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Economics Newsletter

Department of Economics

Spring 2-12-2020

Spring 2020 Economics Newsletter

Department of Economics

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Department of Economics

Spring 2020 Newsletter

FROM THE CHAIR

Congratulations to our 2019 Economics Department Graduates!! It was a fast, fun, cold, snowy fall. The Economics Association has initiated a new series of Industry Talks beginning with Adam Chin of Wells Fargo, and Jered Magsam of US Bank. The students really connected with, and were inspired by, the success of these two St. Cloud State graduates. We welcome more alumni to return to campus to share their stories and career advice with students.

We have been extremely fortunate to have Hazel and Mustafa Kaya sharing their culture, research and friendship with us over the course of the semester. Their son, Ege, celebrated his first birthday in Minnesota with a party and Turkish food. It will be sad to see them leave in February, but I hope to continue our research together and present our scholarship in an upcoming international conference in Cappadocia, Turkey focused on "Economics, Energy and Environment".

Coming soon will be Winter Institute which will be February 20-21, 2020 with discussion surrounding the featured topic "Economic Climate, Changed". Check out our Facebook page for updates. I hope to see you there!

Sincerely,
Patricia

Follow us on Facebook! Keep up to date on events, alumni, students and faculty, and job opportunities.

<https://www.facebook.com/SCSU-Economics-Department-160122257366312/>

MEET THE PROFESSOR

Professor Nathan Eric Hampton recently performed in the Snow Maiden. The Minnesota Dance Ensemble (MDE) supported five professional ballet dancers from New York City who graced our city for this performance. The Snow Maiden is based on a Russian folk tale and included opera singers performing arias in Russian. Rehearsals for the performance started in September 2019, four days a week to prepare for the 2 showtimes on January 18, 2020.

Hampton's next performance will be April 2nd titled "Choreography Showcase - Emotion Made Visible". Watch our Facebook page for more information as the event date approaches.

Thank you to MDE for the photo. New York dancers included Taylor, the gentleman in the front, and Leigh, who is just over his shoulder in the orange boots. The remaining dancers are part of MDE and include a number of St. Cloud State Alumni! Can you spot Professor Hampton? He is in the last row on left! Congrats on the show!



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

From the Chair	1
Meet the Professor	1
Key Dates	1
Notables	2
Fall 2019 Highlights	3
Announcements	4
Winter Institute	4
Scholarships	5
Fall 2019 Graduates	6



DEPARTMENT OF
ECONOMICS
ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY

KEY DATES

- **January 31, 2020:** Diversity Job & Internship Fair, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm, 2nd Floor of Atwood Memorial Center. Over 100+ employers will be here. It is the number one college diversity fair in Minnesota. For more information on the event and list of employer attending, click here <https://www.stcloudstate.edu/careercenter/> then click on Diversity Job & Internship Fair.
- **Thursday February 20th & Friday February 21st, 2020:** The 58th Winter Institute, topic of discussion is Economic Climate, Changed. Register here: <https://www.stcloudstate.edu/conferences/winter-institute/registration.aspx>
- **April 21, 2020:** Huskies Showcase, a feature of student's research and scholarly work. More information can be found here <https://www.stcloudstate.edu/huskiesshowcase/>

Minnesota Economic Association Conference!

The Minnesota Economic Association (MEA) supports and facilitates professional connections between businesses, economic professionals, and college economics professors. MEA's primary purposes are the advancement of economic knowledge and the economics profession. The MEA holds a conference every fall on current economic issues and sponsors a paper contest for college students.

Professors Lynn MacDonald, Nimantha Manamperi, Masoud Moghaddam and Patricia Hughes joined some of our economics students at the October conference in St Paul. Approximately 21 students attended the conference which was funded by the Department of Economics and School of Public Affairs.



NOTABLES

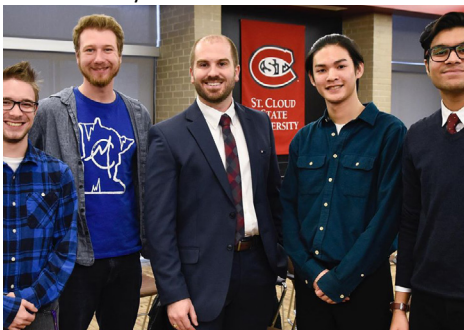
Industry and Faculty Talk Sessions

New in Fall 2019, the Student Economics Association and Department of Economics started up Talk Sessions with alumni and faculty from St. Cloud State University.

To start off the Industry Talk session in October Adam Chin, current VP of Quantitative Risk Management at Wells Fargo and MS Applied Economics graduate 2001, spoke about his experience as a Husky, his education and its impact on him, and job opportunities. These were opportunities for those in attendance to network and ask questions.



