

# UNL Economics News

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Department of Economics

www.cba.unl.edu/economics

## From the Chair



The new calendar year is under way and the Economics department sends warm greetings to our alumni, friends, and colleagues across the country and around the world. Please accept the sincere best wishes of the faculty, staff, and students of

the Economics Department. This newsletter will describe several of the department's notable accomplishments in 2008. Once again, it has been an award-winning year, with several of our faculty and students earning important recognition.

As ever – and as it should be – our professors are very busy: publishing important research, attracting grant funding, participating in scholarly conferences across the country and around the world, and providing professional expertise to the campus, city, and state. Our graduate students continue to develop their professional skills and prepare for successful careers. Among undergraduate students, Economics majors continue to be conspicuously successful in achieving Dean's List status. And our department thrives due to the expertise of staff members **Carol Nelson, Alice Flowers, and Barbara Keating**. Carol, Alice, and Barb: We'd be lost without you.

In Fall 2008 we welcomed **Seth Giertz** to the Economics department as a new Assistant Professor. Professor Giertz is an expert in Public Finance, doing his graduate studies

at Syracuse University and his undergraduate work at the University of Illinois. Before joining UNL, Dr. Giertz spent several years as an economist with the Congressional Budget Office in Washington, DC. He brings valuable policy-related experience to our department. We are very pleased to have him in our department.

Here are some of the other highlights for 2008.

**David Rosenbaum** was named the 2008 "CASE Nebraska Professor of the Year," awarded by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. This prestigious honor identifies him as one of the very best college teachers in the country.

**Sam Allgood, Carlos Asarta, Scott Fuess, Greg Hayden, and Andrew Perumal** were just honored by the UNL Parents Association and UNL Teaching Council with "Recognition for Contributions to Students" awards. It was the fifth time for Hayden to receive this honor, the fourth time for Fuess to win the award, and the second time for Allgood to be recognized.

**Sam Allgood** was recognized by CBA with the Shuler-Kistiakowsky Faculty Award. Earlier in 2008 he had received the CBA Research Award.

**John Anderson** was selected as an International Scholar for the Higher Education Support Program of the Open Society

Institute (OSI-Europe). Earlier in 2008 he was honored with the CBA Distinguished Faculty Award.

**Carlos Asarta** received Beta Theta Pi's Outstanding Professor Award. Earlier in 2008 he had received the CBA Excellence in Teaching Award.

**Craig MacPhee** received a Founders Award from the Nebraska Economics and Business Association. Earlier in 2008 he was a co-recipient of the UNL International Scholar of the Year Award, which was awarded by Phi Beta Delta, UNL's honorary for international scholarship.

**Ann Mari May** was recently named Executive Vice President and Treasurer of the International Association for Feminist Economists (IAFFE).

Earlier in 2008 **Jim Schmidt** was honored with the CBA Distinguished Teaching Award.

For outstanding teaching, research, and outreach, the following economists were selected by CBA to receive the Bauermeister Faculty Award: **Carlos Asarta, Eric Thompson, and Bill Walstad.**

Several members of the department are currently nominees for important laurels and we wish them well.

In 2008 **Hank van den Berg** was promoted from Associate Professor to Professor. Congratulations to Professor van den Berg for this well deserved promotion.

In what follows you will find exciting news from your favorite professors and friends. Hopefully, we have conveyed some sense of the many great things that continue to happen in the Department of Economics. We are proud to contribute to the intellectual life of UNL.

Thanks for your interest in the Department of

Economics. We welcome your assistance in our efforts to provide the highest quality economics program possible. The support of our alumni, friends, and colleagues is greatly valued. If you have ideas for improvement of our teaching program, research efforts, or service activities, please let us know. Finally, keep us posted on your news!

Scott M. Fuess, Jr.

## Faculty News



**Sam Allgood**

2008 was a good year. Dr. Allgood was appointed to the American Economic Association's Committee on Economic Education. He organized a session for the association's annual meeting and a breakfast

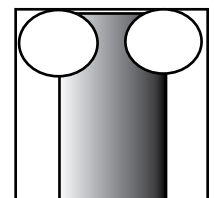
for directors of undergraduate programs. He also presented a paper at the annual meeting of the Southern Economic Association. On the home front, he now has two children in braces but none are old enough to drive - so life at home is still good.



