

PROVIDENCE COLLEGE

ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

FALL 2014

WELCOME FROM THE CHAIRMAN

As we begin a new academic year I wish to welcome all Economic majors and minors. As you might be aware, the department has introduced some new changes into the economics program. These include a capstone course which is now a core requirement for all economics majors (starting with the class of 2017), to be taken in either the fall or spring of your senior year. The course will also fulfill the Oral proficiency requirement as well as Intensive Writing II. Also, ACC 204 is now required of Business Economics majors (class of 2018), and THL 374, a business ethics course, can be taken in lieu of THL 376, Catholic Social Thought. Please feel free to meet with me or your economics advisor at any time to discuss these changes, or any other matter of concern. Before you know it, registration period will be upon us, and the midterm date is just around the corner.

Our newest faculty member, Rahul Sirohi, has accepted the position of faculty advisor to the Economics club, and I strongly encourage you to think about joining the club and participate

in the scheduling of guest speakers and planning events of interest to club members. As always, my administrative assistant, Maureen Medeiros, is available to address any questions or concerns you might have, and will of course be pre-



registering economic majors and minors in economic courses and your choice of theology course, THL 376 or THL 374. And please remember, there are economic tutors in the department, and you should avail yourselves of their help if the need arises.

I will be on sabbatical in the spring, but know that you and the department will not be far from my thoughts. I wish all of you a successful academic year.

Alan Kessler

ECONOMICS CLUB HAPPENINGS

The Economics Club continues to be active on campus. The Economics Club officers for 2013-2014 are:

Jacob O'Neill - Chief Executive Officer
John Calcaterra - Treasurer

Robert Loomis- Secretary
Patrick O'Donnell - Events Coordinator
Amjad Talib - Public Relations

The economics club is always looking for new members. Contact Jake O'Neill for more info.

HAVE AN ANNOUNCEMENT OR IDEA FOR THE NEWSLETTER?

E-mail Dr. Dills at adills@providence.edu

GUEST SPEAKERS

Funding from a grant by the Charles Koch Foundation will host two speakers this fall semester. Dr. Victor Claar, professor of economics at Henderson State University will speak on October 16 about Fair Trade in Ruane LL05 from 4 to 5 pm. Dr. Ed Lopez, BB&T Distinguished Professor of Capitalism, will speak on Monday, October 27 in Ruane LL05 from 4 to 5 pm. Professor Lopez will talk on “Bottom Up Politics: Being Agents of Beneficial Change “



Professor Ed Lopez

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Professor Angela Dills was appointed to the editorial board of the *Economics of Education Review*. Her article “Religioisty and State Welfare” co-authored with Rey Hernández was published in the August 2014 edition of the *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*. She also published a Mercatus research paper entitled “Government Policy and Tuition in Higher Education” coauthored with Rey Hernández and Nathan Hale. In April 2014, she presented a paper entitled “Price-increasing competition: evidence from higher education” at the Public Choice Society meetings in Charleston, SC. Over the summer, she taught economic seminars for the Institute for Humane Studies and the Foundation for Economic Education as well as lecturing for the Koch Summer Fellows Program.

An article by **Professor Fang Dong** entitled “The impact of economic openness on standard of living and income inequality in eight countries” appears in the December 2014 issue of *Emerging Markets Review*.

Professor Leo Kahane received the Lawrence H. Hadley Distinguished Service Award, awarded by

the North American Association of Sports Economists. He served as session chair and discussant at the Western Economic Association meetings in Denver, CO. Further, his paper “The House Vote to Overturn the Moratorium on Offshore Drilling: Jobs, PACs, Ideology, and Spills” was accepted for publication in the *Eastern Economic Journal*.

Professor William Marquis, O.P. continues in his role as the Provincial Economic Administrator for the Province of St. Joseph.

During summer 2014 **Professor Frank O’Brien** served on a committee appointed by the President of Rhode Island College to determine if the renovation and modernization of Gaige Hall and Craig Lee Hall, as well as the addition and renovation of the Fogarty Life Science Building, should be built under a Project Labor Agreement. On September 3 and September 16, 2014, Professor O’Brien and Commissioner Paul Chalbot of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service conducted an Advance Steward Training Program. Programs of this type are designed to promote industrial peace in the workplace.

