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Summer 2011 Economics Newsletter

Economics Department

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THE ECONOMICS BULLETIN

FROM THE CHAIR

We welcome and congratulate Örn Bodvarsson as our interim dean in our new School of Public Affairs. Örn will be transitioning into the role, with full duties beginning on July 1. Beginning Fall 2011 we will be operating under the new School, signaling the end to the College of Social Sciences (COSS). The disruption to our current majors should be minimal. Our department office will remain on the third floor of Stewart Hall and our phone/room numbers will remain the same. Alumni will still be able to contribute to our department scholarships, just remember that any giving to COSS needs to be redirected. The annual Winter Institute event will continue, with additional support from the Center for Continuing Studies. The Winter Institute will remain an opportunity for faculty, alumni, and current majors to reunite and reminisce. This year's event was a huge success, with over 250 attendees at the morning sessions and 156 at the afternoon sessions. Thank you to all who participated!

The School of Public Affairs is considering opportunities to redefine the scope of the department and initiate some new innovative interdisciplinary research and degree programs. We are still very much in the planning stage, as yet crafting the mission and vision that will define the School. Expect to receive a Planning Carousel questionnaire by email from us in the near future regarding your thoughts on our reorganization.

With deepest sympathy, we remember Gerald Gamber, one of our Emeriti professors who passed away in April at the age of 91. Jerry served in combat roles during World War II and the Korean War. Following his retirement as Lt. Cmdr. in 1959 from the Navy, Jerry attended the University of Iowa and began his second career teaching in our department from 1964 to his retirement in 1984. Jerry was known as a humorous and insightful lecturer, and his courses were always popular. In 1988 Jerry created the Rose Marie Gamber Scholarship in Economics, an annual scholarship for deserving students in economics, in memory of his childhood sweetheart and wife of 45 years Rose Marie. Jerry retired in Florida, where he met and married Mary Frances, with whom he shared travel adventures and a loving, peaceful retirement.

Patricia Hughes

Dr. King Banaian
 Dr. Örn Bodvarsson
 Dr. Mónica García-Pérez
 Dr. N. Eric Hampton
 Dr. Patricia Hughes
 Dr. Eungmin Kang
 Dr. Mana Komai
 Dr. Ming Chien Lo
 Dr. Lynn MacDonald
 Dr. Richard MacDonald
 Dr. Masoud Moghaddam
 Dr. Ting Qin
 Dr. Artatrana Ratha
 Dr. Ken Rebeck
 Dr. David Switzer



Faculty gathered for a picture with our visiting scholar Zhaofeng Wang (pictured behind Professor Hughes and Professor Garcia-Perez on the bottom row). Professor Wang presented her paper "Reformation, Developing and Governance of Chinese State's Firms" at our seminar series in December and attended numerous courses taught by our faculty. We thank her for sharing her culture with us and we miss her presence in our department.

GRADUATES

Fall 2010

Joshua Albrecht
Anthony Anderson
Matthew Anderson
Olufemi Aremu *
Adam Belpedio
Brian Boettcher
Chi-Jen Chen *
Thomas Conway
Boubacar Diallo
Kyle Eggerth
Henri Fabrice Engoulou Aboa
Jordan Henkelman
Adam Hill
Nicole Hohenwald
Justin Montbriand
Michael Murphy *
Jeremy Pekarek
Carrie Priest
Dawit Rumicho
Benjamin Sorenson
Ryan Van Dusen
Benjamin Wagner

* indicates graduate student

DEAN'S LIST

College of Social Sciences

Fall 2010

Amber Aeshliman
Cassandra Ahrens
Alexander Banks-Watson
Thomas Conway
Jennifer Danzl
Joshua Ellison
Amy Finsky
Nicole Hohenwald
Christopher Johnson
Kayla Klug
Wen Lian
Zeqing Lu
Taylor Metzger
Justin Montbriand
Alix Ohrt
Benneth Sheeley
Benjamin Sorenson

SCHOLARSHIPS

Thank you to all who donated!
This year we were able to award
a total of \$4000
to the following students.

Rose Marie Gamber Scholarship
in Economics
Amber Aeshliman
Varia Mikolchak

Economics Department Scholarship
Lucas Edberg
Chadwick Kunkel
Benneth Sheeley

Michael D. White Economics
Fellowship
Benjamin Karnatz
Joseph Ojanen
Md (Yahya) Pramanic

Additionally, \$2170 was awarded
to the following Economics and
Finance students.

Robert and Ronald Besonen
Endowed Scholarship
Yuricza Arauz

Crumpton Farrell Finance
and Economics Scholarship
Amy Finsky

Congratulations!!!

STUDENT RESEARCH

13 undergraduate students presented their research findings at the 14th Annual Student Research Colloquium.

Nazrawit Bekele *Women's Empowerment and Economic Growth*; **Eli Biesanz** *A Relation Between Military Expenditures And The Effects Upon Median Wages In A Global Community*; **Mark Hansberger** *Subscriptions and Redemptions vs the Economy*; **Bradley Holtz** *Forecasting Housing Bubbles*; **Chad Kingbay** *Reducing Foreclosures*; **Brendan Kummet** *Evaluating Players Through the NFL Combine*; **Lucas Kunde** *Bankruptcy Rates*; **Julie Nash** *Stadium Analysis, Comparing Domes to Outdoor Stadiums*; **Luke Nietz** *Energy Consumption*; **Curt Schroeder** *Incentive to Win in NFL*; **Tracy Selchow** *State Unemployment*; **John Smith** *Race Matters*; **Michael Wilson** *Effects of Household Debt on Household Durable Goods Consumption*

FACULTY

David Switzer's paper, "The Animated Hotelling Model," was published in the *Journal of Industrial Organization Education* Volume 5, Issue 1, Article 8 and is available online at <http://www.bepress.com/jioe/vol5/iss1/art8>.

