

PROVIDENCE COLLEGE

# ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2024

## FACULTY PROFILES: DR. DENIZ LASATER

### What motivated you to become an economist?

I became interested in economics when I was in high school. Actually, I was trained to be an engineer, but I found trying to approach the questions of social science using empirical, mathematical, and conceptual tools more challenging.

### What is your field of expertise?

Environmental Economics, Transportation Economics, Urban and Regional Economics.

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

My article's purpose was to analyze the determinants of public transportation demand in the European Union, focusing on recent CO2 emission regulations for passenger vehicles. I estimated bus, train, metro, and high-speed train ridership demand in the European Union.

### Which courses do you teach at PC?

I teach Principles of Economics: Micro, Microeconomic Analysis, Urban Economics, and Managerial Economics.



This semester our *Faculty Profiles* series features Dr. Deniz Lasater. She is from Istanbul, Turkey, and received her Ph.D. from Clark University.

### What is your teaching philosophy?

I was lucky to have wonderful professors throughout my education and I, in turn, would like to inspire future generations of students. My task is to foster “thinking like an economist,” an ability that will be useful to my students beyond any course that I teach.

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## FACULTY PROFILES: DR. DENIZ LASATER

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

First work on your math skill, do not forget it is just a language. Second, master the fundamentals. Ensure you have a solid understanding of microeconomics, macroeconomics, econometrics, and economic history. Third, learn software and/or programming languages. Forth, read as much as you can and do your own mini research on topics that interest you.

### What is your favorite food?

A Mediterranean salad and green lentils.

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

I enjoy visiting museums, playing cello, playing volleyball, archery, traveling, and any art activities.

### What is your favorite book?

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland (Lewis Carroll, 1865).

### Any other interesting facts about yourself?

My broken thumb was once featured in a medical journal. It was one of only six recorded cases of a rare fracture type in the world.

## FACULTY NEWS

Dr. **James Bailey** published “Missouri’s Medicaid Contraction and Consumer Financial Outcomes” in the *American Journal of Health Economics*. Dr. Bailey also joined the editorial board of *Eastern Economic Journal*.

Dr. **Tom Hamami** was accepted in the Civil Discourse faculty fellowship for 2024-25, which is organized by PC’s Dialogue, In-

clusion and Democracy (DID) Lab. The fellowship consists of a yearlong faculty learning community on the integration of civil discourse into academics. Dr. Hamami will apply those civil discourse principles into his Honors Microeconomics course (HON207).



Dr. Hamami

## OMICRON DELTA EPSILON HONOR SOCIETY

**Omicron Delta Epsilon** (ODE) is the international Honor Society in economics. It is dedicated to the encouragement of excellence in this field.

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 took place on April 11<sup>th</sup>. The guest speaker for the event was **Phillip Jordan** from the BW Research Group. Other speakers included Arts & Sciences Dean **Margaret Watkins** and Associate Dean **Denise Godin**.

### Current ODE Members (Seniors)

*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*

### New ODE Inductees (Seniors)

*Luke Boucher*  
*Brendan Joyce*  
*Katherine Mullahy*  
*Finneas Stanley*

### New ODE Inductees (Juniors)

*Allegra Alvarado*  
*Garrett Brady*  
*Tiernan Brogan*  
*Christina Charie*  
*Cameron Croghan*  
*Ryaan Farahani*  
*Matthew Giurleo*  
*Conor Gualtiere*

*Robbie Hamlin*  
*Braden Kelly*  
*Caroline Kirby*  
*Brett Lehman*  
*Maria Leni*  
*Sayre Ludlow*  
*Ronan McGouran*  
*Kevin McNicholas*  
*Jack Menninger*  
*Alonso Moreno*  
*Avery Paquin*  
*Riley Parker*  
*Alicja Pokrzywa*  
*Brett Williams*

## CONGRATULATIONS

We are happy to announce a new addition to the Friar family. Last Fall, Dr. Michael Mathes and his wife Vita welcomed their third child, Theodore. Congratulations to their family!



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## DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

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Maureen Medeiros, *Administrative  
Coordinator*

GO FRIARS!

## ECONOMICS DEPT. DIRECTORY

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| Nestor Azcona                                      | 1197        | 207C          | nazcona      |
| James Bailey                                       | 1642        | 208D          | jbailey6     |
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| Victoria Stedman                                   |             |               | vstedman     |

\* On-leave Spring 2024

### Department Administrative Coordinator

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**HAVE AN ANNOUNCEMENT OR IDEA FOR THE NEWSLETTER?**  
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