



### Letter from Chair:

Greetings from the Economics Department! The 2023-2024 academic year was a whirlwind of activity, filled with meaningful achievements. Please read through our newsletter to learn more about the following:

- Alumni News and Notes: this section provides professional updates on your Economics classmates
- Undergraduate News
- 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

### Alumni News and Notes:

- **Lonnie Barnett 89C** is the Director for Children's Special Health Care Services at the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.
- **Julia Boyd Corso 00C** recently returned to Emory's campus to convene with the Emory Dean's Advisory Council
- **Scott Fleisher 01C** started a new position as COO/Business manager to the Chief Administrative Officer & Head of Clearing at Clear Street
- **Eugene Litvinov 01C 15B** started a new position as Director, Hydrogen & Commercial Vehicles, Business Development & Partnerships at Hyundai Motor Company
- **Sheela Pawar de Groot 01C** recently joined AAB as Head of External Communications – Electrification (AVP)

- **Vonetta Daniels 02C** started a new position as Executive Director, Georgia Market Lead at CINQCARE
- **Kartik Balasubramaniam 10C** started a new position as Vice President, Operations Finance at Priority Ambulance
- **Brent Bartlett 10C 13L** started a new position as an Associate in the Global Tax Practice Group at Baker McKenzie
- **Tim Duty 11Ox 14C** started a new position as an Associate at Kearney
- **Shefali Lakhani 12C** started her own law firm, Lakhani Legal, specializing in business and IP law
- **Rezwana Sattar 12C 14MPH** was promoted to Manager at Deloitte
- **Dave Lemco 13C** recently started a new position as Director of Development at RPM Living
- **Sophia (Jiang) Martin 13Ox 15C** started a new position as Group Product Marketing Manager at Confluent
- **Madison Y. Li 13C** graduated from UCLA Law School with a Master of Legal Studies
- **Scott G. Parent 13Ox 15C** was promoted to Director, Data & Analytics at Eleanor Health
- **Lauren Berenbaum 14C** started a new position as an Associate Attorney at Cozen O'Connor
- **Kerry McGlinchey 14C** started a new position as Engagement Manager at L.E.K Consulting
- **Kyuhyun (Kyu) Nam 14C** started a new position as a Portfolio Manager at the Korea National Pension Service
- **Nikhil Raghuveera 14C** recently started their journey as Founder & CEO of Aethos
- **Gabriel Wang 14C** started a new position as Manager, Advisory-Health at KPMG
- **Christian Bowers 15C** started a new position as Principal Product Manager at Amazon
- **Justin Sia 15Ox 17C** received the 2024 Impact Award from the Loyola University Chicago Asian Pacific American Law Students Association and a Windy City Times 30 Under 30 award
- **Monica Lefton 16Ox 18C** was recently promoted to Senior Communications Manager at the Society for Women's Health Research (SWHR)
- **Shaina Shapera 17C** started a new position as Operations Manager at Cone Health
- **Lokita Rajan 18C** was promoted to Senior Product Manager at McMaster-Carr
- **Talia Stern 18C** started a new position as National Insights Manager at Red Bull
- **Xin Yan 18G** was promoted to Senior Data Science (NLP) at Wells Fargo
- **Larry Phillips Jr. 19C** started a new position as Senior Manager, Data Analytics and Reporting at The Coca-Cola Company
- **Dain Kim 20C** started a new position as Senior Associate, Project Finance at East West Bank

- **Sienna Nordquist 20C** was named a Non-Resident Bretton Woods 2.0 Fellow with the Atlantic Council's GeoEconomics Center
- **Wes Thompson 21C** was promoted to Senior Transactions Associate at Amazon
- **Rashel Chahine 23C** started a new position as a Sales Operations Specialist at Warner Bros. Discovery on the CNN International team
- **Brian Chasanoff 23C** started a master's in Énergie, finance, carbone at Université Paris Dauphine-PSL and upon graduation will be joining PwC as a Consulting Associate on the firm's Sustainability Transformation team.

