



University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire
105 Garfield Avenue • P.O. Box 4004
Eau Claire, WI 54702-4004

Department of Economics 000-014

University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

Economics Department Newsletter



Fall 2005

<http://www.uwec.edu/econ>

LETTER FROM THE DEPARTMENT CHAIR . . .

Dear Economics Graduate,

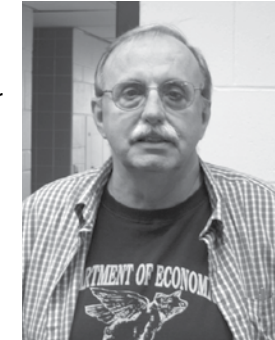
It is hard to believe that it has been a year since the last newsletter. When I reflect on all that has happened in the department over that time I guess it does seem like at least a year.

We recently received three large scholarship contributions. The father of Duane Oyen's late wife, Lynne, made a large contribution to the Lynne Oyen Scholarship Fund. This will enable the department to increase the number of scholarships from this fund to at least three per year. Jerry Jacobson (alumnus) and his wife Mary also made a large contribution to establish the Gerald and Mary Jacobson Scholarship. Jerry also won the Alumni Office-Lifetime Achievement Award for this summer commencement. On a sad note, one of our 1972 graduates, Mike Reinke, died in an accident late last year. His family and friends have established the Mike Reinke Scholarship in Mike's memory. These scholarships will help students at UWEC for many years to come.

Another graduate, Mike Knetter, has established the Mike Knetter Economics Tutoring Award. Every semester two of our top students will be given an award to work with the micro or macro theory professor to tutor in the intermediate theory classes. We have had a tutoring program for Principles classes for many years but this intermediate tutoring fills a gap we have long recognized.

The economics faculty are still as active as ever in international programs. Professor

Rose-Marie Avin was in India on a Fulbright Scholarship over the summer. Professor Fred Kolb taught in Harlaxton, England in the spring semester. Professor Avin and I gave a series of lectures at Vietnam National University in Hanoi in January. This was my second lecture trip to Vietnam and Professor Avin's first. It looks like Professors Maria DaCosta and Tom Kemp will represent the University in Hanoi this coming spring.



In addition to my role as economics department Chair I have agreed to be Interim Chair of the sociology department for the next two years. The previous sociology Chair resigned unexpectedly to take another position. Our current dean is such a sincere and capable person that when he called and asked if I would be willing to help out I just felt a duty to do so. Things are going well so far. The sociology faculty are both capable and sincere. I look forward to two productive years of working with the sociologists.

We have had and expect no retirements or resignations. It is hard to type with your fin-

gers crossed. We have a fine group of faculty and I hope to keep them together for as long as possible. The two newer faculty are now starting their fourth year. They seem to have adjusted well and are making valuable contributions to the department and the University.

We recently did a mailing asking for you to volunteer to be mentors to our current students. You may have seen these before. This year we are including the offer of a cool department T-shirt with "ALUMNI MENTOR" printed on the back. If you have not yet returned your postcard, please do so soon. We will order the T-shirts in the early fall.

Thank you for all your support. We hope that everything is well with you. If you are in Eau Claire, please stop and say hi to your old friends in the economics department.

Ed Young

Support Your Department of Economics

The Economics Department welcomes and invites your support. Private gifts to the Economics Department Advancement Fund enable the department to address needs that cannot be met by the state-assisted operating budget. This fund would provide resources to support student and faculty research projects, travel to professional conferences, curriculum-development initiatives, guest speakers, alumni events, departmental outreach/service activities, and other programs that enhance the department's effectiveness and reputation. Your contribution to the Economics Department Advancement Fund will be gratefully accepted by the UW-Eau Claire Foundation Inc. You will receive a receipt for tax purposes and be recognized in the Foundation's annual honor roll of donors. Most important, your gift will enable the department to continue to build upon its reputation for excellence and to provide future generations the same quality education you received and more.

Please use this form to send in your contribution and know that you are making a difference in the future of the department.

UWEC Foundation Inc.
105 Garfield Ave.
P.O. Box 4004
Eau Claire, WI 54702-4004



Enclosed, please find my contribution of \$ _____ to the UWEC Foundation. I would like my contribution to be added to the Economics Advancement Fund.

Name: _____

Please send my tax receipt to the following address: _____



ALUMNI GATHERING HOMECOMING WEEKEND

What: Economics Alumni Gathering
"Disco Fever, Blugold Style"
When: 4:00 p.m., October 15, 2005
Where: Council Fire Room, Davies Center

For more information about any of the Homecoming 2005 events check out the Alumni Office web site (<http://www.uwec.edu/alumni/homecoming.htm>).

Get a glimpse of the fun during Homecoming 2004 in the online alumni photo album.

Hope to see you on October 15, 2005!

DR. ROSE-MARIE AVIN RECEIVES UW SYSTEM WOMEN OF COLOR IN EDUCATION AWARD

Dr. Rose-Marie Avin, professor of economics at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, received a UW System Women of Color in Education Award.

Each UW System campus was asked to select a woman to receive the recognition during the UW System's 29th Annual Women's Studies Conference April 15-16 in Madison.

In addition to teaching, Avin is involved with the Wisconsin Coordinating Council on Nicaragua, a non-profit organization based in Madison that works together with Nicaraguan women to help empower poor women in Nicaragua. Since 1990, she has worked closely with Nicaraguan women activists and her work with them has formed the basis for her academic research.

