

Economics

Department Alumni Newsletter

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We're back in production mode!

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A Fresh View of IUP

Editorial

The 2004–2005 academic year is now in full swing. Gone are the distractions of contract negotiations. A new collective bargaining agreement was reached back in the spring of 2004. And although the University is engaged in a second presidential search in as many years, hopefully we can focus more attention on our students and our university community.

The election season is upon us and activities are causing quite a stir on campus. Michael Moore's film *Fahrenheit 9/11* has been shown several times this fall semester, reportedly to packed houses.

Chalk graffiti abounds with canvassing for votes for George W. Bush or John Kerry (or homecoming King and Queen). Michael Moore and former presidential candidate and best selling author Patrick Buchanan are both scheduled to make campus appearances before the election. And people with clipboards hover around Stapleton Library and the HUB assisting the registration of new voters.

As I'm still a newbie at IUP I have a lot to learn, but I have enjoyed my time here so far. Being myself a first generation college student, I can identify with the challenges of our stu-

dent body at IUP. I'm familiar with their struggles and anxieties. They are often fully aware of their constraints but yet unclear as to the full range of their opportunities. Now that I am the teacher, opening minds to ideas and opportunities, as mine was opened, is something I can give back.

The University is a dynamic institution. As a department we have faced many changes in just a few years (see news item below). We respect the past and look forward to the future. We cannot expect to replace the beloved retired professors, but we can take advantage of the

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A Bold Renovation Project

The Time Has Come for Changes

It has been well over a year since the last newsletter and many changes have taken place in the Department. You are probably aware of the retirements of **Dr. Arthur Martel** and **Dr. Robert Stonebraker**. In addition, **Prof. John Cross** retired in June 2003. **Dr. Yaw Asamoah** has taken the position of Dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. Recent hires are **Dr. Jeff Lewis**, **Dr. Jon Halvorson** and **Dr. Jack Julian**.

Dr. Lewis, a 2003 graduate of the University of Maryland, teaches Principles of Economics and Labor Economics.

Dr. Halvorson, a 2000 graduate of the University of Alabama, specializes in Law and Economics and teaches courses in Public Policy and Economics of Crime, in addition to teaching Principles of Economics.

Dr. Julian, a 2002 graduate of the University of Cincinnati, teaches Principles of

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A Greeting from the Past: Dr. Stonebraker

Esteemed professor, Dr. Robert Stonebraker, took early retirement from IUP in 2002 after thirty years of service. He is now at Winthrop University in Rock Hill, South Carolina. In response to alumni inquiries, we've asked Bob to comment on his new adventure in the "land of grits and gravy" (see Newsletter, Issue #35).

"As for newsletter stuff, there isn't much new to report. Many of my activities are exactly the same as at IUP. For example, I still enjoy students and teaching as much as ever and I still give exactly the same type of exams – all short answer and problems, no multiple choice. I still play racquetball (though have fewer potential opponents than at IUP), root for the Buccos and eat hot dogs whenever possible. But much has changed as well. Having to teach new courses (Public Finance, Environmental Economics, Managerial Economics for EMBA students, Winthrop's equivalent of Basic Econ) to new types of students has been a welcomed kick in my professional pants and reinvigorated me in some ways.

"And my university service is very different. I've stayed away from anything remotely connected to university governance and policy making—30 years of that at IUP was enough. Instead I'm concentrating on service that connects me more directly to students. Singing with the Winthrop Chorale is part of that (I'm still the only non-student

in a group of 50). Sitting in rehearsals as "just another singer" has allowed me to interact with students in a very different way than I have ever before experienced. They like that I come in on their level. They don't treat me just like another student, but I'm not an authority figure in that setting either. It's more like I'm a favorite uncle that has some adult wisdom of value, but can be joked with and talked to without fear.

