



Paul Lewis Joskow (1947-)

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Paul Lewis Joskow has long been recognised as one of MIT's foremost applied economists of industrial organization. He has 25 papers and books with more than 500 Google Scholar Citations as of 27 May 2024. Within the wider profession Paul has been responsible for some of the papers in top journals which have brought the issues of incentive regulation, power market reform and environmental markets into the mainstream.

Paul has worked with the best microeconomists in the world. He counts Nobel Laureate, Jean Tirole, and his MIT colleague, Richard Schmalensee, as close collaborators. He has an impressive number of single authored top journal papers. His interests have ranged widely from economic regulation, vertical integration, electricity market design, emissions markets through to CEO compensation and hospital efficiency. His interests have been global: in the US, Europe and Central and South America. Paul is one of the few US academics seriously interested – to the point having researched it thoroughly - in regulatory developments in the United Kingdom (UK) and the European Union (EU).

Paul's research brilliance and academic leadership skills have been widely recognised. He was the President of the International Society for New Institutional Economics (now Society for Institutional & Organizational Economics, SIOE) in 2002-03. He is a distinguished member of the International Association for Energy Economics (IAEE), being the 2003 recipient of Outstanding Contributions to The Profession Award. In 2013 he was made a Distinguished Fellow of the American Economic Association (AEA).

Paul's AEA Distinguished Fellow citation says:

'Paul Joskow has made fundamental contributions in three fields: the economics of regulation, organizational economics/applied contract theory, and energy and environmental economics. His research reflects a masterful blend of applied economic theory, detailed institutional analysis, and careful econometrics. Joskow's research has not only advanced economic knowledge, it has also contributed directly to the design of regulatory policy.'

Drawing inspiration from this citation, I discuss Paul's research under three main headings: regulatory economics, applied contract theory and energy and environmental economics. However, given Paul's extensive writings on the final one of these I further subdivide the last heading into: on power markets and their shortcomings; *the problem of electricity transmission*; emissions markets; and explaining and measuring power market reform. As a

bonus, I end with a discussion of two of Paul's other papers on hospitals and CEO compensation.

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