Ph.D. Program in Economics

We expect that Canada’s newest Ph.D. program in Economics will be officially launched in September 2007. The program provides students with a solid background in economic theory and quantitative methods. The focus of this program is on Health Economics, Labour Economics, Development, Economics of Transition, Regional, International, Environmental Economics, and Behavioral Economics. We also have expertise in Experimental Economics and Aboriginal Economics. Our students will be well placed to take advantage of job opportunities in the private sector, government, and in academia. We offer students excellent research facilities and unique opportunities to meet and engage our research faculty. We welcome letters of interest in this program.

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)

Upcoming Events

Health & Public Policy Association (Congress 2007)  
Co-ordinated by Morris Altman & Nazmi Sari (Economics)  
May 30 and 31

The Health and Public Policy Association (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. The association will provide a forum for discussions of a broad set of social and economic issues affecting individuals and societies. HPPA aims to encourage scholarly dialogue and debate in the critically important domain of health and public policy amongst Social Scientists, inclusive of Economists, Sociologists, Political Scientists, Psychologists, Anthropologists, Geographers, and other health scientists.

http://homepage.usask.ca/~sari/HPPA.htm

Organized Panel:  
Thursday, May 31, 2007  
“Public versus Private Health Insurance”, 14:45 – 16:15, STM Room 260

Panellists:  
Anthony Culyer, University of York, UK & the Institute for Work and Health, Toronto  
Gregory P. Marchildon, University of Regina  
Honourable Roy Romanow, University of Saskatchewan  
Steven Lewis, Simon Fraser University & Access Consulting

Keynote Speaker:  
Anthony Culyer, University of York, UK & the Institute for Work and Health, Toronto  
Faculty Publications & Research


Maxym Chaban was awarded President’s SSHRC Grant, University of Saskatchewan, for the project "Real determinants of the relative price of traded goods".


Recent Seminars

October 18, 2006
Rose Olfert, U. of S., “Canadian Interprovincial Migration Effects of Equalization Payments”

October 27, 2006
Tasso Adamopoulos, York University, “Relative Stagnation Alla Turca”

November 8, 2006
Gillian Currie, University of Calgary, “Public Preferences for Priority Setting of New Pharmaceuticals: an Application of a Discrete Choice Experiment”

February 7, 2007
Natalya Dygalo, University of Saskatchewan
“On the Relationship Between Unemployment Duration and Limited Job Opportunities for Older Workers”

February 22, 2007

February 28, 2007
Hikmet Gunay, University of Manitoba, “Who Will Wait Before Buying? Strategic Delay and Dynamic Monopoly Pricing?”

March 14, 2007
Maxym Chaban, Department of Economics, U. of S., “Modelling Community Currencies”

March 26, 2007
Christopher Gerrard, IEG World Bank, “Global Governance without a Global Government”

April 5, 2007
David Cushman, University of Saskatchewan, “The Unlikely Unit Root in US Real GDP”

New Faculty Member Appointed

We are pleased to welcome Dr. Andreas Pollak who will join the Department on July 1, 2007, in a tenure track appointment. He will be teaching the Ph.D. Macro II course and International Monetary System (Econ 256). Dr. Pollak received his Ph.D. in Economics, summa cum laude (2006) from the University of Freiburg. His Thesis title is: “Optimal Unemployment Insurance”. He also received a M.Sc. in Econometrics and Math. Economics, Distinction (2003) from the London School of Economics. His primary area of specialization is in Quantitative Methods and Dynamic Macroeconomics. His secondary area of specialization is Contract Theory and Econometrics.
The Sixth Annual Economics Research Symposium on Health Policy and Economics Research was held on Saturday, October 14, 2006.

Our visiting speaker was Dr. Randall Ellis from Boston University. Dr. Ellis is a world renowned health economist, very well-known for his work on risk adjustment models. His presentation was on risk adjustment models and their applications in healthcare markets in various countries including Canada and the U.S.

Also speaking on the economics of health and healthcare were Dr. Jasmin Kantarevic from the Ontario Medical Association, Dr. Marion Jones from the University of Regina, and Dr. Nazmi Sari, Dr. Morris Altman, and Mr. Recep Gezer from the University of Saskatchewan. Faculty and students from the University of Saskatchewan (Department of Economics, Agricultural Economics, and Department of Finance) and from the University of Regina attended.

