

Christopher Ragan

Brief Biography

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Christopher Ragan is an Associate Professor in the Department of Economics at McGill University in Montreal. From January 2009 through June 2010, he is the Clifford Clark Visiting Economist at the Department of Finance in Ottawa where he serves as a senior advisor to the Minister and other senior Finance officials. In the 2004-05 academic year, he served as the Special Advisor to the Governor of the Bank of Canada, also in Ottawa.

Since his appointment to McGill in 1989, Ragan has taught a wide variety of courses, at undergraduate and graduate levels, and in 2007 he was awarded the Noel Fieldhouse teaching prize in the Faculty of Arts. His passion for teaching extends also to his writing. Ragan is the co-author with Richard Lipsey of *Economics*, which after twelve editions is the most widely used introductory economics textbook in Canada. A version of the same textbook has recently been re-introduced into the U.S. market.

Ragan's academic research deals mainly with the role of economic policy, most recently the objectives and conduct of monetary policy. He has published several articles in economics journals including *Economica*, *Labour Economics*, *Canadian Journal of Economics*, *Canadian Public Policy*, *Canadian Business Economics*, *Policy Options*, and the *Bank of Canada Review*. In 2004, he co-edited a book with his McGill colleague William Watson: *Is the Debt War Over? Dispatches from Canada's Fiscal Frontline*. In the fall of 2007 he published his most recent book called *The Canadian Priorities Agenda*, co-edited with two colleagues from the Institute for Research on Public Policy.

He is the founding Editor-in-Chief of *World Economic Affairs*, and for two years had a regular column in *National Post Business*, a popular Canadian magazine of business affairs. He now has a regular column in the *Montreal Gazette* and has occasional columns in the *National Post*. Ragan also teaches microeconomics regularly for McKinsey & Company, a leading international management consulting firm.

Ragan received his B.A. (Honours) in economics in 1984 from the University of Victoria and his Master of Arts degree in economics from Queen's University in 1985. He then moved to Cambridge, MA where he completed his Ph.D. in economics at M.I.T. in 1989. See his personal website at McGill for downloads of his published research as well as copies of his magazine editorials and articles:

<http://people.mcgill.ca/christopher.ragan/>