Conference on Expectations in Dynamic Macroeconomic Models

A Nobel laureate in economics and the president of a Federal Reserve Bank were among the speakers at a major economics conference cosponsored by the UO in August.

The conference, “Expectations in Dynamic Macroeconomics Models,” was held at the Eugene Hilton from August 13 to 15. The event drew experts from around the world to discuss the modeling of expectations in general equilibrium environments.

Among the speakers was Thomas Sargent, who along with Christopher Sims won the 2011 Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences for research into cause and effect in the macroeconomy. Sargent is the William R. Berkley Professor of Economics and Business at New York University and a senior fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University.

Also speaking at the conference was James Bullard, CEO and president of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis.

The conference ran two full days on Thursday and Friday and a half-day on Saturday. Economists and academics from Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Italy, the Netherlands, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States gave talks on a variety of topics, including wage policy, the boom-bust cycle in the American housing market, and the role of central bank communications.

Professor George Evans and Associate Professor Bruce McGough are among the conference organizers, and Assistant Professor David Evans will be among the presenters at next year’s conference. The conference is sponsored by the University of Oregon and the International Network on Expectational Coordination.
This past year has been a particularly exciting one for the UO Department of Economics. We hosted conferences and workshops attracting renowned scholars from around the world. We added two top-flight junior faculty members to our staff and expect to add one or more new colleagues in the year ahead. Our research productivity and teaching quality continued at elite levels. Our graduate program reached new highs both in terms of size and quality. Explosive growth in our undergraduate program placed our number of majors north of 1,100. In the face of such unprecedented and multifaceted growth, we also strive to maintain a strong sense of community throughout our department and its programs. Just this past weekend, we hosted a career day in which alumni of our PhD program were invited to campus to participate in a series of panel discussions, hosted a career day in which alumni of our PhD program were invited to campus to participate in a series of panel discussions, in which panelists discussed professional experiences and provided job market advice to an audience that included graduate and undergraduate students alike. This event was a resounding success, not only because our alumni provided outstanding advice and our students asked excellent questions (which was indeed the case), but also because of the strong sense of community that was so clearly present between our alumni, student, and faculty populations. We hope that this annual newsletter helps in some small way to maintain these same bonds throughout our loyal community of alumni and department boosters. As always, we welcome you to stop by the economics department whenever you next find yourself in Eugene so that we can thank you for your loyal support in person!

Alumni Gathering at the UO

Nearly 60 alumni from the UO economics PhD program returned to Eugene to participate in an economics career day on Friday, October 16. This group included top-flight economists from across the globe who have enjoyed wide and varied careers in academia, the public sector, and the private sector alike. This career day event provided a fantastic opportunity for our students to receive sage career advice from experts in the field, ask questions specific to their own research and career interests, and to forge valuable networking connections with their extended UO family. In addition to these career day panel sessions, our returning alumni enjoyed a tour of campus, reunion dinner parties on October 16 and 17, and various informal gatherings throughout the weekend.

Department News

We’ve had a few changes in the economics department this year! Our communications coordinator Jodie Rogers, moved to Bend with her family to start a new adventure. We sure will miss her! In her place now is Jessica Lee, the new travel and accounts payable coordinator. Teri Rowe continues to serve as the department manager, Savannah Dombeck as the graduate coordinator, and Jaimee Crouse as the undergraduate coordinator.

Jodie Rogers has been the graduate coordinator since 2013 and is currently supporting more than 1,200 economics majors. She earned her bachelor’s degree from the University of Oregon in 2011. Before working for her alma mater, she lived in Norfolk, Virginia, for two years. Although she is originally from Alaska, she now calls Oregon home. In her free time, she enjoys hiking, going to Avett Brothers’ concerts, and exploring local wineries and microbreweries with her spouse.

Savannah Dombeck is an Oregon native, a UO alumna, and she has been the graduate coordinator since 2013. She manages and organizes 40-plus graduate students from admissions to dissertations and everything in between. Outside of work, she has had a fun and eventful 2015. She was married in June, traveled to Mexico in August, and has been tailgating every home game this fall. Savannah loves to explore Eugene and spend time with her husband, Brian.

