



NEWSLETTER

Department of Economics

College of Arts & Science

Volume 1 Number 1
August 2005

Head's Message

I am pleased to introduce you to the Department of Economics' first ever newsletter which is being distributing to our Alumni throughout the world, from Saskatchewan, the far reaches of the Canadian Confederation, the United States, the UK, China, Taiwan, India, Bangladesh, the Caribbean, Africa, and the UK.

This newsletter will be an ongoing venture designed to keep you informed about Department events, accomplishments and challenges.

The Department of Economics was one of the very few at the University of Saskatchewan to be awarded an A by the external reviewers of the University's Systematic Program Review, designed to evaluate the caliber of Departments and Programs at the University for reasons of funding and revitalization.

The Department intends to build on the excellence that it has nurtured over the past years.

But we are facing challenges stemming from retirements and every growing demand on our faculty and staff.

We hope to be able to move forward securing necessary resources to maintain excellence in core programming and research as well as meeting the evolving needs and demand of our students and administration.

This year veterans of the Department, Professors Bishopp and Dooley, have retired leaving a major gap in the Department. As well Professor Tran remains on leave and Professor Cushman begins an unpaid leave this academic year.

Retirements and leaves both challenge and provide opportunities to a Department. We hope to be able to engage in renewal, building on our past strengths.

This year we will be working towards restructuring our undergraduate program and building a Ph.D. program.

We will also be working towards establishing endowments to fund undergraduate and graduate student awards.

A word of thanks to Mary Jane Hanson, the Department's Administrative Assistant, who has played a critically important role in bringing this newsletter to life.

Enjoy!!

Morris Altman, Professor & Head

Volume 6 SEJ 2004 Edition:

This edition was edited by Daniel Hawkins, Andrew Koeman, and Firat Bilgel (Graduate Editors) and Brenna Grant (Undergraduate Editor). The faculty advisors were Morris Altman and Mobinul Huq. The following articles are contained in this edition:

Evgueni Panasiouk, *Corporate Donations to Universities: Is Charity a Good Thing?*

Firat Bilgel *An Institutional View Toward Canadian Provincial Unemployment.*

Kelly Davey *The Annual Loss to Canadian Society Caused by Supply Management of the Dairy Industry.*

Bruce Harrison *Softwood Lumber Disagreement.*

David Pooler *Rent Seeking: A Review of the Work of Krueger and Tullock.*

Ben Fowler *Inequality as an Inhibitor to Development: The Contrasting Cases of East Asia and Latin America.*

News

Economics Goes High Tech

“**[Professor Glen] Beck** is the first professor on campus to use the new infrared Classroom Performance System (CPS) that was installed in Place Riel Theatre last fall. With the hand-held keypads and sensors placed around the room, the new technology allows him to ‘find out, at a very low cost, a variety of thing you need to know’, namely whether the students are grasping the material being taught, and whether they are actually attending class.” For more details please read the full article located on the following website:

<http://www.usask.ca/communications/ocn/05-jan-21/feature01.shtml>

On Campus News, January 21, 2005 (pp. 1)

The **Fourth Annual Economics Research Symposium** was held on Saturday, October 23, 2004. Our keynote speaker was Dr. Craig Riddell from U.B.C. He presented research on “Unions and Wage Inequality”. M.A. students, Ph.D. Candidates, as well as faculty from the University of Regina and Saskatchewan also presented. We were also pleased that Visiting Professor Dr. Tobias Rötheli, from the University of Erfurt, was able to present as well. Over 60 people attended. In all, it was a great success.

Speakers:

Prof. Morris Altman, U. of S., *Economic Growth, ‘Globalization’ and Labor Power.*

Sharif Faisal (M.A. Econ), U. of S., *Occupational Immigrant-Composition and Wages in Canada.*

Zhen (Jane) Zheng (M.A. Econ), U. of S., *Effects of Scale Economy on Merger Profitability and Merger Efficiency.*

Prof. Tomi Ovaski, U. of R., *Happiness and Economics.*

Prof. Joel Bruneau, U. of S., *Value of Water in the SSRB.*

Prof. Craig Riddell, Key Note Speaker, UBC, *Unions and Wage Inequality.*

Teresa Pan (M.A. Econ), U. of S., *Employer Learning and Statistical Discrimination in the Canadian Labour Market.*

Prof. Tobias Rötheli, University of Erfurt, *Applied Welfare Economics with Bounded Rationality: Public Policies Toward Remote Sensing.*

Faycal Haggui (Ph.D. Ag Econ), U. of S., *Opposition to Genetically Modified Wheat and Global Food Security.*

Harry Chartrand (Ph.D. Candidate), U. of S., *An Economic Epistemology.*

Antony Samarawickrema (M.A. Ag Econ), U. of S., *Economic and Environmental Tradeoffs of Free Cropping Systems in Saskatchewan.*

The Fifth Annual Economics Research Symposium will be held on Saturday, October 22, 2005. You are invited to attend.