"The other thing I'm doing is coordinating a university-wide mentoring program that matches freshmen with low GPAs with faculty and staff mentors who volunteer to work with them on an individual basis. I solicit the mentors and student participants, take care of all of the communications, and run analyses of the results. I report through a committee and an administrator (Dean of Enrollment Management), but essentially just do my own thing with the program and its participants. Oh, and I cook a dinner each semester for about 15 students through the Lutheran Campus Ministry on campus—my specialty is home-made macaroni and cheese supplemented alternatively by baked ham or roast turkey."

If you wish to contact Dr. Stonebraker, he can be reached at stonebrakerr@winthrop.edu and his webpage can be found at <http://faculty.winthrop.edu/stonebrakerr/>.

A Fresh View

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opportunities for growth and development.

I come into a department that is handling change extremely well. The recent additions to the staff strive to find their niche. But rather than having to fill a singular void, there are several "voids" and several new "fillers." It allows the Department to maximize productivity when there is this flexibility of allocating resources.

This newsletter hopes to provide you with regular updates regarding the Department of Economics here at IUP, the activities of the faculty, the activities of the students, and the activities of those who have come and gone: the alumni. If you have questions, comments, or concerns, feel free to address a letter to the editor, Dr. Jack Julian, or to the Department Chairman, Dr. Nicholas Karatjas. We enjoy hearing from the alumni and hope to continue to serve your interests. —*Jack Julian, Assistant Professor and Newsletter Editor (Jack.Julian@iup.edu)*

Changes

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Economics, International Trade, International Finance, and will assist with future offerings of Economic Development and Statistics for Economists. Dr. Julian was on staff as visiting assistant professor for the 2003–2004 academic year.

We welcome Drs. Halvorson, Lewis and Julian on their recent appointments to the faculty and wish them the best in this phase of their academic careers.

Finally, the Department welcomes back **Debbie Mahan-Bacco** as the Department secretary. She runs a tight ship and keeps us all in line. (Somebody has to!)

The Department has been noted for its stability, with a faculty that has worked and grown together for many years. Changes are inevitable and careful consideration has brought several new faculty members over the last few years, including **Dr. David Yerger** and **Dr. Todd Potts**. We are a good group and are excited about the future of the Department.

Faculty Notes

Promotions and Appointments

- Dr. Stephanie M. Jozefowicz became Co-director of IUP Center for Economic Education in Fall 2003.
- Dr. Stephanie M. Jozefowicz and Dr. James J. Jozefowicz received tenure effective Fall 2004.
- Dr. Stephanie M. Jozefowicz and Dr. James J. Jozefowicz were promoted to Associate Professor effective Fall 2004.
- Dr. Jon Halvorson was hired as Assistant Professor Fall 2003.
- Dr. Jeff Lewis was hired as Assistant Professor Fall 2003.
- Dr. Jack Julian was hired as Assistant Professor Fall 2004 (was Visiting Assistant Professor 2003–2004).
- Dr. Yaw Asamoah was appointed Dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences in 2003.
- Dr. David Yerger is President of Pennsylvania Economic Association 2003–2004, and is editor of the *Pennsylvania Economic Review*.
- Dr. Stephanie M. Jozefowicz was elected to the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania Economic Association 2004.
- Dr. James J. Jozefowicz serves as Vice President–Membership for the Pennsylvania Economic Association for 2003 and 2004.

Presentations

- Dr. Stephanie M. Jozefowicz presented “Seeking New Enrollment Sources: Evidence of New Course Curriculum Development in Economics” at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Economics Association in St. Louis MO, March 2003.
- Dr. James J. Jozefowicz presented “Innovation Function Estimation with Count Panel Data,” at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Economics Association in St. Louis MO, March 2003 (with Robert L. Viégas–’03).
- Dr. Stephanie M. Jozefowicz, Jason Kelley (’03), and Dr. James J. Jozefowicz presented “A Blueprint for Success in the U.S. Film Industry” at the Annual Conference of the Pennsylvania Economic Association, West Chester, PA, May 2003.