Last Fall, we held our 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Professional Pathways Conversation, featuring accomplished alumni sharing details about their professional journeys. The alumni who participated in this event included **Matthew Claster 05C** VP Strategy & Corporate Development, Clarapath; **Soyini Chang 99C** CEO and Cofounder, Quantum Power Skills International; **Cindy Decker 93C** Executive Director Tulsa Educare; **Craig Holmes 87C** National Manager, UBS; and **Peter Schutel 01C**: Divisional Vice President and Associate General Counsel, International Legal, Abbott.



The Economics Student Society (ESS) hosted an alumni panel (pictured above) featuring six alumni: **Scott Parent 13Ox 15C**, Data Analytics & Strategist at Eleanor Health; **Shirley Sun 16C** Finance Manager, Delta Airlines; **Karen Nguyen 19C**, Senior Analyst at IHG Hotels & Resorts; **Ryan Levin 21C 24L** President of Emory Law Student Bar Association; **Kate Kanjirathinkal 18C** Private Equity Associate, Embedded Capital; and **Connor Clerkin 21C** Impact Associate at Leadership Now Project.

Our new Women in Economics Club invited the following alumni to speak to students at two separate events: **Celia Stafford 17C** Health Policy Ph.D. candidate at Harvard Business School; **Christina Ye 20C** MBA Candidate at MIT Sloan; **Sofia Benzi 21C** Analyst, Georgia-Pacific LLC; and **Vonetta Daniels 02C** Executive Director, CINQCARE Operations.

We also hosted two intimate group networking gatherings with alumni who were in Atlanta for business purposes and were kind enough to donate their time and expertise to our students: **Joshua Resnick 95C**, Managing Partner, Jericho Capital Asset Management and **Tash Elywn 93C**, President and CEO, Raymond James & Associates. **Matthew Higgins 04G** also visited the department to meet with graduate students to impart professional advice about careers in academia.

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.

## Undergraduate Student News

Congratulations to our 2024 Economics Department undergraduate student award recipients! This year's award winners are **Fareed Khan** - W. Tate Whitman Prize in Economics, **Josh Jacobs** - The Jack and Lewis Greenhut Prize, **Varun Saxena** - The George Benston and Richard Muth Prize for Excellence in Economics, and **Daniel Bell** - Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Assistant



These Economics majors/minors were included in the [100 Senior Honorary](#) Class of 2024:

- **Kushagra Chadha**
- **Fareed Khan**
- **Evan Mustin**
- **Moyo Odugbemi**
- **Jonathan Ross**
- **Sophia Yang**

**Gabriela Coadá** presented her 2023 SURE research project with Prof. [David Jacho-Chavez](#) at the Conference on Expectation Surveys in Ottawa hosted by the Bank of Canada, last October 2023. Emory senior and Economics major

**Josh Jacobs**, presented his SURE 2023 research project with Prof. [Caroline Fohlin](#) on the impacts of the 1920 Supreme Court Decision in the US vs US Steel.

**Claudia Smith** was recently featured in an [Emory News](#) article about how a new fund fueled by donors to Emory's [Pathways Center](#) helped 274 Emory students say "Yes!" to summer internships on six continents.

**Carol Xu** was featured in the Emory Magazine (Winter 2023) story, [Seeing Double](#) about students who have sought and benefited from pursuing a double major.

Economics undergraduate & doctoral students teamed up to participate in the Brown Replication Games in Providence, RI. Team members were [Guido Romero](#), [Isaac Shon](#), [Harper Wang](#), [Ranjan Kesavan](#), [Ron Huang](#), and [Tianqi Zhang](#). Faculty member [Krzysztof Karbownik](#) was their coach.

## Faculty News

[Elena Pesavento](#) (pictured above, center) was awarded a [Women of Emory Impact Circle](#) grant for AY2024-2025 to support [Women in Economics](#) initiatives.

[Pedro Sant'Anna](#) was named as one of the [top-40 econometricians](#) at [RePEc](#) and was appointed as new Associate Editor of the Journal of Econometrics.

[Margaret \(Maggie\) Jones](#) was appointed to the editorial board at Explorations in Economic History.