(Submitted by Joel Bruneau)

Economics 3 Year Bachelor of Arts

Xue Feng
Jeffrey W.Y. Fong
Yinan Gao
Wai Sum Ip
Richard A. Korchinski
Kimberly G. Larsen
Chi-on Lee
Jindi Li
Patrick K. Mah
Chuan W. Pu
Anthony E. Rains
Peter J. Rousay
Yu Sun
Kevin C.F. Tang
Shu L. Wong
Allan K.L. Wong
Nga S. Wu
Jiaji Xu
Junyi Yuan
Ka F. Yuen

Economics 4 Year Bachelor of Arts

Ashkan Babaheydari*
Jivjot Braich
Sui Sum J. Fung
Andy T.T. Hsieh
Devon S.L. Orb
Eun Seok Park
Walter Y. Quan
Nadia Shakil*
Wei Tu
Ki Woang
Michael J. Yantz
Yanfeng Zhang

Business Economics

Darren B. Acton
Joseph Adjei-Nimoh
Yuejiao Bao*
Huiying Chen
Jimmy P. H. Cheung*
Xu Duan*
Amanda J. Hosegood
Cole A. Kachur
Kit Ling Lam*

Jacky C.P. Leung
Hang Li
Wenshan Li*
Jun Liu*
Jing Yan Lu*
Alison L. Moore
Yaxu Mu
Joerg Pokats
Darrell J. Slwchuk
Xiaonan Song*
Da Teng
Lai Hing Yuen
* Honours and High Honours

Master of Arts

Olena Antonyuk

Supervisor: Professor L. St. Louis
Project: Testing the Damus Method:
Input-Output Analysis with Incomplete
Data

Li-Ching Chang

Supervisor: Professor M. Huq
Project: Comparison Between
Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Labour
Force in Saskatchewan

Amos Oyetuga

Supervisor: Professor J. Bruneau
Thesis: International Trade and Foreign
Aid

Shih-Yi Pan

Supervisor: Professor M. Huq
Thesis: Employer Learning and
Statistical Discrimination in the
Canadian Labour Market

Joy Vanstone

Supervisor: Professor E. Howe
Project: Returns to Education in Canada

Zhen Zheng

Supervisor: Professor J. Zhao
Thesis: Effects of Scale Economy on
Merger Profitability and Efficiency

Post Graduate Diploma (PGD)

Jiao Yu
Kaipeng Zhan

Student Awards

Undergraduate:

Lewis C. Gray Prize in Economics is awarded annually to an outstanding student in Economics in his/her graduating year. This award was established to honour Professor Lewis C. Gray, who was appointed in 1913 as Research Professor in Economics. The prize is funded from the estate of the late Professor Mabel Timlin, a distinguished economics professor in the former Department of Economics and Political Science. The value of the award is \$500. This year's winner is ***Kit-Ling Lam***.

Fowke Award is awarded annually to the undergraduate student writing the best essay in economics as part of the requirements for an undergraduate economics course in the College of Arts & Science. The purpose of this award is to encourage, recognize and reward good writing. Essays are judged on the bases of main idea, organization, development and writing of the essay. The value of the award is \$250. This year's winner is ***Sheryl Wiebe***. Bruce Harrison and Patrick Hauser were runners up.

Popoff Scholarship in Economics is awarded annually to a student in Arts & Science who is majoring in Economics and who will be entering the third or fourth year of the program. The Popoff family donates this scholarship in memory of J.D. Ellory Popoff, a graduate of the University. This year's winner is ***Sarbani Podder***.

College of Graduate Studies & Research: Dean's Scholarships, in the amount of \$36,000 each over two years were awarded to: ***Kit-Ling Lam*** and ***Wanjiru Ng'ang'a***, who have both been admitted to the Master's Program in Economics.

An **Education Equity Scholarship**, in the amount of \$15,000 has been awarded to ***Li Zhang***, who is a student in the Master's Program in Economics.

Faculty News

Faculty Teaching Awards:

College of Arts & Science Teaching Award for Social Sciences 2005 was presented to ***Professor Mobinul Huq***. Each year one faculty member from each of the three divisions (Fine & Performing Arts, Social Sciences, and Sciences) is presented with a Teaching Award.

