partner’s intellectual capital. But the potential for a more systemic approach, addressing the problem of inequality from a broader rent-theory perspective, is also significant. Put simply, this requires a better understanding of the social origins of wealth and the vast portion of national wealth that no one can properly be said to have earned. Should this be made increasingly clear by well-conceived research and other public efforts, it will be possible to establish a firmer, more intuitively appealing moral argument for redistributing wealth. The moral

		burden of deservingness can be shifted from the poor to the rich, to greater political effect than other redistributive points of view, I argue. I conclude by comparing this to the Basic Income approach.
Manuel Henriques?	Material Matter UMI II + III	"Material Matter UMI II" At the bottom, matter is a cause. It is discussed the spirit of UMI, a Universal Minimum Income, and why everything less than universal goes against it based on what is called the reference point principle. The spirit is justified as an synthetic a priori of the next spirit, the one who matters. It is discussed why UMI is both a small material and a huge spiritual step and why the end of work speeds up the Future. It is also discussed the optimal income level of UMI. "Material Matter UMI III" At the top, spirit is cause. It is discussed the spirit of UMI, a Universal Maximum Income and why it should exist as an a priori ceiling. It is presented the next philosophy for taxation and how it can be linked to a minimum UMI, contributing to equality of initial condition and why material inheritances are totally spiritless.
Michael Opielka	The Values of the Basic Income Debate	Which political and cultural values underpin the debate on Basic Income? This is the focus of the paper. Political values as justice, equality, solidarity or participation are not the same as cultural values, i.e. work ethics or gender patterns. I will argue from a combined perspective of social policy and cultural analysis that the Basic Income Debate seems up to now locked within a silver cage of post-traditional cultural values and traditional political values, which are limited to the classical regime triangle (liberal, conservative, social-democratic). To overcome this dilemma it would be helpful to extend the horizon of political values towards a forth regime pattern which could be labelled a "garantist" one. I will show that this forth paradigm fits well with the post-traditional cultural values which gave rise to the Basic Income idea. Therefore the Basic Income Debate in itself contains an important value for the development of the modern welfare state.
Micheál L Collins	The Experience and Nature of Deprivation in a Disadvantaged	This paper focuses on deprivation; people living without items regarded as basic necessities due to their inability to afford them. Alongside other issues of disadvantage, deprivation has

	<p>Urban Area: a socially perceived necessities approach</p>	<p>traditionally been found in geographic clusters. In many cases, these clusters are concentrated in urban areas. In spite of deprivation holding an important position within Irish “anti-poverty” policies, our knowledge of its composition and distribution remains limited. Building on previous research carried out in the UK, this paper uses a set of items regarded by more than 50% of its population as necessities to examine the experience of deprivation in one Irish community. The area chosen is one with a sustained record of disadvantage as indicated across a number of national census and is located in Dublin city. As such, this research provides a useful insight into the reality of deprivation in it and similar disadvantaged urban areas. The structure of this paper is as follows. The first section defines the concept of deprivation and reviews the method adopted in this study to measure it. Following this an account is given of the selection process for the area examined and how it was surveyed. Next the results of the survey are assessed to establish the experience of deprivation in this community before a principal components analysis is used to identify the underlying nature of deprivation. Finally the implications of the analysis are discussed.</p>
<p>Myron J. Frankman</p>	<p>Renewed Tax Progressivity in Support of a Planet-Wide Citizen’s Income</p>	<p>My advocacy of a Basic Income of \$US1,000 for each of the world's 6 billion people has led me to explore the extent of the concentration of income and wealth at the top of the world's income distribution. I have previously provided rough estimates suggesting that supplementary income taxes on the top one-tenth of the World's income recipients would suffice. I will argue in this paper that the revenue increments that could result from returning income and profit taxes to marginal rates that existed in several countries (including the United States) in the 1960s could easily finance a Planet-Wide Citizen's Income (PWCI). The case for a PWCI will be briefly reviewed with an emphasis placed on social justice, mitigating international migratory flows, ecological consequences of shifting away from elite consumption goods, and increased freedom through expanded capabilities.</p>
<p>Nancy Folbre</p>	<p>Valuing Care</p>	<p>We need to build a two-way, double-decker bridge</p>

