

Department of Economics News

Spring 2022

Letter from Chair

The Economics Department hopes this Spring 2022 edition of newsletter finds you well. We have continued seamlessly with most of our activities in a hybrid (in-person/online) format due to the cautious policies and recommendations of the University.

Our most exciting news involves the first cohort of our revised Ph.D. program (instituted in 2016) completing their studies this semester. These graduates have obtained placements at prestigious, high-tech companies, universities, and government agencies. You can read more about them in our Graduate Program section of the newsletter.



The two new undergraduate programs we have recently launched are flourishing: our joint Economics/Human Health major currently has 33 students after two semesters and our joint Economics/Computer Science major has 13 students after launching this past January. In Fall 2022, we will start accepting applications from juniors for the first cohort of our 4+1 Master's program, launching in Fall 2023.

Thank you to those of you who attended the virtual talk "*Economics of Artificial Intelligence: Growth, Jobs, Inequality*" delivered by Nobel Laureate Thomas Sargent last Fall while he was visiting Emory and the Atlanta Fed. This was the Department's largest event to date, with over 700 participants. While we are unfortunately not able to have our annual banquet and Nobel Laureate presentation this semester, we are hosting another virtual presentation in late April featuring academic and African-American civil rights activist [Preston King](#). We will be sending an invitation to alumni closer to the event.

Our department has an active [social media](#) presence and we hope that you follow us to remain up to date on our 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, faculty research, and teaching.

Best,

Hashem Dezhbakhsh
Goodrich C. White Professor and Department Chair

Alumni News and Note

Recent Alumni Accomplishments:

- [Joanna Shepherd](#) 02G (pictured right) was appointed as vice dean of Emory Law School. She is an alumni of our Economics Ph.D. program.
- [Doug Shipman](#) 95C won the seat of Atlanta City Council president in the November 2021 runoff elections.
- Julia Thayne DeMordaunt 09C joined RMI, a non-partisan, non-profit organization transforming global energy systems, as the Principal of Urban Transformation.
- Taos Wynn 06Ox 09C was named to Georgia State University Alumni's 40 Under 40 Class of 2022. He completed his MPA/JD at Georgia State in 2021.
- In collaboration with the Office of Advancement and Alumni Engagement, we held the 4th Annual Professional Pathways conversation via Zoom. The alumni who participated in this panel were:
 - Justin Campagna 16C: Investment Analyst, ARISTA Consulting Group
 - Leigh Horn 12B: Senior Manager, PwC
 - Razeen Kabir 07C: Associate Director, MetLife Investment Management
 - Michael Katzman 90C: Director, Public Government and Regulatory Affairs at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts
 - Federico Persico 06C: Managing Director - Head of Business Development and Investor Relations, Tilden Park Capital Management
 - Mohna Shah 01C: Director of Operations, Motley Fool Wealth Management
- The Department hosted an information session for our new Economics/Computer Science joint major that featured two alumni who double majored in Economics and Computer Science who are flourishing in their next steps after Emory: Junyuan Ke 18C, Ph.D. Candidate at Simon Business School at the University of Rochester, and Scott Weitzner 18C, Associate Quantitative Developer at BlackRock.
- Jessie Zhao 19C, Analyst, NERA Economic Consulting, presented a career preparation workshop for current Economics students who have an interest in economic consulting.
- Scott G. Parent 13Ox 15C was promoted to Data Products Lead at Understood.
- Two Emory Economics alumni were featured in Emory's 40 Under 40: [Logan Gans 07C](#) and [Amrit Kapai 08C](#). Congratulations to Logan and Amrit on their outstanding professional accomplishments.



- 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 and please do not hesitate to reach out if you have internship or job opportunities at your organization to share with current students.

Recent Faculty Achievements

- [Sara Markowitz](#) was named the Winship Distinguished Research Professor of Economics by Emory University, a recognition honoring achievement and to further scholarly research and research-based teaching.
- [Ian McCarthy](#) was appointed as an NBER Research Associate. The National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) is a private, nonpartisan organization that facilitates cutting-edge investigation and analysis of major economic issues. It disseminates research findings to academics, public and private-sector decision-makers, and the public by posting more than 1,200 [working papers](#) and convening more than 120 scholarly [conferences](#) each year.
- [Stefan Hoderlein](#) has received the "Econometric Theory Multa Scripsit Award" on account of his cumulative contributions to the Journal of Econometric Theory. Such contributions that have helped econometrics grow into the huge subject area in economics that it is today and have been instrumental in helping individual econometric fields grow to maturity, especially during the last two decades.



