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Inside this
issue:

Student Research	2
2010 Graduates	3
Student Awards	3
ODE	4
Alumni Updates	4
Faculty Research	5
Summer Reading	6

Economics Happenings

Summer 2010

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

The Dept. Welcomes Steve Bednar

The Elon Economics Department is pleased to welcome Dr. Steve Bednar, who will be joining the department in the Fall of 2010.

Steve attended UC Berkeley for his undergrad, where he completed a double major in math and economics. After completing his undergraduate degrees, he moved east to Yale, where he earned his PhD in economics. His PhD specializes in public economics and political economy.

Some of his research has focused on the effect of campaigning on election outcomes as well as evaluating intended and unintended effects of government programs

He will be teaching business economics in the fall and public economics in the spring. Eventually, he would like to start a seminar on political economy and teach IO, Industrial Organization .

In his spare time, he likes to play volleyball, have

bbqs, and work on his new house. His wife is also a professor of economics and will be teaching at the University of Greensboro next fall.



Once again, faculty in the Economics department earned significant recognition for their contributions to the profession.

Casey DiRienzo was recognized by the Love School of Business Scholar of the Year award. Tina Das was elected the Vice President of the national Omicron Delta Epsilon, the economics honors society . Their research was recently highlighted in the Summer 2010 Elon Magazine as well. Congratulations Casey and Tina!



Students Present at National Economics Conference

Six senior economic students presented their undergraduate research at the Eastern Economics Association Conference in Philadelphia February 26th – 28th, 2010. This national conference allows undergraduates to present their own research while participating as discussants for other undergraduate papers. Elon students also took on the role of chairing the many undergraduate sessions at the conference.

One senior, Eleanor Meacham, described her experience at the EEA Conference as “a great opportunity to communicate my research to a group of economists and fellow students. It was especially rewarding to gain feedback on my research and hear what other students from across the country were doing.” Using her experience at EEA in February, Meacham was able to revise her research and finalize it for her senior thesis presentation in late April. She explained how presenting at EEA challenged her to “delve further into

my analysis to effectively present the most accurate and interesting results.”

James Gorsuch, another undergraduate presenter, also recognizes the value in the experience, “It is crucial to have opportunities to present this research in order to learn the full process and to gain feedback and support from other students and professors.”



A total of 6 undergraduate economics students completed presentations at this national conference on a variety of different topics:

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

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

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

“The Effects of Distance on Immigration Patterns in Asia” **Russell Boozer**

“Unveiling the Olympic Bidding Process” **Eleanor Meacham**

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

2010 Economics Graduates

Russell Boozer is working for Zurich North America, an insurance carrier, as an Underwriting Assistant in the Corporate Property division. He lives in Atlanta, GA.

Drea Dorrow will be teaching elementary school in Baltimore through the Teach for American program, while also attending Grad school at Johns Hopkins University for a Masters in Education.

John Knowles-Bagwell will be working as a financial advisor for SagePoint Financial in Richmond, VA.

James Gorsuch will be starting law school at the College William and Mary in Williamsburg, VA. The JD program is for three years.

Cameron DePuy will be working as a research assistant at the Institute for Defense Analyses (IDA) based in Alexandria, VA.



Eleanor Meacham is working for Cisco in Raleigh.

Matt Miller is currently working for J Crew in NY as a personal shopper and sales associate and plans to pursue a MA Film Studies in the near future.

Michael Hesch will also be joining the SagePoint Financial team as a financial advisor in Richmond, VA.

Clinton Collins is returning to Elon for the Fall semester in order to complete his Finance degree.

Mac Gilmore is working for Commerce First as a risk analyst in Annapolis, MD.

Patrick Minnock is working as a Finance Specialist for SAP in Philadelphia, PA

Nathaniel Jones is working for Target in their finance department in Minnesota .

Student Awards & Scholarships

Several Economics Majors were presented with awards from the Love School of Business at a ceremony on April 29, 2010. The recipients were:

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: Cameron DePuy

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: Drea Dorrow

James T. Toney Endowment Fund– Established by members of the Department of Economics 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: Adam Crouch

David O. Bowden Economics Scholarship- This scholarship is awarded to a rising senior major-

ing in Economics who has been active in the department and demonstrates potential for future success.

Recipient: Kaylyn Swankoski

Department of Economics Scholarship– Established in 2005 by members of the Department of Economics for an Economics major with a record of academic excellence within the major who exhibits a commitment to social responsibility.

Recipient: Elizabeth Bentley

Largest ODE Induction to Date



Forty students were inducted into Elon's Pi Chapter of Omicron Delta Epsilon (ODE), the international honor society for economics, on Tuesday, April 6th, 2010. The event took place in the Isabella Cannon Room, preceded by dinner and conversation. One of the Economic Department's newest faculty member, Katy Rouse, provided inspiring words of wisdom to the esteemed new inductees.

Requirements for ODE include successful completion of 16 hours of economics courses with a minimum GPA of 3.25.