Jessica Lee was raised in Oregon and worked for five years as an office manager for a local tree service company before joining the economics department. She loves Eugene, her position as travel and accounts payable coordinator, and hopes to be working for the university for quite a while. She enjoys seeing movies, having dinner with friends, and spending time with her fiancé and son.

Teri Rowe, department manager, has been in the job for four years. She has hired and trained a dedicated administrative team, and systematized and automated many processes to ensure smooth operations for the department. In addition, Teri has a wide university service portfolio serving as the chair of the Officers of Administration Council, Senate Executive Committee, and several other university advisory groups and committees.

SAIL Update

The Summer Academy to Inspire Learning (SAIL) is an innovative, exciting, and incredibly effective UO summer camp that gives students a better shot at college. SAIL has gone from a weeklong academic camp for 15 students to 10 faculty-led summer camps with more than 200 students!

Outstanding Officer of Administration Recognition Award

At the Dean’s Reception on June 4, Lara Fernandez with the Summer Academy to Inspire Learning (SAIL) was awarded the Outstanding Officer of Administration Recognition Award. Congratulations, Lara!
Undergraduate News

Economics Graduate Receives Oregon Six Honors

Each year, six outstanding UO undergraduates are designated the Phi Beta Kappa Oregon Six. Their exceptional academic records combine extraordinary breadth and excellence in upper-division liberal arts courses with very high grade point averages. In May, one of our own undergraduate economics majors, Lucy Hackett, was named one of the six UO students to receive this honor.

Lucy was one of two recipients of the Robert B. Clark Award, given by the Clark Honors College, for her honors thesis, “English Language Programs in Oregon: Helping or Inhibiting English Language Learners in Oregon?” in which she tested the efficacy of English language instruction in Oregon public schools. Lucy presented her research to the Oregon Department of Education in Salem, underscoring the quality and the value of her work on the topic.

Advising Updates Economics Club

The new school year has launched with a roar of excitement as a new generation of leaders and students are joining the UO Economics Club. Now beginning its fourth year, the UOECS is attracting standing-room only crowds at many of its meetings, which include stimulating, interactive presentations by some of the department’s best faculty members, as well as visits from companies who have an eye on Oregon talent (recruiting for everything from analysts to research assistants to consultants). The UOECS also takes quarterly trips to visit with organizations such as the Federal Reserve, Intel, Nike, Ecolab, and many others, to get a firsthand look at how the contemporary workplace functions. UOECSClub members also contribute to our peer advising and research assistant programs.

It is indeed a good time to be an economics major! With a full range of support services from the office of Career and Advising Services, Director Bill Sherman serves between 50 and 100 students in a busy week through in-person meetings, regular workshops, and two upper-division courses (EC 407, Seminar: Careers in Economics, and EC 404, Internship), covering topics such as crafting a résumé, writing a cover letter, job and internship search strategies, and practice interviews to take a student candidate over the top! In addition, Bill sends timely job and internship leads covering topics such as crafting a résumé, writing a cover letter, job and internship search strategies, and practice interviews to take a student candidate over the top! In addition, Bill sends timely job and internship leads to students, coralling the latest and best opportunities in the department’s Job and Internship Digest. This one-person shop thrives on collaboration with faculty and student support staff members from across campus (including the UO Career Center) to robustly prepare economics majors to be among the most impressive and competitive in the job market today. Last school year alone, the Department of Economics’ Career and Advising Services office provided academic advising and career planning services for more than 700 students through in-person and virtual advising, group orientations, and workshops.

“We encourage the involvement of alumni in our career program,” says Bill Sherman. “Whether that be a visit to the classroom to share or give advice for making the leap from college to career, or coming to a career fair to recruit Ducks into their companies. We thrive on the insights and opportun- ities that Ducks give back to other Ducks.” Events like the annual Careers in Banking and Wealth Management conference, which takes place every February (now in its 10th year) effectively bring generations together to impart knowledge, wisdom, and opportunity so that the UO economics majors continue to be a prime investment for students and their parents.

