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## Summer 2019 Economics Newsletter

Department of Economics

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# Economics Newsletter



ST. CLOUD STATE  
UNIVERSITY

Summer 2019

## FROM THE CHAIR

June 30th is my last day as chair, and Dr. Hughes resumes her chair position on Monday July 1st. Can you see the smile on my face as I write that? It has been a good year, honestly, with no major problems to deal with. Our students have shown a high degree of maturity and focus on career success. 8 students graduated during Fall commencement in December and 10 students graduated during Spring commencement in May. We are proud of every graduate and look forward to hearing about your success and life changes. Personally, most of my time this year was centered around dance rehearsals for the "Tea with MDE" fundraiser for the Minnesota Dance Ensemble in November, and our performance of "A Real Boy" at the end of April. Just to show that on-stage dance and the real world are separate things (in case you thought they were the same!), I was a Puppet Master in the dance, but have no such control over the faculty in the department! Our faculty are very independent, which makes them such great teachers.

We have upgraded our MS in Applied Economics program, moving the first year of the program to online courses. Plus, we added a Plan B comprehensive examination to the existing Plan A thesis and Plan C internship options. We also redesigned the number of credits to make it easier for all students in the MS program to graduate with a Graduate Certificate in Data Analytics. Similar options for our undergraduate students is the ability to add a Certificate in Actuarial Science by earning a B- or better in ECON 205, ECON 206, ACCT 291, FIRE 371, and STAT 448. So for those in Business Economics, that just requires one additional course (STAT 448). Plus picking up a minor in Finance is as easy as it always has been. Added certificates and minors to your Business Economics or Economics major is bound to impress anyone interviewing you, and should also impress you.

Have a good summer! Use it to prepare for next year so it goes as smoothly as possible. Follow your passion while you can. And try something new.

Professor Nathan Eric Hampton, Chair



# WINTER INSTITUTE

On behalf of the Department of Economics, the School of Public Affairs, and the Center for Economic Education, thank you to everyone who attended and helped to support the 2019 Winter Institute! We had a great time this year with compelling sessions focusing on Immigration.

Videos are now available on the Winter Institute media page.  
<https://www.stcloudstate.edu/conferences/winter-institute/media.aspx>

Plans are underway for 2020!



## BREXIT TRIP - SPRING BREAK 2019

Twenty St Cloud State University students joined School of Public Affairs dean, King Banaian, and economics professor, Rich MacDonald, for a 10-day spring break study tour to the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland in March. Students examined the impact of Brexit on the UK and had several cultural experiences during their visit. Cities visited included: London, Alnwick, Newcastle, Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Belfast, and Dublin. Visits to the Houses of Parliament, Scottish Parliament, the Bank of England, the British Museum, the British Library, the Aberdeen Maritime Museum, the Titanic Quarter, and the Belfast murals highlighted the study tour. Students also visited several UK businesses and universities. During their stay at Alnwick Castle, students participated in the Shrove Tuesday football (soccer) match.



If your interested in Study Abroad opportunities visit:  
<https://www.stcloudstate.edu/educationabroad/default.aspx>

## GRADUATES

### Spring 2019 Undergraduates

Alan Barrett, Business Economics  
Allison Bily, Economics  
Hafis Mensah, Business Economics  
Scott Nystrom, Economics  
Ronan Pritschet, Business Economics  
Mathew Richard, Economics  
Brandon Sevre, Economics  
Jacob Spaniol, Business Economics  
Benjamin Spartz, Business Economics

### Spring 2019 Graduate Students

Arati Bista, Applied Economics  
Diego Guerrero, Applied Economics  
Esther Peng, Applied Economics  
Feng Tian, Applied Economics

**Congratulations Graduates!!**

## DEAN'S LIST

### Spring 2019

Allison Bily  
Daniel Kolar  
Steven Marden  
Hannah Mayhew  
Patrick Newell  
Mia Piwowar  
Nazimuddin Shaikh  
Benjamin Spartz  
Paxer Yang

## SCHOLARSHIPS

**Congratulations** to our students and **thank you** to our alumni, faculty, and friends whose support allowed us to award a total of \$4,000 to the following students:

