Friday 8:15 - 9:45

[IPE] Undergraduate Student Research I: Finance
First of Ten Sessions Sponsored by Issues in Political Economy (IPE)
Session Organizers: Steve Greenlaw and Taylor Knight, University of Mary Washington;
Steve DeLoach, Elon University
Session Chair: Taylor Knight, University of Mary Washington

Impacts of Bank Failures on Firm Entry and Exit: Evidence from a Natural Experiment in Mississippi During the Great Depression
Zach Duy, American University

Keeping up with the Joneses?: An Economic Perspective on Personal Debt
Caleb Brantner, Saint Francis University

Is College Worth the Cost: A Data-Driven Analysis of the Student Loan Bubble
Marty Rogachefsky, State University of New York at Geneseo

Peer-to-Peer Lending: Is it a Viable Alternative to Banks?
Jessica Melvin, University of Mary Washington

Discussants: Chelsea LeHew, University of Mary Washington; Dawn Rivers, Hartwick College; Ian Oglesby, University of North Carolina at Wilmington; Kevin Kurtz, American University
Friday 10:00 - 11:30

[IPE] Undergraduate Student Research II: Finance
Second of Ten Sessions Sponsored by Issues in Political Economy (IPE)
Session Organizers: Steve Greenlaw and Taylor Knight, University of Mary Washington;
Steve DeLoach, Elon University
Session Chair: Jessica Melvin, University of Mary Washington

Optimal Strategies for Estate Planning
Chelsea LeHew, University of Mary Washington

Behavioral Responses to Tax Incentives Among Small Business Taxpayers: An Analysis of the Sole Proprietor Capital Spending, 2000-2010
Dawn Rivers, Hartwick College

Show Me the Money: A Study in Board of Elections Spending
Ian Oglesby, University of North Carolina at Wilmington

A Divided Currency: Current Account Imbalances in the Eurozone
Kevin Kurtz, American University

The Effect of Joining the European Union and Adopting the Euro on Member Country Employment Rates
Jackie DeJohn, The College of New Jersey

Discussants: Daniel Puette, Furman University; Garret Mann, Elon University; Aaron Parisi, Hartwick College; Angeline Jackson, Elon University; Sabina Dhami, Stonehill College
Friday 12:30 - 2:00

[IPE] Undergraduate Student Research III: Labor
Third of Ten Sessions Sponsored by Issues in Political Economy (IPE)
Session Organizers: Steve Greenlaw and Taylor Knight, University of Mary Washington;
Steve DeLoach, Elon University
Session Chair: Chelsea LeHew, University of Mary Washington

Projections of China’s Competitiveness in Labor
Daniel Puette and Madi Ward, Furman University

Middle East Miracle: Are the Recent High Levels of Growth Sustainable?
Garret Mann, Elon University

Free Trade and Poverty: Can free trade help developing nations?
Aaron Parisi, Hartwick College

Diabetes Prevalence across Developing Countries
Angeline Jackson, Elon University

Built Environment and Food Security Effects on Health Status as Measured Through County and State Obesity Rates
Sabina Dhami, Stonehill College

Discussants: Nathan Dean, Elon University; Taylor Knight, University of Mary Washington;
Dario Castro, Bryant University ; Victor Angeline IV, Hartwick College; Nick Malmi, The College of New Jersey
Friday 2:15 - 3:45

[IPE] Undergraduate Student Research IV: Health and Education
Fourth of Ten Sessions Sponsored by Issues in Political Economy (IPE)
Session Organizers: Steve Greenlaw and Taylor Knight, University of Mary Washington;
Steve DeLoach, Elon University
Session Chair: Angeline Jackson, Elon University

Are the Pecuniary Costs of Employer Provided Health Insurance Offset by Gains to Health?
Nathan Dean, Elon University

A Cross National Study on Infant Mortality Rates
Taylor Knight, University of Mary Washington