Faculty News

Professor Wes Wilson was named a distinguished member of the Transportation and Public Utilities Group of the American Economic Association for his contribution to the field and to the group over his career, which is similar to a lifetime achievement award.

He was part of a National Academy of Sciences Committee over the last two years, and their report was released in June of this year and is available online at onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/ptr/ptr138.pdf.

This essentially took most of his research time over the last few years, and he has made a number of presentations on it. This was a committee effort, but his work with Frank Wolak of Stanford University is a central piece and is fully presented in Appendix B.

Professor Michael Kuhn’s article, titled “On Measuring Time Preferences,” was accepted for publication in the Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization. He traveled to the University of Virginia and the Southern Economic Association annual meetings to present his research. He wrote and taught a new course for undergraduates, EC 451 Issues in Labor Economics, that exposes them to economic models and recent research on key issues in the news such as pay discrimination, the minimum wage, and food stamps. This summer, he began work on research funded by the USDA to study the food consumption and expenditure behavior of poor households, and traveled to the Western Economic Association annual meetings.

Two New Faculty Members Joining the Economics Department

Keaton Miller’s research program uses progressive methodologies for understanding consumer and firm behavior in imperfectly competitive organizations, which focuses on models and estimators of dynamic games. At the undergraduate level, Keaton will teach large sections of introductory level microeconomics. He’ll teach a graduate course industrial organization at the West Coast and looking forward to winters with less than 100 inches of snow.

Benjamin Hansen received a doctoral dissertation fellowship by the University of Minnesota to support his last year, and has recently been appointed to the faculty of the University of Virginia. He teaches large sections of introductory level microeconomics in the winter term, he will teach intermediate macroeconomics and a course on computational economics with Python for advanced undergraduates. In the spring, he will teach the final term of the core macroeconomics sequence. David is excited about moving back to the West Coast and looking forward to winters with less than 100 inches of snow.

Hansen and Sly Promoted to Associate Professor

Benjamin Hansen

A member of the UO economics faculty since 2010 has been promoted to the title of associate professor of economics, effective September 2015.

Nicholas Sly

A member of the UO economics faculty since 2009 has been promoted to the title of associate professor of economics, effective September 2015. Nick is currently on leave working at the Kansas City Federal Reserve.

Congratulations, Ben and Nick!
To learn more about this year’s group of candidates, visit economics.uoregon.edu.

Adam Check is a fifth-year PhD student in the economics department. Originally from the Philadelphia area, he earned his bachelor’s degree at Temple University. After graduating, he spent some time working for a state congressional campaign. His research interests include applied Bayesian econometrics, macroeconomics, and monetary policy. In his free time, he enjoys hiking and camping. He’s also an avid NBA 76er’s fan. He enjoys the challenge of playing as his hometown 76ers, the worst team in the game.

Colin Corbett grew up in Portland, Oregon, and then attended the University of Rochester, earning a degree in economics, music, and applied math. He returned to the Northwest for graduate studies at the UO. His research focuses on individual behavioral preferences for effort versus leisure, and other nonmonetary incentives, using theory, field, and lab experiments. Colin remains active in instrumental and choral music, and enjoys the outdoors.

Chad Fulton earned his undergraduate degree in urban transportation decisions at the Economic Department at the University of Oregon and returned after two years in the private sector to begin graduate work. He focuses on the macroeconomic effects of inattentive agents and on applied econometrics. He received his BS in economics from the University of Oregon in 2010 before enrolling in the UO PhD program, including an MS in economics in 2015. Michael’s research focuses on telecommunications, and specifically on landline and cell phone telephony and econometrically modeling the evolution of these markets since the 1980s. His first paper (jointly written with Professor Wesley Wilson) is published as the lead article in the Journal of Regulatory Economics August 2015 issue.