More than 170 women have received the UW System Women of Color in Education Award since it was established in 1994.



FACULTY AND STAFF

Avin, Rose-Marie
Professor
Ph.D., University of Maryland
Development and International Trade
avinr@uwec.edu

Benesh, Diann
Senior Lecturer
M.S., A.B.D., Virginia Polytechnic Institute
Public Finance and History of Economic Thought
beneshdg@uwec.edu

Carroll, Wayne
Professor
Ph.D., University of Minnesota
Environmental Economics & Monetary Economics
carrolwd@uwec.edu

DaCosta, Maria
Professor
Ph.D., Northeastern University
Urban Economics and Regional Economics
dacostmn@uwec.edu

Jamelske, Eric
Assistant Professor
Ph.D., University of California, Davis
Welfare Reform
jamelsem@uwec.edu

Kemp, Rula
Lecturer
Ph.D., Colorado State University
Public Finance
kempqr@uwec.edu

Kemp, Thomas
Assistant Professor
Ph.D., Colorado State University
History of Economic Thought
kempta@uwec.edu

Kolb, Frederic
Professor
Ph.D., University of Utah
Investments and Econometrics
kolbfr@uwec.edu

Oyen, Duane
Professor
Ph.D., University of Iowa
Business Cycles and Monetary Economics
oyend@uwec.edu

Schaffer, David
Associate Professor
Ph.D., Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Public Economics and International Trade
schaffdl@uwec.edu

Young, Edward G.
Professor and Chair
Ph.D., Washington State University
Labor Economics
youngeg@uwec.edu

Glenna, Linda
Academic Department Associate
glennale@uwec.edu



Your Link to the Future...

Career @ Services

State Office: 608-226-2330 • 715-836-5359 • www.uwec.edu/career

Remember the difficult process you went through as a student, trying to determine what you wanted to do with your life and how to get there? Remember the time and energy you put into your job search? Wouldn't it have been nice to have had the opportunity to contact professionals working in a variety of careers and locations to help you learn what you really wanted in a job? The Ask An Alum program at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire gives students that chance. This program is independent of the similar program offered by the economics department.

Ask An Alum, co-sponsored by Career Services and Alumni Relations at UW-Eau Claire, was developed to connect students with UW-Eau Claire alumni and friends who are currently working in a variety of occupations.

UW-EAU CLAIRE GRAD GIVES JERRY JOHNSON LECTURE SERIES

On Monday, February 28, 2005, Dr. Debbie Wagner gave a guest lecture: "Changing the World Through Cooperatives – Raising Incomes in the Albanian Dairy Industry." She is a 1974 UW-Eau Claire Graduate and Peace Corps Volunteer, and the Country Director for Land O'Lakes/Albania.

STUDENT ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION GUEST SPEAKER

Rob Grunewald, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, presented a guest lecture on Wednesday, March 30, 4:00-5:00pm. He discussed the effectiveness of early childhood education. This event was sponsored by the Student Economic Association.

ECONOMICS QUOTE

by Richard Lamm

Christmas is a time when kids tell Santa what they want and adults pay for it. Deficits are when adults tell the government what they want and their kids pay for it.

Students can search the database of alumni to learn about college and the career paths alumni have taken. The student can also receive contact information and meet with the alumni on an individual basis, or job shadow the alumni in their workplace, discuss responsibilities and other aspects of their jobs and to get a feel for that specific work environment. Alumni involved in the Ask An Alum program can assist students in exploring career fields, developing realistic views of different work environments, and becoming comfortable with networking and informational interviews.

If you are interested in participating in the Ask An Alum program please check out our website at www.uwec.edu/asp/askanalum/ to register or call Career Services at 715-836-5359.

2005 OMICRON DELTA EPSILON ECONOMICS DEBATE

"Social Security Reform"

Like the 2004 debate, the 2005 debate was a student debate. Four students, David Carpenter, Chad Wade, Steve Wessling, and Sebastian Wisniewski, debated the merits of two plans for social security reform. Chad Wade and Sebastian Wisniewski advocated President Bush's reform plan while David Carpenter and Steve Wessling argued in favor of a plan proposed by economists Peter Diamond and Peter Orszag. The debate began by each side addressing the question: Is there a social security crisis? Next each side presented their plan and the opposing side provided criticism.

The student debaters did a great job. One noticeable outcome of the debate was heightened student interest in the social security issue. After the debate, students in all the economics classes had lots of questions and comments about social security. The 2005 ODE debate clearly achieved its goal: stimulating student interest in an important economic issue.

ALUMNI NEWS (continued)

MICHELLE (ANDERSON) STERNARD (1995)

ksternard@itol.com

I have been employed as a credit analyst in the commercial loan department at Baylake Bank in Sturgeon Bay for three years. My husband, Kevin, has been a site coordinator for Portside Builders, Inc. for 4 years and a carpenter before that for seven years. We have two children, Ashley (5) and Hannah (1 ½). We are in the process of building a new home (second time in 7 years!) and hope to have it completed by November as we are doing the framing, roofing, sheet rocking and siding ourselves. Needless to say, two kids and building a home keeps us really busy!