- Dr. James J. Jozefowicz and Robert Viégas (’03) presented “Innovation Function Estimation with Count Panel Data” at the Annual Conference of the Pennsylvania Economic Association, West Chester, PA, May 2003.
- Dr. Stephanie M. Jozefowicz, Dr. James J. Jozefowicz, and Professor Emeritus Dr. Robert J. Stonebraker presented “Do Religious Free Riders Prefer Popular Denominations?” at the Society for Scientific Study of Religion/Religious Research Association Conference in Norfolk, VA, October 2003.
- Dr. Todd Potts served as a discussant at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Economic Association in San Antonio, TX, November 2003.
- Dr. Jon Halvorson presented “The Impact of Seniority on Federal Transportation Spending” at the annual conference of the Eastern Economic Association in Washington, DC, February 2004 (with Harold Elder, University of Alabama).
- Dr. Jon Halvorson presented “Term Limits, Incentives, and the Size of Government” at the Annual Conference of the Pennsylvania Economic Association at Robert Morris College, June 2004.
- Dr. James J. Jozefowicz and Dr. Stephanie M. Jozefowicz presented “Applied Introductory Econometrics” at the Annual Conference of the Pennsylvania Economic Association at Robert Morris College, June 2004.
- Dr. David Yerger presented “The Impact of U.S. Growth Upon Canadian Provincial Exports: A Co-Integration Analysis of Province-Specific Measures of U.S. Growth” at the Annual Meetings of the Canadian Economic Association 2004 (with Gary Sawchuk, Policy Research Initiative).

Other Notes

- Former professor John W. Cross and his team won the IUP Golf Scramble held on September 24, 2004, at Meadowlane Golf Course in Indiana, PA.
- The Department of Economics at IUP will host the Annual Conference of the Pennsylvania Economic Association in 2006!

“Scholarship is to be created not by compulsion, but by awakening a pure interest in knowledge. The wise instructor accomplishes this by opening his pupils precisely the attractions the study has for himself.”
Ralph Waldo Emerson

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Alumni Publications

We wish to acknowledge the recent scholarly works of our alumni:

Charles J. Mullin (’89) and Lucia F. Dunn. Using baseball card prices to measure star quality and monopoly. *Economic Inquiry*, October 2002 (volume 40, issue 4) pp. 620–632.

Nick Feltoovich and **Chris Papageorgiou (’92)**. An experimental study of statistical discrimination by employers. *Southern Economic Journal*, April 2004 (volume 70, issue 4) pp. 837–849.

Student Notes

Our students continue to distinguish themselves with their academic pursuits. We wish to highlight the following works of scholarship and the recipients of academic scholarships and recognition:

Donald A. Walker Scholarship

2003 recipient: Justin A. Ulrich

2004 recipient: Caleb M. Moore

IUP Undergraduate Research Grant

2004 recipient: Justin A. Ulrich

George A. Chressanthis Department of Economics Scholarship (\$36,000 in scholarship money has be awarded to date)

2003 recipients: James Bogacz, Kenneth Munshower, Stephanie Halliday

2004 recipients: Brian Andrewlavage, Rachel Kessler, Zoë Thorkildsen, Rebecca Uecker, Justin Ulrich

Graduation Awards

2003

Wall Street Journal Award – Brooke Chimino and Jennifer Trimble

Dr. Brewer Award – Mileah Kromer

McGraw–Hill Award – Micah Savidge and Robert Viégas

2004

Wall Street Journal Award – Nathan Arabia

Dr. Brewer Award – Helena Rados

McGraw–Hill Award – Kenneth McDermott

Presentations of Works of Scholarship

Midwest Economics Association Conference, St. Louis, MO, March 2003

Student Presenters:

Kenneth McDermott ('04), Micah Savidge ('03), Anya Sheftel ('02), Robert Viégas ('03)

Pennsylvania Economic Association Conference, West Chester University, May 2003

Student Presenters:

Justin Aion ('04) "Factors of Freshman Retention"

Chrystina Black ('03) "Casino Gambling Determinants of the Crime Index of Atlantic City, NJ"

Thomas Kruse ('03) "School Expenditures, Student Performance, and the Tiebout Hypothesis: Why are Citizens 'Voting with Their Feet'?"