**John E. Anderson**

John continues to serve as the Associate Dean of the College of Business Administration where his responsibilities include faculty, graduate programs, budgets, and research. When he is not busy with administrative duties,

he continues to actively pursue research in public finance. This past year he presented a paper, "Land Value Taxation: Review of the Evidence," at the 101st Annual Meeting of the National Tax Association, in



Philadelphia in November and also at meetings of the International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO) annual meetings in Reno in September. This paper is being published as a chapter in a forthcoming Lincoln Institute of Land Policy volume on land value taxation. He also presented a paper, "Paying Bribes to the Tax Collector: An Empirical Investigation of the Effects of Fiscal Reform on Tax Bribery in Transition Countries", at the 64th Congress of the International Institute of Public Finance, Maastricht, the Netherlands, in August. While in Maastricht he was able to visit former UNL colleague Bettina Klaus who is currently visiting the Harvard Business School. John also has a forthcoming article, "Financing Urban Development in China," in the journal *The Chinese Economy*. With the economic and financial crisis this fall, he was a frequent media commentator. Internationally, he is currently serving as an advisor to the economics department of the Tajik National State University through an international scholars program of the Open Society Institute in Budapest.



**Carlos Asarta**

It has been another exciting year for Carlos Asarta. Dr. Asarta continues to teach the large sections of Principles of Macro and Microeconomics and the Intermediate Microeconomic Theory courses offered in

our department. In his second year as a faculty member, he received the "Certificate of Recognition for Contributions to Students" from the UNL Parents Association, the Beta Theta Pi Outstanding Professor Award, and he was nominated for the College of Business Administration Excellence in Teaching Award, the James V. Griesen Exemplary Service to Students Award and the ASUN Outstanding Educator of the Year. In addition, Carlos was selected as a recipient of the Bauermeister Faculty Award by Dean Cynthia H. Milligan for outstanding

teaching, research and outreach. Teaching four courses per semester has been a demanding but very rewarding task for Professor Asarta.

Dr. Asarta has been busy with several research projects involving the assessment of business students at the undergraduate level. Carlos Asarta and William Walstad completed a study that will be published in April in a textbook in Economic Education and presented preliminary findings at the National Council on Economic Education (NCEE) meetings in Biloxi, Mississippi. Carlos is currently working on two assessment projects with Dr. Scott Fuess and Dr. James Schmidt and expects to present the findings at the 2009 NCEE annual meetings and other assessment conferences. Dr. Asarta continues to be a member of the NCEE Research Committee and referee for the *Journal of Economic Education*.

Carlos and Kimberly are pleased to announce that Cloe Maria Asarta was born in June. Cristian Asarta is now 5 years old and started kindergarten in the fall, and Kenedi Asarta is 2 years old and is really enjoying staying at home with mom.

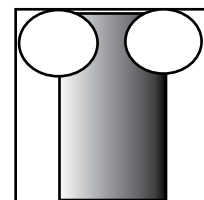


**Roger Butters**

Roger Butters and the Nebraska Council on Economic Education had a great year in 2008. With the addition of Jennifer Davidson to the Council we've been able to expand our programming throughout the state and nation.

The Stock Market Game is growing by leaps and bounds and the Finance Challenge ONLINE! is being marketed nationally. We're revitalizing our Executive Committee and working closely with the new leadership at the Nebraska State Department of Education.

In November the Council headed up a new state-wide initiative



known as “Money Smart Week.” We organized 100 partners and held over two hundred seminars for approximately 12,000 people across the state during the second week of November. We are already planning Money Smart Week 2009 and expect a doubling in participation.

On the research front, Dr. Butters and Dr. Fischer published research they presented at the 2008 AEA meetings on the determinants of classroom learning in the *Journal of Consumer Education* and are working on several other projects that should lead to more publications in the near future.

All in all, a great year that created the foundation for an even better year to come.



### Matt Cushing

Due to minor shoulder surgery Matt spent the fall as a “one armed economist.” Although this has served to focus his analysis, he has not yet been called into government service by the Obama transition team.

