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Elon, NC  
27244

Special  
points of  
interest:

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# Economics Happenings

Summer 2009

<http://www.elon.edu/economics>

## The Dept. Welcomes Katy Rouse & Vitaliy Strohush

The Elon Economics Department is pleased to welcome Katy E. Rouse from the University of North Carolina. Rouse is a graduate student from UNC where she taught several courses in microeconomics as well as an introduction to econometrics. Rouse obtained her undergraduate degree from Miami University before attending graduate school at UNC.

Her dissertation is titled: "High-School Leadership,



Educational Attainment and Post-Schooling Wages."

Rouse's primary teaching interests include intermediate and advanced micro-

economics, labor, econometrics, and health economics.

Rouse is also interested in teaching or developing an advanced undergraduate research and writing course.

Future research areas would include topics in leadership skills and entrepreneurship, education, health policy, and the impact of different family structures on child outcomes.

Her hobbies include playing soccer currently for a coed team. At Miami University she played club soccer as an undergrad.

The department is also excited to welcome Vitaliy Strohush this fall. His Ph.D. is from Boston College. His research and teaching interests include macroeconomics, monetary economics, and international finance.

His thesis is titled "Current Accounts, Net Foreign Assets Dynamics



and the Global Savings Glut."

Vitaliy was born in Lviv, Ukraine, very close to the Polish Border.

He enjoys playing chess and has even participated in several chess tournaments in Lviv.

Other hobbies include movies, traveling, and playing sports, especially soccer.

# Economics Endowments

Great news: We have reached our goal of \$25,000 for the **Department of Economics Endowed Scholarship**. This scholarship will be awarded to a rising junior or senior majoring in Economics and demonstrating a record of academic excellence as well as financial need.

In the spring of 2010, the

department will begin awarding an annual scholarship of at least \$1,250 to a worthy student.

Also, through the generosity of an anonymous gift from an economics '05 graduate, the new **John and Margaret Sullivan Engaged Learning Grants** have been established. Grant recipients shall be Elon undergraduate students with verified financial

need, majoring in economics, to support engaged learning experiences, such as undergraduate research and conference travel.

Please consider a donation to help the Economics Department fund these scholarships. If you are interested in giving, please call: **(336) 278-7477**.



Steve DeLoach



Casey DiRienzo



Thomas Tiemann

## Faculty Awards & Promotions

**Steve DeLoach** was the recipient of the Martha and Spencer Love School of Business Dean's Award for Excellence in Scholarship. This award recognizes one or more faculty members each year whose scholarly work has a significant intellectual impact in keeping with the Elon scholar-mentor model. Dean Mary Gowan noted, "This professor has received notoriety for his own research and often serves as a subject matter expert on local news stations. He has mentored over 40 undergraduate research projects with many resulting in presentations at national and regional conferences and/or publication in peer-reviewed undergraduate journals and in peer-reviewed academic journals." She continued, "He has been instrumental in encouraging the colleagues in his department to stretch in their own research activities and to hire colleagues to continue to strengthen the scholarship activities of the department and school."

**Casey DiRienzo**, Associate Professor of Economics, was named the new Associate Dean in the Martha and Spencer Love School of Business.

**Thomas Tiemann**, Jefferson Pilot Professor of Economics, has taken over as department chair. Steve DeLoach stepped down at the end of the 2008-09 year after four years as chair.

# 2009 Economics Graduates

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

**Joy Baxter** is working in the underwriting department at Liberty Mutual in Charlotte, NC.

**Amanda Haefner** is moving back to New York and searching for a job in New Mexico.

**Michael Boisvert** is heading back to Boston to look for a job in consulting or insurance.

**Matt Cohan** is moving back to Pennsylvania and looking for job opportunities.

**Erika Lamanna**, summa cum laude, is beginning Vanderbilt University's PhD program in Economics.

**Elaine Anderson**, cum laude, will be working in Washington D.C. with the U.S. Census Bureau.

**Donnie Clark** will be pursuing a MA in economics at UNC-Charlotte or UNC-Greensboro.

**Hal Martin** is living and working in China, and continues to study Chinese. He is currently working for Midwest Rubber, based out of Minneapolis.