Philip Grossman's paper, "Giving to Government: Voluntary Taxation in the Lab," co-authored with Sherry Li,

Catherine C. Eckel and Tara Larson, has been accepted by the *Journal of Public Economics*.

Philip Grossman and **Oleksandr (Sasha) Lugovskyy's** paper, "An Experimental Test of the Persistence of Gender-Based Stereotypes" was published in *Economic Inquiry* Volume 49, Number 2, April 2011.

Lynn MacDonald's paper, "The Impact of Private Health Insurance

on Prostate Cancer Screening," co-authored with Yunwei Gai, has been accepted in *Empirical Economics Letters*.

Örn Bodvarsson spoke as an invited panelist at a conference titled "Taking Stock of a Turbulent Decade and Looking Ahead: Immigration to North America in 2000-2010," held at University of Western Ontario in April, 2011.

ALUMNI

Anthony Dorn, a 2007 graduate, has recently been promoted to a Qualitative Validation Analyst with US Bank. Tony has been working on his MBA and plans to graduate with his degree from Bethel University this Spring. In addition, Tony got married this past September. Congratulations Tony!

Daniel Martinez, a 2004 graduate, writes, "I am still a PhD student in Sociology at the University of Arizona. My research and teaching interests include Immigration, Criminology, Race and Ethnicity, and Social Movements. I am ABD and hope to finish my dissertation (The Unauthorized Crossing Experience: Evidence from the Arizona-Sonora Border) within the next six months, as I am planning on going on the job market in August. I currently live in South Bend, IN, where I am a Research Visitor at the University of Notre Dame in the Institute for Latino Studies. I will be working on a national study of Latino employment in the landscape services industry this spring and summer with Dr. Juan Carlos Guzman (Director of Research, Institute for Latino Studies at the University of Notre Dame) and other members of the Inter-University Program for Latino Research (IUPLR)." In addition, Dan also teaches an online class at the University of Arizona on U.S. Race and Ethnic Relations.

Luke Hillier, a 2008 graduate, has recently accepted a new position within Target - leaving credit and moving into the sourcing side of the company - focusing on social

compliance in factories. Luke writes, "Our focus is to protect the Target brand by making sure our products are produced ethically and in accordance with our standards and conduct expectations, as well as local laws. It's a really neat look into how products really make it to market from the minute raw materials are gathered. We conduct unannounced audits so there will be some travel involved, and we source from all over the world so I'm looking forward to the new opportunities! Within the same few weeks, I started at Carlson School of Management (at the U) for my MBA. It definitely has been an added time commitment with 2 classes but I really enjoy being back in the academic environment and learning. I'm looking forward to learning more and hopefully I receive as great of an experience as I did at SCSU and be able to leverage my education for my career."

Yawovi (Sessi) Komlanvi, a 2008 graduate, finished his Master's in Applied Economics this Spring. Sessi is employed by Federated Insurance as a Commercial Underwriter.

Ben Chapin, a 2007 graduate, has recently been promoted to a Staff Accountant with PeopleNet. Ben has been married to Angela (Allen) since August 2007. Angela is an SCSU alumnus as well, graduating in 2007 with a degree in Biology. Ben and Angela have one son, Alex, and are expecting a daughter in June. Ben writes, "Our Finance Department consists of eight full

time employees and one intern. Of these nine people, five are SCSU graduates – including our CFO."

Gilles Moser, a 2000 graduate, is currently employed with The Boston Consulting Group as an Expert Senior Consultant. In his current position, Gilles advises top executives from the leading French companies on marketing and sales strategies.

Opal (DiCenso) Tuy, and her husband Jonathan, welcomed Henry Reachaksey Tuy into the world this past April. Opal is a 2005 graduate. Congratulations!

Ben Karnatz, a 2010 graduate, has accepted an offer from Emory University to join their Ph.D. program in economics. Ben received full funding for four years.

Randy May, a 2010 graduate, was recently hired by Ricoh as an Account Executive. He will be doing sales work in the Twin Cities area after he completes their training program. Randy visited our department in the Spring and posed for a picture with Professor Moghaddam (below).





Economics Department

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Learn more at stcloudstate.edu and m.stcloudstate.edu

We love correspondence from our alumni! Please keep in touch with us—we would like to know what you are doing now, along with learning about exciting events in your life. We welcome new information to include in upcoming newsletters.

Internships

We are always trying to expand our internship program. Let us know if your company offers internships and we will share this information with our majors.

Donations

Please consider giving; no donation is too small. Donating provides both financial support and encouragement to student recipients. We have several accounts to choose from:

Economics Scholarship (*undergraduate scholarships*)

Rose Marie Gamber Scholarship in Economics (*undergraduate scholarships*)

Michael D. White Economics Fellowship (*graduate scholarships*)

Economics Foundation (*student and department research/activities*)

Information on ways to give can be found at
<http://www.stcloudstate.edu/foundation/waystogive/>.

Let us know if you have suggestions on how we can improve our newsletter. We hope to hear from you soon!

The goal of our newsletter, The Economics Bulletin, is to maintain communication between our alumni, faculty, and current students.

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St. Cloud State University is an affirmative action/ equal opportunity educator and employer.
A member of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System.