		<p>between communities interested in supporting care work and those supporting basic income guarantees. Recent feminist scholarship on care could strengthen the case for a basic income. At the same time, basic income strategists should recognize that those who provide care for children and other dependents require a higher basic income than those who do not. Basic income grants should take the value of unpaid care work into consideration.</p>
Pavlina Tcherneva	<p>Argentina's JEFES Program: bringing together Job and Income Guarantees under one policy proposal</p>	<p>(We) argue that BIG should be designed as a participation income, concentrate(ing) on how this could be accomplished drawing on the recent Argentinean experience with a job guarantee program. The idea is to show how the Argentineans have addressed the common criticisms associated with ELR programs and how it can in fact be viewed as a 'participation income' and can serve as a vehicle for achieving a number of goals advanced by BIG proponents.</p>
Peter Dietsch	<p>Institutions as Motivational Bootstrapping</p>	<p>John Rawls' focus on institutional justice has come under criticism in recent years. G.A. Cohen, for instance, has argued that any formal institutional structure needs to be complemented by a <i>social ethos</i> to be effective. Liam Murphy points out that a dualistic notion of justice will yield implausible recommendations in a non-ideal, i.e. unjust, world. Based on insights from these critiques, I argue that justice does not have to choose between the individual and institutional level. It necessarily relies on both. However, the interaction between the two levels, so I suggest, is subject to constraints. If the institutional demands – be they of a formal or informal nature – which a society imposes on its citizens grow too far apart from the latter's individual convictions, this institutional structure will collapse. The incremental change that our efforts of institutional design should focus on to avoid such collapse is what I call <i>motivational bootstrapping</i>.</p>
Robert Wirengard	<p>Capitalist Living Dividend, Not a Living Wage: the key to end</p>	<p>Imagine a U.S.A. "Inc.", where each and every citizen inherits one share of ownership on their 18th birthday. From then on, that share will pay each citizen monthly cash dividends of</p>

	<p>poverty in a free nation and to begin peace through the free world.</p>	<p>\$750/month until death, for food and shelter; and pool cash of \$290/month (cradle to grave) into an escrow account from which any medical needs will be spent by the individual, pro rated at actual, going or market rates (if the individual wants more expensive than market rate health care, then s/he co-pays for the extra and, alternately, if s/he chooses care that's less expensive than going rate, market prices, then s/he retains a negative co-pay (saves/profits into his/her own pocket). Government will be downsized, cost less become more of a technocracy and "hands off", shifting responsibility/ceding power to people; personal wage and Social Security and Medicare contributions will be replaced by one flat pay roll tax paid by employers and all will be exempt from minimum wage laws, allowing jobs to return to America.</p>
Robley George	<p>Socioeconomic Democracy: A Democratic Basic Income Guarantee</p>	<p>Socioeconomic Democracy is a model socioeconomic system wherein there exist some forms of Universal Guaranteed Income and Maximum Allowable Wealth, with both the lower bound on personal material poverty and the upper bound on personal material wealth set and adjusted democratically by all participants of society. This paper briefly describes the essential elements of Socioeconomic Democracy, including quantitative democracy and economic incentive, and then outlines some of its properties, such as societal variations, justifications, relationship with Islam, practical political approximations, realizability, and the significant reduction of a large number of acknowledged serious societal problems. We conclude by reviewing how a number of contemporary dilemmas impeding the realization of some form of needed universal guaranteed income are trivially (and democratically!) resolved with Socioeconomic Democracy. These include questions as How much?; Who decides?; Where necessary funds come from?; Where does democracy fit in?; and How soon can all this start to happen?</p>
Ross Zucker	<p>Democratic Distributive Justice: A Defense</p>	<p>This paper provides further support for the view, proposed in my book <i>Democratic Distributive Justice</i>, that the overall inequality of income between all strata should be reduced. This view</p>