Sonja Kolsto is from the Seattle area. She earned a BS in biology with minors in economics and French from Washington State University and completed her honors thesis, “The Symbiotic Community of the Scale-Worm Lepidonotopus piscesae.” She completed an MA in economics at the University of Nevada at Las Vegas before coming to the University of Oregon. Her dissertation uses nonmarket valuation tools to estimate the value to bird watchers of biodiversity by studying the influence of spatial and temporal variations in king and cinnamon on bird watchers’ behavior using data from the Cornell Ornithology Lab’s eBird project. She enjoys hiking, camping, and skiing.

Michael J. Thacker is a four-year doctoral student and job market candidate with research in the fields of empirical industrial organization and applied economics. He received his BS in economics from the University of Oregon in 2010 before enrolling in the UO PhD program, including an MS in economics in 2015. Michael’s research focuses on telecommunications, and specifically on landline and cell phone telephony and econometrically modeling the evolution of these markets since the 1980s. His first paper (jointly written with Professor Wesley Wilson) is published as the lead article in the Journal of Regulatory Economics August 2015 issue.

John Voorheis did his undergraduate work at Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti, Michigan (home of the Perry preschool study for all you labor economists out there). His research focuses on the causes and consequences of economic inequality. John is particularly interested in how inequality affects the environment and the political process.

Joseph Wyer is a fifth-year graduate student. He earned a BA in economics and diplomacy and world affairs at Occidental College. After a year of preparatory course work in upper-division math and economics, he entered the PhD program at the University of Oregon. His research interests include macroeconomics and Bayesian econometrics, particularly examining labor market dynamics during the Great Recession and its recovery. In his free time, personal interests include golfing, hiking, photography, and cooking.

Doug Ramstelho Recently Visited the Economics Department

Senior Vice President and Partner

Doug Ramstelho is a senior vice president and partner at Burnham Benefits Insurance Services. With more than 28 years in the field of employee benefits, Doug is charged with securing new client relationships and maintaining existing clients through creative approaches to health insurance and employee benefit challenges. He brings specialized experience in large multistate employer plans, and is a firm leader in offering financially creative alternative funding techniques, and due diligence for health and welfare plans in mergers and acquisitions transactions. Doug also has extensive experience designing and implementing consumer-driven health plans for groups, achieving very favorable financial results.

Doug has spoken at leading industry events and has been quoted and published in trade publications including California Broker and World at Work. Doug is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate from the University of Oregon, with a bachelor of science in economics. Doug is a certified financial planner professional and a member of the International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans.

Doug was the featured guest for the 2015 Fall Career Success Series, sharing his own experience as an economics major and offering his advice to undergraduates on a variety of topics, from searching for jobs to writing resumes to interviewing successfully. His real-world perspective helped to crystallize the concepts of career development taught by the economic department’s Career and Advising Services office.

Fueling Data Science and Analytics

“Data is the new oil.” That’s a rather apropos way of looking at data science. Sometimes, with very little pressure, data can be the fuel that propels an idea into action. Data science is the capability to not only collect and store data, but analyze and understand it. That ability to see patterns in large data sets all around us is the key to new understanding and innovation.

At the Forefront of Data Science, a Former UO Economics Grad Student Melds Multiple Disciplines to Blaze Trails in an Emerging Field.

Thomas Miller prides himself on being multilingual—in the languages of business and technology. As a graduate student pursuing an MBA at the University of Oregon years ago, he quickly realized that many of the disciplines he was interested in didn’t speak the same language. “I was not satisfied with a lot of people in business didn’t understand economics that well,” he recalls.

So he decided to branch out, and earned an MS in economics at the University of Oregon. Soon after, he pursued a PhD in psychology at the University of Minnesota and another master’s in statistics, and began a career in a variety of technology and transportation companies where he developed and programmed and a host of other IT skills along the way.

And the strategy paid off—“Being multidisciplinary—‘multilingual,’ if you will—is an advantage when it comes to getting things done and working in teams,” Miller says.