Total participation by faculty, visiting scholars, and graduate students was around 50. In all, it was a great success. Information regarding next year’s symposium will be in our next newsletter.

Speakers:
- Dr. Nazmi Sari (University of Saskatchewan), “External costs of Physical Inactivity”
- Mr. Recep Gezer (University of Saskatchewan), “Economics of Physical Activity Programs”
- Dr. Morris Altman (University of Saskatchewan), “Is There a Kink in the Happiness Literature?”
- Dr. Marion Jones (University of Regina), “Socio-economic and Life Style Inequality and Wellness Outcomes in Canada”
- Dr. Randall Ellis (Boston University), “Risk Adjustments in Healthcare Markets”.
- Dr. Anna Klimina (University of Saskatchewan, St Thomas More College), “The Model of Cultural Equilibrium in Oligarchic Transition: Is There a Way Out of the Sub-optimal Institutional Lock-in?”
- Ms. Wanjiru N’gan’ga (University of Saskatchewan), “Potential/Outcomes of the new East African Community on Trade, Welfare and Productive Activities in the Region?”
- Dr. Tomi Ovaska (University of Regina), “Missionary Work and the Effectiveness of Foreign Aid”
- Dr. Cristina Echevarria (University of Saskatchewan), “Why a Fixed Workweek?”
- Dr. Joel Bruneau (University of Saskatchewan), “Composition Effects in the Environmental Kuznets Curve”

- Submitted by Nazmi Sari and Joel Bruneau

Visiting Scholars

In October 2006, we welcomed Dr. Hongping Chen, Professor of Economics, Economic Research Center, Xian Institute of Posts and Telecommunications, Xian, Shaanxi, PR China. He will be with us for one year.
**Undergraduate Degrees Conferred October 2006**

**Economics 3-Year Bachelor of Arts**
- Hao Lue Chen
- Kyle Johann Eyvindson
- Tat Sun Lai
- Nan Ren
- Hong Yu Suen
- Po Ying Tang
- Sha Tao
- Patrick Dennis Trumpy
- Megumi Wakamiya
- Lin Wang
- Xin Wang
- Kun Wu
- Li Qun Zou

**Economics 4-Year Bachelor of Arts**
- Chen Chen
- Xiaoyue Gao
- Genevieve Margarite Kelln
- Akemi Mamiya*

**Business Economics**
- Chun Guang Shi
- Sheryl Colette Wiebe
- Eun Mi Yoo
- Hongze Zhang

**Graduate Degrees Conferred October 2006**

**Master of Arts**

**ALAM, Shah**
Supervisor: Professor M. Huq
Research Project: Effects of Health Status on Labour Supply

**CHEUNG, Daniel**
Supervisor: D. Gilchrist
Research Project: The Incidence of GST and Income Tax Changes in the 2006 Federal Budget

**HAYES, Ethan**
Supervisor: Professor P. Dooley
Thesis: A Brief Discourse on Human Behavior in Economics

**MEREDITH, Evan**
Supervisor: Professor M. Altman
Thesis: Experimental Investigations of the Fair Wage-Effort Hypothesis

**QIN, Zhen**
Supervisor: Professor M. Huq
Research Project: Employment Impact of Minimum Wage Increase in Manitoba

**SONG, Xiaonan**
Supervisor: Professor M. Huq
Research Project: Valuation of Canadian and Foreign Degrees in Labour Markets

**Post Graduate Diploma (PGD)**

**GEZER, Recep**

**Special points of interest:**
- 36 Undergraduate Degrees Conferred
- 7 Graduate Degrees Conferred

**Our Faculty**

**ALTMAN, Morris.**, Ph.D., 1984 (McGill) (Head)
**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)
**KLIMINA, Anna**, Ph.D., 2004 (Manitoba) (STM)
**LUCAS, Robert F.**, Ph.D., 1975 (Brown)
**ST. LOUIS, Larry V.**, Ph.D. 1972 (Oregon) (Chair of Graduate Program)
**SARI, Nazmi**, Ph.D., 2001 (Boston)
**ZHAO, Jingang**, Ph.D., 1992 (Yale)

**Visit our Website:**
http://www.arts.usask.ca/economics

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