TODD ANDERSON (1996)

todd.anderson@usbank.com

I am currently employed at Uniprise, a division of United Health Group, as a senior business reporting analyst. My econ and finance majors are at the very core of my skill set. I married Amy Andersen in December of 2000. We have two sons Ethan (3 ½) and Garrett (1 ½). I am finishing up my MBA at the University of St. Thomas and will have completed my eighth triathlon by the end of this summer.

MICHAEL BRAASCH (1997)

mtbraasch@hotmail.com

I am currently employed at St. Paul Travelers. I'm married to UWEC alum Tina (Larson) Braasch. We have two children, Mason (4) and Spencer (2). My hobbies are chasing kids and picking up their toys.

GARY WHITE (1997)

gary.alan.white@us.army.mil

I am currently employed at Stearns Bank in St. Paul, MN. My econ major helped me to promote myself not only in the civilian sector working as a commercial lender, but has helped my military career while being deployed in the Middle East. I have two great kids and a beautiful wife who works as an Investment Banker for Oppenheimer. I have been on deployment 5 times since 1998. I hope to start working in the civilian sector again so I can move my career forward in the banking world, although it is going to be hard because we may be in the Middle East until the job is finished. I am actually writing this information stationed somewhere in Afghanistan. I want to say hello to all my econ professors – they are the BEST in the business to get you started in the world of Economics!

DOUG HYNK (1999)

hynkd@cwdlp.com

I am a Regional Operations Manager at Conwood Sales Co., L.P. in Roseville, CA. I married my wife, Mary Beth, in 1997 and we have three daughters, Emma (6), Grace (4) and Maggie (2). The skills I learned as an economics major are utilized on a daily basis in my present position and they have been an integral part in my career advancement.

2000's

ROGER BAKKEN (2001)

rogerlb@centurytel.net

I am currently employed at Edward Jones Investments. I'm married to my wonderful wife, Trina, and we have two daughters, Brooke (2 ½) and Jenna (2 months).

NATHAN FRANKLIN (2001)

nfranklin@cvtc.edu

I am currently employed at Chippewa Valley Technical College. I work in Distance Education and assist instructors who need to adjust their course curriculum to be delivered in online classes. My wife, Beth, and I have one daughter, Lucy (2). I have developed quite a knack for cooking and have begun graduate work in Higher Education Leadership.

SARAH (BUTLER) LANZ (2001)

SButler@butler-cpa.com

I have a wonderful husband, a sweet 2 year old daughter, a beautiful 15 year old step-daughter, and I am happy to announce that we are expecting a baby boy.

PHIL SCHNEIDER (2001)

PhillipS@horiconbank.com

I am currently employed at Horicon Bank in Beaver Dam, WI, as a retail loan supervisor. My econ major helped me secure employment, and I have been in the banking industry since I graduated. I am married with three children, two boys and a girl.

HEATHER THOMPSON (2001)

Heather.Thompson@dwd.state.wi.us

I am currently employed with the State of Wisconsin – Department of Workforce Development. I just became an aunt to an adorable boy in July 2005. I am training to do a Triathlon relay in September.

ELLEN (BOWKER) GOODWIN (2002)

ellen.goodwin@gmail.com

I am currently an analyst for AARP-Global Aging Policy program through January; thereafter, economic analyst for the CIA's Office of Transnational Issues. My economic background was critical to my graduate school acceptance as well as securing my job with the CIA. The analytical skills that accompany an economics degree are in high demand, but those skills must be balanced with an ability to clearly and concisely articulate findings/ideas. I graduated in May with a master's degree in global public policy from Duke University.

ISAAC GOODWIN (2002)

Isaac.J.Goodwin@irs.gov

I am currently employed with the Internal Revenue Service, Statistics of Income Division. My economics major was required for this position. I married Ellen Bowker (UW-Eau Claire 2002).

RYAN HEIL (2002)

Ryan.Heil@LibertyMutual.com

I am currently employed at Liberty Mutual Insurance Group as an internal auditor. My econ major definitely helped me secure

employment. I graduated with the economics comprehensive Bachelor of BA degree. The BA portion made my job options pretty general, which is good. The emphasis in econ gave me an edge in what I really wanted to do... even better. I just got married in May to a wonderful girl named Jenn. As of late, we spend time doing home improvements, which does take some time away from fishing. We also have a 2-year-old Boxer named Sergeant.

SCOTT HODEK (2002)

Scott.A.Hodek@state.or.us

I'm employed as a state economist by the Oregon Employment Department. My economics degree definitely helped me secure this job. And it's a very versatile degree to have – spanning business, statistics, and policy like it does. Eau Claire has a great econ program. The knowledge and advice of caring professors like Dr. Kolb and Dr. Carroll has had a huge impact on my career.

PAUL REITH (2002)

preith@advent.com

I am currently employed at Advent Software, Inc. as a financial industry software developer. My knowledge of financial instruments/markets and how they work was integral to my employment.

MINA BENSON (2003)

Mina.Benson@delmonte.com

I am currently employed at Del Monte Foods in Plover, WI. Economics is a major that you can apply to a vast number of careers; you are not just limited to a select group. I have noticed that many employers look at an economics degree favorably because the general personality of an economist is to think outside the box and to see the big picture. On a personal note, I am getting married to my fiancé, Jim Grace, on November 5 in Eau Claire.

