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## Fall 2004 Economics Newsletter

Economics Department

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# THE ECONOMIC VIEW

## FROM THE CHAIR

Hello! I've been waiting to say that for awhile but been swamped with other work and without my producer/editor/office manager Melanie Swan for some time now. She's back after trying another position on campus and returns to us new and improved (even the last name, after her marriage last August). The first thing I said when she said she wanted to return was "we can do the newsletter again!" And so we are.

Inside this issue you will find some great notes about our alumni – you – who do amazing things with your degree. We're lucky to have some students right now who are already building firms, entertaining grad school ideas, and overall being the wonderful kinds of people we've always had in our program. Let me start, however, by telling you about some new and some old faculty.

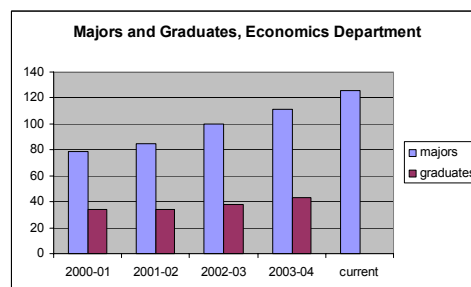
Since we last spoke with you we have added another new faculty member. Mana Komai comes to us from Virginia Polytechnic Institute, and specializes in understanding leadership. She is quite interested in experimental economics as well. Her office brims with students learning managerial and microeconomics. We are quite happy to have her on campus. We have also the pleasure of visiting professor Artatrana Ratha. He took his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee and specializes in international economics. He has taught in many places, including some time last year in Kazakhstan. The whole office area seems far more cosmopolitan these days with our newer faculty.

We will have three faculty in phased retirement come January. Dick Gleisner has decided to extend his phased retirement through May 2006, which is a pleasure for us all. Dick teaches a large section of principles for us each term. Hal Lofgreen entered phased retirement this past September and is no longer teaching for us. He works on campus as director of the Social Science Research Institute and the Minnesota Economic Development Center. His office still buzzes with activity when he is here,

but he is able to take more mornings for meetings in the Cities, and maybe slow down just a little. This January Bill Luksetich will join Dick and Hal in phased retirement. He will try to avoid the snow by teaching more in the fall semester and little in the spring. We will still have the pleasure of his humor and insights, and extreme curiosity over everybody else's research.

Mark Partridge now holds the Canada Research Chair in the New Rural Economy at the University of Saskatchewan. We will miss Mark, Jamie, Michael and Jessie! Örn Bodvarsson is finishing his visit at the University of Nebraska and will return to SCSU in September 2005.

Since no economist can work without a chart, here's one for you.



We have also graduated twelve students from our masters program in that time. I'm teaching the senior seminar with Ken Rebeck this fall and we have 22 majors taking the course; we expect a group about this size in the spring as well. Our major is growing, and if we had more faculty we could grow it much more.

Thanks for the help of many people who make this publication possible: Betty Schwarzkopf in the COSS Dean's office, Tom Oien in computer support, and Donna Stockinger in printing services. And thanks to you for your continued interest and support of our program at St. Cloud State University!

King Banaian  
Professor and Chair

## Economics Faculty:

Dr. King Banaian (*Chair*)

Dr. Örn Bodvarsson

Dr. Mary Edwards

Dr. Daniel Gallagher

Dr. Richard Gleisner

Dr. Philip Grossman

Dr. N. Eric Hampton

Dr. Patricia Hughes

Dr. Eungmin Kang

Dr. Mana Komai

Dr. Andrew Larkin

Dr. Ming Chien Lo

Dr. Harold Lofgreen

Dr. William Luksetich

Dr. Richard MacDonald

Dr. Masoud Moghaddam

Dr. Artatrana Ratha

Dr. Ken Rebeck

Dr. Michael White

TTY: 1-800-627-3529

SCSU is an affirmative action/  
equal opportunity educator and  
employer.