Miller has embraced these varied interests to become a leader in an emerging field. Miller teaches a variety of graduate courses in predictive analytics, a master’s program offered by Northwestern University.

Originally envisioned as a program with 150–200 students, the MS in predictive analytics has grown to be the largest graduate program at Northwestern, and the largest graduate program of its kind in the world.

Data analytics, or data science, as many have dubbed it, merges the disciplines of programming, econometrics, statistics, and even consumer behavior when used in marketing and other fields.

Thomas Miller
A new study looks at how American politics is polarized. The research, led by UO economics doctoral student John Voorhis, points to income inequality as a game-changer within states that leads to Democrats moving further to the left as their more moderate colleagues are replaced by the election of Republicans. State legislatures, as a result, move to the right.

“Do why exactly is this happening? It’s not easy to say,” writes Zeeshan Alore in a story for PolicyMic, an online publication that caters to young people.

“A influx of campaign funds going to politicians who are going to be more favorable to the wealthy when there’s an increase in inequality might be just enough to flip a district that once elected a moderate Democrat into one electing a Republican,” Voorhis told the publication.

Faculty Notes

Bruce Blonigen is currently serving as associate dean for the social sciences in the College of Arts and Sciences. He has various research projects in progress that examine merger and acquisition activity, antitrust trade policy, and is coediting a new Handbook on International Trade and Transportation with Professor Wes Wilkson.

Alfredo Burlando continues his work on the welfare consequences of providing financial services to rural households in sub-Saharan Africa. In the past year, he has completed a conditional trial when households receive mobile money savings accounts (in Tanzania), access to savings and lending groups (in Uganda), and now he is happily working through piles and piles of freshly minted data. Ongoing projects on microfinance in Uganda will keep him busy in the field for a while longer. In the past year, Alfredo has published with the Journal of Development Economics, the Review of International Economics, and the Journal of Development Studies.

Trudy Ann Cameron continues to supervise PhD students in the Mikesell School of Economics, specializes in the macroeconomics of economic development, and the Journal of Development Economics.

Anca Cristea continues her research in international trade, focusing on topics examining the multinational organization of production and the role of transportation in cross-border transactions. Anca’s research was accepted for publication in several journals, including the American Economic Journal: Economic Policy and the Journal of Urban Economics. With her colleagues, she coorganized and hosted the 23rd edition of the conference Empirical Investigations in International Trade. During last year, Anca presented her research at various venues including the Banque de France. On the teaching front, she continues to teach courses on globalization and international trade.

Tim Day is busy with the Oregon Economic Forum; his monthly indexes of economic activity for Oregon and the large metro areas of the state, teaching, and serving as codirector of undergraduate studies for the department. In addition, he maintains regular blogging on monetary policy and is frequently cited in the national news media, including the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, and the Washington Post.

Chris Ellis continues to work in the areas of public economics, theory and political economy. He and coauthor and Oregon graduate student Sibe Friedrich published the article “Public Goods and the Dissolution of States” in the Bulletin of Economic Research. Chris’ papers were featured at the annual meetings of the Association for Public Policy Economic Theory and the International Institute of Public Finance.

Michael Kuhn is continuing to pursue research on an array of topics related to behavioral economics, including food consumption patterns of individuals in poor households, the effects of the cognitive environment on decision-making over time, the use of coping tools to improve the patience of impulsive individuals, and the natural evolution of cooperation. Earlier this year, he published his work on the estimation of time preferences in the Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization and gave seminars at the University of Virginia and Simon Fraser University.

Peter Lambert served as a visiting professor in February 2014 for the Madras School of Economics Center for Environmental Economics in Chennai, India. While there, he presented a seminar titled “Deperquisites in Social Economic Outcomes: Some Positive Propositions and their Normative Implications” with his research coauthor Saboo Subramanian. His recent work has appeared, or is forthcoming, in the Mathematical Social Sciences, Bulletin of Economic Research, and Social Choice and Welfare. Peter has been having health problems recently and is not teaching in the current academic year.