MATTHEW B. JOHNSON (2004)

mjohnson28@hamline.edu

I just finished my 1st year of law school at Hamline Law. I expect to graduate in 2007. Double majoring in economics and finance has encouraged me to pursue a legal career in business law.

TIM KEYMER (2004)

timkeymer@gmail.com

I am currently employed as an Analyst with Benesyst (a third-party health care administrator) in Minneapolis. I'm mostly acclimating myself to the area and meeting new people in Minneapolis. I enjoy playing in softball and kickball leagues. I love it here, and my new job is very rewarding for me.

ERIC LYNDE (2004)

elynde2k1@hotmail.com

I am attending graduate school at UW-Milwaukee for Coordinated Master's Degree in Transportation Planning and Transportation Engineering.

ALUMNI UPDATES *(continued)*

as the Customer Finance Manager – North America within the Trade Finance Group. I have lived in Littleton, CO, since April of 2000. I am married with two boys (10 & 8) who absolutely love all the outdoor fun that Colorado has to offer. I wish I had learned to ski at 3 like they did – I'd be a lot better than I am.

PETE CARLSON (1986)

Pete.Carlson@hti.htch.com

I am the Director of the Strategic Business Units at Hutchinson Technology Inc., Hutchinson, MN. I am married with four daughters.

ANNE (GRUBISH) FILAS (1986)

ec_fan@hotmail.com

I am currently employed at Swenby's Insurance in New Richmond, WI. I was recently re-married on June 17, 2005 to Kevin Filas.

JEFF KNETZGER (1989)

jknetzger@msn.com

I am currently employed at Metavante Corporation. I am married with two children, ages 7 and 5.

LORI (REED) BOONE (1989)

BooneLA@aol.com

I am self-employed. My econ major helped me to get my first job out of college. From there, my education as well as work experience has led me to my job as a consultant for a major financial institution. I am married and have two children, a daughter (3) and a son (almost 2).

JERALD STERZINGER (1989)

rozz101@msn.com

I am employed at American Express in Phoenix, Arizona. I am currently obtaining my Masters Degree (Criminal Justice) at Arizona State University. In addition, I am willing to help anyone if they want information about Arizona.

BARBARA UCHYTIL (1989)

BUCHYTIL@stpaultravelers.com

I am currently employed at St. Paul Travelers. I'm single and living in St. Paul, MN. I keep myself busy playing volleyball, volunteering with the Saint Paul Jaycees, volunteer teaching basic math to refugee immigrants at the English Learning Center in Minneapolis, fixing up my house, entertaining, shopping, and maintaining my flowerbeds. I just started riding my bike to work, and I really enjoy that!

1990's

DOUG RICHARDSON (1990)

doug@parcowindows.com

I am the owner of Parco Manufacturing, Inc. I received my MBA in May of 1999. I am married with four children. I met with President Bush in August 2004 in Hudson and again at the White House in December of 2004.

CHIN AUN TAN (1990)

chinaun.tan@citigroup.com

I am currently heading the Financial Institutions for Citigroup in Malaysia. The education process in Eau Claire played a big part in forming some of the thinking processes and also handling of the day-to-day challenges with the job. Of course, the education I received on Water Street also helped me to cope with stress. I have

been married to my wife, Sherene, for 10 years but my "employment marriage" to Citigroup is longer – 14 years. We have two daughters, Valerie (6) and Sabrina (19 months). My goal is to participate in one of the UW-Eau Claire homecoming events – some day. Not sure it will be in the near future, but it has always been in my mind to see the beautiful fall season in Eau Claire again.

TROY "BOOMER" BAUER (1991)

Troy.Bauer@blackbox-vs.com

I am employed at Black Box Network Services in Savage, MN. The humor and wit I learned from Dr. Ed Young has helped me to succeed in life. I am married to Kirsten and we have one daughter, Brooke (1).

KRISTIN (FARTELT) FOLEY (1991)

foleynw@earthlink.net

I am a Marketing Communications Manager at Philips Medical Systems and am responsible for the MR, CT, Medical IT and Philips Medical Capital lines of business. I am married to Sean and we have three children, Kyle (15, stepson), Emily (4) and Max (1).

RETNO SARIDEWI (1991)

retno_saridewi@yahoo.com

I received my MBA in Operation Management in 1996. My last position was in Sourcing, GE Capital Fleet Services in 2002 before leaving the business to care for my children fulltime. I am a member of the Community Collaboration Council working on the Desegregation/Integration Plan for ISD 196, Rosemont, MN. I am actively involved in tutoring with Somali Adult Literacy Training in Hope Presbyterian, Richfield. I am happily married to Seet-Phooi Wong (UW-Eau Claire 1991). We have three girls, ages 9, 6, and 2. If I have any quiet moments, I escape to read and sew.

ROBIN TURNER (1991)

ROBIN.TURNER@usbank.com

I am currently employed at U.S. Bank, Vice President, Consumer Deposit Products. My econ major created a good base on which to build. I am grateful for the quality education I received from UWEC and the Econ Department. Our second child, Rachel Violet, was born December 29, 2004 and joins sister Cassidy Mae (3).

SAM GOLBACH (1992)

SGolbach@Wausaufs.com

I have been employed at Wausau Financial Systems for seven years. My econ major helped me get a position at Wausau Financial Systems, although I am not working in a Finance/Econ role at this time. I am married to Jenn and we are expecting our first child in September.