Matt continues to direct the graduate program and teach the core macrotheory sequence. We had a good incoming class, with six new Ph.D. students. If you know some good students, please send them our way.

Matt continues his new sideline as a forensic economist, finding optimal ways to discount future earnings.



### Richard (Rick) Edwards

Rick splits his time between the Economics Department and the Center for Great Plains Studies.

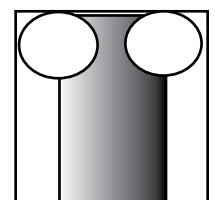
Rick’s research this past year

has focused in part on completing some work on Nebraska’s economic history, in particular the period of white settlement (homesteading) of the plains. He had one paper published in *Great Plains Quarterly* and has another under review. But increasingly his focus is shifting to issues surrounding the present and future economy of the Great Plains, with special emphasis on how conservation of the region’s natural environment and bio-diversity (via nature-based tourism) can serve as an economic driver to stressed landowners and rural communities as well as promoting conservation.

In part this work involves partners in Namibia (Africa), where community-based natural resource management for eco-tourism has proven very successful for both economic and conservation goals. For example, he is completing a study with colleague Eric Thompson of the economic impact of the Cheetah Conservation Fund on Namibia’s economy.

Rick teaches micro (Econ 212) in the department’s introductory principles sequence. As a course that many students are required to take for some other program or goal, and which many of them expect to be scary, difficult, and boring, it poses some definite teaching challenges. On the other hand, getting students to engage and helping them see that economics offers ways of understanding the world that are relevant to them is a special treat. Rick’s hope is always that his students not only do well in his course but also that they develop some deep ways of thinking that will be useful to themselves after three months and three years and ten years.

He also teaches a seminar for M.A. students and undergraduate seniors (GPSP 400/800) called “The Great Plains: People, Land, and Water”. He continues to work with the Homestead National Monument of Beatrice, NE, on a joint project to preserve and make



accessible the vast archives of homesteaders' records. And he works with the Lincoln-based Grassland Foundation which seeks to educate the public about the value and importance of our region's grasslands for both biodiversity conservation and economic development.



### Tammie Fischer

It has been another busy year for the UNL Center for Economic Education. At the pre-college level, Dr. Fischer advised school districts as to how they will incorporate, assess, and report on the economics portion of these

standards. Research in economic literacy, co-authored with Roger Butters, assesses Nebraska students and teachers. These findings have been presented at the state and national levels.

Thanks to the involvement of dedicated faculty members, another successful Economics Day was held on campus in November for about 120 high school juniors and seniors. The Center continues to host its "Economics is Everywhere" camp for middle level students each summer. Through grants from the National Council on Economic Education, teacher training at both the in-service and pre-service levels was conducted for teachers in southeast Nebraska in the areas on general economics principles as well as economics and selected topics. The annual Nebraska Economics Challenge was held in March where two teams were crowned "state champions" and qualified for the online regional competition. The on-line qualifying round of the Nebraska Economics Challenge had over 300 students participating from across the state.

Locally, the Center continues to be involved in shaping the economics curriculum, including the high school focus program on economics and entrepreneurship for Lincoln Public Schools, and serving as a judge for their annual business plan

competition. In partnership with US Bank and Lincoln Public Schools, the student bank continues at Clinton Elementary, serving over 120 students becoming prudent savers.

Dr. Fischer continues to teach Principles of Economics to undergraduates pursuing a teaching endorsement, serving as a national model in pre-service education. In partnership with the College of Education and Human Sciences, the Center has formed a Master of Education in Teaching, Learning and Teacher Education with a Focus Area in Economic Education. She continues to develop on-line graduate courses, in addition to the traditional Economics for Teachers courses, as an option for teachers outside the Lincoln area.

2009 is shaping up to be another exciting and productive year for the Center. Continued activity will occur as a result of grants awarded to the Nebraska Council and Center through the Excellence in Economic Education Act passed at the Federal level and the National Council on Economic Education. This funding will support research, teacher training and resource distribution to teachers across the state.

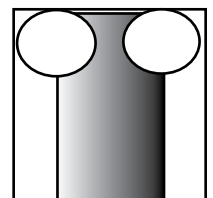


### Scott Fuess

Scott is still serving as Chair of the department. Nevertheless, he has had some time for scholarly activities.

