



Prize in memoriam of Etta Chiuri

2023 Edition

In compliance with the statutory prescriptions, the Committee in charge of awarding the Prize in memoriam of Etta Chiuri, thirteenth edition (2023), was composed as follows:

- Prof Lorenzo Cappellari, President of the Associazione italiana economisti del lavoro (AIEL);
- Prof Daniela Del Boca, Director of the Centre for Household, Income, Labour and Demographic economics (CHILD);
- Prof Tullio Jappelli, Director of the Centre for Studies in Economics and Finance (CSEF);
- Prof Rosella Levaggi, President of the Società italiana di economia pubblica (SIEP);
- Prof Ernesto Longobardi, on behalf of the Comitato premio Etta Chiuri.

The members of the Committee met online repeatedly during the months of May to July 2023, and examined the 27 papers submitted for consideration for the prize award. On average, the quality of submissions was found to be very high. After a careful review, the Committee unanimously decided to award the 2023 Etta Chiuri Prize to Livia Alfonsi, Mary Namubiru and Sara Spaziani for their paper *Meet Your Future: Experimental Evidence on the Labor Market Effects of Mentors*.

The motivation for this decision is as follows:

The paper by Alfonsi, Namubiru and Spaziani investigates the effectiveness of personalized mentorship by experienced workers in improving young job seekers' labour market trajectories in a developing country context. To that end, an excellent mentorship program is designed and randomized in three urban labour markets in Uganda. The authors find that the program improved participants' labour market outcomes, primarily by providing information about entry level jobs and labour market dynamics. As a result, students correct their over optimistic beliefs about starting wages, lower their reservation wages and turn down fewer job offers. The paper contributes to different strands of literature in the field of labour, behavioural and information economics, emphasizing the role of information frictions and distorted beliefs in determining labour market outcomes.

The Committee in charge of awarding the Etta Chiuri Prize 2023 has unanimously decided that the paper by Alfonsi, Namubiru and Spaziani deserves the prize in consideration of: (a) the sharpness and sophistication of the mentorship program constructed, and the methodological rigour of the analysis; (b) the original contributions to the literature; (c) the insightfulness of results in terms of policy implications; (d) the coherence of the topic considered with Etta Chiuri's research interests.

July 12th, 2023