Letter from Chair

We hope that this Spring 2023 edition of our department newsletter finds you well! We have some exciting updates to share with you.

Last month, we hosted our first Milton and Virginia Kafoglis Economics Nobel Laureate Lecture since the pandemic featuring David Card, a co-winner of the 2021 Nobel Memorial Prize (along with Joshua Angrist and Guido Imbens). Dr. Card, the Class of 1950 Professor at the University of California Berkeley gave a talk titled “Labor Market, Immigration, and Minimum Wage: Economic Research vs. Policy.” He also attended our annual department banquet and ODE Induction and gave a keynote speech on affirmative action.

We are still in the admissions cycle of the first cohort for our new 4+1 BA/MS program. We have currently admitted 9 students who will begin their graduate coursework in fall 2023. A plan is in the works to eventually open this program to external applicants, allowing it to serve a larger constituency.

Our Ph.D. program received more than 400 applications for 10 spots this year, making it one of the largest across the university. We have recently placed our Ph.D. graduates academic and non-academic positions alike, such as at Meta, JP Morgan-Chase, Amazon, Zillow, NYU, University of Scotland, Peking University, University of Surrey, Georgia Tech, and Emory QTM.

This semester, we opened a meditation/relaxation room in the Economics department which can be reserved by economics students, faculty, and staff. We hope that this space helps to promote health and wellness in our academic community.

Thank you to all who donated to our Fall Food Drive for the Eagle Food Co-op to help alleviate the issue of food insecurity among Emory students. Because of the success we are partnering with Emory Cares to hold another event through April 30. Donations can be made through our Amazon registry. Summer is a critical time for food shortages among college students, so any help is greatly appreciated.

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 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.
We continue to organize Meet the Alumni Zoom events for our students. If you are interested in participating and sharing your work experiences with our students, please contact Elizabeth Eichinger (eeichin@emory.edu).

Best,
Hashem Dezhbakhsh
Goodrich C. White Professor and Department Chair

Alumni News and Notes

• On October 26, 2022, the Economics Department hosted its 5th Annual Professional Pathways Conversation via Zoom. We maintained this event in a virtual setting so that we could include alumni located in a variety of places. This year, the Conversation featured:
  - Luke Haller 09C, Real Estate Associate, Winston & Strawn LLP
  - Katie Lee 12C, Senior Product Manager, Amazon
  - Alex Watts 04C, Vice President and Private Wealth Advisor, Merrill Lynch
• On November 29, 2022, Jean Jung 14C, current Product Manager at Google and former founder of DreamworldVR spoke with a small group of Economics students about her career trajectory and how students can get involved in tech careers.
• On December 1, 2022, the Economics Student Society (ESS) organized a panel of Emory Economics Alumni who are now working in health-related professions. The panel consisted of:
  - Patricia Kim 18C, formerly of Triage Consulting Group and Cloudmed and current MPH student at Columbia’s Mailman School of Public Health
  - Sarah Mahoney 19C, MD/PhD candidate at the Yale School of Medicine and Yale School of Public Health
  - Saumya Mehta 15C, Business Development & Commercial Assessment Lead at PTC Therapeutics
  - Anders Olsen 18C 23M, current Emory Medical School student
  - Lila Siwakoti 18C 21PH, Rollins School of Public Health MPH graduate, and current CDC employee
• Rickey Adger 86C has been promoted to Site Director at Mars Food
• Radeen Kabir 04C returned to Veritax Community Bank as a VP-Senior C&I Underwriting Officer
• Erin Tidwell 05C started a new position as a Lead Financial Analyst at the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco
• Taos Wynn 06Ox 09C has been promoted to Chief Operating Officer at Atlanta Fire Rescue Foundation
• Julia Thayne 09C was promoted to Senior Principal, Climate Aligned Industries at RMI
• Morgan Klinzing 10C has been elected to the partnership at Troutman Pepper
• Ludmilla Paul 10C started a new position as Director of Client Solutions Data Strategy at Meritain Health, an Aetna and CVS Health Company
• Patrick Hart 13C started a new position as a Junior Technical Developer at Ansible Health
• Noah Levy 13C has started a new position as a Lead Data Scientist- Retail Pharmacy Consumer Analytics at CVS Health
• Christopher Sun 13C was elected to the partnership at Keker, Van Nest, & Peters LLP
• Joyce Zhang 15B started a new position as an Associate at Bain Capital
• Ryan Murray 16C was promoted to Director, Digital Activation (Apple) at OMD USA
• Armaan Nathani 16C has been promoted to Senior Product Manager at Symphony
• Kevin On 16C was promoted to Project Manager – Alliances Joint Ventures at Delta Air Lines
• Veronica Chua 18C was named as part of Emory’s 40 Under Forty Class of 2022.
• Anders Olsen 18C 23M is beginning his residency at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center with Harvard University in Fall
• Olivia Ragoowansi 18C started a new position at Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP as a first-year associate in the Strategic Advisory & Government Enforcement (SAGE) Business Unit
• David Santos 18C was promoted to Management Consulting Manager at Accenture
• Ryan Levin 19C 24L has been elected to serve as the President of the Emory University School of Law Student Bar Association and has accepted an offer to join the Securities and Exchange Commission this summer for their Legal Scholars program in the Division of Trading & Markets. His comment was selected for publication in the Emory Bankruptcy Developments Journal titled “Bankrupting the Matrix: DAOs and the Code”
• Joshua Pynn 19C started a new position as Senior Manager, Payments Content at Merchant Advisory Group
• Michael Yoon 19C has been promoted to Senior Analyst at McKinsey & Company
• Jinyan Chen 21C BBA/MPA has started a new position as an Audit Associate at PwC
• Yuqi (Vicky) Wang 21B was promoted to Senior Associate Consultant at GEP Worldwide