For the second year in a row, and for the fourth time overall, Scott was honored by the UNL Parents Association and Teaching Council with a "Certificate of Recognition for Contributions to Students."

Scott had an article accepted for publication in *Contemporary Economic Policy*, "Job Centers: Are Finders Keepers? A Note from Japan."



Jack W. Hou (California State University, Long Beach) and Scott Fuess had an article accepted for publication in the June 2009 issue of *Journal of Family and Economic Issues*, "Rapid Economic Development and Job Segregation: The Case of Taiwan."

During the year, Scott presented papers at meetings of the Eastern Economic Association (Boston) and Western Social Science Association (Denver).

In May 2008 Scott again visited Senshu University in Tokyo, Japan (his home away from home), where he collected more data and information for his research. In September 2008 Scott accompanied a group of UNL students to Senshu University, where they spent the semester studying Japanese language, business and culture as part of the UNL-Senshu exchange program.

Scott continues to be a Research Fellow of the Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA) in Bonn, Germany.



### Seth Giertz

Seth Giertz joined the Economics Department this past fall after spending seven years at the Congressional Budget Office's tax division in Washington, D.C. Seth began his first semester at UNL teaching public finance and statistics.

At the annual meetings of the National Tax Association in Philadelphia, Seth presented his research on behavioral responses to taxation, and also served as a discussant for three other papers at the conference.

Last May, Seth delivered an invited lecture at the American Enterprise Institute (AEI) on potential revenue and efficiency implications resulting

from changes to tax rates. The conference included a collection of scholars to discuss what has been learned with respect to tax policy over the past decade. Seth's paper is scheduled for publication in an edited AEI volume, set for release in February. Also, in February, Seth will be presenting his research on the relationship between taxes and executive compensation at the Allied Social Science Association meetings in San Francisco.

Additionally, in 2008, Seth was named to the board of directors of the Association for Integrity and Responsible Leadership in Economics and Associated Professions (AIRLEAP). AIRLEAP is focused on assessing practices in economics and related professions and is committed to promoting ethical behavior and quality leadership within economics.

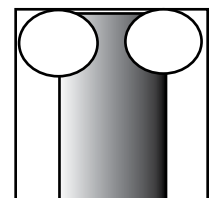


### Greg Hayden

Greg Hayden remains active in the imaginative involvement of students in developing their own research capabilities—emphasizing the necessity of empirical accuracy, intellectual integrity, and the ongoing quest for new knowledge.

Greg's own research has led to recent articles and chapters as follows:

- "Utilization of the Social Fabric Matrix to Articulate a State System of Financial Aid for Public Schools and to Derive Conceptual Conclusions." Chapter in *Institutional Analysis and Praxis: The Social Fabric Matrix Approach*, edited by Tara Natarajan, Scott Fullwiler and Wolfram Elsner. New York: Springer Science (forthcoming 2009).



- “Utilizing the Social Fabric Matrix to Articulate Circular and Cumulative Causation for Conceptual Conclusions.” Chapter in *Studies in Non-Natural Economic Evolution: The Principle of Circular Cumulative Causation*, edited by Sebastian Berger. New York: Routledge (forthcoming 2009).
- “Circular and Cumulative Causation and the Social Fabric Matrix.” *Journal of Economic Issues* 42, 2 (June 2008): 389-397.
- “Using the Social Fabric Matrix to Analyze Institutional Rules Relative to Adequacy in Education Funding.” (co-authored with Jerry L. Hoffman) *Journal of Economic Issues* 41, 2 (June 2007): 359-367.



### Craig MacPhee

Craig MacPhee presented papers: “Trade, Endowments, and Inequality” (co-authored with Ryan Holt) at the Western Economic Association, “The Revenue Effects of Indirect Tax Reform” at the Western Social Science Association, and “American Imports of Textiles and Apparel in the Wake of the Uruguay Round” (co-authored with Janet Scott) at the Association for Global Business. In addition, Craig did a series of follow-up studies for the government of Mongolia on the tax reforms that he helped implement in 2007. Craig received a Founders Award from the Nebraska Economics and Business Association and was invited to speak on “Russian Reform Revisited” at the NEBA annual meeting luncheon. Craig will be taking a leave from UNL during the second semester of the 2008-9 academic year. During this time, he will be a visiting professor at the Palm Desert campus of the University of California-Riverside. Craig looks forward to returning to UNL classes next fall semester to begin his 41st year as a member of the faculty.

