



## **Letter from the Chair**

**Dear Alumni,**

With pride and gratitude, I'm pleased to share our fall newsletter and an update from our recent External Review—a rigorous process we undergo every ten years to maintain accreditation. The review affirmed the strength and momentum of our undergraduate economics program- which continues to grow in scale, innovation, and impact—thanks to your support. Economics is now the second-largest major in Emory College, with over 770 majors and minors. Our curriculum blends rigorous economic reasoning, data science, and real-world application.



Some successes considered during evaluation include:

### **Curricular Innovation**

In addition to our longstanding Economics-Math joint major, our Economics-Human Health and Economics- Computer Science joint majors continue to thrive. We are still on track to launch our new Economics-Arts joint major next year, pairing economics with disciplines like Art History, Dance, Film, Music, and Theater. A new course, *ECON 288: Introduction to Economics and the Arts*, will explore how markets and technology shape creative industries. Our 4+1 BA/MS program graduated its first cohort in May and continues to grow with impressive internship and job placements. We're also excited to fully launch our standalone MS program, providing students with accelerated pathways to graduate-level training in economics and data analytics.

### **Research & Experiential Learning**

Students engage in independent research through *ECON 499* and present the results at our Student Research Fair. They also participate in national replication games to promote transparency in economics. Our team placed third at the University of Chicago's Econometrics Games, and this fall marks our debut in the College Fed Challenge, a monetary policy simulation conducted by the Federal Reserve System. Study abroad programs in London (LSE) and Madrid (UC3M) continue to connect theory with global practice.

### **Student Achievement & Placement**

Our graduates are joining top firms like Goldman Sachs and BlackRock, and pursuing advanced degrees at Harvard, Chicago, Columbia, and Yale. The average starting salary for Class of 2025 undergraduates was \$92,700. Meanwhile, 2025 4+1 and PhD graduates received prominent placements and many of the Class of 2026 4+1 students have already obtained job offers.

### **Compelling Academic Event Programming**

The Department continues to host Nobel laureates and other prominent speakers at Emory. Last month, the Leadership in Economics organized an engaging panel discussion titled *Leadership at the Crossroads of Business and Economics: How Leaders in Business, Technology, and Academia Inspire Change*. The event brought together an impressive lineup of leaders: Barbara Krauthamer, Dean of Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Craig Brechner, CEO of Zurich Technology Solutions, and Nezha Alaoui, CEO of Women Choice.

*In summary, “The Emory Economics Department has undergone a remarkable transformation since its revitalization in the mid-2000s. It has achieved extraordinary growth and a steep rise in rank over the past decade...Leadership has demonstrated creativity and a striking entrepreneurial spirit and has fostered an uncommon level of goodwill and cooperation with other units within the college and university.”*

Your generosity powers these successes—funding research, competitions, scholarships, high profile events and more. We invite you to stay connected, whether by following [our social media channels](#), mentoring students, or [making a gift](#) to support our continued growth.

Warm regards,

Hashem Dezhbakhsh

Goodrich C. White Professor and Department Chair

## **Alumni News and Notes**

Thank you to the panelists in our recent Professional Pathways Conversation, which took place on Wednesday, November 5<sup>th</sup>: **Nandita Balakrishnan 14C**, **Michael Katzman 90C**, **Eichakeem McClary 00C**, and **Leah Melwani 12C**.

Economics doctoral students were invited to our Spring Colloquium featuring **Edouard Wemy 15G**, Associate Professor of Economics at Clark University.

**Soyini Chang 99C** was selected for the Goldman Sachs One Million Black Women in Business program. She will also receive the Entrepreneurial Excellence Award at the Founders 2.0 Conference in Las Vegas in 2026.

**Scott Fleisher 01C** started a new position as Executive Director, Senior Lead Securities Product Manager at Wells Fargo.