Ralph Mattromannis has continued his research on the relationship of housing prices and neighborhood amenities like school and environmental quality. He is continuing a research project that investigates the impact of natural gas development via hydraulic fracturing on local economies, schools and infant health. He recently completed a project that examines the role that budget constraints and access to credit has on the valuation of neighborhood amenities, which also questions some long-held assumptions in applied microeconomic modeling. He plans to present this paper at several conferences this year.

Bruce McGough’s current research focuses on the microfoundations of adaptive expectations and boundedly rational decision-making. He coorganized and cochaired a conference, “Expectations in Dynamic Macroeconomic Models,” held in Eugene and sponsored by the University of Oregon and the International Network on Expectational Coordination. He continues to serve as associate editor for Journal of Money, Credit, and Banking, coeditor at Economic Inquiry, and as associate head of the economics department.

Keaton Miller is a recent graduate of the University of Minnesota. He studies industrial organization and focuses on empirical models of dynamic firm and consumer behavior. He recently presented his paper, “Do Private Medicare Firms Face Lower Costs?” at the 2015 International Industrial Organization Conference.

Jeremy Piper’s recent research focuses on measuring and forecasting the business cycle. He served as an associate editor at the Journal of Money, Credit, and Banking and Studies in Nonlinear Dynamics and Econometrics. He also served as the director of the department’s PhD program. In the past year, he received a University of Oregon Fund for Faculty Excellence Award.

Faculty Notes continued from page 8

David Evans’s current research focuses on computational methods to approximate equilibria of dynamic stochastic general equilibrium models with large numbers of heterogeneous agents. Early applications are in optimal policy, studying how debt, labor taxation, and capital tax rates should behave over the business cycle, and in the long term, in the presence of significant heterogeneity. Additional joint work has studied how fiscal hedging considerations should affect a government’s long-term debt policies.

George Evmy presented seminars this last year at the University of Wisconsin at Madison, the University of Glasgow, UK, the University of St. Andrews, Scotland, the European University Institute in Florence, Italy, and the Universitat Autonoma de Barcelona. The topics covered papers titled “Learning to Optimize” and “Expectations, Stagnation, and Fiscal Policy.” Together with Bruce McGough, he coorganized and attended the conference at the University of Oregon, “Expectations in Dynamic Macroeconomic Models” in August 2013. In December, he will be a plenary speaker at the Workshop of the Australasian Macroeconomics Society conference hosted by the University of New South Wales.

Benjamin Hansen proposed to be associated professor in the Department of Economics, and to research associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research. He published research on drunk driving and punishments in the American Law and Economics Review. He is currently researching prison policies and their effects on inmate violence and drug use and the generosity of workers’ compensation. He presented findings from these papers at the Annual Meetings on the Economics of Risky Behaviors in India, Turkey, the American Economics Association Annual Meeting, and at seminars at the University of Virginia and Oregon State University.

Bill Harbaugh has just finished collecting the data for an experiment that involved putting Androge on UO undergrads to see if testosterone makes them more compet- itive that they go away lots of money to prove that they’re more altruistic than other people. He was also elected vice president of the University Senate and will be president next year. He says he is really looking forward to working with UO’s new president, Mike Schill, on improving undergraduate education and increasing opportunities for faculty research.

Stephen E. Haynes, in his 38th year with the department, is teaching online classes in the principles of microeconomics and international economics. With the next US presidential election approaching, he is exploring determinants of voting in US presidential elections using state data grouped by income and educational levels (systematic partisan differences on the impact of economic and noneconomic determinants were found in an earlier study).

Van Kopel’s research examines strategic behaviors in contexts of asymmetric information, discontinuous preferences, and heterogeneous populations. He serves on the editorial board of the Game Theory. His current research projects address issues such as the endogeneous formation of personal beliefs and social conventions (including trust and prejudice) and the impact of shrinking state and federal support on the pricing and marketing behaviors that emerge within higher education markets. He continues another year of department head service.