Please reach out to eeichin@emory.edu if you have any news or updates to be shared in a future newsletter.
Faculty News

- Jeong Ho (John) Kim was selected to receive the Korean-American Economic Association’s Young Scholar Award for 2022.
- Caroline Fohlin was recently appointed Editor of Financial History Review (FHR). Established in 1994, Financial History Review has earned a solid international reputation as an academic journal committed to research of high scholarly standards.
- Sam Cherribi was selected to participate in the International Roundtable at the 23rd Annual Creating Opportunity Conference created and hosted by civil rights living icon, Reverend Jesse Jackson, and the Mayor of Atlanta, Andre Dickens, on October 19-21, 2022.
- Stephen O’Connell’s work was recently cited in the 2023 Economic Report of the President. Access to the report can be found here.

Undergraduate Program News

- This year’s Undergraduate Award Winners were: Jackson Schneider (the W. Tate Whitman Prize in Economics), Lola Cleaveland (the Jack and Lewis Greenhut Prize), Jackson Pentz (the George Benston and Richard Muth Prize for Excellence in Economics), and Vanessa Goris (Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Assistant).
- These Economics majors/minors were chosen as this year’s 100 Senior Honorary:
  - Jennifer Bae
  - Hannah Geoffroy
  - Dylan Goldberg
  - Zhenglun Li
  - Dubem Nnake
  - Yihoon Shin
  - Akshat Toshniwal
Graduate Program News

- Building on the success of our 'Women in Economics' mentoring program, the initiative expanded this Spring 2023 to include a series of dinners with Emory deans. Female graduate students were invited to small group dinners with the deans to learn about their academic careers and what advice they might have for women who wish to pursue a career in a university/academic setting. A total of 16 graduate students participated in one of four dinners with Dr. Kim Arriola, Dean, James T. Laney School of Graduate Studies; Dr. Lisa Tedesco, Dean Emerita and Vice Provost Emerita; Dr. Deboleena Roy, Senior Associate Dean, Emory College of Arts and Sciences; and Dr. Amanda James, Associate Dean, Diversity, Inclusion, and Community Engagement, James T. Laney School of Graduate Studies.

- This year’s Graduate Student Awards winners were: Jung Jae Kim (Graduate Student Research Award of Excellence) and Justin Eloriaga (Graduate student Teaching Award of Excellence).

- Lucie Xu was recently featured in Georgetown Women’s Alliance's 'STEMPossible' Women in STEM video series. In the interview Lucie reflects on her journey at Georgetown University and how her undergraduate experience led to her decision to seek a Ph.D. in economics.


- Pablo Estrada, Katie Leinenbach, and Hanna Glenn will be presenting their papers (Pablo Estrada | Katie Leinenbach | Hanna Glenn) at the American Society of Health Economists (ASHEcon) conference in St. Louis, MO on June 11-14, 2023.

- Noah MacDonald, whose paper has been accepted for presentation at the World Congress of Cliometrics in Dublin, Ireland, July 20-23, 2023, has also been invited to present at the Economic History Association 2023 Annual Meeting, September 8-10, 2023, in Pittsburgh, PA.
Support the Economics Department

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

Faculty Research and Department Initiatives

This fund plays a crucial role in strengthening the department by providing resources for faculty research and academic initiatives and supporting department initiatives as we strive for excellence.

W. Tate Whitman Prize in Economics

This award is presented to an undergraduate student for their ability to present a clear, cogent analysis of complex issues, extraordinary personal integrity, and wise leadership in the classroom and department.

To support these funds, please visit the giving section of our website.

Upcoming Events

The Economics Department continues to remain active with mostly in-person and a few 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.