Economics 314Spring 2014Project #8 AssignmentPresentations: Thursday, April 17

For this project, each group will make a 10-minute presentation summarizing the results of an empirical paper relating to price stickiness or some related aspect of business-cycle theory. The presentations will be made in class on Thursday, April 17. If you have time to read one or two of the papers other than the one assigned to you, it would be helpful to have some informed listeners who can ask questions. Papers will be presented in the order given below.

- Sarah Brauner and Taylor Holdaway Bils, Mark, and Peter Klenow, "<u>Some Evidence on the Importance of Sticky Prices</u>," *Journal of Political Economy* 112(5), October 2004, 947-985.
- Alejandro Chavez and Luke Hill Blinder, Alan S., "On Sticky Prices: Academic Theories Meet the Real World," in N. Gregory Mankiw, ed., *Monetary Policy* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1994), 117-150. (Book is on reserve.)
- Logan Donoughe and Nick Fiore Levy, Daniel, Mark Bergen, Shantanu Dutta, and Robert Venable, "<u>The Magnitude</u> of <u>Menu Costs: Direct Evidence from Large U.S. Supermarket Chains</u>," *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 112(3), August 1997, 791-825.
- Vlad Mankov and Reilly Villanuena Zbaracki, Mark J., Mark Ritson, Daniel Levy, Shantanu Dutta, and Mark Bergen, "<u>Managerial and Customer Costs of Price Adjustment: Direct Evidence from Industrial Markets</u>," *Review of Economics and Statistics* 86 (2), May 2004, 514-533.
- Jacob Menick and Will Schmid Hobijn, Bart, Federico Ravenna, and Andrea Tambalotti, "<u>Menu Costs at Work:</u> <u>Restaurant Prices and the Introduction of the Euro</u>," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 121(3), August 2006, 1103-31.
- Natalie Pong, Peter Riehlman, and Orphelia Ellogne Campbell, Carl M., III and Kunal S. Kamlani, "<u>The Reasons for Wage Rigidity: Ev-</u> <u>idence from a Survey of Firms</u>," *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 112(3), August 1997, 759-789.

Guidelines for Presentations

Ten minutes is not very much time. You will only have time to present 3-4 major points very briefly. These points should define the question that the authors are trying to answer, summarize quickly the method they used to answer it, and summarize their results. Your job is the inform your classmates who haven't read the paper. What are the "take-away points" that they should know about the paper, both in terms of results and in terms of how the results were generated?

I would recommend that you prepare a slideshow in Powerpoint (or equivalent software) that has no more than 5-6 slides: One introductory slide with an outline of your presentation, one that summarizes the method/data used, and some slides displaying a few key tables and graphs that highlight key features of the results, plus a conclusion slide at the end summarizing the take-away points and their relation to macroeconomics. You are strongly encouraged to submit an outline of your presentation and/or your slides to the instructor a few days before to assure that you are covering the most important concepts of the paper.

Assessment

I will ask each student to complete a brief assessment of all of the presentations (excluding his or her own). The assessment criteria will relate to the degree of understanding of the paper that the audience member achieved from the presentation. I will also do my own assessment, both of the effectiveness of the presentation and of whether the points covered were chosen well.