TELL US YOUR PLANS AFTER GRADUATION!
CONTACT MRS. MEDEIROS: MMEDEIR7@PROVIDENCE.EDU

WELCOME OUR NEWEST FACULTY MEMBER: DR. RAHUL SIROHI

By Matt Simoneau (Class of 2014)

Let's welcome the newest member of the PC Economics Department family: Dr. Rahul Sirohi. Rahul was born in southern India, but I won't specify when so no one feels too old. After enrolling in the field of social sciences, Professor Sirohi completed his undergraduate degree at the University of Osmania and came to America to receive his Ph.D. in Economics at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign (UIUC). He specializes in development economics and more specifically, that of India and Brazil. Professor Sirohi also concentrates on the economics of child labor in said developing countries.

But what makes this clock tick? Dr. Sirohi credits his motivation to becoming an economist to "seeing the poor and underprivileged in India" after visiting an NGO and in everyday life. His empathy led him to his specialization in development economics. Now, Dr. Sirohi is teaching Principles of Microeconomics and plans on teaching more advanced classes in his specialties. He previously taught Development Economics at UIUC where he earned himself the *Robert E. Demarest Memorial Teaching Award*.

As a new member of the Friar family, Dr. Sirohi has appreciated such a warm welcome



from both the faculty and student body that have "gone out of the way to help [him]." Other than the communal feel, Rahul loves the traditional architecture that PC has to offer (thanks Ruane).

Dr. Sirohi is an avid cinema lover. One fun fact about Rahul is that he auditioned for a film in India and got the part as a bully. Unfortunately, he was not able to accept the part—most likely because he is just too nice. We are ecstatic to have such an accomplished and kind professor join the ranks of the Economics Department.

CLASS OF 2014

Here's what some of our recent graduates are up to this year. Several students are in graduate school at Albany Law School, Columbia Law School, and at Providence College.

Graduates are employed in a variety of positions at some excellent companies including:

ACE Insurance
Amica
Berkeley Consulting Group
Bloomberg L.P.
CIBC New York
Colliers International
FactSet Boston

Fidelity Investments
IBM
ING Financial

It's never too early to visit Career Services, apply for internships, or research future careers! For the Class of 2015, it's time to start making post-PC plans.



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DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

GO FRIARS!!

Professor	Ext.	Office	Email
Albino Barrera, O.P.	2609	102	abarrera
Angela Dills	2590	114	adills
Fang Dong	2832	104	fdong
Leo Kahane	2046	112	lkahane
Alan Kessler*	2248	121	akessler
MaryJane Lenon	2566	119	mjlennon
Sal Manforte	1726	123	smanfort
William Marquis, O.P.	2194	112	wmarquis
Deb McDonald-Amini	2395	106	dmcdona4
John Mullaly	2565	116	jmullaly
Francis O'Brien	2156	108	fobrien
Rahul Sirohi	2364	121	rsirohi
Department Administrative Assistant			
Maureen Medeiros	2194	111	mmedeir7

*Department Chair

ELECTIVES 2014-2015

The Economics Department always offers the five core courses of ECN 101: Principles of Economics: Micro; ECN 102: Principles of Economics: Macro; ECN 201: Microeconomic Analysis; ECN 202: Macroeconomic Analysis; and ECN 214: Introductory Econometrics with Lab.

In Spring 2015, we offer:

ECN 307: American Economic History

ECN 312: Managerial Economics

ECN 335: Economics of Developing Nations

ECN 345: Economics of Sports

ECN 409: Economic Forecasting

ECN 425: Public Finance

In Fall 2015, the current (tentative) plan includes:

ECN 314 Econometric Models

ECN 315 Math for Economists I

ECN 322 Collective Bargaining

ECN 342 Environmental Economics

ECN 365 International Trade

ECN 485 China & Emerging Markets