JEFF MALAISE (1992)

jeffmalaise@fcmortgage.com

I am currently employed at 1st Choice Mortgage.

ANGELA BERGER (1993)

Aberger@RosemountBank.com

I am currently the Vice President of Rosemount

National Bank in Edina, MN. My economics/finance double major helped in obtaining my first job as a national bank examiner. I am married with three-year-old twin daughters.

KEVIN GROSS (1993)

Kevin.Gross@target.com

I am employed by the Target Corporation. My econ major gave me a good overall perspective on business. I am married to Kelly (UW-Eau Claire 1993) and we have three children, Cassie (6), Allie (3 ½) and Michael (1).

JASON FRITTS (1994)

JASON.FRITTS@ey.com

I am employed at Ernst & Young. My econ major helped me gain employment in the area of Transfer Pricing.

JOHN GAREY (1994)

I am currently employed by Midstates Corporate Credit Union, Madison, WI. I have been married to Michelle Arts for seven years and we have two sons, Simon (4) and Jude (2 months).

CANDY PEARSON (1994)

candypears@yahoo.com

I am in the process of opening my own independent bookshop, Apple Blossom Books LLC. Understanding economics thoroughly is vital to my success in running my own business. I have been married for nearly 10 years and have two children, Ellawyn (4) and Merrick (2). My new bookshop will open in mid to late August. Please come to visit me at 513 North Main Street, Oshkosh, WI.

STEPHEN SKEELS (1994)

sjskeels@hotmail.com

I am employed at IDEAL Industries, Inc. My econ major greatly helped me in managing the business that I am responsible for. I make decisions every day that require decisions on the marginal gain/loss, pricing decisions regarding market elasticity, etc. My wife, Jean, and I just welcomed our daughter, Harper, on May 16, 2005. She joins brother Mason (6) and sisters Avery (4) and Meg (15). I am an avid mountain biker, biking trails throughout Wisconsin and northern Illinois.

MATT KOPP (1995)

Mkopp25@charter.net

I am employed at Flaten Retirement and Main Street Capital (Director of Operations) in Eau Claire, WI. I married Mindee (Kimbrow) in May of 1997. We have two children, Ellie (4) and Kaitlyn (1 ½). I enjoy playing racquetball and softball in my spare time (whenever that is possible with two children).

BRYAN MCQUIDE (1995)

mcquide@uiuc.edu

I am currently employed at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. I am married and am currently working on my Political Science Ph.D. dissertation titled "When Does Interest Group Policy Information Matter? A Dynamic Study of New Technology Interest Groups' Use of Information in Congressional Hearings". I will be on the academic job market this year looking for a university position.

FACULTY UPDATES

ROSE MARIE AVIN (*avinr@uwec.edu*)

The 2004-2005 academic year was fun, productive and extremely rewarding personally and professionally.

At the teaching level, I had the opportunity to teach interesting courses. During the 2004 spring semester, I taught two small Economics 104-Freshmen Experience Year (FYE) classes with 20 students in each class. As part of the American Democracy Project, students were given free copies of the *New York Times* and were required to read it every day in order to participate in class discussions. Given that it was a presidential election year, we spent a lot of time discussing relevant economic issues and each student wrote a 5-page paper that reflected diverse points of view on a specific economic issue. It was challenging for the students but most of them came through with flying colors. I was so proud of them! I also had the opportunity to teach a new course entitled "Women and Economic Development" (Economics/Women Studies 357). Almost one-third of the students were from Women's Studies, another third from Economics and the rest from other disciplines. What a wonderful teaching experience that was! Not only did I learn a lot teaching that class but the students were totally committed to the course.

At the research level, I presented a paper entitled "Empowering Women in Nicaragua: The Role of Women's Organizations" at the 69th annual meeting of the Midwest Economics Association, March 11-13 in Milwaukee. I also presented a paper entitled "Women in the Vietnamese Economy" at the 2005 annual conference of the International Association for Feminist Economics (IAFFE), June 17-19, Washington, D.C.

At the faculty development level, the 2005 spring semester brought a lot of new opportunities to learn about different cultures. I started the year by taking a trip to Vietnam for 10 days, as part of our faculty exchange program with the Vietnam National University - Hanoi. I was in Vietnam to give seminars to students in Development Economics on the topic of globalization in the Third World. What can I say? The students were just wonderful. They showed great interest in the topic and asked excellent questions. And what an amazing country Vietnam is! It is definitely on the way up given its natural beauty and its vast amount of natural resources. Furthermore, I have never seen such hard working people in my life.

The 2005 summer vacation was as exciting as the academic year. I feel very privileged to have received a Fulbright-Hays Seminar Abroad grant to go to India for five weeks. The title of the Seminar was "Women in Contemporary India." The purpose of the program was to provide 16 US educators with a broad insight into the status of women through an understanding of their cultural heritage. Through lectures and discussions with Indian academics, activists, college and high-school students, and feminists, we explored some of the unique cultural, social, religious, and historical issues defining the role of women in Indian society.

What a wonderful experience that was: We visited nine cities in five weeks! How can I forget seeing the Taj Mahal at 5 am (Magical!) or riding an elephant under a heavy monsoon rain (Very wet!)? And what can I say about India? Just four words: diverse, complex, spiritual, and colorful.

