



# Department of Economics Newsletter

Department of  
Economics  
College of Arts & Science

Volume 3, Issue 2  
July 2007

## HPPA Congress 2007

The **Health & Public Policy Association (HPPA) Congress 2007**, which was held on May 30 and 31 at St. Thomas More College on the U. of S. campus, was co-ordinated by **Morris Altman & Nazmi Sari**.

HPPA is a newly formed organization, which was established, through the efforts of **Morris Altman** and **Nazmi Sari** of the Department of Economics, to promote excellence in health and public policy research.

There were a total of eight sessions with 22 presenters from all over Canada, as well as, one presenter from the National University of Singapore. Presenters from the Department of Economics were **Morris Altman, Nazmi Sari, Kit-ling Lam,** and **Recep Gezer**. The organized panel

discussed, "Public versus Private Health Insurance". Panellists were: **Anthony Culyer**, University of York, UK & the Institute for Work and Health, Toronto; **Gregory P. Marchildon**, University of Regina; the **Honourable Roy Romanow**, University of Saskatchewan; **Steven Lewis**, Simon Fraser University & Access Consulting. The keynote speaker was **Anthony Culyer**, University of York, UK & the Institute for Work and Health, Toronto. His lecture was entitled, "Why Social Policy Needs Extra-Welfarism (and Extra-Welfarism Needs Welfarism)".

For a complete list of speakers and titles please refer to the following website: <http://homepage.usask.ca/~sari/HPPA.htm>



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## Student Academic Awards June 2007

The **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 **Tina Yang**.

The **Department of Economics Prize in Business Economics** is awarded on the recommendation of the Department to the most outstanding student in Business Economics. The value of the award is \$200. This year's winners are **Minh Ha and Daniel Sumner**.

The **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 **Eric Pedersen**. **Tina Yang** was the runner up.

The **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 **Yujing Gu**.

The **McGraw-Hill Ryerson Award For Excellence in Economic Achievement in Introductory Economics**. This year's winners for ECON 111 are: **P. Dust, K. Hamilton, T. Howard, N. Zheng, D. Williams, Y. Wang, S. Woods**. This year's winners for ECON 114 are: **A. Best, M. Calver, C. Dyck, K. Hamilton, S. Koo, D. Ritter, M. Serhan**.



## Undergraduate Degrees Conferred June 2007



### Economics 3-Year Bachelor of Arts

Hui Ling Bai  
 Ronald H.T. Chan  
 Shengjie Cui  
 Erin Lee Dramnitzki  
 Tiankuo Gao  
 Qi Jia  
 Katy Tszki Law  
 Lina Liao  
 Jing Liu  
 Jincheng Song  
 Liang Wang  
 Junyi Weng  
 Bo Yang  
 Zhao Zhao  
 Yanfang Zheng

### Economics 4-Year Bachelor of Arts

Sheila Katusiime  
 Kendra Brianne Kimber  
 Craig James Mitchell  
 Range\*

Jeremy Adam Sibley\*  
 Shu Hei Tang  
 Natasha Maria Vandenhurk\*  
 Tina Qi Yang\*

### Economics 4-Year Bachelor of Science

Jing Cao\*

### Business Economics

Emily N.A. Ackwonu  
 Kirk Joseph Brecht\*  
 Aaron Russell Carroll\*  
 Tai Ye Derek Chan\*  
 Ka Yan Claudia Cheng\*  
 Anastasia Christine Colombos\*  
 David Ronald Dash  
 Jen-Kai Fan  
 Zhao Gao  
 Tyler James Gorrell  
 Minh Thi Nguyet Ha\*  
 Nugraha Indrawan  
 Shristi Joshi\*  
 Ka Man Leung

Ming Li  
 Thomas Mark Locke  
 Leila Marie Nashacappo  
 Jeremy James Ring  
 Derek James Rysavy\*  
 Chantel Joanna Slowski  
 Daniel Lisle Sumner\*  
 Lucy Sutanto  
 Itemobong Basseyy Umoh\*  
 Thomas Desmond Curtis  
 Vicars  
 Isara Wanachaikiat  
 Hui Wang\*  
 Zhifang Wu\*  
 Lei Xu\*  
 Sai Xu  
 Ming Liang Zhao  
 Tianning Zhen  
 Ning Zheng\*

\*Honours or High Honours

## Graduate Degrees Conferred June 2007

“You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself in any direction you choose. You're on your own. And you know what you know. You are the guy who'll decide where to go.”

