

Thomas Kane

Thomas Kane is an economist and Walter H. Gale Professor of Education at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Between 2009 and 2012, he directed the Measures of Effective Teaching project, the largest study of classroom instruction to date. The study collected video and tested five different rubrics for classroom observations, student surveys and alternative measures of student growth in nearly 3000 U.S. classrooms, including for more than 700 teachers in New York City. He has studied other topics in education, such as school accountability systems, teacher recruitment and retention, financial aid for college, race-conscious college admissions and the earnings impacts of community colleges. From 1995 to 1996, Kane served as the senior economist for labor, education, and welfare policy issues within President Clinton's Council of Economic Advisers. From 1991 through 2000, he was a faculty member at the Kennedy School of Government. Kane has also been a professor of public policy at UCLA and has held visiting fellowships at the Brookings Institution as well as the Hoover Institution at Stanford University. He has testified on teacher evaluation systems before the U.S. Senate and the boards of education in Massachusetts and New Jersey, and has discussed teacher evaluation systems with leadership from a number of urban school districts, including Boston, Los Angeles, Houston, Chicago, Denver, Hillsborough (Florida), Charlotte, Washington, DC and New York City.