On another note, I feel very honored to have received the UW System Women of Color in Education Award during the 2005 spring semester.

DIANN BENESH (*beneshdg@uwec.edu*)

This past year was an event-filled one. A quick summary of the highlights follows. I was fortunate to have wonderful, enthusiastic students. Everyday in the classroom was rewarding. My husband and I traveled to Hawaii

in January and enjoyed a break from winter. We looked for whales, mai tais and the perfect wave. We succeeded in locating two out of the three. When we returned, I had surgery and got to experience our health care system from a slightly different perspective. In May, our daughter graduated from UW-Eau Claire. This summer, we helped our son move to Nashville and our daughter move to Milwaukee. Both of them are spring boarding from their biology majors into graduate programs in the medical field. My plan is to stay healthy at least as long as my children are completing their educations and then I hope my children will give me a family discount...

WAYNE CARROLL (*carrollwd@uwec.edu*)

This year I've enjoyed working with another of our sharp students, Victoria Udalova, on an econometric analysis of the assimilation of Hmong immigrants in the U.S. As we started our research we found that there was some ambiguity about who should be identified as Hmong in our data: should we base classifications on a person's language, ancestry, race, or all of the above? We ended up writing a paper entitled "Who is Hmong? Questions and Evidence from the U.S. Census" that will be published in the *Hmong Studies Journal* this winter. In our subsequent research we've used our detailed Census data to compare the Hmong with other recent immigrant groups in terms of their economic status and their rate of economic progress. I often tell Victoria about the students I've worked with on this project and others in the past. I wish we could get them all together!

I also taught an honors colloquium, The Almighty Dollar, which I hope to continue teaching in the future. (It had been taught by Rich Postlewaite a couple of times in the past.) The course takes a close look at the history of the dollar, so it gives me a chance to indulge my twin passions of monetary economics and U.S. history.

What a great job! I get paid to do this research and teaching that I'd probably do for free, just for fun! (But don't tell the provost that I said that...)

My oldest daughter is starting her senior year at Stanford, where she's majoring in economics with a math minor. She's thinking about spending a year or two working – any openings at the World Bank? – before going on to graduate school. My second daughter is starting this fall at St. Olaf. She swears that she won't major in economics, but I like to remind her that the past trends suggest that she will. My son is starting his junior year at Memorial High School. As I write this, he has had his driver's license for five hours, and he hasn't had an accident yet!

MARIA DACOSTA (*dacostmn@uwec.edu*)

This past year was unusual in many ways! I participated in only one major conference: I presented a paper titled "Income Distribution in China: Rural vs. Urban Households" at the *Eastern Economic Meetings*, in March in New York City.

My international travel was limited to two European destinations: Portugal and Paris, France. The first and only other time I visited Paris was as an undergraduate student/hitchhiker. I can assure you that Paris is a lot more fun when you relax the budget constraint!

And last but not least, I finally joined the ranks of proud homeowners and bought a condominium on the west side of Eau Claire.



FACULTY NEWS *(continued)*

I ran out of arguments not to buy a house in the presence of historically low interest rates. My former Urban Economics students may remember how much I enjoyed renting...

LINDA GLENNA (*glennale@uwec.edu*)

This is my 29th year on campus with the last four being in the Economics Department. It seems like I was just young and newly employed – where the time goes is a mystery to me!

This past year has been a very good one. During spring break our family went to Orlando, Florida and enjoyed the sunshine for a week. We were able to take a boat ride on the Gulf of Mexico and also spent time looking at retirement villages. Even though I'm not quite ready to retire, it certainly doesn't hurt to plan ahead!

I typically work a reduced schedule in the summer, and it's always very nice to have more time to spend at home. I love to scrapbook, so that consumes a lot (most) of my extra time. I usually reserve two weekends during the year to explore new scrapbook stores/supplies. It's a hobby I truly enjoy.

The State has been doing a clerical survey for the past couple of years, and in August my title changed from Program Assistant to Academic Department Associate. It came with a nice pay adjustment, so the new title suits me just fine!

I am planning a one-week trip to Paris this fall and can't wait to see what the "City of Lights" has to offer. I am going with five other girlfriends and we are all very excited. We just hope we bring enough money with us!

I hope this newsletter finds you all well and healthy and that next year will be your best!

THOMAS KEMP (*kempta@uwec.edu*)

The 2004-2005 School year was a busy one for me. As always I taught Macroeconomics at the introductory level and intermediate level, as well as the Industrial Organization class. In terms of course development I had the good fortune to be able to develop an online version of the Managerial Economics class. The first run of this class went better than expected and I hope to be able to offer it in future sessions. Since learning how to develop online classes I have also created an online component for my American Economic Ideas class that I initially developed two years ago. While this class will still have regular lectures and discussions in the classroom it also will allow students to gather outside of class online to discuss topics related to class or just to get to know each other. The online component also allows students to turn in assignments and papers drafts to me at any time and from any place that has a computer.

As for professional development I published a paper with the *Journal of Economic Issues* entitled "Of Transactions and Transaction

Costs: Uncertainty, Policy, and the Process of Law in the Thought of Commons and Williamson." This paper is essentially a study in jurisprudence and its effects on economic policy. Additionally my work with the United Way over the last year (described below) was published by the *United Way of Greater Eau Claire* and is available from that organization. This project attempts to determine the specific needs of the Eau Claire area. Some new areas of need include the rapidly rising health care costs which are negatively affecting both consumers and businesses, rising child obesity, and increasing economic inequality.

