

# Ronald G. Ehrenberg

## Cornell University

**Irving M. Ives Professor of Industrial and  
Labor Relations and Economics**

**Stephen H. Weiss Presidential Fellow**

**Director - Cornell Higher Education  
Research Institute**



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Ronald G. Ehrenberg is the Irving M. Ives Professor of Industrial and Labor Relations and Economics at Cornell University and a Stephen H. Weiss Presidential Fellow. He also is Director of the [Cornell Higher Education Research Institute](#). From July 1, 1995 to June 30, 1998 he served as Cornell's [Vice President for Academic Programs, Planning and Budgeting](#).

Ehrenberg served as an elected member of the Cornell Board of Trustees from July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2010. Governor David Paterson nominated him for membership on the SUNY Board of Trustees in May 2009 for a term ending in June 2013 and his appointment was confirmed by the New York State Senate in March 2010.

He received a B.A. in mathematics from Harpur College (SUNY Binghamton) in 1966, M.A. and Ph.D. in economics from Northwestern University in 1970, an Honorary Doctor of Science from SUNY in 2008, and an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Penn State University in 2011. A member of the Cornell faculty for 37 years, he has authored or co-authored over 150 papers and authored or edited 26 books.

Ehrenberg was the founding editor of *Research in Labor Economics*, and served a ten-year term as co-editor of the *Journal of Human Resources*. He has served, or is serving, on several editorial boards and as a consultant to numerous governmental agencies and commissions and university and private research corporations. He is a research associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research, a research fellow at IZA (Berlin), was a member of the Executive Committee of the American Economic Association, chaired the AAUP Committees on Retirement and the Economic Status of the Profession, and is Past President of the Society of Labor Economists. He also chaired the National Research Council's Board of Higher Education and served on its committee on Gender Differences in the Careers of Science, Engineering and Mathematics Faculty, on Measuring Higher Education Productivity, and on Research Universities, the NACUBO Endowment Advisory Panel, the College Boards Rethinking Student Aid Study Group, and the Brookings Institution Panel on State Financial Aid Policies.

Currently, Ehrenberg is a member of the Board of Trustees of Emeriti Retirement Health Solutions. He is a Fellow of the Society of Labor Economists, the TIAA-CREF Institute, and the American Educational Research Association; a member of the National Academy of Education; and a National Associate of the National Academies of Science and Engineering.

In 2011, The Society of Labor Economists presented him with the Jacob Mincer Award for lifetime contributions to the field of labor economics

Coauthor of the leading textbook, *Modern Labor Economics: Theory and Public Policy* (11th ed.), his recent research has focused on higher education issues. He is the editor of *American*

*University: National Treasure or Endangered Species* (Cornell University Press, 1997) and the author of *Tuition Rising: Why College Costs So Much* (Harvard University Press, 2002). He is the editor of *Governing Academia* (Cornell University Press, 2004), and *What's Happening to Public Higher Education?* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2007), and coeditor of *Science and the University* (University of Wisconsin Press, 2007) and *Doctoral Education and the Faculty of the Future* (Cornell University Press, 2008). Ehrenberg is a coauthor of *Educating Scholars: Doctoral Education in the Humanities* (Princeton University Press, 2010).

Ehrenberg has supervised the dissertations of 45 Ph.D. students and served on committees for countless more. He is also passionate about undergraduate education, involves undergraduate students in his research, and has co-authored papers with a number of these undergraduates. In 2003, ILR-Cornell awarded him the *General Mills Foundation Award for Exemplary Undergraduate Teaching*. In 2005, he was named a Stephen H. Weiss Presidential Fellow, the highest award for undergraduate teaching that exists at Cornell.

Finally, Ehrenberg has served as a consultant to faculty and administrative groups and trustees at a number of colleges and universities on issues relating to tuition and financial aid policies, faculty compensation policies, faculty retirement policies, and other budgetary and planning issues. Among the institutions he has worked with are Brandeis University, Oberlin College, Northeastern University, The University of North Carolina, the University of Chicago, Vanderbilt University, the U.S. Naval Academy, the National Technical Institute for the Deaf at the Rochester Institute of Technology, Smith College, the Suffolk University Law School, Albany University (SUNY), George Washington University, the University of Akron, and the University of Vermont.

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