Dr. Seuss

### Master of Arts

**GODINEZ, Juan**, Supervisor: Professor C. Echevarria

Research Project: *Comparing the Financial System Among NAFTA Countries*

**NG'ANG'A Wanjiru**, Supervisor: Professor J. Bruneau

Thesis: *The “New” East African Community: Effects on Trade, Welfare and Productive Activities in East Africa*

**SARKAR, Ayanabha**, Supervisor: Professor E. Howe

Research Project: *Aboriginal Participation in Self and Wage Employment: The Effects of Education*

**WANG, Qin**, Supervisor: Professor M. Huq

Research Project: *Wage Differentials*

**WANG, Yifei**, Supervisor: Professor M. Huq

Research Project: *Labour Supply in Saskatchewan*

## Did You Know?

The Department of Economics is working towards establishing an endowment for bringing in visiting speakers and to establish scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students. If you are interested, please contact our Administrative Assistant, Mary Jane Hanson (phone: 306-966-5197 or e-mail: [mj.hanson@usask.ca](mailto:mj.hanson@usask.ca))



## Faculty News

**Morris Altman** was elected by the governing Body of St. Edmund's College, Cambridge University, as Visiting Fellow, September 2007 to June 2008.

**Morris Altman** was selected as Erskine Fellow by the Department of Economics, University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand, February 2008 to June 2008.

**Morris Altman** was invited to be a Visiting Professor, Department of Economics and the Stirling Centre for Economic Methodology, University of Stirling, Scotland.

**Morris Altman** (2007) "Economic Growth, 'Globalisation' and Labour Power," *Global Business and Economics Review* 9: 297-318.

**Morris Altman** (2007) "Effort Discretion and Economic Agency and Behavioral Economics: Transforming Economic Theory and Public Policy," in Roger Frantz, ed., *Renaissance in Behavioural Economics Harvey Leibenstein's Impact of Contemporary Economic Analysis*. New York: Routledge: 105-145.

**Alfons Boving** took over the administration and academic supervision of the Economics Career Internship Program (CIP) last year, and that, starting this fall, the Department of Economics and Alfons plans to expand the nature and scope of the Program to give our students even more opportunities to apply their theoretical knowledge to real life projects in economic/business analysis and decision making.

**Maxym Chaban** was awarded a President's SSHRC grant in the amount of \$4,860 in support of the project entitled "Nonlinear Mean-Reversion in Real Exchange Rates and Equity Flows".

**Natalya Dygalo**, conference presentation, "The Role of Worker Productivity and Learning in Matching Workers to Firms and Occupations" (with **John Abowd**), Society of Labour Economists Annual Meetings in Chicago, May 4-5, 2007.

**Natalya Dygalo**, conference presentation, "On Unemployment Duration and Narrowing Job Opportunities at Older Ages", Canadian Economics Association Meetings in Halifax, June 1-3, 2007.

**Beryl Li**, our MA student, has received an MITACS internship at the Office of the City Assessor in Saskatoon. Beryl develops statistical models for residential property assessment. Congratulations Beryl! **Prof. Chaban** supervises the project.

**Eric Howe**: spoke at the SaskEnergy Aboriginal Forum, May 28, 2007, Regina. He has two papers about the Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement (TILMA) posted on the Saskatchewan Government Relations Website, at [www.gr.gov.sk.ca/internaltrade.htm](http://www.gr.gov.sk.ca/internaltrade.htm)

**Mobinul Huq** and **Natalya Dygalo**, participated in an expert round table to discuss the labour market situation of older workers on May 23, 2007 in Montreal.

**Rokon Bhuiyan** and **Robert F. Lucas**, "Real and Nominal Effects of Monetary Policy Shocks," *Canadian Journal of Economics*, Volume 40, No. 2, May, 2007.