**Meredith Mosko**, cum laude, has accepted a job in D.C. working for the U.S. Census Bureau. In the Manufacturing and Construction division.

**Joe Peters**, cum laude, is moving back to Cleveland to pursue employment opportunities.

**Chris Farnsworth**, magna cum laude, is attending Pepperdine University School of Law to attain a J.D. degree and a Masters in Dispute Resolution (MDR).

**Laura Gaither** will be enrolling in the Masters of International Business program at the Grenoble Ecole de Management in Grenoble, France. The 2-year program combines the classroom and a project that is supervised by a school advisor in which you work with an international company.



## Student Awards & Scholarships

Several Economics Majors were presented with awards from the Love School of Business at a ceremony on April 23, 2009. 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:** Meredith Mosko

### Student Achievement Eco-

**nomics 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:** Erika Lamanna

### 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:** Drea Dorrow

### 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:** Nathaniel Jones

# Faculty Scholarship

## James L. Barbour

- Barbour, J.L. (2009, February-March). *Student choice in topics: does allowing students to choose applications enhance learning*. Presented at the Eastern Economic Association, New York, NY.

## Jayoti (Tina) Das

- Das, J. & DiRienzo, C. (2009, March). Global Tourism Competitiveness and Freedom of the Press: A Nonlinear Relationship. *Journal of Travel Research*, 47 (4), 470 - 479.
- Das, J., DiRienzo, C., & Burbridge, J. J. Jr. (2009, January). Global E-government and the Role of Trust: A Cross Country Analysis. *International Journal of Electronic Government Research*, 5 (1), 1-18.
- DiRienzo, C., Das, J., and Tiemann, T. (2009, January). A Global Tolerance Index. *Competitiveness Review*, 18 (3), 192-205.
- Yap, A. Y., Das, J., & Burbridge, J. J., Jr. (2009). A Composite Model for E-Commerce Diffusion: Revisited. In *Handbook of Research on Information Management and the Global Landscape (Advances in Global Information Technology Series)*. Editors: M. Gordon Hunter & Felix B. Tan, IGI Global Publishing, Hershey, PA, Pages 1-23.
- DeLoach, S. & Das, J. (2008). Resolving the Paradox of Social Standards and Export Competitiveness. *Journal of International Trade and Economic Development*, 17, (4), 467-483.
- Burbridge, J. J. Jr., Das, J., & DiRienzo, C. (2008, April). *Drivers of National Competitiveness: The Past and the Future*. Presented at the 65<sup>th</sup> International Atlantic Economic Society Meeting, Warsaw, Poland.

## Stephen B. DeLoach

- DeLoach, S. & Das, J. (2008). Resolving the Paradox of Social Standards and Export Competitiveness. *Journal of International Trade and Economic Development*, 17, (4), 467-483.
- DeLoach, S. & Lamanna, E. (2009, February-March). *Measuring the impact of microfinance on child health outcomes in Indonesia*. Presented at the Eastern Economic Association, New York, NY.

## Cassandra Dirienzo

- Das, J. & DiRienzo, C. (2009, March). Global Tourism Competitiveness and Freedom of the Press: A Nonlinear Relationship. *Journal of Travel Research*, 47 (4), 470 - 479.
- Das, J., DiRienzo, C., & Burbridge, J. J. Jr. (2009, January). Global E-government and the Role of Trust: A Cross Country Analysis. *International Journal of Electronic Government Research*, 5 (1), 1-18.
- DiRienzo, C., Das, J., and Tiemann, T. (2009, January). A Global Tolerance Index. *Competitiveness Review*, 18 (3), 192-205.
- DiRienzo, C. (2008). *Spatial Relationship of Crop Yields: The Implications for Crop Insurance*. VDM Verlag Dr. Müller e.K. Publishing House, Germany.
- Burbridge, J. J. Jr., Das, J., & DiRienzo, C. (2008, April). *Drivers of National Competitiveness: The Past and the Future*. Presented at the 65<sup>th</sup> International Atlantic Economic Society Meeting, Warsaw, Poland.