[David Jacho-Chavez](#) was awarded the 2024 Laney Graduate School's Inclusive Excellence Award.

[Tao Zha](#) was invited to submit a portfolio of his recent research for inclusion in an upcoming issue of the National Bureau of Economic Research ([NBER](#)) Reporter.

[Stephen O'Connell](#) was awarded research funding for his project, "From Displacement to Resilience: Aid, Economic Recovery, and Social Cohesion in Post-War Iraq" through the Innovations for Poverty Action's Displaced Livelihoods Initiative (DLI).

[Melvin Ayogu](#) was awarded the Global Perspectives on Race+, Ethnicity+, and Nation+ grant from The [Halle Institute for Global Research](#).



## Graduate Student News

Congratulations to our 2024 Economics Department graduate student award recipients! This year's award winners are [Hanna Glenn](#) - Economics Graduate Student Research Award of Excellence and [Katie Leinenbach](#)- Economics Graduate Student Teaching Award of Excellence.

[Marcelo Ortiz](#) had his paper, "[Heterogenous Treatment Effects of a Voluntary Inclusionary Zoning Program on Housing Prices](#)" (joint work with Gonzalo E. Sanchez and Mario A. Fernandez) published in Housing Studies. He accepted a fully funded offer to participate in the



[Optimization-Conscious Econometrics \(OCE\) Summer School at the University of Chicago](#), June 3-6, 2024.

[Justin Eloriaga](#) had his paper, “Comparing “Exclusion” to “Neutralization” in Computing Core Inflation and Testing Cointegration of Core with Headline Inflation: Results for the Philippines” (joint work with Jesus C. Dumagan) published in [DLSU Business and Economics Review](#).

[Mohammad Fidakar](#) had his paper, “[A Study on Profitability of Afghanistan Coal Mine with ARDL Approach; Case Study of the North Coal Enterprise in Afghanistan](#)” (joint work with Atefa Hussaini and Abbas Erfan) published in Iranian Economic Review. He was also featured in the [Emory News Center](#) about his journey fleeing persecution in Afghanistan to come to Emory to begin a Ph.D. in Economics.

[Jung Jae Kim](#) presented his paper, "Machine-Learning the Information Set of Mutual Fund Investors" at the [2023 Global AI Finance Research Conference](#) in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, December 11-12, 2023.

[Amy Lim](#) presented her paper, "The Effects of Stricter Licensing on Residential Childcare Supply in Georgia" at the [Atlanta Workshop on Public Policy and Child Well-Being](#) (PPCW) in Atlanta, GA, March 1-2, 2024.

[Pablo Estrada](#) presented his paper, “Spillover Effects with Nonrandom Sample Selection” at the Representation Matters: Ph.D. Seminar Series, at West Virginia University, March 22, 2024 and at the [Southern Economic Association](#) (SEA) 94th Annual Meeting, November 23-25, 2024 in Washington, DC.

[Shabnam Shahrezaei](#) presented her paper, “Exploring the Welfare Implications of Social Security Marital Benefits for Elderly Black Women” at the [Midwest Economics Association](#) 88th Annual Meeting, March 22-24, 2024 in Chicago, IL.

[Hanna Glenn](#) presented her paper, “Does Hospital Leadership Matter? Evidence from Pay-for-Performance Incentives” at two conferences this summer: The [European Society for Population Economics](#) (ESPE) in Rotterdam, Netherlands, June 27-29, 2024 and the [European Health Economics Association](#) (EuHEA) in Vienna, Austria, July 1-4, 2024.

Alessia Scudiero was awarded an American [Economic Association \(AEA\) Summer Fellowship](#) at the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland beginning in June 2024.

This year's Laney Graduate School [LGS-EDGE](#)\* Ambassadors were honored at the Annual Diversity Reception on November 1, 2023. The Department of Economics is proud to have four of our doctoral students selected to serve as LGS-EDGE Ambassadors in 2023-2024: Third-year doctoral student, [Alessia Scudiero](#), and second-year doctoral students, [Jafet Baca](#), [Michaela Philip](#), and [Guido Romero](#).