Continued on next page

University of Oregon College of Arts and Sciences

Fall 2015
Faculty Notes
continued from page 9

Jew Stone continues to be passionate about economic research and undergraduate education. Two student projects he recently supervised are now published. His own recent research has focused on reform issues in both K-12 and higher education, the influence of public fiscal structures on economic growth; nonmarital fertility; and economic models of religion. Recently published papers include the following sorts of questions: Do state balanced budget rules increase growth? Do local tax limitations lower student achievement? And is God an economist?

Mark Thoma continued his usual research, teaching, and service activities for the university, he blogs daily at econsiderit.org; writes articles for CBS News; has a biweekly column at the Fiscal Times; and he wrote op-eds and articles for several other publications. He is also a fellow of the Century Foundation.

Mike Urbanick taught 4,403 (4,020 unique) students in 29 courses during his first three years as an instructor in the department. Together with Tim Duy, he served as a codirector of undergraduate studies, helping to advise our many majors and minors. In the spring term, Mike piloted a pedagogy workshop series to help our graduate students transition to teaching courses as instructors, and United Academics—our faculty union—elected him as vice president for nontenure-track faculty. Mike also sits on the board of directors of the Duck Store.

Anne van den Nouweland specializes in economic theory, with a focus on networks, equilibrium in public goods economies, and axiomatic approaches to coalitional problems. She serves as a codirector of our graduate students transition to teaching courses as instructors, and United Academics—our faculty union—elected him as vice president for nontenure-track faculty. Mike also sits on the board of directors of the Duck Store.

Support the Economics Department
Visit economics.uoregon.edu and click on “Alumni and Friends” to find links to the mail-in and secure online donation forms

Honor Roll—Pledges and Donations
Pledges to the Department of Economics by alumni and others continue to be crucial for supporting students and faculty members in their teaching and research activities. We continue to be honored and humbled by the generous contributions our program receives each year. Providing a gift in your will to support the Department of Economics is a powerful way to support our efforts. The UO Office of Gift Planning is an excellent resource if you are considering providing support for econ in your will. Call 800-289-2354 or visit giftplan.uoregon.edu for more information. The following is a list of contributions received from September 1, 2014, through August 31, 2015. We apologize for any unintended errors or omissions.

ECONOMICS HONOR ROLL
$10,000–$49,999

KeyBank

hui, Karen 84

Aeron Foundation

Charities Aid Foundation

Culbert, John 83 and Michael 88

Gustavson, Constanza 81 and Albert 81

Harkin, Carolyn 88 and Timothy 87

Kiness Inc.

Masur, Purn and John 81

Northwest Natural Gas Company

Park, Eun and Staples, Paul 95

Port of Portland

Ramsdell, Douglass 36

Samuel, Tracy and James 84

Scheve, Charitable Trusts

Silos, Pamela and Mason, Ryan 87

Spike Family Renovating Trust

Thannhauser-Ravivals and Aron 82

The GI Foundation

The Massar Trust

Western Communications, Inc

$1,000–$1,999

AEICS, Ltd.