Determinants of Fertility in the United States
Dario Castro, Bryant University

Does Juvenile Crime Impact Teacher Turnover?
Victor Angeline IV, Hartwick College

Environmental Impacts on Autism Classification Rates in NJ School Districts
Nick Malmi, The College of New Jersey

Discussants: Ji Soo Yim, Grinnell College; Zoë VanDerPloeg, University of North Carolina at Wilmington; Aaron Simmons, University of North Carolina at Wilmington; Matthew Lore, The College of New Jersey; Madi Ward, Furman University
Friday 4:00 - 5:30

[IPE] Undergraduate Student Research V: Pop Culture
Fifth of Ten Sessions Sponsored by *Issues in Political Economy* (IPE)
Session Organizers: Steve Greenlaw and Taylor Knight, University of Mary Washington;
Steve DeLoach, Elon University
Session Chair: Garrett Mann, Elon University

Demand Analysis of Worldwide Hit Music
**Aaron Simmons**, University of North Carolina at Wilmington

Planet Hollywood: Determinants of American Films’ Success at Home and Abroad
**Zoë VanDerPloeg**, University of North Carolina at Wilmington

Tweets and Likes: Collective Action in the Age of Social Media
**Ji Soo Yim**, Grinnell College

The Economic Benefit of Professional Sport Facilities: Are the Subsidies Worth It?
**Matthew Lore**, West Chester University of Pennsylvania

Unveiling the Fantasy Behind Fantasy Football: Determinants of Average Draft Position
**Mansfield Fisher**, University of North Carolina at Wilmington

Discussants: Stephanie Sailer, The University of Northern Iowa; Christo Tarazi, Hartwick College; Aaron Knaack, The University of Northern Iowa; Marty Rogachefsky, State University of New York at Geneseo; Jessica Melvin, University of Mary Washington
Saturday 8:15 - 9:45

[IPE] Undergraduate Student Research VI: Health
Sixth of Ten Sessions Sponsored by Issues in Political Economy (IPE)
Session Organizers: Steve Greenlaw and Taylor Knight, University of Mary Washington;
Steve DeLoach, Elon University
Session Chair: Bryn Khoury, Elon University

Young Adults and Self-Employment Decisions: Effects of the 2010 Affordable Care Act Dependent Mandate
Kaitlin Parlett, West Chester University of Pennsylvania

The Effect of Insurance Coverage on Healthcare Expenditure
Christo Tarazi, Hartwick College

Effects of the Affordable Care Act on Health Insurance Providers: An Empirical Financial Analysis
Kimberley Hartman, West Chester University of Pennsylvania

Determinants of Obesity: A Study of the role of Macro-Nutrients on Obesity
Timothy Mulqueen, West Chester University of Pennsylvania

Big Macs, Commutes, and BMI: A Cross-Sectional Analysis of the Built Food Environment on Unhealthy Consumption
Sarah Harris and Brittany Fulton, Furman University

Discussants: Timothy Keith, Saint Francis University; Richard Beem, West Chester University of Pennsylvania; Alexandr Nozhnitskiy, The College of New Jersey; Ben Blachly, Rhode Island College; Corine Tainies, West Chester University of Pennsylvania
Saturday 10:00 - 11:30

[IPE] Undergraduate Student Research VII: Health
Seventh of Ten Sessions Sponsored by Issues in Political Economy (IPE)
Session Organizers: Steve Greenlaw and Taylor Knight, University of Mary Washington;
Steve DeLoach, Elon University
Session Chair: Nathan Dean, Elon University

Hypertension Among Adults
Natalie Englum, West Chester University of Pennsylvania

Depression: An in Depth Analysis on Causation and Diagnosis in the United States of America
Chelsea Petre, West Chester University of Pennsylvania

Comparative Analysis of Happiness in America’s Living Spaces: Urban, Suburban, Rural
Alexandr Nozhnitskiy, The College of New Jersey

Determinants of University Sustainability Programs
Corine Tainies, West Chester University of Pennsylvania