In November, Jered Magsam, current VP of Quantitative Model Validation at U.S. Bank and MS Applied Economics graduate 2012, shared his journey on how he got where he is today, the importance of making your presence known to employers, and the ability to think outside the box.



The first faculty talk session took place in November. Hazel Perihan, visiting scholar from Turkey, presented her research on "Economic Determinants of Turkish Youth Unemployment Problem: Co-Integration Analysis".



Town Hall Meeting with Neel Kashkari

Neel Kashkari, President of the Federal Reserve Bank in Minneapolis, and one of a handful of people responsible for initiating changes to the interest rate, was at St. Cloud State University in October. He held a question and answer session with over a hundred people in attendance. He talked about how the Federal Reserve System affects us, economic disparities, regulating big banks, the recent federal interest rate decisions and how the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis gathers data and informs its work within the Federal Reserve System. If you would like to watch this event click on the link below.

<https://www.minneapolisfed.org/events/2019/town-hall-with-neel-kashkari-in-st-cloud-mn>



FALL 2019 HIGHLIGHTS

In October, **Business Economics student, Hamza Junaid**, attended a Liberty Seminar at the CATO Institute in Washington. It was an invite only seminar limited to 40 students. Here is Hamza's recap on the experience.

A trip to the CATO Institute:

CATO is a reputed think tank in the heart of D.C built on the foundations of individual liberty, free markets, and minimal government control. I received an invitation for the 'Fall Liberty Seminar' that called on 40 students from all over the nation who had been a part of their internship application process to experience the libertarian 'utopia' in person, in the nation's capital. The idea of representing St. Cloud State University amongst many amazing institutions was a feeling of its own and is one that I will always be gratified for.

The 2-day trip started with getting into a lecture room full of likeminded individuals who had backgrounds in Political Science, Economics and Philosophy. After the initial registration, a series of lectures started with the Director of the CATO Institute, David Boaz, speaking about the importance of a libertarian society and why a free market system is as successful as it is. This lecture was followed by Jeffery Miron, Director of Undergraduate Economics at Harvard, who spoke on economic libertarianism and the vices of government interventions in free markets. Lectures continued the following day with notable speakers such as Deirdre McCloskey, Clark Neily and ex-St. Cloud State history professor Christopher A. Preble. The 2-day program ended with a beautiful banquet, followed by a tour of the picturesque city of Washington D.C.

This seminar helped me explore different political and economic theories that are otherwise taken at face value. It helped me realize that the system being proposed by the libertarians, far from reality as it is, helps focus on the individual's rights which in essence is the principle this country was founded on. Diversity of political and economic ideas is what drives a country forward and opportunities like these help students dive deep into what world we want to live in and how much freedom are we actually willing to give up for the 'betterment' of our society.



Economics professor and author Robert Lawson was at St Cloud State on January 23rd. He discussed his book *Socialism Sucks: two economists drink their way through the unfree world*. After traveling the world, Lawson combines his economic expertise with first-hand knowledge to share how socialism really does suck!

We had a full house in attendance for this event! He engaged in a discussion with students (far right) and answered questions from the audience.



Economics professor, Monica Garcia-Perez is leading a research project that studies the trend of children obesity rates in Central Minnesota. This community and the collaboration between the St Cloud State research community and the Centracare Health practice team. Click here to read more about this wonderful program <https://today.stcloudstate.edu/the-vision-of-chopr-benefiting-students-the-community-and-health-outcomes-2/>.



Look who **Professor Manamperi** got to meet at the Regional Economic Conditions conference! That's former Federal Reserve Bank Chair, Janet Yellen! She also happens to be the new president of the American Economic Association!



The Regional Economic Conditions Conference was on Thursday, January 9, 2020 at the Minneapolis Federal Reserve Bank. **Professors Lynn MacDonald and Nimantha Manamperi** were in attendance with **Abdinur Muqtar**, a current sophomore Economics major.

WINTER INSTITUTE

Plans for the 2020 Winter Institute are underway! The event will be held on February 20th - 21st, in St Cloud. The theme is Economic Climate, Changed.



The Keynote speaker will be **David R. Easterling**, Supervisory Physical Scientist with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Centers for Environmental Information (NOAA/NCEI). He currently serves as Director of Technical Support Unit for the U.S. National Climate Assessment.

In his career at NOAA he has developed or enhanced methods to improve the quality of climate data sets, helped guide the development of high quality climate observing networks, and analyzed climate data for evidence of climate variability and change.