### Economics Department Scholarship

Hafis Mensah  
Samantha Bromenshenkel  
Haneum Claude

### Michael D. White

Kevin Loonman

### Rose Marie Gamber Scholarship in Economics

Hafis Mensah



UNLEASH TOMORROW

# STUDENT RESEARCH-2019 HUSKIES SHOWCASE

## ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Sponsor - Monica Garcia-Perez

Marilyn Rodriguez: "How Would Removing the Millions of Illegal Immigrants Affect the Labor Market of the United States?"  
Trevor Meed: "Unions, An Answer to the Federal Minimum Wage?"  
Jedd Helgestad: "Labor Market Mobility and Movement of Workers"  
Allison Bily: "The Role of the Financial Incentives in Workplace Wellness Programs"  
Madellen Schetnan: "Discrimination by Association in the Workplace"  
Diego Guerrero: "Labor Supply of Female Immigrants in the U.S."

## POSTER & APPLIED EXPERIENCE DISPLAY

Sponsor - Richard MacDonald

Madellen Schetnan: "Brexit Impact on Veganism"  
Austin Barsness: "The Troubles 2.0? The Political Debate Surrounding Northern Ireland caused by the Brexit Vote"  
Rebecca Jimenez: "Brexit - The Effect on Nursing"  
Jonah Maretti: "Brexit & Its Impact on the Book Industry"  
Ellen Boisen: "House It Going? A Study of Brexit's Effect on Housing"  
Nathaniel Akouete: "National Defense Brexit"  
Ronan Pritschet: "The Potential Impact of Brexit on the Irish Economy"  
Hser Poe: "The Impact of Brexit on UK Immigration"  
Joseph White: "Brexit as Viewed by British Citizens"  
Viktor Schreoeder: "Brexit on Location"  
Ann Olsen: "Brexit Influence on Literature".  
Benjamin Spartz: "Brexit and Effects on Foreign Direct Investments"  
Hunter Brennan: "The Impact of Brexit on Financial Markets and Regulations"  
Ashley Carlson: "Brexit and the United Kingdom's Prison System"  
Nina Johnny: "The Exploration of How the NHS is Affected by Brexit"  
Pawku Hser: "Brexit Effects on Education System"  
Ella Taw: "The Effects of Brexit on Community Health"  
Danny Decemson: "The Effect of Brexit on UK Law Enforcement"  
Brittany Pfannenstein: "The Effects of Brexit on the Law Enforcement"  
Ivan Jimenez: "Brexit Trade"



## NOTABLES AND NEWS

**Ryan Bolduc**, presented his poster, "Economic Success Among Post 9/11 Veterans" at the MN Undergraduate Scholars Posters on February 28th at the State Capitol and also here at St Cloud State University. Dr. Monica Garcia-Perez mentored him for this project.

**Hafis Mensah**, Business Economics major, received the Excellence in Leadership Award and was recognized at the Leadership Banquet on April 14th.

**The 2019 Economics Challenge, Heartland Regional Invitational**, was held at SCSU on March 22nd. High School students from Albany, Cambridge-Isanti, Foley, Melrose, Princeton and Tech high school competed in individual and team events. Moving on to state competition at the Minneapolis Federal Reserve Bank are teams from Cambridge-Isanti, Melrose, and Tech high school.s

**Hamza Junaid**, Business Economics major, was awarded the Huskies Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) in 2019 for his project titled "Poverty Traps in South Asia: Have Incentives Failed to Help the Region?". He will be presenting this at Huskies Showcase 2020. Professor Nimantha Manamperi is mentoring him for this project.

**Professor Monica Garcia-Perez** was awarded a Faculty Improvement Research Grant for study on the Minimum Wage, Teenagers, and Recent Immigrant Workers.

Dr. Mónica García-Pérez

Dr. Nathan Eric Hampton

Dr. Patricia Hughes (*chair*)

Dr. Eungmin Kang

Dr. Mana Komai-Molle

Dr. Lynn MacDonald

Dr. Richard MacDonald

Dr. Nimantha Manamperi

Dr. Masoud Moghaddam

Dr. Artatrana Ratha

Dr. Ken Rebeck

Dr. David Switzer

## WE LOVE HEARING FROM OUR ALUMNI

Please keep in touch with us—we welcome new information to include in upcoming newsletters. You can reach out to us at [economics@stcloudstate.edu](mailto:economics@stcloudstate.edu).

**Fellowship Opportunity for alumni**  
<https://greaterminnesota.net/fellows/>

### 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

Donating to our scholarships 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** (*Winter Institute and student research*)

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



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