Rental Premiums for Green-Labelled Commercial Buildings: Does the Market Understand LEED?
Ben Blachly, Rhode Island College

The Relationship between Economic Growth and Environmental Degradation: Exploring Models and Questioning the Existence of an Environmental Kuznets Curve
Jonathan Skaza, Bryant University

Discussants: Sonia Mehta, Manhattanville College; Bryn Khoury, Elon University;
Kaitlin Parlett, West Chester University of Pennsylvania; Sarah Harris, Furman University;
Kimberley Hartman, West Chester University of Pennsylvania; Timothy Mulqueen, West
Chester University of Pennsylvania
Saturday 1:00 - 2:30

[IPE] Undergraduate Student Research VIII: Finance
Eighth of Ten Sessions Sponsored by Issues in Political Economy (IPE)
Session Organizers: Steve Greenlaw and Taylor Knight, University of Mary Washington;
Steve DeLoach, Elon University
Session Chair: Aaron Simmons, University of North Carolina at Wilmington

Residential Mortgage Delinquency Rates: The Determinants of Default
Richard Beem, West Chester University of Pennsylvania

Income inequality and Inflation after the Financial Crisis
Timothy Keith, Saint Francis University

Mergers and Acquisitions during the Financial Crisis
Sonia Mehta, Manhattanville College

Quantitative Easing and Equity Market Valuation: A Contrarian View
Andrew Chan, St. Lawrence University

The Effects of Defense Spending and Defense-related Research and Development on Private Domestic Investment in the United States
Christian Cavander, American University

An Empirical Estimate of the Effects of Government Spending on Output During Periods of Monetary Policy Accommodation
Michael McGrane, Gettysburg College

Discussants:
Christian Cavander, American University; Garret Watson, St. Lawrence University; Jamie Pearson, University of Northern Iowa; Brittany Fulton, Furman University; Jesse Leyk, Minnesota State University Moorhead; Mansfield Fisher, University of North Carolina at Wilmington
Saturday 2:45 - 4:15

[IPE] Undergraduate Student Research IX: Labor
Ninth of Ten Sessions Sponsored by Issues in Political Economy (IPE)
Session Organizers: Steve Greenlaw and Taylor Knight, University of Mary Washington;
Steve DeLoach, Elon University
Session Chair: Benjamin Shoesmith, University of North Carolina at Wilmington

Determinants of Child Labor in Brazil
Andrew Knaack, University of Northern Iowa

Skill Specific Human Capital Transferability: An Application to the Contemporary U.S. Labor Market
Garrett Watson, St. Lawrence University

Reexamining the Natural Rate of Unemployment
Conor Norris, Saint Francis University

The Effectiveness of Break Implementation for Repetitive Cognitive and Data-entry Tasks
Bryn Khoury, Elon University

Discussants: Benjamin Shoesmith, University of North Carolina at Wilmington;
Jonathan Skaza, Bryant University; Michael McGrane, Gettysburg College;
Andrew Chan, St. Lawrence University
Saturday 4:30 - 6:00

[IPE] Undergraduate Student Research X: Transportation
Tenth of Ten Sessions Sponsored by Issues in Political Economy (IPE)
Session Organizers: Steve Greenlaw and Taylor Knight, University of Mary Washington;
Steve DeLoach, Elon University
Session Chair: Mansfield Fisher, University of North Carolina at Wilmington

Demand for Farm Tractors, 1950-2011
Stephanie Sailer, University of Northern Iowa

A Replication of the effects of mandatory seatbelt laws on driving behavior and traffic fatalities
Jamie Pearson, University of Northern Iowa

Making a profit in the gasoline spot market through cointegration and error correction
Benjamin Shoesmith, University of North Carolina at Wilmington

Factors Effecting Imports: Transport Equipment
Jesse Leyk, Minnesota State University Moorhead

Discussants: Conor Noris, Saint Francis University; Caleb Brantner, Saint Francis University;
Zach Duey, American University; Jackie DeJohn, The College of New Jersey