Congratulations to the following new ODE members:

Daniel Joseph Bell, Russell Boozer, Lauren Elizabeth Barnes, Michael E. Barg, Paul Ryan Chabai, Clinton Barrett Collins, Ashley Stenson Cooper, Shannon Kirsten Crawford, Brian Frey Crevi, Katherine Grace Day, John Thomas Fairley, Kyle Russell Fisher, Stephanie Ann Franz, Andrew Michael Garrison, Kyle William Gay, Emilie Sasha Gitlitz, Leanne Garrett Gerelus, Melissa Lynne Hunter, Nicholas Lee Leonard, Samantha Jean Leonard, John Caleb Luther, Brian Emory Marshall, Craig Elton Massey, Eleanor Graham Meacham, David Mark Meyer, Patrick Thomas Minnock, Jessica Dorothy Moran, Andrew Michael Newman, Briana Grace O'Neil, Scott Gregory O'Sullivan, Timothy Edward Patz, Kevin Mitchell Reaves, Sarah Keeney Schermerhorn, Kevin Joseph Sheridan, Jeffrey Vincent Siatti, Theodore Jackson Slusher, Kevin Michael Stockfish, Allison Marie Stolte, Kaylyn Elizabeth Swankoski, Fuad Zaru

Alumni Updates:

Garrett Siperko is now working for T. Rowe Price in their retirement division Owings Mills, MD .

Kathleen Niple recently finished her MA from Boston College.

Allison Genco graduated from the Case Western School of law and is an attorney with the Dept. of the Navy, Office of the General Counsel in Washington, D.C.

Faculty Scholarship

James L. Barbour

Barbour, J. L. (2010, February 26-28). *Further Travels of a Carver in Medieval Catalonia*. Presented at the Eastern Economic Association, Philadelphia, PA.

Barbour, J. L. (2010, February 26-28). *Student Choice in Topics: Does Allowing Students to Choose Applications Enhance Student Learning? Take II*. Presented at the Eastern Economic Association, Philadelphia, PA.

Jayoti (Tina) Das

Mancuso, A.J., DiRienzo, C. & Das, J. (2010, June). Assessing Terrorist Risk and FDI Using Relative Information Measures. *Applied Economics Letters*, 17(8), 787 - 790.

DiRienzo, C., Das, J., Synn, W., Kitts, J., & McGrath, K. (2010, May). The Relationship Between MBTI and Academic Performance: A Study Across Academic Disciplines. *The Journal of Psychological Type*, 70 (5), 53-67.

Das, J. & DiRienzo, C. (2010, March). Is Ethnic Diversity Good for the Environment? *Journal of Environment and Development*, 19 (1), 91-113.

Das, J. & DiRienzo, C. (2009, Fall). The Nonlinear Impact of Globalization on Corruption. *The International Journal of Business and Finance Research*, 3 (2), 33-46.

Stephen B. DeLoach

DeLoach, S. & Tiemann, T. (2010, February 27). *The American Carpool Makes a Comeback?* Presented at the Eastern Economic Association, Philadelphia, PA.

DeLoach, S. & Lilly, G. (2009, November). *The US Economy: How do we know that the light at the end of the tunnel isn't just another train coming?* Presented at the 11th Annual Elon University Continuing Professional Education Seminar, Elon, NC.

DeLoach, S. (2009, November). *Healthcare reform and the macroeconomy*. Presented at the Alamance County Chamber of Commerce annual Fall Retreat, Wrightsville Beach, NC.

DeLoach, S. (2009, September). *Are we nearing the end of the 'worst recession since....'?* Presented at the Continuing Professional Education Seminar, Burlington, NC.

Cassandra E. DiRienzo

Mancuso, A.J., DiRienzo, C. & Das, J. (2010, June). Assessing Terrorist Risk and FDI Using Relative Information Measures. *Applied Economics Letters*, 17(8), 787 - 790.

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Mark Kurt

Kurt, M. (2010, March 20). *Directed Search and the Inter-industry Wage Differential*. Presented at the Midwest Economics Association, Chicago, IL.

Faculty Scholarship (cont.)

Katy E. Rouse

Rouse, K.E. (2010, March 20). *The Impact of High School Leadership on Subsequent Educational Attainment*. Presented at the Midwest Economics Association, Chicago, IL and at the Eastern Economics Association, Philadelphia, PA on February 28, 2010.

Vitaliy Strohush

Strohush, V. (2010, March 20). *Aggregate risk and global imbalances: Theory and Evidence*. Presented at the Midwest Economics Association, Chicago, IL and at the Midwest Macroeconomics Meeting, Lansing, MI, May 2, 2010.

Strohush, V. (2009, November 21). *Can uninsurable idiosyncratic shocks lead to global imbalances?* Presented at the Southern Economic Association, San Antonio, TX.

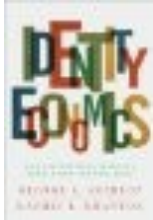
Thomas K. Tiemann

Tiemann, T., DiRienzo, C., & Das, J. (2009, May 28-29). Tolerance, heterogeneity, creativity, and economic growth. *Proceedings of the Measuring Creativity: Can creativity be measured? Conference*, 185-189.

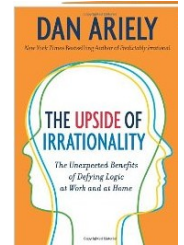
DeLoach, S. & Tiemann, T. (2010, February 27). *The American Carpool Makes a Comeback?* Presented at the Eastern Economic Association, Philadelphia, PA.

Tiemann, T. (2009, May 28-29). *Tolerance, Heterogeneity, Creativity and Economic Growth*. Presented at the Can Creativity Be Measured? Conference, Brussels, Belgium.

Econ Reading List



Identity Economics: How Our Identities Shape Our Work, Wages, and Well-Being,
George A. Akerlof and Rachel E. Kranton



The Upside of Irrationality: The Unexpected Benefits of Defying Logic at Work and at Home, Dan Ariely

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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 throughout the year.