



Spring 2021 Newsletter

Faculty and staff of the Emory Economics Department would like to express their sincerest wishes that you and your loved ones are healthy and safe. Since our last newsletter, we have been operating mostly online and through virtual meetings with in-person engagements remaining limited. Our faculty, staff, and students have demonstrated considerable resilience with adapting to this new norm. By the time our next update reaches you, we hope to resume normal activity and that you will be able to join us on campus for events connecting our academic community.

Despite the need for social distancing, we have maintained a robust virtual [event calendar](#). We are still hosting many seminars to facilitate intellectual discourse and have been executing meaningful event programming for our undergraduate students. You will read below in our Alumni News and Note section more about the fantastic opportunities our students have had to connect with alumni located throughout the United States and in some cases, the world.

In previous newsletters, we discussed plans to develop new programs that mindfully align our department aspirations with student interests and job market demands. Our Economics/Human Health joint major that started in fall 2020 will have three graduates at the end of this academic year. Our Economics BA/MS (4+1) program, which is designed for our Emory undergraduates to study an extra year and receive an MS degree, has received approval and will be launched soon. The Economics/Computer Science joint major is in the final stages of approval and will soon be implemented. This program trains students in the intersection of machine learning, artificial intelligence, economics, and data sciences. We have also started preliminary work on a hybrid online and in-person master's degree that will supplement our 4+1 program and allow us to utilize the best online technological and pedagogical practices that we have developed as a Department over the past year.

We hope that you visit our [department web page](#) and participate in some of our online activities. Please also consider [making a gift to the Department of Economics](#). Your gift will make a difference to students, faculty research, and teaching.

We look forward to keeping you updated on our department's achievements and developments.

Best,

Hashem Dezhbakhsh

Chair and Goodrich C. White Professor

Alumni News and Note



This past fall, we started a series of virtual panels called ‘Career Connections Chats’ to ensure that Economics students were continuing career exploration and planning for the future despite current social distancing. This was a unique opportunity to connect alumni located outside of the Atlanta area with students. We have had a series of four themed panels: Consulting; Graduate and Professional School; Health-Related Professions; and Investment Banking and Government Professions. We also hosted our 3rd Annual Professional Pathways Conversation featuring alumni who work in arts and entertainment. We want to extend our sincerest appreciation to the alumni who participated in these events:

- Scott G. Parent 13Ox 15C, Jessie Zhao 19C, Geoffrey Tseng 19B, Manushi Ashar 20C, Timothy Lam 15C, Wenye (Chloe) Zhang 15B, Uma Veerappan 16C, Geet Bhatt 12C, Alexander Adeseye 16Ox 18C, Emily Lapham 15C, Zachary Mozenter 14C, Nahiyan Ahmad 04C, Matthew James 13C, Shifra Samuel 14C, Henry Schuster 78C, Stephanie Shaer 08C, Celia Stafford 17C, Nancy Khalil Rhine 07Ox 09C, Aditi Desai 13C, Ludmilla Paul 10C, Greg Rhee 06Ox 08C, Graham LaBran-Boyd 17C, David Hervey 15Ox 18C, Michael Kim 20C, Julia Thayne DeMordaunt 09C

Recent alumni achievements include:

- Taos Wynn 06Ox 09C delivered a talk as part of the Oxford College Chaplain’s Lecture Series. A social advocate, author, and speaker, Wynn talked about his advocacy work around human rights issues, including his contributions to the [Perfect Love Foundation](#) – a nonprofit organization he founded in 2013 with a focus on community, education, and advocacy.
- Alfred Ahn 06C completed his Ph.D. in Strategy from the University of California, Irvine, Paul Merage School of Business. He accepted an Assistant Professor at Hong Kong Baptist University.
- Leah Shiferaw 14C graduated with her Ph.D. in Economics from the University of California, Berkeley last year and accepted a position as a Researcher for Mathematica Policy Research

If you are interested in networking or mentorship opportunities, [update your contact information](#). Submit your career development news to eeichin@emory.edu to be featured in a future newsletter.

