

1st Credit Union Research Workshop

The University of Wisconsin-Madison's Center for Cooperatives (UWCC), the Credit Union National Association (CUNA) and the Filene Research Institute are organizing the first annual *Credit Union Research Workshop* to promote collaboration, stimulate discussion and share research related to credit unions. Credit unions are nonprofit member-owned financial "cooperatives" that serve 115 million members in the U.S.—roughly one-third of the population—but are largely ignored in the banking, economics and finance literature. Nonetheless, their distinct structure raises interesting research questions, such as: How does the nonprofit and cooperative structure of credit unions influence corporate governance and related incentives? How should economists model the objective functions of credit unions? How do member-owned incentives affect risk management, lending and performance relative to similar for-profit banks, such as "community banks"? How did these differences manifest during the 2007 – 2009 financial crisis? What are the potential implications for households and consumers?

The event will be held at the University of Wisconsin-Madison's Union South building¹ (1308 W. Dayton St, Madison, WI 53715) from **8am to 12pm on Wednesday, October 9th**. The conference will feature a number of academic presenters, researchers and discussants.

While the agenda is yet to be determined, topics will likely include:

- Credit union and bank performance during the 2007 – 2009 financial crisis.
- Credit union risk-taking, risk management and failure.
- Credit union non-profit cooperative structure compared to for-profit models of banking.
- Credit unions and household outcomes.
- Credit union and bank branch locations and "banking deserts".

The workshop will be followed by a reception and lunch from 12pm to 1pm. The event is open to everyone and there is no registration fee but space is limited. Please register ahead of time by e-mailing Jordan van Rijn at jvanrijn@cuna.coop by September 15th, 2019.

Local organizing committee:

Brent Hueth, PhD	Faculty Director, UW-Madison Center for Cooperatives Associate Professor, Agricultural and Applied Economics (UW-Madison)
Taylor Nelms, PhD	Senior Director of Research, Filene Research Institute
Samira Salem, PhD	Senior Policy Analyst, Credit Union National Association
Jordan van Rijn, PhD	Senior Economist, Credit Union National Association Associate Lecturer, Agricultural and Applied Economics (UW-Madison)

¹ The exact room will be announced within one week of the event, but will also be displayed on monitors throughout the building on the day of the workshop.