



## EMORY | COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

### Letter from the Chair

Greetings from the Economics Department! The academic year has kicked off with a flurry of activity and enthusiasm. Please read through our newsletter to learn more about the following:

- **Alumni News and Notes:** this section provides professional updates on your Economics classmates
- Ways for alumni to get involved with the **new Economics 4+1 BA/MS Program**
- **Graduate Student and Faculty Updates**



We invite you to keep in touch with the Economics Department by following us on [social media](#) to hear about news and events. We continue to improve in ranking and stature within the profession and we are counting on your support in this ambitious journey. We ask that you please consider [making a gift to the Department of Economics](#). Your gift will make a difference to students' academic opportunities, faculty research, and teaching.

Best,

Hashem Dezhbakhsh  
Goodrich C. White Professor and Department Chair

### Undergraduate Student News

The first cohort of [4+1 Economics BA/MS](#) students (pictured right) have started their graduate coursework in addition to their senior year classes. The curriculum for this program is designed to provide students with an education that combines economic reasoning with cutting-edge empirical methods and data analytics. Our goal is to connect students with accomplished professional mentors, expose students to various career paths that are more accessible with a master's degree, and help them secure internship and career placements.



Please reach out to [Natalie Jones](#) to get involved with this program:

- if you have opportunities at your organization for master's level students
- if you would like to get involved with mentorship of the students in this cohort
- if you are interested in speaking to our cohort about how this master's degree will help them excel in the workplace
- if you have a master's degree in economics and can speak to the benefit of this program.

## Alumni News and Notes

- **Doug DeMuro 10C**, founder and CEO of Cars and Bids and a content creator on YouTube with over 5 million subscribers, participated in a Zoom chat with our Economics Student Society discussing his career and the automotive industry.
- **Robert Sternthal 92C** visited the Economics Department this past Spring to meet with undergraduate students to discuss his career in Investment Banking.
- **Veronica Chua 18C, Rifat Mursalin 16C, and Safiyah Bharwani 18C** (pictured above) reunited at Harvard University where they are all completing graduate studies.
- **Matthew Higgins 04G** was named Emma Eccles Jones Chair and Professor of Entrepreneurship & Strategy at University of Utah - David Eccles School of Business
- **Joseph Cadray 04C** was promoted to Associate Director of Admissions at The Paideia School
- **Hisham Foad 06G** was promoted to Fred J. Hansen Peace Chair at San Diego State University
- **Jigna Sampat 07G** joined KPMG Saudi Arabia as a Senior Director, Transfer Pricing and Tax Leader, Financial Sector
- **Greg Rhee 08C** was promoted to Associate Professor of Medicine and Public Health at The University of Connecticut Health Center
- **Cole Lundquist 09C** started a new position as a Principal at QED Investors
- **Taos Wynn 06Ox 09C** was selected this year for the Atlanta Business Chronicle's 40 under 40 list
- **Julian Horwitz 10C** started a new position as an Abdominal Transplant Surgeon at Swedish, the largest nonprofit health care provider in the greater Seattle area
- **Vlad Plotkin 13C** was promoted to Manager, Strategy & Transactions - Quantitative Finance & Economics at EY
- **Mukhtar Voss 11C** was promoted to Manager, Corporate and Internal Sales at Mercedes-Benz USA
- **Eric (Wonhak) Yoon 13C** started his MBA at Cornell Johnson Graduate School of Management
- **Suemin Jeong 11Ox 13C** started a new position as a Business Development Manager at Hikma Pharmaceuticals
- **Paul Kim 14C** started a new position as Project Manager at Goldbelt C6, LLC
- **Bum Jin Cho 14C** started his MBA at INSEAD
- **James Crowe 14C** started a new position as Research Manager for the Council of Institutional Investors
- **Manasvini Mehta 14C** was promoted to Associate Partner at Decimal.Health
- **Jack (Tuopu) Sun 14C** was promoted to Country Manager - Head of US Payments & Acquiring at Ant Group
- **Gabriel Wang 14C** was promoted to Manager, Advisory- Health & Government Solutions at KPMG
- **Yuka Watanabe 14C** was promoted to Senior Manager at Deloitte
- **Jared Cohen 15B** started a new position as a Portfolio Manager, Credit Risk at Scale Microgrids
- **Scott Parent 13Ox 15C** started a new position as a Senior Analytics Manager at Eleanor Health
- **Bailey Miller 14Ox 17C** was promoted to Senior Ancillary Products Analyst at Delta Vacations
- **Shea Fallick 18C** started a role as a Behavioral Scientist at Irrational Labs
- **Alex Herbets 18C** graduated from Chicago Booth and started a new role as a Business Development Manager at Starfish Space
- **Audrey Balan 19C** was promoted to Senior Associate, Global Fund Banking at Silicon Valley Blank.
- **Adriano Cerbino 19C** was promoted to Finance Manager at Ingenico
- **Sean Murphy 19C** was promoted to Investment Banking Associate at BMO Capital Markets