Recent Faculty Achievements



- Arts and Sciences Distinguished Professor of Economics [Essie Maasoumi](#) was elected as a Senior Fellow by the [Rimini Centre of Economic Analysis \(RCEA\)](#). Senior Fellows are accomplished, senior researchers. The Rimini Centre for Economic Analysis is a private, international non-profit organization dedicated to independent research in Applied Economics, Theoretical Economics, and related fields.
- [Vivian Yue](#) was invited to join the [Centre for Economic Policy Research \(CEPR\)](#) as a Research Fellow in the International Macroeconomics and Finance program of CEPR for a four-year appointment. CEPR's network of Research Fellows and Affiliates includes over 1,300 of the top economists conducting research on issues affecting the European economy. She also was also selected as a Co-Editor for the [Journal of International Economics \(JIE\)](#). The JIE currently ranks among the most highly cited journals in economics.
- The second edition of [Shomu Banerjee's](#) *Intermediate Microeconomics* textbook was released on March 17, 2021. More details about the book can be accessed [here](#).
- Faculty Promotions – The following faculty were promoted in the 2020-2021 academic year:
 - David Jacho-Chavez, Professor
 - Hugo Mialon, Professor
 - Vivian Yue, Professor
 - Ian McCarthy, Associate Professor
 - Jong Kim, Senior Lecturer

Graduate Program



- Job Market News: Santiago Montoya-Blandón 21G will be joining the Department of Economics in the [Adam Smith Business School](#) at the [University of Glasgow](#) in fall 2021 as a Lecturer in Econometrics (equivalent to an Assistant Professor). Santiago has published three papers in peer-reviewed journals while at Emory.
- The Atlanta Economics Club awarded one of this year's [Joseph K. Heyman Scholarships](#) to fifth-year Economics PhD student [Carla Moreno 19G 24G](#). Named for the founder of the AEC's first president, the Atlanta Economics Club presents the Joseph K. Heyman scholarship to an outstanding student in economics. Carla also had her solo-authored paper "[Mandatory Savings, Informality, and Liquidity Constraints](#)" accepted for publication in *Economics Bulletin*.
- The [story](#) of first-year graduate student [Jung Jae Kim 26G](#) was recently included in [Stories of Resilience and Resolve](#) as part of Emory's retrospective of the year 2020. Jung Jae has arrived in Atlanta recently to continue his studies in the PhD program.
- [Cheng Ding 20G 23G](#), fourth-year graduate student, and [Sara Markowitz's](#), director of graduate programs, paper "[Light, Moderate, and Heavy Drinking](#)" was accepted for publication in the [Handbook of Labor, Human Resources and Population Economics](#).
- Third-year graduate student, Zhikun Lu, 24G, joined co-author and Professor of Economics [Caroline Fohlin](#) to co-present their paper "[The Real Impact of the Panic of 1907: Evidence from Trust Company Stocks](#)" at the American Economic Association's 2021 [Annual Meeting](#) on January 5, 2021.

Undergraduate Program



- Joint with Anson Ho, Kim Huynh, and [David Jacho-Chavez](#), Economics majors [Danielle Handel 21C](#) and [Carson Rea 22C](#) had their paper "[Econometrics Pedagogy and Cloud Computing: Training the Next Generation of Economists and Data Scientists](#)" accepted for publication in the Journal of Econometric Methods.
- Beginning in fall 2020, Professor [Melvin Ayogu](#) introduced the [Ubuntu Prize](#) in his "Development Issues for Africa" class (Econ 366W). Ubuntu means "because of you, I am" and is an African tradition which promotes cooperation. Congratulations to the Ubuntu first prize group members: Bhargav Annigeri 19Ox 21C, Jihun Jeong 23C, Yohan Jhaveri 21C, Peter Lee 21C, and Matthew Takavarasha 22C.
- Economics honors student Jasmine Cui 21C recently presented her full-length paper "[URL 2 IRL: Social Media Followership Translated into Electoral Success](#)" at the American Political Science Association's (APSA) [Annual Meeting](#) in a session titled "Political Effects of Social Media."
- In the 2020-2021 academic year, we inducted 50 new students to our chapter of the Omicron Delta Epsilon International Economics Honor Society. See the full list of our student members [here](#).

Upcoming Events



The Economics Department continues to have a socially interactive semester with virtual activities. Please stay up to date by viewing the [Events Calendar](#) section of our website and join us for seminars or other events that you are interested in.

Support the Economics Department



Your support for the Research and Teaching Fund plays a crucial role in strengthening the department by providing resources for core academic initiatives. The fund helps us recognize talented and hardworking economics students by rewarding their efforts and pushing them to reach their potential. The fund also allows us to invite prominent scholars to share their expertise with faculty and students. Through the generous contribution of our late colleague Professor Kafoglis, we recently established the [Milton and Virginia Kafoglis Nobel Laureate Lecture Series Fund](#). This fund allows us to bring Nobel laureates and other high-profile scholars to campus to benefit the entire community. This fund is open for additional contributions. Your contribution to this fund will enhance the department's ability to achieve eminence. To support our funds, please visit the [giving section of our website](#).