

PROVIDENCE COLLEGE

# ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2023

## ODE CEREMONY SPEAKER: DUANE BOULIGNY

This year's guest speaker at the Omicron Delta Epsilon ceremony is Duane Bouligny (Econ '94). Duane is a Managing Director in the Leveraged Finance group at Wells Fargo Securities and is based in San Francisco. He manages the specialized industries debt capital markets team, which structures and originates loan syndications and high yield financings, primarily for the gaming industry. During his tenure at Wells Fargo Securities he has also managed teams covering the energy, forest products, and the beverage industry.

Prior to joining Wells Fargo in 1998, he was an Assistant Vice President at Sumitomo Bank in San

Francisco. After completing a commercial banking training program, a relationship manager at NationsBank in Florida.

Duane served on the Providence College (PC) Board of Trustees from 2011-2020 as a member of the Academic Affairs, Building and Property, and Student Affairs committees. Upon his retirement in June 2020, he was named trustee *emeritus* by the board.

A generous benefactor to the College, he established the Duane '94 and Nancy Bouligny Scholarship Fund in 2011 with his wife to assist African-American and Asian-American students. A graduate of Providence College, where he studied eco-



Duane Bouligny

nomics, he went on to receive an Honorary Doctorate in 2021 and rejoined the board in 2022.

Duane currently lives in Greenbrae, California with his wife and three children, Julia, (15), Cade, (13), and Corrina, (11) where they enjoy spending time in the mountains at their home in Lake Tahoe.

## OMICRON DELTA EPSILON HONOR SOCIETY

Omicron Delta Epsilon, one of the largest academic honor societies, was established in 1963 as a result of a merger of two honor societies: Omicron Delta Gamma (founded in 1915 by Professor John R. Commons at the University of Wisconsin and Frank W. Taussig at Harvard University), and Omicron Chi Epsilon (founded in 1956 by Prof. Alan A. Brown when he was a student at the City College of New York). It became an International Honor Society in Economics in 1969. Since that time, a number of chapters throughout the world have been added.

The following are the most important objectives of Omicron Delta Epsilon: First and foremost is the recognition of scholastic attainment in economics; second is the recognition of outstanding achievements in economics on the part of economists at all levels; third is the establishment of closer ties between students and faculty in economics within their own colleges and universities; fourth is the establishment of closer ties be-

tween students and faculty in economics on all campuses; fifth is the publication of an official journal; and sixth is to emphasize the professional aspects of economics as a career field for service in the academic world, business, government, and international organizations.

Omicron Delta Epsilon is dedicated to the encouragement of excellence in economics. It encourages devotion on the part of its members as economists to the advancement of their science and to the scholarly effort to make freedom from want and deprivation a reality for all mankind.

Every Spring, juniors and seniors who become eligible, based on grades and completed coursework, receive an invitation from the Economics Department to join the ODE Honor Society and attend the ODE banquet and induction ceremony. This year's ODE ceremony will take place on April 20<sup>th</sup>. The guest speaker for the event will be Duane Bouligny '94.

## CONGRATULATIONS

We are happy to announce two new additions to the Friar family. On February, Dr. Chris Limnios and his wife Olga welcomed their first child, Sophia. That same month, Dr. James Bailey and his wife Eleanor welcomed their third child, Tahlia. We would like to extend warm congratulations to both families!