Easterling was a Lead Author on the Nobel Prize winning intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Fourth Assessment Report, the IPCC Special Report on Climate Extremes, the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report, a Convening Lead Author for the U.S. Climate Change Science Program (CCSP)

Synthesis and Assessment Product (SAP) 3.3 on Climate Extremes, and a Convening Lead Author on the Fourth National Climate Assessment. He is a Fellow of the American Meteorological Society, and has been awarded four NOAA Administrator's Awards, four NOAA Bronze Medals, and one Department of Commerce Silver Medal. Easterling will have the stage the morning of Friday, February 21st. Learn more about NOAA at www.noaa.gov.

Catherine Wolfram, Program Director of the National Bureau of Economic Research's Environment and Energy Economics Program, will be here for Friday morning's programming on February 21st.

In addition to her Program Director role, she is also Faculty Director of The E2e Project, a research organization focused on energy efficiency and a research affiliate at the Energy Institute at Haas as well as an affiliated faculty member of in the Agriculture and Resource Economics department and the Energy and Resources Group at the University of California at Berkeley.

She has published extensively on the economics of energy markets. Her work has analyzed rural electrification programs in the developing world, energy efficient programs in the U.S., the effects of environmental regulation on energy markets and the impact of privatization and restructuring in the U.S. and U.K.

You can read more about her here: http://www.catherine-wolfram.com/bio--cv.html?fbclid=IwAR1CprksVuP4chfBXyT4QTYvR_QM-yIYJ4K3XXabWTb105IJDdfs12jL_A.



Jennifer McMillin, St Cloud State '01, will be here Thursday, February 20th. She will tell her story and stress the importance for all students of all disciplines to have an understanding of sustainability and how it relates to their field.

Jennifer earned her bachelor's degree in anthropology and Spanish with a minor in environmental studies. She earned her master's degree in 2007 from the Australian National University in Canberra.

McMillin serves as the Director of Sustainability for Cleveland State University where she manages the university's effort to reduce emissions and waste, enhance alternative energy use, and increase overall environmental quality on campus.

Look for more details and registration information as plans continue to develop at:

<https://www.stcloudstate.edu/conferences/winter-institute/>

Curious what the Winter Institute is all about? Check out this video:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5kg0RD--U2c&list=PLFejs_CiWosER7wTskZiYK07qVxN-HORR&index=7&t=0s

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- If you are looking to network with peers and talk about the passions of economics, consider being involved in the Economics Association here at St Cloud State! Spring meeting dates/times and events to be announced soon. Visit their website at <https://stcloudstate.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/economics-association> or email them at econs@stcloudstate.edu for more information.
- Our Spring 2020 Graduate Assistants are Katherine Grotte and Nicholas Griffiths! Congratulations!

HUSKIES SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships offered to our undergraduate students include:

Economics Department Scholarship
Rose Marie Gamber Scholarship in Economics
Crumpton Farrell Finance and Economics Scholarship
Robert and Ronald Besonen Endowed Scholarship

And for Masters' students:

Michael D. White Economics Fellowship

**The deadline to apply for the scholarships
above is March 13, 2020**

Please note you may be eligible for other scholarships as well.

The deadline for those varies, so please click on the link below to check them out.

For a listing of all scholarships and to apply, visit:

<http://www.stcloudstate.edu/huskiesscholarships/>

FALL 2019 GRADUATES

Himal Adhikari, B.A. Business Economics
Hunter Brennan, B.A. Business Economics
Dillon Clark, B.A. Business Economics
Trevor Meed, B.A. Economics
Mia Piwowar, B.A. Business Economics
Chance Plash, B.A. Economics
Ryan Roderigo, B.A. Business Economics
Deric Schoener, B.A. Economics
Mitchel Westphal, B. A. Business Economics

Aboubacar Coulibaly, M.S. Applied Economics
Nicholas Griffiths, Data Analytics Certificate
Nicholas Gross Kotschevar, M.S. Applied Economics

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!!

FALL 2019 DEANS LIST

Travis Boland
Brennan Hoem
Bryan Karp
Noah Lessinger
Hannah Mayhew
Trevor Meed
Anna Nelson
Dawda Njie
Madellen Schetnan
David Spethmann

WAY TO GO!

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Dr. N. Eric Hampton
Dr. Patricia Hughes (chair)
Dr. Eungmin Kang
Dr. Mana Komai
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 ALUMNI

Please keep in touch with us—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

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:

stcloudstate.edu/foundation/waystogive/



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ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY



St. Cloud State University,
a member of Minnesota State

St. Cloud State University is committed to legal affirmative action, equal opportunity, access and diversity of its campus community.

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