The Dept. Welcomes Mark R. Kurt

The Elon Economics Department is pleased to welcome Mark R. Kurt, a macroeconomist who will be joining the department in the fall of 2008. Kurt obtained his BS in Economics from Clemson University and his MA and PhD in Economics at the University of Iowa. His thesis is titled “Essays on the Inter-industry Wage Differential, Human Capital, and Directed Search.”

Kurt’s primary research and teaching interests include Labor Economics, Macroeconomics and Health Economics.

Since Fall 2006, Kurt has been working as a research assistant with the Iowa Electronic Markets (IEM).

The IEM is an on-line futures market where contract payoffs are based on real-world events such as political outcomes, companies’ earnings per share (EPS), and stock price returns. The IEM is operated by University of Iowa Henry B. Tippie College of Business faculty as an educational and research project.

Kurt grew up on a farm outside of Cascade, Iowa (4 hours west of Chicago). Two years ago, he adopted a small retriever named Star. Her favorite trick is opening the refrigerator and raiding it. Star will be joining Kurt when he moves to North Carolina this summer.

Undergraduate Research Highlights

For the twelfth straight year, Elon economics majors attended the Eastern Economics Association’s annual conference, held in Boston, MA, on March 7-9, 2008.

Six students presented their research in the undergraduate sessions: Jamie Hoggard ’08 (Coming to America: An Examination of the Effect Immigrants Have on Bilateral Trade Flows in the U.S.), Daniel Cariello ’08 (Effect of Strategic Entity Ownership on Investment Risk in Multinational Corporations), Katherine Parkman ’08 (Supersize Me?: Productivity and Obesity in Developing Nations), Erika Lamanna ’09 (Measuring the Impact of Microcredit on Growth in Sub-Saharan Africa), and co-presenters Thomas Frick ’09 and Jeremy Kitts ’09 (The January Effect: Small Capitalization Indices & Mutual Funds).

Among this year’s Student Undergraduate Research Forum (SURF) participants were: Jamie Hoggard ’08, Daniel Cariello ’08, Michael O’Neil ’08, Erika Lamanna ’09, Thomas Frick ’09, Jeremy Kitts ’09, and Andrea Dorrow ’10 (Child Labor and Globalization).

SURF was held on April 29, 2008 and it continues to be an integral part of Celebrate!- a weeklong series of events that brings to light the diverse academic and creative pursuits in which Elon students engage each year.
Economics Club News

Once again, the Economics Club had a great year. This year, the Economics Club sponsored receptions for Dr. Joni Hersch (September 27), professor of law and economics at Vanderbilt University, Dr. Eric Young (October 25) of UVA, and Dr. Philip Shaw (November 9) of the University of Connecticut.

In May, students and faculty enjoyed the 4th annual faculty/student bowling event as always.
2008 Economics Graduates

Another year has gone by and the Economics department graduated a great group of seniors and our largest class ever!

**Patrick Adams** is working with Cherry, Bekaert, & Holland in Charlotte, NC.

**Daniel Cariello** is cycling across the country to support people with disabilities then moving to Washington, D.C. to work for Cambridge Associates.

**Kaley Chenot** is working as an Assurance Associate for PriceWaterhouseCoopers in Florham Park, NJ.

**Timothy Davis** is attending American University for a Masters in Public Policy and is interning at the National League of Cities.

**Josh Fletcher** is finalizing a job with Gooch Financial Brokerage (GFI) in New York.

**Andrew Kirkland** graduated from NC A&T Army ROTC program. He is serving in the U.S. Army as a 2LT in the branch of Field Artillery.

**Kate Kirkpatrick** is moving to Washington, D.C. and seeking opportunities.

**Eugene Krasnopolsky**, cum laude, is attending either Villanova or Cardozo Law JD Program in Fall 2008.

**Andrew Gillette** is going to Israel this summer as a CAMERA fellow on a journalism assignment. When he returns, he will pursue a career in finance.

**Jamie Hoggard**, magna cum laude, is living in Mebane.

**Angela Miceli**, cum laude, is moving back to the Baltimore / D.C. area to pursue a job.

**Michael O’Neil**, magna cum laude, is a manager for Gynemed Surgical Center in Baltimore.

**Allison Price** is moving to New York City in August to find a job in finance.

**Buck Russell** is pursuing opportunities in the over the counter brokerage Industry in NYC.

**Keith Sullivan**, cum laude, is moving to Boston to work with Baystate Financial Services in the Management Training Program.

