Session I: Gender and Language (Friday, February 26th, 9am)

Session Organizers: Steve DeLoach and Tina Das, Elon University; Steve Greenlaw and Andrew Godburn, University of Mary Washington

Session Chair: Russell W. Boozer, Jr., Elon University

“Gender Wage Gap”
Melissa Hamilton, Skidmore College

“The Financial Side of Immorality: An Economic look into the factors that drive women to enter into a life of prostitution”
Luca D’Italia, Keene State

“Trends in Spanish Women’s Labor Force Participation”
Kristi Phillips, University of Northern Iowa

“The Effects of English as a Second Language on Earnings and Employment”
Anthony Schreck, University of Northern Iowa

“Is Less Sex Safer Sex?: The Relative Effectiveness of Abstinence-Only vs. Comprehensive Sex Education in Affecting Teen Pregnancy Rates”
James Gorsuch, Elon University

Discussants:

Francis Sanzari, College of the Holy Cross
Alexandra Houseman, University of Northern Iowa
Casey Hall, University of Northern Iowa
Eleanor Graham Meacham, Elon University
Kalen Hutcheson, University of Northern Iowa
ISSUES IN POLITICAL ECONOMY - UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH

Session II: Education and Youth (Friday, February 26th, 11am)

Session Organizers: Steve DeLoach and Tina Das, Elon University; Steve Greenlaw and Andrew Godburn, University of Mary Washington

Session Chair: Andrew Godburn, University of Mary Washington

“The Effect of Having a Disabled Sibling on Youth Outcomes”
Kevin Golembiewski, College of the Holy Cross

“The Impact of Casinos on High School Dropout Rates in Minnesota”
Brieanna Hoban, Minnesota State University Moorhead

“The Education in Economics, Course Redesign of Economics 101”
Micha Owens, Buffalo State College

“A study on the factors that affect acceptance into Texas M.D. programs”
Ashley Tharayil, Austin College

Discussants:

John Thomas Fairley, Elon University
Thanh Bui, Smith College
Kamran Ahmed, Austin College
Laura Krauss, Manhattanville College
ISSUES IN POLITICAL ECONOMY - UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH

Session III: Environmental and Health I (Friday, February 26th, 2pm)

Session Organizers: Steve DeLoach and Tina Das, Elon University; Steve Greenlaw and Andrew Godburn, University of Mary Washington

Session Chair: James W. Gorsuch, Elon University

“The Significance of Water Quality to Homebuyers: Hedonic Analysis Using Monthly Measurements”
**Michael Carlson**, Austin College

“Carbon Neutrality in Transportation: An Efficiency Analysis of Smith College's Transportation Policies”
**Rosalie Ray**, Smith College

“Are Sustainable Cities in the U.S. Cheaper?”
**John Thomas Fairley**, Elon University

“Handling Hurricane Fatality Data with Care – How Much Does Accuracy Matter?”
**Sarah Campion**, Austin College

“Economic Value of the Chesapeake Bay: A Contingent Valuation Approach”
**Sarah Ball**, University of Mary Washington

Discussants:
**Joseph Botrell**, Minnesota State University Moorhead
**Ashley Tharayil**, Austin College
**Micha Owens**, Buffalo State College
**Kevin Golembiewski**, College of the Holy Cross
**Brieanna Hoban**, Minnesota State University Moorhead
ISSUES IN POLITICAL ECONOMY - UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH

**Session IV: International Issues** (Friday, February 26th, 4pm)

Session Organizers: Steve DeLoach and Tina Das, Elon University; Steve Greenlaw and Andrew Godburn, University of Mary Washington

Session Chair: **John Thomas Fairley**, Elon University

“Migrant Worker Remittance Payments: Resiliency in Times of Economic Hardship”

**Kevin Garlan**, College of Mount Saint Vincent

“Education, Economic Development and Demographic Change in Vietnam”

**Wanlapa Komkai**, Westminster College

“The Effects of Distance on Immigration Patterns in Asia”

**Russell Boozer**, Elon University

“Effects of US Macroeconomic Shocks on Individual Euro Area Countries: A Possibly Source of Asymmetry”

**Nora Collins and Lauren Sribnick**, Furman University

“How will Economies React to the peak oil crisis?”