Beyond these publications I also gave professional paper presentations at the Western Social Sciences convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico and the Allied Social Science Association convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. For the most part these were presentations of working papers whose topics include a developing model of optimal legal discretion which attempts to create a heuristic that policy makers can use to determine the optimal level of legal discretion for enforcing agents and another work which uses experimentation to test economic theories of human decision making. In addition I gave a talk to the students and local community on the Economic Rationale for War that discussed and explained the often heard phrase "war is good for the economy".

Finally, I was honored to have served as the department faculty representative to the faculty senate and to have served on the nominating committee for the *Association for Evolutionary Economics* Veblen – Commons award, this is the very highest award that organization awards. Past recipients of this award include John Galbraith, Paul Sweezy, and Robert Heilbroner.

FRED KOLB (*kolbfr@uwec.edu*)

This is year 35 at UW-Eau Claire for Fred Kolb, and he is looking forward to being back on campus after a semester teaching in the Harlaxton, England study abroad program. The time in England was very productive and enjoyable, but Wisconsin looks better all the time to Fred. In addition to his investments course and some First Year Experience sections of micro principles, this fall Fred will be teaching a course on managing currency risk that will be part of the online MBA program. With a trip to Switzerland planned for the break between the fall and spring semesters, he will have to put theory into practice and get his Swiss franc financing in order.

Fred's son David remains with the Detroit Red Wings but has now moved from Detroit to Minnesota to become the Wings scout for the western United States. Fred's daughter Katharine is headed off to classes here at UW-Eau Claire. So now it is down to wife Mary Jo and son Alexander to keep Fred on track and make sure he heads off to Schneider Hall each morning.

ERIC JAMELSKE (*jamelsem@uwec.edu*)

After three years, Eau Claire feels even more like home than last year. My wife Stephanie has been hired as the Budget Officer for Academic Affairs so we are now both tied to the university. We love our new home and have been busy with painting and other home improvements. This fall our youngest daughter will be a sophomore at Memorial High and our oldest daughter is off to UW Milwaukee.

I achieved my first publication with *The Efficiency Gains from Site Value Taxes: The Tithe Commutation Act of 1836* in *Explorations in Economic History*, v.42, n.2, April 2005. I also presented *The State Decision to Seek Welfare Waivers: Did Social Distance Play a Role?* at the 2005 Midwest Economics Association (MEA) meeting. This paper is currently under revision jointly with Rodd Freitag in the Political Science Department.

I have continued work on a survey project of the recycling program in Madison, WI. This work is part of a summer 2005 student/faculty collaborative research project with Steven Wessling who has moved on to the University of Iowa as a graduate student in economics. We submitted *An Assessment of the Support for the Switch to Automated Collection of Solid Waste with Single Stream Recycling in Madison, WI*, to the journal *Public Works Management & Policy*. We also presented this paper at the 2005 MEA meeting.

As Co-Director of The Chippewa Valley Center for Economic Research and Development (CVCERD), I am continuing work on an economic indicators project and a stock index project, and have recently secured approximately \$2,000 in funding to pursue this work. We sincerely thank Northwestern Bank of Chippewa Falls, the Eau Claire office of Xcel energy and the UWEC Office of Research and Sponsored Projects for their generous support. In addition, the CVCERD is planning two other projects under the direction of Professor Wayne Carroll in the coming year. The first will assess the impact of UW-Eau Claire on the local economy and the second will assess the impact of the Menard's Corporation on the Wisconsin economy. <http://www.uwec.edu/econ/CVCERD.htm>

Professor Duane Oyen and I have continued to energize the Student Economics Association (SEA). We hosted many informative speakers and had a rousing year-end barbecue that topped last year's extravaganza.

I spent two weeks this summer teaching economics to high school students in Wooster Ohio for The Foundation for Teaching Economics (FTE). This was a wonderful experience and I am both honored and thankful to be continuing this work in the future. <http://www.fte.org>

On a personal note, we drove across the western U.S. as a family for two weeks in August. We visited friends/family in OR and

ALUMNI UPDATES

1950's

GERALD ANDERSON (1959)

badgerboy@texoma.net

After military service and graduate school I was employed at Procter & Gamble Company. I am currently retired and have been married to Barbara for 43 years. We have three children (all B.A. and M.B.A. graduates of U. of Texas) and six grandchildren – 4 girls/2 boys.

1960's

JEROME K. LAURENT (1961)

laurentj@uww.edu

As of this September I have begun my 41st year as a faculty member in the Economics Department at UW-Whitewater. I am hoping for another good year of teaching, research and service. In May of 2005 I received the Alumni Association President's Award from UW-Eau Claire.

JAMES DEROUIN (1965)

JDerouin@steptoe.com

I am employed as a partner with Steptoe & Johnson, LLP, law firm with offices in DC, London, Brussels, New York, LA and Phoenix. My economics degree helped me in law school because of the training in theoretical thinking and in my practice of law when dealing with economic models used for penalty calculations. I am a member of the Centers for Disease Control Scientific Advisory Board; Immediate past member of EPA's Superfund Reform Subcommittee; Member of American Bar Association, Arizona Bar Association, Wisconsin Bar Association, and Maricopa County Bar Association. I have been married for 32 years and have two daughters.