## OMICRON DELTA EPSILON HONOR SOCIETY

### Current ODE Mem- bers (Seniors)

*Eileen Cooney*

*John DiPlacido*

*Colin Fitzpatrick*

*Ryan Fodero*

*Meghan Gregory*

*Logan Johnson*

*Christian Larson*

*Tiffany Law*

*Patrick Leary*

*Johanna Lee*

*Emmie Lindholm*

*Thomas Moloney*

*Erin Molz*

*Brielle Mullally*

*Nikki Nappi*

*Joseph Quirk*

*Nicholas Roeder-yika*

*Brenden Teague*

### New ODE Inductees (Seniors)

*Robert Beardsley*

*Blake Bottini*

*Matthew Farley*

*Samantha Furtado*

*Nathaniel Henderson*

*Thomas Moore*

*William Murray*

*Ryan Nerney*

*Matthew Osborne*

*Andrew Ouellette*

*Lucas Pinter*

*Alyvia Resendes*

*Aiden Smith*

*Ian Zimmerman*

### New ODE Inductees (Juniors)

*Maeve Connors*

*John Curtin*

*Lara Gonzalez*

*Olivia Guden*

*Myles Johnson*

*Caitlin McHugh*

*Peter Mentekidis*

*Anthony Moring*

*Maire O'Driscoll*

*Victoria Pelit*

*Samantha Ruggles*

*Jason Stebbins*

*Patrick Thygesen*

*Ryan Warner*

*Jack Wright*

## FALL 2023 ELECTIVES

ECN320 Labor Economics

ECN322 Collective Bargaining

ECN335 Economics of Developing Nations

ECN345 Economics of Sports

ECN350 Game Theory

ECN412 Managerial Economics

ECN419 Intermediate Econometrics & Lab

ECN466 International Monetary Economics

## FACULTY PROFILES: DR. CHRIS LIMNIOS



Dr. Limnios

*Faculty Profiles* is a new section in our newsletter to get to know the Economics faculty. The first professor featured is **Dr. Chris Limnios**, who is an Associate Professor in our department. Dr. Limnios is originally from the San Francisco Bay Area in California. He received his Ph.D. from the University of California, Santa Cruz. His other duties at PC include serving in the Honorary Degree and Commencement Speaker Committee and in the Faculty Senate.

### What motivated you to become an economist?

I have always been fascinated and interested in modeling, from starting with Lego sets as a child, to building and racing elaborate RC cars (something I still do on occasion). Using large scale quantitative models to try to understand and improve the functioning of some of the more complicated aspects of our massive economy was a natural outcrop of that early fascination.

### What is your field of expertise?

Monetary policy and central banking broadly are my primary research interests. Housing markets (real estate) is a secondary research interest. I love thinking about the role human psychology plays in all of this.

### Can you briefly describe one of your research articles?

My job market paper (the one I presented when I was interviewing for the job here at PC) studied the tradeoffs individuals make

when looking for a job and then finding a suitable home near that job. It really brought to light exactly how important the commute that “comes with a home purchase” is. The paper enabled me to forecast the run-up of suburban real estate values following the transition to working from home during the COVID lockdown and motivated me to invest in local real estate, which ended up paying off.

### What research topics are you currently working on?

I am currently finishing an article which investigates how some of the newest tools in monetary policy can be utilized by the Federal Reserve in order to stabilize the economy in the current “ample reserves” environment.

### Which courses do you teach at PC?

Macroeconomic principles, Financial Economics, Mathematical Economics, and Money and Banking.

## **FACULTY PROFILES: DR. CHRIS LIMNIOS**

### **What is your teaching philosophy?**

I try to leverage the logic that economics is built on. Typically one concept in economics naturally flows out of another, and if I can draw my students' attention to how and why that logical flow occurs, they usually have an easier time understanding the larger picture. It also helps to illustrate economics concepts using relevant examples. This entails me doing my homework and trying to understand my students' perspectives a little better, something which becomes increasingly difficult as one ages.

### **What do you like about teaching at PC?**

We have students here who have a fantastic potential for learning if motivated in the right way. I'm all about having the "lightbulbs turn on" in my students' heads during lecture. Sometimes I'll be thinking about some research that may be proximally related to what I am lecturing on and the light bulb will all of sudden go off in my head as well!

It doesn't hurt to have (by far) the best occupation in the world... nothing else comes even close.

### **Are you involved in any other student-related activities at PC?**

I regularly involve talented students in my research. I feel it gives them a closer look at what the actual work of an academic researcher looks like. I'm also the faculty representative for the Hellenic Club on campus.

### **Do you have any advice for students majoring or thinking about majoring in economics?**

Read. Read. Read. Broadly. Reading philosophy also helps give economics some type of context. If we can gain a better understanding and foothold of what our purpose on this rock is, economics provides the key to implementing that purpose. Political cartoons are an especially efficient means of understanding some of the more economically turbulent times in our past.

### **What do you do in your free time?**

I enjoy learning Bach on the piano (currently learning the d-minor concerto), I watch movies at home with my wife, work on various projects involving our home, going out to movies followed by dinner, and occasionally I'll even play through the "Uncharted" series.

### **What is your favorite book?**

I recently finished reading "Casino; Love and Honor in Las Vegas" by Nicholas Pileggi, "Phantoms in the Brain" by Ramachandran and Blakeslee, and I'm always reading "Godel, Escher, Bach" by Hofstadter.

### **What is your favorite food?**

Italian. Eggplant parmesan.