**Casey McBrien**, Keene State

Discussants:

**Sarah Ball**, University of Mary Washington

**Sarah Campion**, Austin College

**Melissa Hunter**, Elon University

**Rosalie Ray**, Smith College

**Michael Carlson**, Austin College
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Session V: Industry-Specific and Social Issues (Saturday, February 26th, 9am)

Session Organizers: Steve DeLoach and Tina Das, Elon University; Steve Greenlaw and Andrew Godburn, University of Mary Washington

Session Chair: Cameron DePuy, Elon University

“Indicators of Box Office Success”
Jason Kunkle, West Chester University

“Illuminating Social Capital: Case Study of the Pumpkin Festival”
Evthoxia Kyrousis, Keene State

“Racial Discrimination and Spatial Mismatch: An Analysis of Commuting Times in the Pennsylvania Metropolitan Statistical Areas”
Johnathan Todd Williams, Washington and Jefferson College

“The Global Agro-Input Oligopoly – Bootstrapping with the World Seed and Agrochemical Industries”
Evan Warshaw and Xanthe Burton, Skidmore College

“Exploring the Costs of Unionized Labor: The Case of Detroit”
Francis Sanzari, College of the Holy Cross

Discussants:
Casey McBrien, Keene State
Nora Collins, Furman University
Lauren Sribnick, Furman University
Wanlapa Komkai, Westminster College
Kevin Garlan, College of Mount Saint Vincent
ISSUES IN POLITICAL ECONOMY - UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH

**Session VI: Environment and Health II** (Saturday, February 27th, 11am)

Session Organizers: Steve DeLoach and Tina Das, Elon University; Steve Greenlaw and Andrew Godburn, University of Mary Washington

Session Chair: **Sarah Ball**, University of Mary Washington

“The Effects of Direct to Consumer Advertising on Drug Spending”  
**Maria Buenaventura**, West Chester University

“The Effects of Health Insurance on the Labor Market”  
**Melissa Hunter**, Elon University

“The Sociodemographic Factors Affecting Obesity”  
**Debra Zaun-Lokos**, West Chester University

“A Cost-Benefit Analysis of Orthopedic Care in Malawi”  
**Drea Dorrow**, Elon University

“Organic Food Prevalence and American Heart Health”  
**Jordan Christopher Stanley**, Washington and Jefferson College

Discussants:  
**Evan Warshaw**, Skidmore College  
**Andrew Bryant**, West Chester University  
**Johnathan Todd Williams**, Washington and Jefferson College  
**Evthoxia Kyrousis**, Keene State  
**Jason Kunkle**, West Chester University
ISSUES IN POLITICAL ECONOMY - UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH

Session VII: Prices and Economic Theory (Saturday, February 27th, 12:45pm)

Session Organizers: Steve DeLoach and Tina Das, Elon University; Steve Greenlaw and Andrew Godburn, University of Mary Washington

Session Chair: Eleanor Graham Meacham, Elon University

“Keynesian Economics and the Economics of Keynes”
Tom Augsburger, University of Northern Iowa

“Exceptions to the Law of Demand”
Casey Hall, University of Northern Iowa

“Do Cigarette Taxes Achieve the Desired Effects with the Presence of Smuggling?”
Jacob Bodoh, Keene State

“Prices, Taxes, and Alcohol Consumption in Australia”
Alexandra Houseman, University of Northern Iowa

Discussants:

Maria Buenaventura, West Chester University
James Barone, Keene State
Ryan Mahaffey, University of Northern Iowa
Martin Sarov, St. Lawrence University
ISSUES IN POLITICAL ECONOMY - UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH

Session VII: Athletics (Saturday, February 27th, 2:00pm)

Session Organizers: Steve DeLoach and Tina Das, Elon University; Steve Greenlaw and Andrew Godburn, University of Mary Washington

Session Chair: Melissa Hunter, Elon University

“Does Athletic Success and Participation Affect Alumni Donations”
Ryan Mahaffey, University of Northern Iowa