U.S.S.U. Teaching Excellence Award 2005 was presented to ***Professor Eric Howe*** for his teaching of ECON 474-02. The U.S.S.U. strives to recognize those individuals that offer both a challenging and rewarding experience and consistently display a strong commitment to the learning environment.

R.E. Olley Teaching Award was presented by the Economics' Students Society (E.S.S.) to ***Professor Cristina Echevarria***. Each year the E.S.S. chooses a worthy recipient of this award.

Publications & Research:

(For a complete list of publications please see our department website:

<http://www.arts.usask.ca/economics/research/index.php>)

Morris Altman, ed. (2005). *Handbook of Contemporary Behavioral Economics: Foundations and Developments*. M.E. Sharpe Publishers, Armonk, New York, in press. This book contains over thirty original contributions by cutting edge behavioural economists.

Morris Altman has also published a series of papers this year, including, Morris Altman, (2005) "Behavioral Economics, Rational Inefficiencies, Fuzzy Sets, and Public Policy," *Journal of Economic Issues* 34 (3), pp.1-24.

Joel F. Bruneau, "Inefficient Environmental Instruments and the Gains From Trade", *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management* 49 (2005) 536-546.

(under review) Michael Katz and Joel F. Bruneau, "Identifying and Applying Comparative Advantage in Supply Managed Industries".

Joel F. Bruneau, "Value of Water in the SSRB", Report to the Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation Fund of Natural Resources Canada, 2004.

Peter C. Dooley, *The Labour Theory of Value* (London: Routledge, 2005)

This book traces the history of the ideas that evolved into the classical labour theory of value of Smith, Ricardo and Marx. (Available June 2005)

Eric C. Howe is currently involved in two research projects, one in Aboriginal economic research and the other in the analysis of privacy.

The Aboriginal economic research project is quantifying the financial returns to education for Aboriginal people by province in Canada. This is an extension of his previous analysis.

E. C. Howe: *Education and Lifetime Income for Aboriginal People in Saskatchewan*, in J. P. White, P. Maxim and D. Beavon, eds., *Aboriginal Policy Research: Setting the Agenda for Change, Volume 1*, Toronto: Thompson Educational Publishing, 2004, pp. 175-191.

Howe is also involved in the growing area of research on privacy. Specifically, he is attempting to quantify the impact of privacy legislation on hospital fundraising in Canada.

Retirements:

A retirement dinner was held on Saturday April 30 at the Faculty Club. At this time the Department of Economics honoured William D. Bishopp and Peter C. Dooley who retired on June 30, 2005.

William D. Bishopp commenced his teaching career at the Department of Economics & Political Studies on July 1, 1971. He was immediately recognized by his colleagues and students for his teaching and administrative abilities. His contribution to college and university committees has been significant and he will be hard to replace. Bill has graciously volunteered to help current graduate students complete their theses and projects in econometrics when he is available.

Peter C. Dooley commenced his teaching career at the Department of Economics & Political Studies on July 1, 1966. Few faculty members can boast having taught for almost forty years in one department. Besides the respect and admiration of his many students over the years, Peter has published a significant body of work including his latest book. His work as a member of the Faculty Association has had an indelible impression. It is important to note his contribution in the area of pension reform. Peter was granted the status of Emeritus Professor and we are pleased that he has an office on campus.

Appointments:

Alfons Boving from the College of Commerce and the College of Arts & Science has been appointed to a ten month term position in International and Environmental Economics. He will commence his duties on September 1, 2005.

Maxym Chaban from University of Victoria has been appointed to a ten month term position in Econometrics. He will commence his duties on September 1, 2005.

Dr. Hemal Kularatne from Agricultural Economics has been appointed to a ten month term position in Econometrics. He will commence his duties on September 1, 2005.

Leave of Absence:

Dr. David Cushman will take a ten month Leave of Absence. He will be a visiting professor at New Wilmington, PA.

Dr. Kien Tran will extend his Leave of Absence for another year. He is currently in Lethbridge, Alberta, teaching and doing research.

Did You Know?

University of Saskatchewan Economics' major Gordon Thiessen is the former Governor of the Bank of Canada.

Stan Garchinski, B.A. (Econ), 1984, wrote the award winning Centennial Song *Saskatchewan, We Love This Place*.

Contact Us:

Please complete this form and return it by snail mail, email, or fax. Thank you.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____

Province: _____ Country: _____

Year: _____ Degree: _____

Email Address: _____

News:

Please return to: Mary Jane Hanson, Administrative Assistant, Department of Economics,
9 Campus Drive, Saskatoon SK S7N 5A5 or Email: mj.hanson@usask.ca Fax: 306-966-1641