Graduate Program

- Congratulations to our 2021-2022 graduate students on their placements: [Carlos Ballesteros-Ruiz](#) 20G 23G (Assistant Professor, EAFIT, Colombia); [Cheng Ding](#) 20G 23G (AI & Data Science Associate, JP Morgan Chase); [Carla Moreno](#) 19G 22G (Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Loyola Marymount University); [Diego Rojas](#) 20G 22G (Economist, Amazon); [Kaylyn Sanbower](#) 20G 22G (Economist, U.S. Department of Justice); Xi Wu 22G (Data Scientist, Facebook); [Yiqing Xiao](#) 19G 22G (Assistant Professor, Peking University, China); [Sam Wunderly](#) 20G 22G (Postdoctoral Fellow in Economics, Emory University, Provost's Fellow in Economics); [Aliaksandr Zaretski](#) 22G (Lecturer/Assistant Professor in Economics, School of Economics, University of Surrey, U.K.)
- [Alexandra Manta](#) 21G 24G had her paper "[Estimating Social Effects in a Multilayered Linear-in-Means Model with Network Data](#)" accepted for publication at Statistics & Probability Letters.



- [Carla Moreno](#) 19G 22G got her paper, "Financial Sustainability of Public Pensions in Cuba: The Impact of Aging, Structural Reforms, and the Economic Crisis" accepted for publication in The International Social Security Review.
- [Juan Estrada](#) 20G 22G presented his solo-authored paper, "Causal Inference in Multilayer Social Networks," at the [European Winter Meeting of the Econometric Society 2021](#) on December 13-15, 2021 and at the [16th Annual Economics Graduate Student Conference](#) of Washington University in St. Louis on October 23, 2021.
- [Carlos Ballesteros-Ruiz](#) 20G 23G who presented his paper, "Go your own slope!: Macroeconomic effects of Basel III liquidity regulations in emerging and developed economies" at The International Finance and Banking Society (IFABS) [Oxford 2021 conference](#) on September 14, 2021 and at [Raise Seminar](#) (Research Assistants Seminar in Economics) on September 8, 2021.
- [Aliaksandr Zaretski](#) 22G was selected by the Emory Center for Digital Scholarship (ECDS) as the Data Services Graduate Fellow for 2021-2022.
- [Kaylyn Sanbower](#) 20G 22G for being awarded a Humane Studies Fellowship from the Institute for Humane Studies at George Mason University. She also participated in the [Computational Social Science Workshop and Datathon](#) on August 9-13, 2021 and was awarded a grant from the data-thon to continue her work.

Undergraduate Program

- Every year the Emory Alumni Board and Student Alumni board recognize the success of outstanding students and identify emerging leaders from the current senior class through [100 Senior Honorary](#). We congratulate these Economics majors/minors as part of this year's 100:
 - Yuanlong Dai 22C
 - Nicole El Mann Cohen 22B
 - Ben Levitt 22C
 - Tara Martin 22C
 - Seong Ryoo Ryeol 22B
 - Stephanie Zhang 22C
- Vanessa Goris 23C was selected to participate in Caltech's 2nd Annual [FUTURE Ignited program](#), a one-day online virtual conference on October 2, 2021. The goal of FUTURE Ignited is to support the ambitions of aspiring young scientists of color, who will go on to become part of a diverse generation of scientific leaders.



Upcoming Events

The Economics Department continues to remain active with in-person and virtual activities. Please stay up to date by viewing the [Events Calendar](#) section of our website and feel free to join us for seminars or other events that you are interested in.



Support the Department

Your support plays a crucial role in strengthening the department by providing resources for core academic initiatives. You can contribute to two different funds.

- **Research and Teaching Fund:** This fund supports teaching initiatives, student research and teaching awards, and invitation of prominent scholars to campus to share their expertise with faculty and students.
- **Kafoglis Nobel Laureate Lecture Series Fund:** This fund was initially endowed with generous support from our late colleague Milton Kafoglis and his wife Virginia Kafoglis to allow us to bring Nobel laureates to campus to present public talks open to the community and interact with the faculty and students. Your contribution to this fund will enhance the department's ability to continue this tradition.



To support either fund, please visit the [giving section](#) of our website.