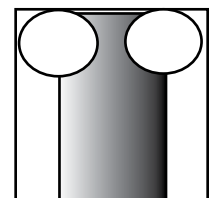


### Ann Mari May

Greetings!

This has been another busy but rewarding year. A few years ago I took on the job of Treasurer of the International Association for Feminist Economics (IAFFE) and was recently promoted to Executive Vice President and Treasurer in recognition of the importance of this work for the organization. Our meetings this year were in Torino Italy – site of the 2006 Olympic Games. While in Europe, my son and I took some time to visit the homeland of the Mays in Langendiebach, Germany (aka Erlensee and located just outside Frankfurt) and Glattfelden, Switzerland (just north of Zurich). It is with heartfelt gratitude that I thank my relatives for coming from such lovely places to visit!

I am very pleased with the acceptance of my article co-authored with Robert Dimand entitled “Trouble in the Inaugural Issue of the *American Economic Review: The Cross/Eaves Controversy*” in *The Journal of Economic Perspectives*. This article was based upon some research that I did at the AEA Archives several years ago and provides a case study to better understand the experiences of women in the economics profession at the turn of the century. It is due out in Spring 2009. I am also pleased that an article entitled “Representation of Women Faculty in Public Research Universities: Do Unions Matter?” with Beth Moorhouse (UNL '06) and Jennifer Petersen has been accepted for publication in *The Industrial and Labor Relations Review*. I also have a three volume work entitled *Feminist Economics* with Lourdes Beneria and Diana Strassmann expected to be out in 2009 along with the paperback version of my edited volume on women and higher education entitled *The ‘Woman Question’ and Higher Education: Perspectives on Gender and Knowledge*



*Production in America*. I also gave a paper with Robert Whaples at the AEA meetings in Jan 2009 entitled "Are Disagreements Among Male and Female Economists Marginal at Best" which provided an interesting look at survey data of AEA members and gender differences in policy and the profession. The results, for those of you that are interested in such things, were fascinating!

Finally, as some of you know, I lost my big yellow lab "Beau" this year to cancer. I will miss him greatly. But I have a new addition to the family – a black lab puppy by the name of Harriet Madison Taylor of Cedarwood aka "Maddie" that is keeping me very busy! Maddie is precious and I am looking forward to lots of missing socks and many happy years with her!

Best wishes to all of you for the year ahead.

Ann Mari



**Mary McGarvey**

Mary chaired the session, Adolescent and Childhood Obesity: Policies and Outcomes, at the Western Economic Association meetings in Hawaii last July. The papers in the session - including two by Mary, Pat Kennedy (UNL Marketing Dept), and Bree Dority (UNL econ Ph.D.) documented the association between children's weight and their academic performance, their participation in sports and after-school exercise programs, and whether they can buy junk food at their schools. The beautiful Hawaiian weather and lifestyle made the conference atmosphere exceptionally conducive to learning!

In November, Mary chaired the session, Applied Labor Economics, at the Southern Economic Association conference in Washington, D.C. where she and Mary Beth Walker (Georgia State

University) presented a paper on Neighborhood Crime and Teacher Turnover. As the paper's title suggests, Mary and Mary Beth are continuing to investigate how in-school and neighborhood crime affect children's academic performance.



**David Rosenbaum**

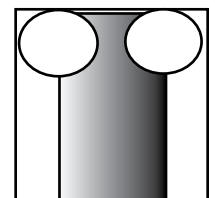
Dave Rosenbaum is still with the department but has been spending most of his time with the Raikes School of Computer Science and Management here at UNL. He teaches in the School and is its Associate Director for Academic Affairs. On the research side, he continues to work with colleagues in the department. Dave had the honor of being selected as the CASE - Carnegie Foundation 2008 Nebraska Professor of the Year.