Student Awards & Scholarships

Several Economics Majors were presented with awards from the Love School of Business at a ceremony on April 17, 2008. The recipients are:

**John Kappas Economics Award**
This award goes to the senior Economics major who best demonstrates enthusiasm for Economics, potential for leadership, and classroom excellence.

**Recipient:** Daniel Cariello

**Student Achievement Economics Award** – This award is given to a senior Economics major who has shown enthusiasm and success in his or her courses as well as promise for future achievement.

**Recipient:** Jamie Hoggard

**James T. Toney Endowment Fund** – Established by members of the Economics Department in honor of Professor Jim Toney, this scholarship is for a rising junior or senior Economics major to be used for off campus travel.

**Recipient:** Simon Cagle

**David O. Bowden Economics Scholarship** – This scholarship is awarded to a rising senior majoring in Economics who has been active in the department and demonstrates potential for future success.

**Recipient:** Erika Lamanna

Dr. DeLoach, Daniel Cariello, Dr. Platania, Andrea Dorrow, Erika Lamanna, and Dr. Das following the awards ceremony.
Alumni News

Allison Genco ('07) is in law school at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland.

Jennifer Gilbert ('07) is attending the University of Florida for a Masters in International Business.

Jason Hirama ('07) is working for Christie's in London.

Ian Hull ('07) is working for the US Department of Commerce.

John Kalas ('07) is attending Georgetown University School of Law.

Michael Koslow ('07) is pursuing a PhD in Economics at UVA.

Helen LaGrange ('07) is working as a fund accountant for State Street Bank & Trust and living in Boston. She is working on her MS degree at Suffolk University.

Abbey Lepley ('07) is attending UVA for the PhD program in Economics.

Manuel McGrinson ('07) is working with Wachovia Charlotte in ISG Brokerage Operations.

Michael Mishu ('06) is living in San Francisco.

Adam Davis ('05) earned his MA in accounting at Ohio State University and is working for PriceWaterhouse Coopers.

Carla Madeo ('05) is working for the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority as an examiner, where she examines, analyzes and monitors financial, operational and sales practice and compliance conditions of member organizations.

Dee Notartomaso ('05) is working on her MS in Economic Policy program at Suffolk University. She also works at Brown Brothers Harriman.

Greg Halstead ('04) is attending graduate school at Teachers College of Columbia University. He is teaching in the NYC public schools and living in Brooklyn.

Michelle Pautz ('03) is an Assistant Professor at the University of Dayton.

Matt Carson ('01) is working in the Institutional Sales Unit of ICMA-Retirement Corporation. He lives in Maryland.

Julianne Treme ('01) has accepted a tenure track, Assistant Professor position at UNC-Wilmington.

Chris Moore ('00) is completing his PhD at NC State University and has accepted a position with the EPA’s National Center for Environmental Economics in DC.

Kira Krapcho ('00) is working at BB&T and living in Greensboro.

Sam Allen ('99) is an Assistant Professor in the Economics Department at Virginia Military Institute. He and his wife, Amy, just had a baby girl, Corinne, this year. Congratulations!

For more news, visit: http://www.elon.edu/e-web/academics/business/economics/alumni.xhtml
Faculty Scholarship

James L. Barbour

Tina Das

Stephen B. DeLoach

Cassandra DiRienzo

Marius Jurgilas

Gregory Lilly

Jennifer Platania
What makes the Economics department at Elon so special?

When it comes to studying Economics, Elon faculty know that students must do more than memorize theories and concepts. They must also be critical thinkers, keen analysts and astute problem solvers because economists must have the skills to understand a variety of changing conditions—from what drives institutional change to how consumer behavior will change over time.

At Elon, Economics courses are designed to help students develop economic reasoning—a particular way of looking at the world that is valuable in government service, business, law, and many other fields.

With Elon’s distinctive active learning approach, students develop the poise and confidence essential to success in their studies and careers. This approach to learning means students engage not only in their own research, but also work one-on-one with Economics faculty in scholarly endeavors.

To stay current on the Economics department, visit www.elon.edu/economics throughout the year.