## Mark Kurt

- Kurt, M. (2009, March). *New Observations Regarding Individual Heterogeneity and Inter-industry Wage Differentials*. Presented at the Midwest Economics Association Annual Meeting, Cleveland, OH.

## Faculty Scholarship (cont.)

### Gregory A. Lilly

- Lilly, G. (2009, February-March). *Making the Weak Seller Strong: A Lesson in Bounded Rationality*. Presented at the Eastern Economic Association, New York, NY.

### Thomas K. Tiemann

- Tiemann, T. (2008, May). Grower-Only Farmers' Markets: Public Spaces and Third Places. *The Journal of Popular Culture*, 41, (3), 467-487.

## Alumni News

**Michael Cusimano ('99)** is a royalty analyst at Universal Music Group. Mike lives in Los Angeles.

**Mike Kanner ('02)** has joined Morgan Stanley as a Vice President. He is still in Vero Beach, FL.

**Adam Lust ('05)** is working on his M.A. in economics at UNC-Greensboro.

**Michael Koslow ('07)** finished his MA in economics from the University of Virginia and is now working for the Federal Reserve Board in Washington, D.C.

**Abbey Lepley ('07)** completed her MA in economics from the University of Virginia and has accepted a position as a data analyst at comScore, Inc., a market research company specializing in digital market intelligence.

**Dan Cariello ('08)** is working as a statistician at the U.S. Census Bureau in Washington, D.C.

**Eugene Krasnopolosky ('08)** is living in New York City and working for Digitas, a major media marketing firm. He currently works on their IBM account specifically dealing with their Go Green initiative.

### Alum cited in New York Times

A recent New York Times story on the economy cites undergraduate research conducted by Michelle Pautz ('01). The Feb. 28 article, "In Downturn, Americans Flock to the Movies," reports on the surge in business for the movie industry as the economy continues to weaken.

From the Times: "Academic research on the matter is scant. One often-quoted scholarly study by Michelle Pautz, of Elon University, was published by the journal *Issues in Political Economy* in 2002. Over all, it said, the portion of the American population that attended movies on a weekly basis dropped from around 65 percent in 1930 to about 10 percent in the 1960s, and pretty much stayed there."

# Record Number of Inductees for ODE

Twenty students were inducted into Elon's Pi Chapter of Omicron Delta Epsilon (ODE), the international honor society for economics, on Tuesday, April 7. The event took place in the Isabella Cannon Room, preceded by dinner and conversation.

Requirements for ODE in-

clude successful completion of 16 hours of economics courses with a minimum GPA of 3.25.

Congratulations to the following new ODE members:

Elaine Anderson, Christopher Camia,



**Erika Lamanna, President, and Drea Dorrow, VP**

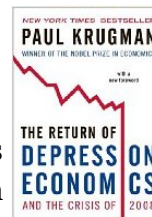
David Claghorn, Victoria Davis, Cameron DePuy, Andrea Dorrow, Zachary Ellis, Brian Fisher, Mack Gilmor, Damon Gooch, James Gorsuch, Rebecca Hampton, Amelia Henderson, John Knowles-Bagwell, Diane Lechleiter, Matthew Loyd, Jay Reno, Garrett Siperko, Stephen Stone, William Tarleton.

## Econ Reading List



**Animal Spirits: How Human Psychology Drives the Economy, and Why It Matters for Global Capitalism**

**The Return of Depression Economics and the Crisis of 2008 by Paul Krugman**



**Essays on the Great Depression by Ben S. Bernanke**



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### Department of Economics

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](http://www.elon.edu/economics) throughout the year.*