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http://ou.edu/cas/economics/
Report From the Chair

Gary A. Hoover, Department of Economics

Welcome to our latest installation of the OU Department of Economics Newsletter. On our website (http://ou.edu/cas/economics/) you can find old editions of this newsletter to help you stay informed about the happenings in the department.

In spring of 2019, the economics department received an additional $20,000 in donations to the Joe Shary Endowed Scholarship, allowing us to offer additional awards to deserving students. When I arrived here at OU Economics in 2015, the department gave out three undergraduate scholarships. This fall we will give out nine. It is all because of people like you.

In the spring of 2019, the Econ Club took a field trip to the Dallas Federal Reserve Bank, which you can read more about in this issue. Over 20 students were accompanied by Prof. Alexander Holmes and Corey Quiet. OU Economics continues to be over-represented at this event and our presence is noticed by other schools and the Fed members themselves.

In the fall of 2019, we will welcome two new faculty members. Professor Kevin Kuruc will join us after receiving his Ph.D. from the University of Texas where his research and teaching interests are in applied microeconomics and environmental economics. In addition, Professor Jonathan McFadden will join us where he previously worked for the United States Department of Agriculture. Prof. McFadden will immediately help in our ever-growing “Big Data” program.

Speaking of our B.A./M.A. program in “Big Data,” in May of 2019, we had our largest graduating class of students. It was such an honor to meet these young people and watch them receive their degree(s). The College of Arts and Sciences had so many students graduating that they had to have a separate program just for master’s students. OU Economics had a lot to do with that!

We continue to expand the major. Adding up all undergraduate, B.A./M.A., and Ph.D. students the department has now topped 600. The department is always looking to expand the learning experience for our students. We will be adding sports economics and machine learning to the curriculum. These are large draws for our students.

The department faculty continue to amaze. During the spring of 2019 they have produced an enormous amount of scholarly output, which has been prominently featured in the profession. Two of our faculty members were awarded professional and university-wide awards. In addition, none of us have forgotten that our first obligation is to our fantastic students. One of our very own graduate students was awarded a teaching award.

We still have our T-shirt challenge going on. Contact the economics department so that we can send you one of our Econ Club-designed shirts. Get a shirt and take it with you as you travel and snap a photo so that we can see how many exciting locations our alumni and friends are finding themselves in.

If you’re ever in Norman, please stop by to visit. You really have to see with your own eyes how exciting things are.

Gary “Hoov” Hoover
On April 11 and 12, the OU Econ Club traveled to Dallas for the 13th annual Economics Scholars Program for Undergraduate Research conference, presented by Austin College and the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas. Around 19 club members went on the trip accompanied by the economics undergraduate adviser and faculty advisor.

Students attended a reception at the bank before the conference, and sat in on research presentations given by economics undergraduates from around the country. Several club members also acted as discussants for the presentations.

Students were able to attend the trip at minimal cost due to generous sponsorship by Phillips 66.
Econ Club stayed busy throughout the semester with regular meetings, special guest speakers and volunteering during "The Big Event."
Three economics students were recognized for graduating with perfect 4.0 GPAs after spring 2019: Tyler Dang, Taylor DuPont and Kestrel St. Clair. The students were given bronze medallions on crimson ribbons to wear during the May 10 commencement ceremony.
Economics senior Alex McClintic was featured in the MarketWatch article, "Why it costs colleges far more to educate a physicist or teacher than an English major." His quote in the article was about the accessibility and value of a variety of academic majors: "Students studying English, engineering and history all bring different skills and knowledge to campus and the world beyond college. Students shouldn’t be dissuaded from pursuing a certain major because of the cost."

Economics graduate student Saini Das competed in the final rounds of the Three Minute Thesis competition held by the OU Graduate College. The competition challenges master’s and doctoral students to present their research in a compelling and engaging manner to a non-specialist audience in just three minutes, using one static presentation slide as their only prop. The students’ presentations were judged on comprehension, engagement and communication.

State Representative Daniel Pae

Economics graduate student Brent Norwood was selected as the Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant for the 2018-2019 Academic Calendar year.

Economics student Hannah Pike and Biology and Letters student Muneeb Ata presented economics-related papers at the 31st annual OU Undergraduate Research Day, sponsored by the Honors College.

Hannah's paper "How Majority-Minority Districting Harms African Americans in the US" was presented with Professor Aparna Mitra, and Muneeb's paper "Labor Mobility Patterns of Oklahoman Undergraduate Students" was presented with Professor Gregory Burge.
Professors Georgia Kosmopoulou and Daniel Nedeloscu authored a chapter titled "Panel Data Analysis based on Lab Evidence in Auction Market Experiments," which will be included in the econometrics textbook "Panel Data Econometrics Volume 2: Empirical Applications."