“Unveiling the Olympic Bidding Process”
Eleanor Graham Meacham, Elon University

“Paper title: Price determinants of NFL tickets in eBay auctions”
Andrew Bryant, West Chester University

“Salary Dispersion and Baseball Statistics Effecting Team Winning Percentage in Major League Baseball”
James Barone, Keene State

“Expectations for the Demand for Skiing in New Hampshire”
Laura Demanche, Keene State

Discussants:
Jordan Christopher Stanley, Washington and Jefferson College
Debra Zaun-Lokos, West Chester University
Drea Dorrow, Elon University
Nicholas Fett, West Chester University
Jeanine Racioppo, Manhattanville College
Session IX: Banking and Monetary Policy  (Saturday, February 27th, 4pm)

Session Organizers: Steve DeLoach and Tina Das, Elon University; Steve Greenlaw and Andrew Godburn, University of Mary Washington

Session Chair: Rosalie Ray, Smith College

“The Effect of Monetary Policy on Real Growth Cycles”
Nicholas Fett, West Chester University

“Determinants of Central Banks’ Relative Preferences for Inflation Stability”
Thanh Bui, Smith College

“Lending Growth in North Dakota”
Joseph Botrell, Minnesota State University Moorhead

“Borrowing from the Lender of Last Resort: A Look at the Positive and Negative Effects of the 2008 Bank Bailouts and What They May Bring in the Future”
Laura Krauss, Manhattanville College

“An Islamic Finance Perspective to Monetary Policy”
Kamran Ahmed, Austin College

Discussants:
Travis Owens, St. Lawrence University
Mark Wu, Furman University
John A. Garvey, Keene State
Gino Frisella, Keene State
Jacob Bodoh, Keene State
ISSUES IN POLITICAL ECONOMY - UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH

Session X: Money, Finance, and Politics, (Sunday, February 28th, 9am)

Session Organizers: Steve DeLoach and Tina Das, Elon University; Steve Greenlaw and Andrew Godburn, University of Mary Washington

Session Chair: Tom Augspurger, University of Northern Iowa

“Inflation and Relative Price Variability: Evidence Using the OECD Inflation Forecasts”
Kalen Hutcheson, University of Northern Iowa

“Credit Issues: Do Credit Cards Taking Advantage?”
Gino Frisella, Keene State

“Executive Incentives & the Overvalued Stock of American International Group”
John A. Garvey, Keene State

“Time for Change? An Examination of County Level Economic Factors on the Voting Patterns of Key States in the 2008 Presidential Election”
Mark Wu, Furman University

“Determinants of Consumer Attitudes Towards E-commerce”
Martin Sarov, Travis Owens, St. Lawrence University

Discussants:

Melissa Hamilton, Skidmore College
Cameron DePuy, Elon University
Constantine Grivoyannis, State University of New York at Binghamton
Kristi Phillips, University of Northern Iowa
Danielle MacConnel, Keene State
ISSUES IN POLITICAL ECONOMY - UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH

**Session XI: Environment and Health III** (Sunday, February 28th, 11:00am)

Session Organizers: Steve DeLoach, Elon University; Steve Greenlaw and Andrew Godburn, University of Mary Washington

Session Chair: **Drea Dorrow**, Elon University

“Wind Power: Can it be Effective?”
**Danielle MacConnell**, Keene State

“Economics in the Genetic Engineering Debate”
**Constantine Grivoyannis**, State University of New York at Binghamton

“How the United States went Wrong: An International Comparison of Carbon Emissions”
**Cameron DePuy**, Elon University

“Hospital Cost Efficiency in Maryland and the Effect of Competition”
**Melissa Hamilton**, Skidmore College

“How the United States went Wrong: An International Comparison of Carbon Emissions”
**Jeanine Racioppo**, Manhattanville College

Discussants:

**Russell Boozer**, Elon University
**Tom Augsburger**, University of Northern Iowa
**Kristi Phillips**, University of Northern Iowa
**Luca D’Italia**, Keene State
**Anthony Schreck**, University of Northern Iowa