Buik, Tessa 12

Cox, Joyce and Jack 60

Drumm, Scott 87

English, John 19

Freemanworth, Rebecca and Levi 76

Kim, Myung 89 and Lee, Hyun 89

Ludwig, Kate 10 and David 75

MacPhee, Carole and Malcolm 66

Peiss, Richard 75

Tibbles, Patricia 10 and Warren 60

Worthington, Ann and David 71

Griffin, David 12

Guideline Insurance

Huels, Karla 12

Hult, Ronny and Bower, Brian 79

Holsoby, Sandra

Janz, Marilyn and Lyle 81

Johnson, Mitchell 12

Johnston, Shane 86

Keli, Stanley 70

Kohl, William 65

Kugel, Rebecca 86 and Norbert 83

Leh, Diana 80 and Ronald 76

Lill, Lari and Thomas 88

Luo, Liu

Lofgren, Elise and James 65

McCormick-Goodheart, Lorrie and Knabben, Steven 76

Merida, Joyyl and Gary

Mikkel, Martin and Virginia 89

Miller, Thomas 92

Nakahara, Nanoe and Norio 74

Nishio, Charles 66

Peters, William 70

Riley, Kevin 92

Ryerson, Charles, 84

Sontag, Loretta 56 and 56S

Southgate, Douglas 74

Stabulas, Michael 71

The Prudential Foundation

Triner, Sarah 87

$50–$99

Anderson, Andrea and Robert 71

Arch, Royd 96

Bjork, Patricia 82

Brown, Jim 70

Chambers, Jo and Olieh 69

Darby, Ross 06

Daw, Judith 72 and Edward 71

Dodge, Eric 94

Gean, Jane and Marshall 82

Harris, Sari 04

Holt, Cody 05

Jard, Anuarah 63

Johnson, Branden 08

Katz, Hal 99

Kelso, Paul 76

Nguyen, Steven 07

Park, Jin-Ar 75

Potter, Connie and James 66

Pollock, Ryan 15

Rennaud, Brady 09

Rimby, Vanessa 85 and Carol 85

Worthington, Steven and Thomas 75

Zuik, Paul 71

Up to $49

Barney, Ian 12

Cain, Carol 08

Carstensen, Cheryl 79 and Donald 78

Chaitant, Janet and Robert 70

Davis, Mark and David 96

Dennis and Renee Insullous Trust

Dent, Talcika

Fahler, Christopher 14

Harri, William 67

Kenney, Joshua 73

Lownerdahl, Kimberly and Erik 83

McDonald, Nicholas 12

Naarom, John 13

Nelson, James 72

Peterson, Jeffrey 88

Ross, Renee and Dennis 39

Sheidlin, David 54

Tung, Jeanne and Mark 88

Verbeck, Kenneth 12

Wells Fargo Foundation

SAIL HONOR ROLL

$500,000 or More

Roppuy, Shirley 13 and James 13

Shirley K. Rippey Trust

W. R. H. 1965

$1,000–$499,999

Irons, George, Dave, and Bruce

Harbaugh, William

$500–$999

Schell, Michael

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Visit economics.uoregon.edu and click on “Alumni and Friends” to find links to the mail-in and secure online donation forms

Glen Waddell continues his research in risky behavior, the economics of education, and health economics, and this year placed graduate students at Grinnell College and Oberlin College. He continues teaching the economics component of the Oregon Executive MBA Program, and serves as a coeditor of Economics of Education Review.

Caroline Weber’s ongoing research examines how much taxation distorts individuals’ behavior. Caroline presented her research this past year at the National Tax Association’s 100th Annual Conference on Taxation, Columbia Law School Tax Policy Workshop, Urban Institute, and US Department of Treasury. Caroline also loves her new role as a mother; she has a two-month-old baby boy.

Wesley W. Wilson was a member of the National Academy of Sciences Committee to study rail regulation. The report (“Modernizing Rail Freight Regulation”) was released in June 2015, culminating two years of work. It is available online at onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1750-3092.2015.01925.x. He also has traveled to present this research on behalf of the committee to shipper groups, railroads, policymakers, and others at a Georgetown University colloquium and a Surface Transportation Board Advisory Committee meeting in Long Beach. In other work, he has traveled to Beijing, Amsterdam, and Hong Kong as an invited or keynote speaker, and to a variety of conferences in the US. He continues to edit Economic Inquiry, which has increased its readership every year since he became the editor.

Jabin Wu joined the department after receiving his PhD degree at the University of Wisconsin at Madison in 2014. His research focuses on evolutionary game theory and behavioral-experimental economics. Jabin presented his work at the 25th International Conference on Game Theory at Stony Brook, the Central European Program in Economic Theory, the East Asian Game Theory Conference, and the Economic Science Association North America meeting this year. He teaches behavioral economics, game theory for undergraduates, and core microeconomics for PhD students this academic year.

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