### **Any other interesting facts about yourself?**

I am a former U.S. Marine. I have had an extensive background in amateur boxing. I collect Air Jordan IVs.

## CORE REQUIREMENTS FULFILLED BY ECON COURSES

### Social Science Core Requirement:

ECN101 Principles of Economics (Micro)

ECN102 Principles of Economics (Macro)

### Diversity Proficiency:

ECN335 The Economics of Developing Nations

ECN344 Economics of Poverty and Discrimination

ECN346 Economics of Gender

ECN385 China and Emerging Markets

### Civic Engagement Proficiency:

ECN320 Labor Economics

ECN342 Environmental and Natural Resource Economics

ECN425 Public Finance

ECN429 Economics of Education

### Oral Communication Proficiency & Intense Writing II Proficiency:

ECN488 Economics Senior Capstone

## ECONOMICS TUTORING

### Economics Department

Tutoring available for ECN101 and ECN102. No appointment necessary. You will find the tutors in Sullivan Hall 117 or 103. Their Spring 2023 schedule is:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Colin Fitzpatrick Cfitzpa2 @friars.providence.edu	1:00-4:00	Off	1:00-4:00	1:00-4:00	Off
Peter Mentekidis Pmenteki @friars.providence.edu	Off	12:00-3:00	Off	10:00-1:00	12:30-2:30

### Student Success Center

Schedule online anytime: <https://academic-services.providence.edu>

Phillips Memorial Library, Room 250 / Phone: (401) 865-2855

## FACULTY & STUDENT NEWS

### Dr. Michael Mathes

has been appointed as the new Associate Director of the Honors Program. He has also become the new chair of the Faculty Healthcare Advisory Committee.



Dr. Mathes

*East Undergraduate Research Poster Symposium*, which took place on March 11<sup>th</sup> at Madison Square Garden during the Big East Men's Basketball Championships. The article was initially written as his research project for the Economics Capstone course (ECN488). His research poster was selected as one of the top 5 posters across all disciplines at PC, allowing him to present it at the Big East Symposium.

The article "The Effect of the Affordable Care Act on Entrepreneurship among Older Adults" by **Dr. James Bailey** and Dr. Dhaval



Dr. Bailey

Dave (Bentley Univ.) has won the Eckstein Award for best article published in the *Eastern Economic Journal* during 2019-2020.

An article co-written by **Hannah Farrell '22** and **Dr. James Bailey**, "College Major's Effect on Marriage and Children," has been published in *Springer Nature Social Sciences*. The initial draft of this paper was Hannah's research project in ECN488.

**Ryan Fodero '23** presented a poster version of his article "Comparing Hospital Costs & Lengths of Stay for Cancer Patients in New York State Comprehensive Cancer Centers vs. Non-Designated Academic Centers & Community Hospitals" at the *Big*

Last November, **Dr. Nestor Azcona** joined the Editorial Board of the *Open Economies Review* as an Associate Editor.



Dr. Azcona

## MAJORS AND MINORS

The Economics Department offers three majors (**Economics**, **Business Economics**, and **Quantitative Economics**) and one minor (Economics). Requirements for each program are listed in the Undergraduate Catalog.



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## DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

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GO FRIARS!

## ECONOMICS DEPT. DIRECTORY

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Nestor Azcona	1197	112	nazcona
James Bailey	1642	118	jbailey6
Albino Barrera, O.P.	2609	102	abarrera
Shatanjaya Dasgupta	1818	116	sdasgupt
Fang Dong	2832	104	fdong
Tom Hamami	1019	114	thamami
Leo Kahane – Chair	2046	120	lkahane
Deniz Lasater	2933	204	dlasater
MaryJane Lenon	2566	119	mjlenon
Chris Limnios	2692	106	climnios
William Marquis, O.P.	2196	107	wmarquis
Michael Mathes	1731	123	mmathes
John Mullaly	2565	202	jmullaly
Francis O'Brien	2156	108	fobrien
Antoninus Samy, O.P.	1466	121	asamy

### Department Administrative Coordinator

Maureen Medeiros	2194	111	mmedeir7
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**HAVE AN ANNOUNCEMENT OR IDEA FOR THE NEWSLETTER?**  
**E-mail MRS. MEDEIROS: [MMEDEIR7@PROVIDENCE.EDU](mailto:MMEDEIR7@PROVIDENCE.EDU)**

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