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### *Economics at OU: Be in Demand*

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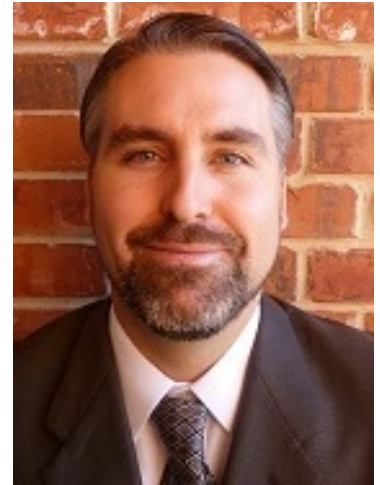
## Welcome and Department Update

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Hello, OU Economics alumni & friends,

Welcome to another OU Economics Newsletter! In 1964, Bob Dylan released the American Classic, 'The Times They Are a-Changin''. Six decades later, the Changin' times roll on.

As I write this, I'm thinking of David Boren – whose life and legacy we celebrate as he recently passed at age 83. The former Oklahoma Governor and U.S. Senator was in the middle of his incredible 24-year term serving as OU's President when I arrived in 2006. His vision was the driving force behind Dunham and Headington College's, where my wife and I currently serve as Faculty in Residence. While it's impossible to capture his impact on OU with words, I'll highlight a quote he gave in a 2018 interview, where he articulated "There is no satisfaction like seeing a young person filled with talent. What a privilege to share in their lives." Well said. I hope that your connection with OU Economics has given you at least a few connections with faculty and friends who loved seeing you filled with talent, and that your lives and careers have been the better for it.



And holy cow - did you know that the Economics Department is turning 100! While the first econ class at OU was in 1898, and while the "Department of Economics and Sociology" dates to 1905, it wasn't until 1925 that a proper "Department of Economics" was founded, with Professor Arthur Adams as the initial chair. For me, it's an absolute honor to serve one of the longest standing and most impactful departments at this incredible University. I hope you are as proud to be associated with this amazing group as I am.

Much has changed over the department's first century. Society grappled with the Great Depression, World War II, the JFK assassination, the Civil Rights movement, nuclear bombs, the Cold War, and even global terrorism. Turning to technology, we witnessed the space race, the personal computer, the internet, and now machine learning and artificial intelligence have forever changed the way we live our lives. More than ever – the field of economics focuses on data driven insights to complement our theoretical models, as we try to better understand a digital world where humans and machines work together to solve society's biggest problems.

## Welcome and Department Update

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I doubt Adam Smith was thinking about AI when he wrote about specialization and the division of labor (well, labour for Smith), but his insights stand the test of time and are more important than ever.

In fact, our newest program – an entirely online master’s program in Econometrics and Data Analytics – is a great example of how we adapt to this changing world! Dr. Pallab Ghosh directs this fantastic new program, and we have just admitted our first cohort – how cool is that? Please reach out to him if you are interested or know anyone that might be interested in this opportunity. As a fully Online program, our reach is truly global!

Still - even in a digital world – our biggest impact comes from people just like you! Our incredible students show us this every day. As you read this newsletter – please note just how incredible our Econ Club is! They will draw over 1,000 attendees to their events this year – simply amazing! Everything from their alumni nights to Parliamentary Fellow MP Rehman Chishti events, to their current events focused panels, to service activities like the meals of hope program – it’s all a part of what has taken things to a new level of excellence. Much of the credit for this goes to Dr. Samantha Johnson, who stepped up this year to serve as co-advisor of our Econ club, and to the fearless Caleb Anagnos who serves as President. Keep shining brightly and making us proud!

And our faculty continue to shine brighter than ever! Rather than highlight all 20 of us – which would be fun – this newsletter focuses on the accomplishments and global impact of my great friend and valued colleague – Firat Demir. Firat and I arrived in Norman within a few days of one another – and have been fast friends over the two decades that followed. Dr. Demir serves as co-director of OU’s Center for Peace and Development and has run multiple large Carnegie Foundation Grants through that center – always with the focus on exploring the ongoing economic and political power struggles that take place among powerful and emerging nations – with an eye towards promoting peace and economic prosperity for all. Dr. Demir is truly a global leader in these areas, now approaching 3,000 citations of his more than 50 publications! His work on financial liberalization in emerging markets stands at the top of any readings list in that area. Beyond the high profile awards he has won over the years – it’s worth noting that he is a fantastic person and a first-rate student mentor (for example, he is our current Director of Graduate Studies and has served on nearly 30 dissertation or thesis committees.

## Welcome and Department Update

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But as much as these newsletters are chances to tell you about us – we care much more that we might be able to learn ABOUT YOU! If you haven't already completed our alumni/ supporter survey, could you take a few minutes to do so?

[https://ousurvey.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_9npibsurzFvRnUi](https://ousurvey.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9npibsurzFvRnUi)

Also, if you haven't already connected to our profile at LinkedIn, that's another fantastic opportunity.

Please take a moment to connect your account to ours!