Professor Saleh Tabrizy was featured in an OU Center for Teaching Excellence speaking event titled Voice and Voices, and gave a presentation titled "Teaching Large Classes" in January 2019.

Professor Cynthia Rogers co-authored a paper with Jia Wang (assistant professor at University of Dayton, OU economics Ph.D. graduate) and Stephen Ellis (associate professor of philosophy at OU) titled "Income Inequality and Economic Development Incentives in US States: Robin Hood in Reverse?" which was co-winner of the 2019 Dan Rickman Best Paper Award for the Review of Regional Studies. View the paper summary here.

The research was also featured in a Science of Politics podcast.

Professor Rogers also serves as a member of the Incentive Evaluation Commission, seen below during a March session. The Incentive Evaluation Commission was legislatively formed in 2015 to produce objective evaluations of the State of Oklahoma’s wide array of economic incentives.
Trey Dronyk-Trosper, a 2009 (B.A.) and 2015 (Ph.D.) graduate from OU Economics, recently accepted a senior economist position with Amazon. He will join their program evaluation team, based out of the Seattle headquarters. The move to Amazon follows a stay at Tulane University, where he held a postdoctoral fellowship through the Murphy Institute.


Professor Le Wang was selected as a recipient of the President’s Associates Presidential Professorship.

Professor Myongjin Kim received the 2019 Merrick Teaching Award.
OU Research Seminar Series
Spring 2019 - Coordinator: Jaeho Kim

Catalina Amuedo-Dorantes, San Diego State University
"Immigration Enforcement, Police Trust and Domestic Violence"

Jie Shuai, Zhongnan University
"Upstream Market Structure and Downstream Cross Holding"

Ronni Pavan, University of Rochester
"Parental Skills and Child Development"

Luis Cabral, New York University
"Price Matching Guarantees and Collusion: Theory and Evidence from Germany"

Manisha Shah, University of California Los Angeles
"Including Males: Improving Sexual and Reproductive Health for Female Adolescents"

Qingqing Cao, Michigan State University
"Recessions and Recoveries. Multinational Banks in the Business Cycle"

OU Economics Faculty Research Interests

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<td>Gregory Burge</td>
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<td>Fırat Demir</td>
<td>International Finance, Development Economics</td>
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<td>Pallab Ghosh</td>
<td>Labor Economics, Econometrics</td>
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<td>James Hartigan</td>
<td>International Trade, International Finance, Industrial Organization</td>
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<td>Daniel Hicks</td>
<td>Economic Development, Macroeconomics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joan Hicks</td>
<td>Economic Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexander Holmes</td>
<td>Human Resources, Public Finance, Local Econ. Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>Benjamin Keen</td>
<td>Monetary Economics, Macroeconomics, Applied Time Series Econometrics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jaeho Kim</td>
<td>Empirical Macro, Bayesian Econometrics, Time Series Analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Myongjin Kim</td>
<td>Industrial Organization, Applied Econometrics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Georgia Kosmopoulou</td>
<td>Microeconomic Theory, Industrial Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>Qihong Liu</td>
<td>Industrial Organization, Applied Micro</td>
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<td>Aparna Mitra</td>
<td>Labor Economics, Development Economics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daniel Nedeleescu</td>
<td>Industrial Organization, Labor Economics, Behavioral Economics, Experimental Economics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tyler Ransom</td>
<td>Labor Economics, Urban Economics, Economics of Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cynthia Rogers</td>
<td>Urban Economics, Public Economics, Public Policy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hewei Shen</td>
<td>International Economics, Macroeconomics, International Finance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saleh S. Tabrizy</td>
<td>International Trade, International Finance, Development, Growth, Innovation</td>
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<td>Chunbei Wang</td>
<td>Labor Economics, Entrepreneurship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Le Wang</td>
<td>Econometrics, Labor &amp; Development, Applied Microeconomics, Chinese Economy</td>
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Stay Connected to OU Economics

We would love to hear from you.
Share your story with us!

Please send us updates to be included in the next newsletter. You can send news, announcements, photos and more by sending an email to cquiett@ou.edu.

You also may participate with OU Economics by mentoring a student, recommending an internship or sharing how you’ve used your economics degree with our student organization. Please contact Corey Quiett at cquiett@ou.edu or (405) 325-4307.

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