**Mohna Shah 01C** started a new position as Regulatory Specialist at ETF Architect.

**Radeen Kabir 04C** started a new position as Business Banking Underwriter IV at Huntington National Bank.

**Liz Kammel Tilatti 07C** started a new role as President & COO of Fare.

**Julie Odette 08C** started a new position as Business Operations Manager at Tycho.AI.

**Sam Taft 09C** started a new position as Corporate Development and Strategy Associate at Booz Allen Hamilton.

**Brian Goodman 11C** started a new position as Staff Product Manager at Pilot.com.

**Wesley Lueng 12C** was recognized as a recipient of the TITAN100 award.

**Jun Park 12C** started a new position as Associate Brand Manager - Kids Oral Care Licensing at Colgate-Palmolive.

**Jade (Jiaying) Zhu 12Ox 14C** started a new position as Finance Manager, Device Logistics at Amazon.

**Charles Greenwald 13C** was promoted to Lead Director at Aetna, a CVS Health Company.

**Bing Jiang 13G** was promoted to Professor of Economics at Virginia Military Institute.

**Heesang Park 14C** started a new position as an Attorney at SungAm Suh International Patent & Law Firm.

**Elliot Angart 15C** started a new position as Manager at Bain & Company.

**Brandon Barber 16C** started a new position as Staff Data Scientist at Meta.

**Alejandra Anaya 18C** started a new position as Senior Manager, Sustainability and Compliance at Sephora.

**Patricia Kim 18C** was promoted to Senior Data Operations Analyst at BRG.

**Meiyou Yue 18C** started a new position as Manager, Audience Development & Analytics at Offscript Worldwide

**Joshua Pynn 19C** started a new position as the Senior Manager of Payments and Treasury at Dollar General.

**Ayla Ekici 20C** started a new position as Senior Partner Marketing Manager at Datadog.

**Wes Thompson 21C** was promoted to Transaction Manager at Amazon Global Realty.

**Emma Bailey 22C** was promoted to Research Manager for the Democratic National Committee.

**Vanessa Goris 23C** was promoted to Senior AI & Data Technology Consultant - Financial Services at EY.

**Conor Harty 23C** was promoted to Associate at the J.P. Morgan Private Bank in Palo Alto.

**Abigail Millender 23C** was promoted to Senior Associate at KPMG.

**Spencer Moore 23C** was promoted to Analyst at NERA.

**Tanisha Sinha 23C** started a new position as Associate Consultant at The Dedham Group.

**Chase Tagen 24C** started a new position as the Managing Director of Strategic Advisory and Capital Markets at Cushman & Wakefield.

**Davis Shelton 25C** won the prestigious National Award for best undergraduate paper from Omicron Delta Epsilon, the International Honor Society for Economics.

If you have a recent professional update, please feel free to send it to [econalumni@emory.edu](mailto:econalumni@emory.edu).

## **MS in Economics Program Officially Launches in Summer 2026**

We are thrilled to announce that our Master of Science in Economics program, which supplements our recently launched 4+1 BA/MS, officially begins in Summer 2026. This program is designed to cultivate in-demand economics and data analytics skills, preparing students for competitive industry opportunities. Our first graduates have already secured outstanding placements at organizations such as Amazon, EY, BCG, and Aon. The program is structured for completion in just one year: students begin with an online course in Summer Session II (late June), then complete on-campus coursework during the Fall and Spring semesters, graduating in Spring 2027.



Join us for a **virtual information session on Monday, November 17 at 6 PM ET**—[register here](#). If you're interested or know someone whose career goals align with this program, please email [econmsprogram@emory.edu](mailto:econmsprogram@emory.edu) for more information.

## **Host a Dinner with 12 Strangers**

Keep the tradition alive by hosting a D12 dinner for Economics department students in the 2025–2026 academic year. Welcome students into your home or a local restaurant this spring, and we'll do the rest. Email [Amber Harper](#) to learn more or get involved.