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/ou-economics/>

And finally – be on the lookout soon for opportunities to engage in the biggest push our department has ever made for OU's "Day of Giving". It's not every year that a department gets to celebrate turning 100! Let's usher in the next 100 years of impact with style! From supporting education abroad, to celebrating student achievement through scholarships or student needs through emergency financial assistance, we want to build our resources so we can extend our positive impact! As you hear from us regarding those opportunities – please consider playing a role and helping us achieve those goals!

Warm Regards & Live on University!

Greg Burge

Department Chair & Professor of Economics, Faculty in Residence for Dunham, Headington, and David L. Boren Colleges.

University of Oklahoma



### Econ Club Updates

Rounding off the semester we had our second annual T-Shirt design competition, of which the “Velocity of Money” design won. We received 8 submissions, more than double last year's total! We were able to host MP Chishti for a second event and got the chance to ask him for his thoughts on various current events and economic topics. Our last event of the semester was a movie night where, according to the popular vote, we watched “Cars 2” as a club!



### Econ Club Updates

We had another game night, which are always crowd favorites, and participated in the OU Food Pantry's "Meals of Hope" event where the club spent time on a Saturday morning packaging meals.



Sarkeys Fitness Center  
Norman, OK

November 16th, 2024  
9-11 AM

JOIN ECON CLUB AT

**MEALS OF HOPE**  
MEAL PACKING EVENT

**JOIN OU ECON CLUB!**

Help us pack meals for those in need!

Join Meals of Hope, the OU Food Pantry, and OU Fit+Rec to provide meals to the community!

Your generosity can help remove the concern of food!

### Econ Club Updates

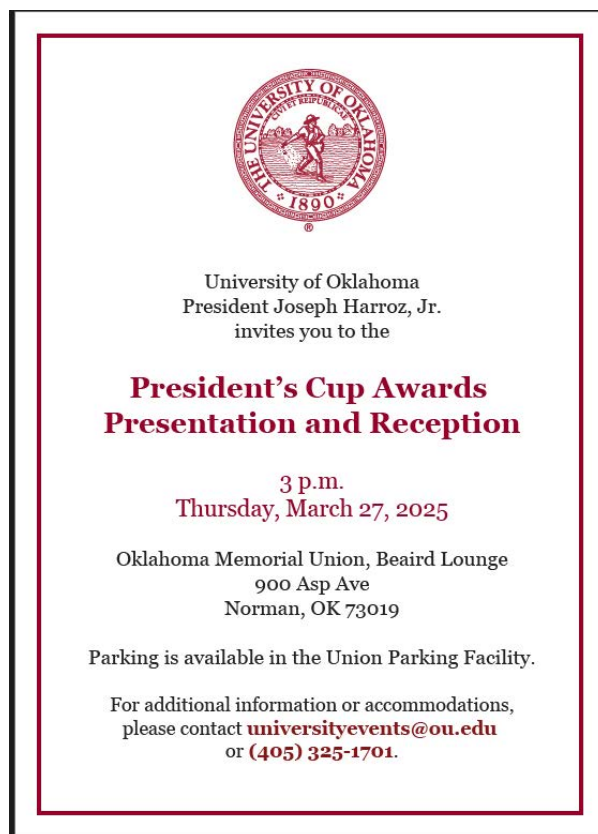
This semester was an incredibly successful one for the club, with an average attendance of 52 and a total event participation of 684, we have blown our past metrics out of the water. I'd like to highlight and express gratitude for the key supporters of the club who have enabled our success. First, the Department as a whole and Dr. Burge have really given us the tools to succeed as an organization. From sharing our events in their class, to participating in meetings, and connecting us to many of our star guest speakers, their dedication to supporting an active community of economics students has been so meaningful to us. I'd also like to thank our incredible Executive team, composed of Avery Ravech, Jennifer Dunbar, Kyle Bergwall, Mason Parker, Morgan Hausz, and Will Miller. The dedication of time and energy this team has put in really is a testament to how much we care about this organization. Finally, I'd like to thank Dr. Johnson, who has been a key part of transforming this club into the well organized and well attended group that it is today. She has earned a spot on the Economics Club's Mt. Rushmore through her hard work on behalf of the club.



### Econ Club Updates

The Fall Election Panel was selected for one of the President's Outstanding Programming Awards! NICE! Also, how cool is it that Econ Club just raised \$1,000 for themselves by being so awesome.

Huge congrats here to Caleb and the entire student leadership team on this, as well as Samantha and Daniel as the fearless and talented faculty liaisons who helped strengthen this group! I'm not sure I ever remember our Econ Club winning one of the President's Cup Awards....I could be forgetting one - but the bottom line is that this is a big deal.