		<p>may be considered in contrast to the basic income approach, whose remedy deals effectively with the “basic” problem or the floor, but does not deal at all well with extreme differences between the incomes of other strata above the level of the income floor. While the inequality between the lowest incomes and the rest of social incomes is a basic problem, economic justice is not only concerned with it. Economic justice is also importantly concerned with the extreme social distance between other income strata.</p>
Roy Morrison	National Trust Investment, Social Security and a Negative Income Tax	<p>The use of annual U.S. government savings in the range of 50 to 100 billion dollars a year and investment in a National Trust Bank could dramatically transform U.S. social policy. A democratically controlled National Trust Bank would finance investment in sustainability and community, and could, in addition, generate revenues to be used to help fund social insurance and a negative income tax.</p>
Sam Pizzigati	Can a Society with a Very Rich Be Decent to the Very Poor? The case for a ‘maximum wage’	<p>A century ago, Americans with a “social conscience” saw the campaign for economic justice as a two-front struggle. A good society would only emerge, they believed, if more wealth accumulated at the bottom of the social order, less at the top. These progressives fought tirelessly to both “level up” the poor and “level down” the rich — and they succeeded, to a remarkable extent. By 1970, the United States had significantly reduced poverty, nurtured a mass middle class, and flattened the plutocracy that had once so dominated American life. Today, that plutocracy is back. But many contemporary Americans don’t seem to mind. Efforts to “level down” the top, they argue, amount to a divisive distraction from the real task at hand: ensuring decency for the poor. Are they right? Or does success in the struggle to “level down” remain a social and political prerequisite for ensuring decency to all?</p>
Sara Dustin	Macroeconomics’ Basic Analytic Tools Produce Undesirable Social Outcomes because they are Inadequate and	<p>Abstract: A logical conundrum at the core of the mathematical and graphical structure of economics blinds the field to the effects of economic forces arising independently from within the household and biases it against wage increases. The mathematical prohibition against the outward shift of the Aggregate Demand Curve when changes in</p>

	Need Updating	<p>household income are the active factor has led mainstream economics to focus exclusively on the depressive effects of wage increases on production and to maintain the absurd conclusion, in the face of mounting evidence to the contrary, that increasing wages produce recession. A similarly based prohibition against allowing changes in Household Income to shift the Consumption Function of the Aggregate Expenditure Graph renders that model an inadequate tool for analyzing the macroeconomic effects of the near doubling of household incomes produced by the social transition to the dual-income family—explaining perhaps why the field has so completely overlooked the profound economic impact of the Women's Movement. When our influential profession convinces policy makers that wage increases mean economic slowdown, the real wage falls and income is transferred upward. Come think about creating better analytic tools.</p>
Simon Smith	Automatic for the People: How Humans Can Benefit from the Rise of Machines	<p>Forecasts have long been made that robots-and, indeed, technology in general-will end the need for much if not all human labor. While in 2004 we have many productivity-enhancing technologies and people are still working, the forecasts weren't wrong, they just failed to get the dates right. Today-with increasing developments in and applications of artificial intelligence, the ability to purchase smart robotic dogs and vacuum cleaners, the use of robots such as drone aircraft in the military and Japanese companies battling to put the first general purpose humanoid robot on the market-many people are talking again about the impact of automation on jobs. The difference this time is that there's more evidence that automation is beginning to take its toll. The recent US job-loss recovery, for example, coincided with the biggest ever year-over-year increase in robotics purchases. As a solution to the problem of job loss caused by automation, a "guaranteed basic income" or "guaranteed annual income" has become attractive. While critics dismiss this as economically and psychologically dangerous, there is evidence that it offers the most potential both for continued economic growth and increasing human happiness. This presentation, consisting of a talk accompanied</p>