## **Undergraduate Student News**

Your support helps fund events, research initiatives, and programming that enrich the student experience and prepare future leaders in economics. Our department proudly sponsors five dynamic student organizations that provide leadership, networking, and professional development opportunities for undergraduates:



**Economics Student Society (ESS)**- [ESS](#) fosters a vibrant community for students interested in economics, regardless of major. Through alumni career panels, coffee chats with faculty, senior panels, and networking events, ESS helps students explore career paths and build meaningful connections. *If you would like to support ESS, please contact faculty advisor [Sam Wunderly](#) at [sam.wunderly@emory.edu](mailto:sam.wunderly@emory.edu).*

**Omicron Delta Epsilon (ODE)**- As the international honor society in economics, [ODE](#) recognizes academic excellence and encourages scholarly engagement. Membership is a prestigious distinction and offers opportunities to participate in events that promote research and professional growth. *If you would like to support ODE, please contact faculty advisor [Sue Mialon](#) at [smialon@emory.edu](mailto:smialon@emory.edu).*

**Leadership in Economics Club (LEC)**- [LEC](#) focuses on developing leadership skills and preparing students for success beyond graduation. Members engage in leadership workshops, career panels, and networking events with alumni and industry professionals, gaining tools to excel in competitive fields. *If you would like to support LEC, please contact faculty advisor [Elena Pesavento](#) at [epesave@emory.edu](mailto:epesave@emory.edu).*

**Emory Economics Investment Forum (EEIF)**- [EEIF](#) provides hands-on learning about financial markets, investment strategies, and the intersection of economics and finance. Through discussions, workshops, and market analysis activities, students gain practical skills for careers in finance, consulting, and related industries. *Currently, EEIF is participating in an **EagleRaiser campaign** to support its initiatives, running through **December 2nd**. [Learn more or contribute](#).*

**Emory Economics Review (EER)**- [EER](#) is a student-run publication that showcases original research and analytical writing by undergraduates. It offers students valuable experience in research, editing, and publishing, while contributing to academic discourse on economic issues. You can check out their [student-led website](#) and [most recent newsletter](#). *If you would like to support EER, please contact faculty advisor [Sam Wunderly](#) at [sam.wunderly@emory.edu](mailto:sam.wunderly@emory.edu).*

## **Graduate Student News**

We welcomed eight new PhD students this academic year: [Farahnaz Faiz](#), [Yi Han](#), [Tingyuan Li](#), [Abbigayle Mills](#), [Nima Nikopour](#), [Dulce Perez](#), [Nick Smith](#), and [Zhihao \(Owen\) Xu](#).

[Zhihao Xu's](#) paper, "*Optimal Monetary Policy in Production Networks with Distortions*," was published in the Journal of Economic Theory.



[Guido Romero](#) presented his paper, "*External Validity Under Network Interference*," at the [Midwest Econometrics Group Conference \(MEG\)](#) at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, October 3-4, 2025.

[Michelle Tao](#) presented her paper, "*The Missing Homebuyers: Demographic Changes and Financial Constraints*" at the [19th North American Meeting of the Urban Economics Association](#) in Montréal, Canada, October 3, 2025. She also presented this paper at the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia's Mentoring & Advancing PhDs ([PFMAP](#)) program, a program that provides interaction, feedback, and mentoring to a small group of advanced Ph.D. candidates.

[Atta Domson](#) was selected to be among a cohort of about 16 students selected from across Emory University to participate in the 2025-2026 Academic Year Ethics and Servant Leadership ([EASL](#)) Forum organized by the [Center for Ethics](#) at Emory University.

## **Faculty News**

[Keith Robinson](#) recently joined Emory University's Department of Economics as an Assistant Teaching Professor and Director of Professionalism and Placement for our master's program students. He brings deep professional insights and an extensive network from his 25-year career at PwC, where he served as a Transfer Pricing Principal, advising multinational corporations on complex international and state-level pricing strategies. Keith holds a Ph.D. in Economics from The Ohio State University and has previously served as a visiting faculty at Emory, combining academic expertise with industry experience to prepare graduate students for successful careers.



[Yuki Wang](#) was appointed Associate Editor by [Macroeconomic Dynamics](#).

[Ian McCarthy](#) was appointed Associate Editor by the [Southern Economic Journal](#) and the [American Journal of Health Economics](#).

[Vivian Yue](#) was appointed to Associate Chair for the 2025-2026 academic year.

[David Jacho-Chavez](#) was appointed to Director of Graduate Studies for the 2025-2026 academic year.