Micah Savidge ('03) "New Economic Geography: The Lessening Role of Geographic Isolation on Economic Growth"

Robert Viégas ('03) "Determinants of Political Participation in the United States"

Pennsylvania Economic Association Conference, Robert Morris University, June 2004

Student Presenters:

Carrie Jenkins (senior) "How Things Have Changed: Income Inequality in the 1990s"

Justin Ulrich (senior) "Determinants of Presidential Voting in the United States"

Southern Economic Association Annual Conference, New Orleans, November 2004

Student Presenters:

Carrie Jenkins (co-presenting with Dr. James J. Jozefowicz) "How Things Have Changed: Income Inequality in the 1990s"

Justin Ulrich (co-presenting with Dr. Stephanie M. Jozefowicz). "Rain or Shine: Going to the Polls in U.S. Presidential Election Years"

Inside the Purple Pill by Carrie Jenkins, Economics Club President 2004-2005

The Economics Club boarded the bus last spring (2004) for our annual Club trip, destination: Wilmington, Delaware. The long, enduring travel across the state was coupled with priceless bonding between students and faculty.

We set out early the next morning to meet with **Dr. George Chressanthis**, a 1977 alumnus of the Economics Department, who is currently the Director of Promotion Response Analytics for AstraZeneca, one of the world's largest pharmaceutical firms. Dr. Chressanthis had planned a day full of lectures and discussions with a number of his colleagues, which allowed us to acquire superlative insight into the firm, such as the life cycle of a drug and the necessary stages to promote a new drug. The lectures took place in a conference room at AstraZeneca, which created a realistic corporate work-life setting for the Club members.

After each presenter finished their presentation, the Club members were able to pose any questions that they had. The lectures were informative and thought provoking. The information provided helped the students realize that the theory that is obtained in the classroom has numerous applications in the pharmaceutical industry.

Following the sequences of lectures, the Club was invited to lunch with Dr. Chressanthis and his colleagues at AstraZeneca's cafeteria. During this luncheon, the Club members were able to become acquainted with each presenter and attained information

on their academic endeavors. It was completely advantageous to learn how each presenter paved their way to such a prominent corporation as AstraZeneca.

The remainder of the Club's time on the trip was spent touring downtown Philadelphia, including the Liberty Bell, Independence Hall, cemetery plots of famous and infamous individuals of the past, and other well-known tourist sites.

Overall, the entire AstraZeneca experience was an absolute success as a Club trip. As a Chressanthis Scholarship recipient, I have had the opportunity to meet with Dr. Chressanthis one-on-one during my time here at IUP. This time I was able to see him in his occupational environment. Consequently, I had the opportunity to become acquainted with the company that has assisted me in my goals and academic pursuits, and fully appreciate Dr. Chressanthis, who has helped bring a number of quality students into our department.

As for the trip for this coming spring (2005), the Economics Club would like to travel to New York City to visit the New York Stock Exchange and the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, in order to observe monetary and financial economics at work. Drs. Jim and Stephanie Jozefowicz, the two devoted Economics Club advisors, are applying a cost benefit analysis to such a proposal in order to properly compare a New York trip to other possible substitutes!

You're Special!



Stay in touch!

The Department of Economics at IUP considers its alumni a valuable resource. We encourage former students to share with current students how they apply their economic studies in their jobs and their lives. If you plan to be in the area and wish to meet with students, please contact Dr. Nicholas Karatjas (Nicholas.Karatjas@iup.edu) or call (724) 357-2640.



Department of Economics

Alumni Information

The Department of Economics is trying to complete and maintain a current contact list of all of our alumni. Please let us know your current whereabouts!

Name	
Address	
Phone	Email Address
Graduation year, degree earned	
Current Employer	Work Phone
Position and duties	
Interesting tidbits about yourself since IUP	

- This is an updated address
- This is an updated employment situation
- Please add me to your mailing list
- Please remove me from your mailing list

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Or visit: <http://www.chss.iup.edu/economics/More/alumni/alumform.shtm>