- **Ali-Reza Punjani 19C** started his MBA at The Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth
- **Michael Yoon 19C** was promoted to Associate at McKinsey & Company
- **Amanda Li 20B** started a new position in Growth Equity at FTV Capital
- **Enoch Tang 22C** started a new role as an Asset Allocation Analyst at Blackstone

Please email [eeichin@emory.edu](mailto:eeichin@emory.edu) if you have professional updates to include in an upcoming newsletter or would like to participate in upcoming events to connect current students with alumni.

## Graduate Student News

Our Ph.D. program continues to grow with the addition of 11 new students this year: [Johar Cassa](#), [Mohammad Fidakar](#), [Benjamin Harrison](#), [Juhee Kim](#), [Guram Lobzhanidze](#), [Rachel McGhee](#), [Brandon Pascali](#), [Niall Peat](#), [Cristhian Rosales](#), [Sarah Smyly](#), and [Jillian Wilkins](#).

[Hanna Glenn 22G 25G](#) had her paper "[Affordable Care Act Medicaid Expansions and Maternal Morbidity](#)" (joint work with with Pinka Chatterji, [Sara Markowitz](#), and Jennifer Montez) accepted for publication in Health Economics. She also placed as runner-up in Laney Graduate School's [Three Minute Thesis \(3MT®\)](#) competition with her paper titled, "How do Physicians Respond to Technological Change?"

[Andrew Smith 21G 24G](#) had his paper "[Nurse Practitioner Scope of Practice and Patient Harm: Evidence from Medical Malpractice Payouts and Adverse Action Reports](#)" (joint work with [Sara Markowitz](#)) accepted for publication in the Journal of Policy Analysis and Management.

[Katie Leinenbach 26G](#) was awarded the 2023 Laney Graduate Student Award for Inclusive Excellence.

[Alessia Scudiero 27G](#) accepted a fully funded offer to participate in the Open Science Grid User School at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, August 7-11, 2023.

[Jung Jae Kim 26G](#) was invited to present his paper, "Machine-Learning the Information Set of Mutual Fund Investors" in one of the New Ideas sessions at the [2023 FMA Annual Meeting](#) in Chicago, IL, October 11 - 14, 2023.



## Faculty News

**Goodrich C. White Professor** and current chair of the Department of Economics [Hashem Dezhbakhsh](#) has been recognized as the '**Chair of the Decade**' by the Emory College of Arts and Sciences.

The Economics Department welcomed three new full-time faculty this academic year: [Daniel Fershtman](#) (areas of interest: Economic Theory, Information Economics), [Christopher Hansman](#) (areas of interest: Public Economics, Household Finance), and [Pedro Sant'Anna](#) (areas of interest: Causal Inference, Econometrics, Machine Learning and Data-Adaptive Methods).

[David Jacho-Chavez](#) (pictured right) was awarded the 2023 Laney Graduate School's Outstanding Director of Graduate Studies Award.

[Esfandiar Maasoumi](#) was elected President of the International Iranian Economic Association ([IIEA](#)), 2023-25. He was also awarded an Outstanding Author Contribution in the 2023 Emerald Literati Awards for his chapter, "Women's Potential Earnings Distributions," in *Advances in Econometrics*.

[Kyungmin \(Teddy\) Kim](#) was invited to serve as an associate editor for the [RAND Journal of Economics](#).