**Jim Schmidt**

Jim has been working on the first round of revisions to the online course in economic and business statistics that he developed in the past couple of years. Students may choose from several formats offered by the Extended Education group: pure online, semester-based online, and the more traditional "print version". Jim's recent research has focused on the disparate topics of bank valuations and economic statistics education, the latter work being done partly in tandem with Carlos Asarta. As concerns the work with bank valuations, Jim and his co-authors have uncovered evidence that liquidity had become a critical underlying concern as early as 2005, well in advance of the financial meltdown seen in the past year. As usual, Jim is serving on a variety of dissertation committees for students inside and outside the department.

On the recreation front, this past



summer Jim handled the net in his son's catch of a channel catfish that exceeded the Kansas state record by two inches on the basis of length. However, official state records are based upon weight and the fish's weight was not greater than the standing record. The catfish was released to fight another day or perhaps to be more wary. As often happens, the anglers weren't even fishing for that species when the "big one" came along at Milford Lake in Kansas.



### Eric Thompson

Eric Thompson continued to conduct research on the Nebraska economy. The Bureau of Business Research, which Thompson directs, is part of a research team developing the report "An Action Plan for Growing Nebraska" for

the Nebraska Renaissance Group. Thompson co-authored the book *Entrepreneurship in Nebraska: Conditions, Attitudes and Actions* with Bill Walstad. Results of the book were presented at the 2008 Nebraska Summit on Entrepreneurship.



### Hank van den Berg

This year has been productive and very busy. I was promoted to Full Professor. Also, my new book with Orn Bodvarsson, *The Economics of Immigration*, is finally off to the publisher, Springer. Like all writing projects, this turned out to

be much bigger than planned. It should come out this spring.

The real highlight of this past year was my participation in the Green Economics Conference in Oxford in July. Never before have I attended a conference where the participants were so enthusiastic. The sessions were all fully attended, discussion inevitably continued throughout breaks (tea, of course), lunch, dinner, and well into the

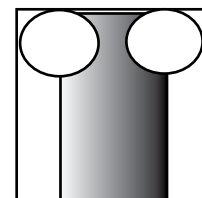
night. The final dinner did not end until 1:00 AM because everyone still had more to discuss. Attendees included many economists, sociologists, and ecologists, but also other scientists (including several members of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change), activists from GreenPeace, the French and German Green Parties, Rising Tide, and various British government agencies. From now on, I am going to seek out other conferences outside the economics mainstream; there is much more to learn from the new perspectives. All in all, it was a most welcome change from the ordinary economics conference. I also have a lot of new material for class and the new edition of my growth text, which will highlight sustainable growth policies.



### William Walstad

Bill published two articles in *American Economic Review* (May 2008), one on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) in economics and the other on the *Test of Understanding of College*

*Economics* (TUCE), co-authored with Ken Rebeck (a UNL economics Ph.D.). Another article on NAEP economics was published in the *Journal of Economic Education*. Bill made presentations at conferences conducted by the U.S. Department of Treasury (financial literacy), New America Foundation (financial literacy), National Science Foundation—CCLI program (project assessment); Consortium for Entrepreneurship Education (Entrepreneur in Youth book); University of Nebraska (Entrepreneurship in Nebraska book with Eric Thompson), National Council on Economic Education (online testing with Roger Butters; business education with Carlos Asarta); National Association of Economic Educators (economics testing); and *Journal of Economic Education* (international



symposium). His expertise was sought by the U.S. Department of the Treasury for the revision of a financial literacy challenge test and by the U.S. Department of Education for work on NAEP testing. He was interviewed on CNBC's *Squawk Box* about business education for rural economic development. As for other work, Bill is in his fifth year as principal investigator of a \$675,000 grant for the Teaching Innovations program (TIP) in economics ([www.vanderbilt.edu/AEA/AEACEE/TIP.htm](http://www.vanderbilt.edu/AEA/AEACEE/TIP.htm)) which has offered workshops on interactive teaching strategies for 270 economics faculty members nationwide and provides on-line instruction through UNL's Blackboard system. Bill continues to serve as an associate editor for the *Journal of Economic Education*. He chairs the Assessment Committee for the CBA.