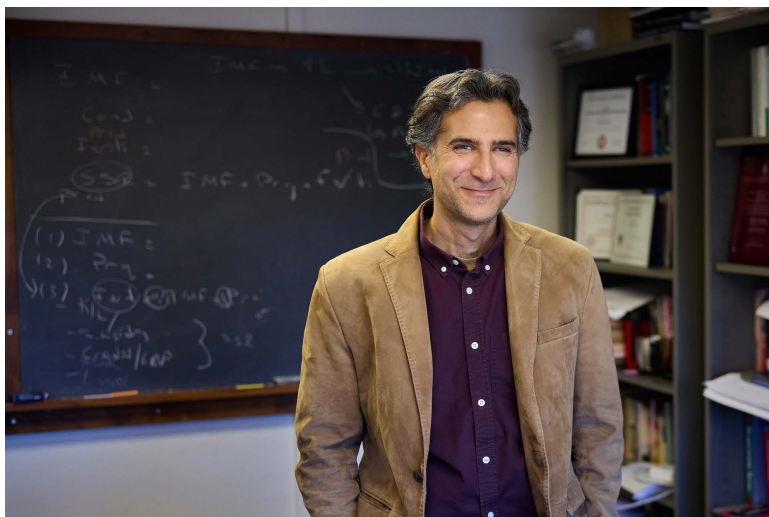


### OU Researcher Leads Investigation of Global Power Dynamics

International security is a global concern. With support from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the University of Oklahoma's Center for Peace and Development is leading the exploration of the ongoing economic and political power competition among powerful and rising nations.

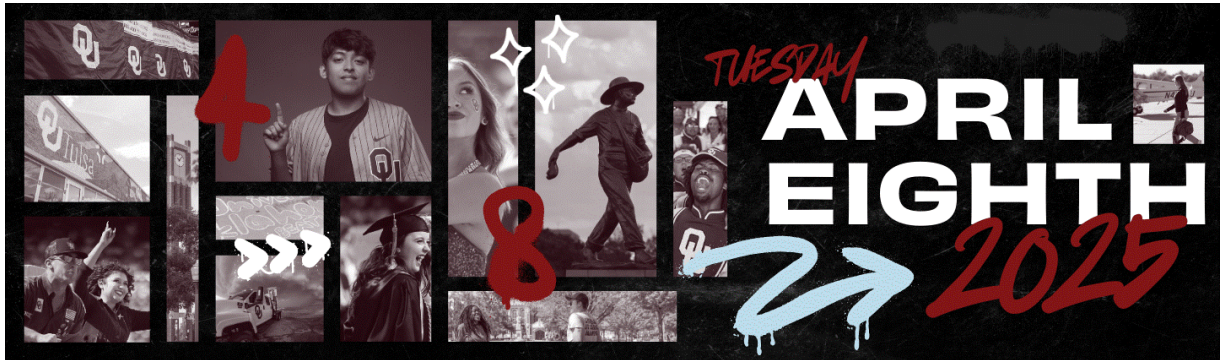
The principal investigator of the grant is Firat Demir, co-director of OU's Center for Peace and Development and founding member of Security in Context, a partner organization involved in this research. The project has two primary areas of study: the political economy of the multipolarity and power competition among countries.

Multipolarity describes the global system in which multiple powerful countries, or poles, coexist and influence international relations. Each pole has significant economic, political or military power, but no single country or alliance dominates the international system.





Day of Giving





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# Research and Development

## OU Economics Faculty Research Interests

**Gregory Burge**

Urban Economics  
Public Economics

**Firat Demir**

International Finance  
Development Economics

**Pallab Ghosh**

Labor Economics  
Econometrics

**Joan Hamory**

Economic Development

**Nghiem Q. Huynh**

Development Economics  
International Trade

**Samantha Johnson**

Agriculture  
Industrial Organization  
Applied Microeconomics

**Benjamin Keen**

Monetary Economics  
Macroeconomics  
Applied Time Series  
Econometrics

**Ibrahim Kekec**

Econometrics  
Machine Learning  
Labor Economics

**Myongjin Kim**

Industrial Organization  
Applied Econometrics

**Georgia Kosmopoulou**

Microeconomic Theory  
Industrial Organization

**Judith Liu**

Health Economics  
Public Economics  
Labor Economics

**Qihong Liu**

Industrial  
Organization  
Applied Microecon.

**Chris Malloy**

Energy Economics  
Environmental Econ  
Law Economics

**Daniel Nedelescu**

Industrial Organization  
Labor Economics  
Behavioral Economics  
Experimental Economics

**Brent Norwood**

Public Policy  
Education

**Jayash Paudel**

Environmental Economics  
Development Economics

**Tyler Ransom**

Labor Economics  
Urban Economics  
Economics of  
Education

**Cynthia Rogers**

Urban Economics  
Public Economics  
Public Policy

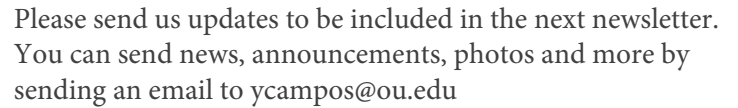
**Hewei Shen**

International Economics  
Macroeconomics  
International Finance

**Mu-Jeung Yang**

Empirical Analysis

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The power of an economics degree from the University of Oklahoma helps our graduates “Be in Demand.”

Support our department's efforts to provide an outstanding foundation for success.

You may use the form below, or click here to [give online](#).

I would like to make a gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the Department of Economics Endowed Fund (43099)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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*University of Oklahoma Foundation, Inc., PO Box 258856, Oklahoma City, OK 73125-8856*

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