		by multimedia elements, will explore the potential risks and benefits of automation, evidence for its imminent impact and the use of a guaranteed basic income to ensure that automation furthers human happiness rather than expands human misery.
Stephen Bouquin	The local exchange system, a concrete alternative against the monetization of everyday life	Since the nineties, a network of "local exchange systems" (LES) is growing in continental Europe. Although it is still very small, it presents itself as a concrete alternative towards capitalism. The system work as follows: people hold on a self-organized basis a stock-index of activities they can potentially exchange with others. Some people bring into this "social stock exchange" piano-lessons, others are teachers, carpenters, plumbers or are able to care for persons. Everybody that is enlisted in the system is authorized to ask some help or services but has to offer something in exchange. The LES-network is advocating a demonetization of society in everyday life. A lot of them are also in favor of basic income with a green ideological background rather than a social(-ist) one. Our contribution will be based upon a small sample of interviews (10) with members of these LES-networks in France and Belgium. We will ask them concrete information concerning the way it works, the problems it may encounter as well as their general viewpoint about this approach against monetization. We will conclude with a critical assessment of this alternative option and confront it with the principles of basic income.
Stephen Clark	The Trued Price, From Widow's Cruse to the Bank of Fortunatus, A Treatise on Money and Price in Time	The world now suffers from one of the greatest cons ever perpetrated on mankind, the con of modern money. It is a classical trick of misdirection which has at its base the faulty notion that the currency divisions (dollars, franks, yen) have some sort of existence that should be kept stable. Counter cyclical fiscal and monetary policy have combined with fractional reserve credit to render money useless as a tool of information and down right dysfunctional as a medium of exchange. If it were just a gullible public that bought the con it would simply be a matter of public education to rectify it, but virtually all of mainstream economics, including the major monetary critics, have bought it as well. This paper will examine the problems with money and

		how a Basic Income Guarantee facilitates its solution.
Susan Evarts	Suppressed Alternatives	An attempt to expand the context of basic income discussion and relate it to Other economic justice / economic democracy approaches, such as, Social Credit, single tax, binary economics, debt relief and issues of usury and control of access to credit, from the perspective of a non-academic, concerned planetary citizen. I would emphasize how the stocks and flows of real wealth which should be used to serve human freedom and creativity have been misdirected by those with power to manipulate financial flows and thereby divert real wealth to themselves and deprive large numbers of people of access to resources they need and are entitled to as a human right.
Timothy Roscoe Carter	Means-Testing Debunked: Why giving free money to Bill Gates helps the poor.	This presentation provides an answer as to why government benefits should not be means-tested. A mathematical model of a society with 100 people with an average income distribution for Americans is used. Benefits of various sizes are proposed, paid for through income taxes of various progressivity. Result: Means testing benefits paid for through a progressive income tax increases the disincentives and reduces the fairness of the tax. Means-testing benefits creates a higher top marginal rate than that which would exist if everyone received the benefit, but it locates that top marginal rate at a lower income level than where the top marginal rate would exist if everyone received the benefit. Some objections to the model are answered. Finally, the model reveals that considering benefits to be taxable income may be a compromise: If the benefit is taxed, both the top marginal rate and the progressivity of the tax needed to pay for the benefit is reduced.
Tino Rozzo	A view of the workfare system from someone who's lived through it	I am a product of the system. Since I have dealt with the system, I must admit I find it reprehensible. When we know a BIG would give people empowerment and freedom to run their own lives, we are saddled with Food Stamps and Welfare as indentured servants.
Wade Rathke	EITC: Owed, but not Paid	No abstract
Yannick Vanderborgh	Four Modest but Achievable Steps	In Europe and North-America, a Basic Income Guarantee (BIG) has been advocated by various

	Towards a Basic Income Guarantee	political forces and social movements. Partly because of the scattering of its proponents, but also because of other political obstacles as well as ethical objections, the idea still seem far removed from the decision agenda. Assuming that a BIG is attractive, for reasons which have been outlined elsewhere, it might be worth exploring much more modest steps into the right direction. In this perspective, four alternatives shall be discussed in this paper, which are to be considered as feasible transitions towards a truly universal BIG: an individual and refundable tax credit, a familial negative income tax, a participation income, and a Euro-Dividend.
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