This material can be made  
available in an alternative format.  
Contact the department/agency  
listed above.

## GRADUATES

### Fall 2003

#### **Economics**

Imants Dolgins  
Michael Grimes  
Christy Lawrie  
Hiroyuki Nakata  
Lisa Nolte

#### **Business Economics**

Daniel Anderson  
Christopher Huber  
Ryan Marshall  
Ryan Negri  
Corey Schmidt  
Peter Schneider  
Michael Walsh  
Jessica Wesley

### Spring 2004

#### **Economics**

Tahniah Chowdhury  
Heather Engelstad  
Jeffrey March  
Fumitake Moriya

#### **Business Economics**

Mohammed Al Abbas  
Khulan Altangerel  
Andrew Bilder  
Bernard Bzdok  
Robin Carney  
Eric Earle  
Jennifer Herrala  
Steven Janke  
Jordan Johnson  
Matthew Ludewig  
Renee Luthi  
Daniel Martinez  
Ryan Monroe  
Steven Nichols  
Carly Sanko  
Michael Schlauderaff  
Erik Theisen  
Brian Zimny

### Summer 2004

#### **Economics**

Troy Freihammer

## DEAN'S LIST

### Fall 2003

Cassie Anderson  
Jon Angell  
Xuehong Chen  
Jennifer Dokken  
Eric Earle  
Jack Kariniemi  
Jeffrey March  
Raghu Siddani  
Erik Theisen

### Spring 2004

Jon Angell  
Viktar Hlazau  
Chelsea Hosch  
Daniel Korsman  
Renee Luthi  
Jeffrey March  
Ryan Monroe  
Alison Mueller  
Ahmed Shelash  
Raghu Siddani

## UPPER DIVISION COURSE OFFERINGS — SPRING 2005

ECON	Sec	Title	Time	Days	Room	Instructor
350	1	Economics of Developing Countries	11:00 AM	TR	SH301	Larkin
351	1	Environmental Economics	12:30 PM	TR	SH325	Hampton
417	2	Managerial Economics	3:00 PM	MWF	SH301	Komai
417	1	Managerial Economics	9:30 AM	TR	SH325	Gallagher
481	1	Senior Research Seminar	3:30 PM	TR	SH325	Hughes
481	2	Senior Research Seminar	3:30 PM	TR	SH325	Lo
603	1	Managerial Economics	6:00 PM	T	SH325	Hughes
606	1	Microeconomic Theory	5:00 PM	T	SH302	Grossman
615	1	Econometrics	6:00 PM	R	SH325	Lo
677	1	Managerial Economics	6:00 PM	W	SH325	Edwards
405/505	1	Intermediate Macroeconomics	5:00 PM	M	SH301	MacDonald
405/505	2	Intermediate Macroeconomics	3:00 PM	MWF	SH325	Banaian
406/506	1	Intermediate Microeconomics	11:00 AM	MWF	SH325	Rebeck
442/542	1	Law and Economics	9:00 AM	MWF	SH325	Rebeck
460/560	1	Public Finance	8:00 AM	TR	SH325	Staff
470/570	1	Business Cycles and Forecasting	6:00 PM	M	SH306	Kang
471/571	1	Money and Banking	11:00 AM	MWF	SH322	Moghaddam
474/574	1	International Economics	1:00 PM	MWF	SH325	Ratha
478/578	1	History of Economic Thought	9:30 AM	TR	SH301	Larkin

## ALUMNI NOTES

- **Johnathan Mercer** was one of approximately 175 students from 15 countries chosen to attend an annual international business conference sponsored by Business Today, Princeton University, on Nov. 20-23 in New York, N.Y. The SCSU student was chosen from an applicant pool of more than 2,000 students from around the world.