**Sari, N.**, 2007, "Türkiye Özelinde Alternatif Ödeme Sistemlerinin Sağlık Hizmet Sunumuna Etkileri (A Discussion on Alternative Reimbursement Schemes and Health care Utilization in Turkey)", *İktisat, İşletme ve Finans (Journal of Economy, Business and Finance)*, April 2007: 5-17.

**Sari, N.**, 2007, "Competition and Market Concentration", *Advances in Health Economics and Health Services Research*, Vol. 18: Hospital Productivity, Blank and Valdmanis (Eds), Amsterdam: Elsevier Publisher (in press)

**Jinga Zhao** was awarded a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada grant in the amount of \$35,000. in support of his research entitled, "The Performance and Structural Stability of Multiproduct Oligopolies".

## Faculty Teaching Awards

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

**Maxym Chaban** was nominated for a **U.S.S.U. Teaching Excellence Award** by the students in his ECON 356 class.

**Eric Howe** was awarded the **College of Arts & Science Teaching Award for Social Sciences**.

## Our Faculty

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[http://artsandscience.usask.ca/  
/economics/](http://artsandscience.usask.ca/economics/)



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### To Update Your Contact Information:

Please send any updates to Mary Jane  
Hanson, Administrative Assistant,  
email: [mj.hanson@usask.ca](mailto:mj.hanson@usask.ca) fax: 306-  
966-5197. Thank you.

**ALTMAN, Morris**, Ph.D., 1984 (McGill) (On Admin. Leave 2007-2008)  
**BECK, R. Glen**, Ph.D., 1971 (Alberta) (Emeritus)  
**BISHOPP, William**, Ph.D., 1976 (Colorado) (Adjunct)  
**BRUNEAU, Joel**, Ph.D., 2000 (British Columbia)  
(Chair of the Undergraduate Program)  
**CHABAN, Maxym**, Ph.D., 2006 (Victoria)  
**COGGINS, Shelley**, M.A., 1985 (Queen's) (STM)  
**CUSHMAN, David O.**, Ph.D., 1980 (Vanderbilt)  
**DOOLEY, Peter**, Ph.D., 1964 (Cornell) (Emeritus)  
**DYGALO, Natalya**, Ph.D., 2004 (Cornell)  
**ECHEVARRIA, Cristina**, Ph.D., 1992 (Minnesota)  
**GILCHRIST, Donald**, Ph.D., 1982 (Queen's)  
**HOWE, Eric**, Ph.D., 1982 (Maryland)  
**HUQ, Mobinul**, Ph.D., 1987 (Western Ontario), (Acting Head)  
**KLIMINA, Anna**, Ph.D., 2004 (Manitoba) (STM)  
**LUCAS, Robert F.**, Ph.D., 1975 (Brown)  
**POLLAK, Andreas**, Ph.D., 2006 (Freiburg)  
**ST. LOUIS, Larry V.**, Ph.D. 1972 (Oregon), (Chair of Graduate Program)  
**SARI, Nazmi**, Ph.D., 2001 (Boston)  
**ZHAO, Jingang**, Ph.D., 1992 (Yale)

For a complete list of publications please see our  
department website: [http://artsandscience.usask.ca/  
economics/sts/faculty.php](http://artsandscience.usask.ca/economics/sts/faculty.php)

## Faculty Transitions

**Morris Altman**, Head of Economics, will be on Administrative Leave for the 2007-2008 Academic Year.  
**Mobinul Huq** has been appointed Acting Head of the Department of Economics for the 2007-2008  
Academic Year.  
**David Cushman** retired on July 1, 2007. He and his wife Bev will be living in New Wilmington, PA.

## Altman Presents Commemorative Plaque

**Morris Altman**, Past President of the Society for the Advancement of Behavioral Economics, presented recent Nobel Prize Laureate in Economics, **Dr. Edmund Phelps** of Columbia University, with a plaque commemorating his **Herbert Simon** Memorial Lecture presented at New York University in May 2007. **Morris Altman** established the Simon Lecture with the support and collaboration of **Herb Simon's** family. **Herbert Simon** was awarded the Nobel Prize in Economics for his pioneering research in Behavioral Economics.