JIM SCHEIDLER (1968)

jimscheidler@sbcglobal.net

I am employed through Federal Government Sales with Spectrum Industries, a manufacturer of classroom and training room furniture, Chippewa Falls, WI. I use my economics background every day. Especially important is the relation of events in another state, or country, in the planning process for my job. As an example, the war in Iraq takes dollars that could be used to buy items like furniture by military bases. Spectrum developed a new line of desks that are more space efficient, as a flat panel screen pops out of the desk for computer applications, or the desk can be flat for other applications. Some Bases have found money for this new product.

1970's

THOMAS SCHANK (1973)

tomschank@northerninvestment.com

I am employed by Northern Investment Company
GERALD JACOBSON (1975)
ghj@northwesternbank.com
I am employed at Northwestern Bank in Chippewa Falls, WI. I am married with two children,

Todd and Beth. I received the Lifetime Excellence Award from UW-Eau Claire on August 6, 2005.

WAYNE BLASIUS (1976)

wb@insiteproperty.com

I am the President of InSite Development Corporation, in Knoxville, Tennessee.

HARRY KAISER (1979)

HMK2@cornell.edu

I am a professor of Applied Economics and Management at Cornell University. I was recently elected President of the Northeastern Agricultural and Resource Economics Association. This is the professional association of applied economists in the Northeastern U.S. I have been active in this association for 20 years, serving as editor of its academic journal, *Agricultural and Resource Economics Review*, from 1999-2002, as well as serving on numerous committees. My three year term began in July 2005.

GUSTAVO SEMINARIO (1979)

guswim@wxs.nl

I am currently employed by Delta Air Lines. My academic background in Economics and Political Science definitely helped me with the development of my career in the airline industry, and it provided me with the motivation to further advance to graduate studies. I presently live in Alkmaar, The Netherlands.

1980's

TONY ROACH (1981)

troach@charter.net

I am currently employed as the City Administrator, City of Fitchburg, Fitchburg, WI.

SHELLEY TIMMS (1981)

timshel@timshelservices.com

I attended the University of Toronto for law school and worked with two law firms doing defense insurance work. In 2000 I started my own business in dispute resolution and alcohol risk management and in 2004 I obtained my LL.M. (master in law) in dispute resolution. I live in a great part of Toronto and spend much of my summer in lake Temagami which is in northeastern Ontario with two springer spaniels. My hobbies include making preserves, swim, canoe, and train for a 60km walk in September called the Weekend to End Breast Cancer (this is my second year). I'm also on the boards of a couple of non-profit groups on alcohol awareness, and I am very active in the Canadian Bar Association.

MARIO BAUTISTA (1982)

bautistamario@hotmail.com

I am currently employed at First Data International, a subsidiary of First Data Corporation. I'm based in the UK on an expat assignment. Economics provided me with a good background and useful analytical tools that helped me later. I'm married to Ruby and we have two children, Mark (7) and Claudia (4). We

love to travel and have visited countries in and around Europe since we moved to the UK almost 2.5 years ago.

BILL LINDEKE (1982)

Mr705@aol.com

I am the Director of Customer Service Operations, Kimberly-Clark Corp in Neenah, WI. I am married to my wife Jeanine Schuldes (UW-Eau Claire 1984) and we have four children.

RUTH PRIER (1982)

ruthprier@hotmail.com

I loved UW-Eau Claire and am especially fond of the economics department. Many of the professors there were very good to me during my time in Eau Claire. I have been living in Syracuse, NY since I graduated. I have changed careers and am a registered nurse, currently employed as a nurse educator for a pharmaceutical firm. Even though I am now middle aged, I'm still a relative newlywed, having married my husband, John, just four years ago. We met in a wine class and honeymooned in France.

STEVE JOHNSON (1984)

gladys9@tds.net

I finished my degree requirements at UW-Oshkosh and am employed as a Sr. Forecast/Merchandise Analyst at The Swiss Colony, Inc. My econ degree taught me many of the analytical skills needed for my position. UW-Eau Claire has a good reputation for both Economics and Business which helped as well. I have been married for 21 years to Dawn. We enjoy our cottage on Lake Michigan in Door County, and my hobbies include golfing in the summer and curling in the winter.

TAMMY LANZER (1984)

TammyL@rcu.org

I am employed in the Real Estate Department at Royal Credit Union. I have been with RCU since 1987. I am married with two children, Aaron (9) and Claire (4).

MICHAEL SEIFERT (1985)

seifert.michael@mayo.edu

I am currently employed in Administration at Mayo Clinic. Juris Doctor from the University of Minnesota in 1988. I practiced law at private law firms before going in house with Mayo Clinic in 1995. I moved into an administrative role at Mayo Clinic in 2002. My econ major helped a great deal in law school and in my subsequent career.

JAMES ZIMMERMANN (1985)

Jzandbz@aol.com

I am employed as the Vice President of insurance in New Orleans, LA for Cory, Tucker & Larrowe, Inc., an independent insurance agency that specializes in large construction accounts. My econ major required a certain way of thinking that I strongly believe has helped me succeed on the job.

JAY BUECHLER (1986)

Jay.Buechler@manitowoc.com

I currently work for the Manitowoc Co., Inc.