## Emeriti

Tom Iwand  
Charles Lamphear  
Campbell McConnell  
Wally Peterson  
Jerry Petr  
Roger Riefler

## Adjunct Faculty

Our adjunct faculty this year are:

John Austin  
Economics 211  
Kay Ballard  
Economics 215  
Larry DeVries  
Economics 215  
Tammie Fischer  
Economics 212  
Dan Hoffman  
Economics 212

Edit Kranner  
Economics 321  
Dave Palm  
Economics 399

## Alumni News

### **Brian Chi-ang Lin (1996)**

Has been promoted to Professor and Chair of the Department of Public Finance, National Chengchi University, in Taipei, Taiwan

### **Steven Most (1995)**

Is the Assistant Director for the Wolfensohn Center for Development at the Brookings Institution in Washington, DC

## Economic Graduate Student Association (EGSA) News

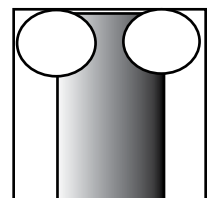
### **Graduate Student Awards**



In May 2008, awards and fellowships were presented to outstanding economic graduate students.

The McConnell Research Fellowship allows a student to devote full time to their dissertation research. This year, **Mingming Pan** and **Inoussa Boubacar** received the Fellowship.

The Robert C. and Patricia N. Bingham Economics Fellowship Fund is dedicated to providing financial assistance to those planning a teaching career in economics at the post-secondary level. Each fellowship supplements a graduate assistantship for one academic year. This year the



### Fellowships were awarded to **Andrew Perumal, Mariana Saenz and Bernard Walley.**

The Economics Teaching award is presented to outstanding Economics Graduate Student Teachers. Graduate students are judged on their teaching ability and their student evaluations. Teaching Award Winners were **Ryan Gorka, Andrew Perumal and Bernard Walley.**

The Economics graduate student who writes and presents the most outstanding research paper in the Economics Seminar Series is awarded the McConnell Research Fellowship Prize. For the second year in a row, the honor went to **Bree Dority.**

**Andrew Perumal**, doctoral student, received "Recognition for Contributions to Students" award for 2008, from the UNL Parents Association and UNL Teaching Council.



### 2008-09 Graduates

#### **Bree Dority**

UNL Economics doctoral graduate, successfully defended her doctoral dissertation in March, 2008 titled "A Validation Data Correction Approach to Estimating the Effect of School Food Policy on Student Overweight and Obesity" After graduation, Bree took an Associate Consultant position at Analysis Group, a consulting firm in Denver, Colorado.

#### **Haizhi Tong**

UNL Economics doctoral graduate, successfully defended her doctoral dissertation in August 2008 titled "An Investigation of the Insurance Sector's Contribution to Economic Growth". She lives in Columbus, Ohio and is expecting a child later this month.

### Masters Degrees Awarded

Students who graduated with Masters Degrees in 2008 were: **Tina Mueller, John Provenzano, Janet Scott, Phu Tran, and Zheng Yin.**

### **EGSA Officers**

President

Andrew Perumal

Vice President

Ben Schmitz

Secretary

Hanna Hartman

Treasurer

Steve Carlson

Social Events Coordinator

Elliot Campbell

Faculty Representative

Takuya Kato

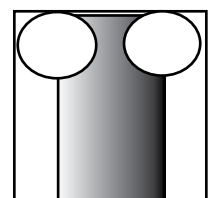
Graduate Representative

Ryan Gorka

Undergraduate Representative

Mariana Saenz

*The University of Nebraska-Lincoln does not discriminate based on gender, age, disability, race, color, religion, marital status, veteran's status, national or ethnic origin, or sexual orientation.*



# UNL ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT ALUMNI UPDATE AND DONATION FORM

Alumni, please update your personal information for our database using this form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Home Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Position/Title: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Work Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional information for our "Alumni News" to appear in the next Economics newsletter:

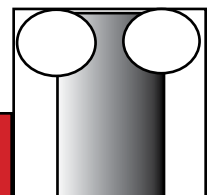
Yes, I would like to support the **UNL Economics Department's programs!** I am enclosing a check made payable to University of Nebraska Foundation (with Economics Department in the memo area) for: \_\_\_\_\_

Return this form and your check to: Economics Department  
340 College of Business Administration  
P.O. Box 880489  
Lincoln, NE 68588-0489

## Other Contact Information

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