During the conference Mercer will discuss and debate government and business issues with executives from more than 70 Fortune 500 companies and political leaders from around the world. Among them will be the CEO of Continental Airlines, Inc.; a former chairman of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; and the CEO of UPS. Past attendees have included Ralph Nader, the COO of the New York Stock Exchange, the founder and CEO of Def Jam Records, and Thomas “Mac” McClarty, chief of staff under President Clinton.

Business Today, a student organization started by Steve Forbes in 1968 during his time at Princeton, seeks to bring business and political leaders together with students to engage in open dialogue. Business Today publishes a biannual magazine, the largest student-run publication in the country, with a readership of 250,000. This is the 30th annual international conference sponsored by the group. The theme this election year is “The Interplay of Business & Politics.”

Mercer, who is majoring in business economics and computer science, will complete his degree in 2006. He is founder and CEO of Xumbrus ([www.xumbrus.com](http://www.xumbrus.com)), an educational software company that provides academic writing

software ([www.scholarword.com](http://www.scholarword.com)) to more than 20,000 students worldwide. After three years, the company has been listed on websites like Apple.com, where it is recognized as having the “most popular” learning software title.

- Our students are scattered in many places: **Scott Bushee**, for example, was last seen managing a WalMart in Alaska; **David Stein** is now president of BankOne in Green Bay; **Liz (Stillman) Kulzer** is in Minneapolis working on the employment cost index for the Bureau of Labor Statistics; **Julie Williams** is building a financial planning practice for Waddell and Reed in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Julie, a former president of the student economics association, wants to know if there are alumni willing to mentor students on campus. You can reach Julie at 605.261.8081 [ejwilliams@sio.midco.net](mailto:ejwilliams@sio.midco.net).

- The **43rd Annual Winter Institute on Economic Outlook** is scheduled for March 15, 2005. This year’s program features **Dr. Ruby Payne**, well-known author of *A Framework For Understanding Poverty* (over 700,000 copies sold) and *Hidden Rules of Class at Work*. Plans are currently underway to feature another high profile speaker as well. Mark your calendars for 11:30 a.m. on March 15 for an alumni luncheon with our guest speakers and other invited guests to be followed by the speaker program in Ritsche Auditorium on the SCSU campus. For more information, contact the Center for Economic Education at 320.308.2157.

Look in this space for more details in the next issue of [The Economic View](#).

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## ALUMNI

Our majors would like to know what you’re doing with your degree and so would we. Information regarding who you work for and what your current position is, gives our graduating seniors resources when beginning to enter the job market.

We would like to keep a database of our alums with whom current majors might wish to network. Feel free to write us or if you would like, just fill out the below info, clip out and send to us.

First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name \_\_\_\_\_

Current Job Position \_\_\_\_\_

*Thank you for your time!*

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Visit the Economics Department online at: [www.stcloudstate.edu/economics](http://www.stcloudstate.edu/economics)

## CURRENT MAJORS—DID YOU KNOW...

We are trying to be sure that students get notices about activities by email whenever we receive them from, for example, Career Services. If you have not been receiving the notices already, then either we don't have the right email address for you or your mailbox is full. Please drop a line to [econ@stcloudstate.edu](mailto:econ@stcloudstate.edu) to make sure we have your current email address.

There are no more than three seats left in seminar for spring. If you plan to graduate by August 2004 you need to see us *now*.

Students are encouraged to apply for graduation 2 semesters prior to the term you expect to be completed with all degree requirements. You can find out more information about the graduation procedures online at <http://www.stcloudstate.edu/registrar/graduation/default.asp>

The goal of our newsletter, The Economic View, is to maintain lines of communication between all of our alumni and current students, and to keep you informed of the latest developments in the Economics Department. Please keep us updated about important events, articles, or information about you for inclusion in our newsletter.

Please send all information to our editor Melanie Swan, Economics Dept. SH386 St. Cloud State University 720 4th Avenue South St. Cloud, MN 56301 Or email information to [econ@stcloudstate.edu](mailto:econ@stcloudstate.edu).

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