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Department of Economics



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Department of Economics
Wake Forest University
PO Box 7505
Winston-Salem
NC 27109

Phone: 336 758 5334

E-mail: hamiltjk@wfu.edu

Deaeconomics

Newsletter of the WFU
Department of Economics
Edited by John T. Dalton and Joanna Hamilton

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Welcome from the New Chair of the Department



Dear Readers,

Welcome to the fourth issue of the annual newsletter from the Department of Economics at Wake Forest University. Our newsletter has a new name: Deaeconomics! In our annual newsletter, we share with you updates on department life, research published by the faculty, achievements by our current students, and more. If you missed previous newsletters, you can find them archived on the department's website: <http://college.wfu.edu/economics/newsletters>.

Before telling you about some of the news we want to share with you this year, let me thank Professor J. Daniel Hammond for his service as department chair. Professor Hammond took over as chair of the department in July 2013 and served for four years, a time that corresponded with much growth and change in our department. We thank him for his many years of dedicated service to our department. As of July 2017, I have taken over as department chair, and Professor

Welcome from the New Chair of the Department (continued)

Amanda Griffith will assist me as the associate chair of the department.

In terms of this past year, we have much to share. We begin the body of our newsletter updating you on the latest addition to our faculty. Professor Koleman S. Strumpf joins us as the Burchfield Presidential Chair of Political Economy, who follows Professor James R. Otteson who joined the department last year as the Thomas W. Smith Foundation Presidential Chair in Business Ethics. Next, we share an article from Wake Forest News featuring research from Professor Fred Chen on the economics of synthetic Rhino horns. Alec Jessar, a student from our Federal Reserve Challenge Team, writes about the team's experience in last year's competition. Be sure to check out the video of the team included in the article. Professor Todd McFall then writes about debating issues in the 2016 election, and Professor Christina Dalton writes about her experience speaking on the economics of healthcare at the Dining Dilemmas event. The newsletter contains many more items for your reading pleasure. We hope you enjoy!

All of what we do in the Department of Economics is supported by the generous donations of alumni and friends. Your gifts enhance our ability to pursue academic excellence, both as teachers and scholars, and we sincerely thank you for your support. If you are interested in giving to the department, more information appears on the last page of this newsletter.

Lastly, we have now started a LinkedIn group for all current and former economics majors, so please make sure to join the group to stay connected with your fellow Wake econ alumni.

See you next year,
Sandeep Mazumder
Department Chair



Newly Designed "Deaeconomics" T-shirt. For more info on how to buy one, please email hamiltjk@wfu.edu.

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Construction of two new faculty offices just off the Thomas Taylor Atrium in Kirby Hall. Keep reading for a photo of the completed work.

**Welcome to the Burchfield Presidential Chair of Political Economy,
Professor Koleman Strumpf!**



We are pleased to welcome Professor Koleman Strumpf who comes to us from the University of Kansas School of Business where he was a professor of Business Economics. Professor Strumpf earned his B.S. and A.B. from Stanford University in 1990 and his Ph.D. from MIT in 1995. Professor Strumpf's research interests are in applied microeconomics, particularly public economics and industrial organization. His most recent work focuses on file sharing (the economic impact on the entertainment industries), prediction markets (election futures, corporate applications), and industrial organization (formal evidence of first degree price discrimination in the real world). His research has received extensive media coverage in major news outlets such as *CNN*, *BBC*, *NPR*, *Wall Street Journal*, *New York Times*, *Financial Times*, and *The Atlantic*.

Professor Strumpf previously taught at UNC Chapel Hill, the University of Chicago, and the University of Pennsylvania. Since 2006, he is an Associate Editor of *The Journal of Prediction Markets*.

Dean of the College Michele Gillespie said, "I am pleased to welcome Koleman to Wake Forest because he embodies the teacher-scholar ideal we value so much. His outstanding scholarship in applied microeconomics is a terrific complement to the excellent body of work already underway in our Department of Economics".

Professor Strumpf will teach Public Finance and Prediction Markets during the Fall 2017 semester.

For the full Wake Forest University press release, please click [here](#).

Welcome to the Thomas W. Smith Foundation Presidential Chair in Business Ethics, Professor James Otteson!



We have a second Presidential Chair in the Department of Economics. The Thomas W. Smith Foundation Presidential Chair in Business Ethics is held by Professor James Otteson, who is also the Executive Director of the BB&T Center for the Study of Capitalism and the Executive Director of the Eudaimonia Institute. Professor Otteson was named a Professor of Economics in 2016 and begins teaching for the department this fall with a course on Economic Philosophers.

Before coming to Wake Forest in the Fall of 2013, Professor Otteson was a joint professor of philosophy and economics at Yeshiva University. He has taught previously at New York University, Georgetown University, and the University of Alabama. He also serves as a Research Professor in the Freedom Center and in the Philosophy Department at the University of Arizona and is a Senior Scholar at the Fund for American Studies in Washington, DC.

Professor Otteson's scholarship focuses on political economy, political philosophy, history and philosophy of economics, and eighteenth-century moral and political thought. He is an expert on Adam Smith, on the moral foundations of capitalism, and on the comparative evaluation of competing systems of political economy.

The Eudaimonia Institute was set up in 2016 to explore the elements of and institutions that support *eudaimonia*, or genuine human flourishing. It is creating a community of scholars dedicated to developing an interdisciplinary understanding of what eudaimonia is, what the institutions are that support it, and what its chief obstacles are, in the hope of enabling more people to achieve eudaimonia. The inaugural conference of the Eudaimonia Institute took place in April 2017 and two of our professors (Dan Hammond and Robert Whaples) moderated sessions. Click [here](#) for the full conference schedule and [here](#) for the Institute's homepage.

Congratulations to Our Faculty



Professor Mark Curtis was awarded an Alfred P. Sloan Foundation grant for \$249,933 to research the economics of energy efficiency focused on determining how management practice in the industrial sector impacts energy efficiency.



Professor John T. Dalton has been awarded the F.M. Kirby Family Faculty Fellowship for his excellence in teaching and research. He was also selected as a resident professor at the Flow House in Vienna for Summer 2018.



Professor Amanda Griffith has been awarded the Ollen R. Nalley Faculty Fellowship for her excellence in teaching and research.



Professors Tommy Leung and John T. Dalton were awarded a pilot research grant to research the economic legacy and long-term consequences of the African slave trades.

The Economics of Synthetic Rhino Horns– Research from Dr. F. Chen

By Kim McGrath (first published July 5, 2017 on news.wfu.edu)

Every eight hours, a rhinoceros is slaughtered in South Africa. Rhino poaching in South Africa surged from 83 in 2008 to a record 1,215 in 2014 to meet demands by [newly-affluent Asian countries](#), where the horn is a key ingredient in traditional medicines. To help stem the tide of rhino poaching, some biotech companies are seeking to develop and manufacture synthetic horns that are identical to the real thing.

“The thinking is that if bio-identical synthetic horns are available at a substantially lower price than wild horns, people will choose to buy synthetic ones, which will reduce incentives to poach rhinos,” said Wake Forest University economist Frederick Chen.

But the answer is not that simple. In a published paper in June 2017, “[The Economics of Synthetic Rhino Horns](#),” Chen’s research shows that, for conservation purposes, it may be beneficial to produce inferior fake horns – synthetic horns that are engineered to be undesirable in some respect but difficult for buyers to distinguish from wild horns.

Doing so would reduce demand for horns in general and lower prices since consumers who cannot identify a real horn from a fake one may be less likely to purchase one at all.

Here’s why: “This proposal makes use of a phenomenon in economics known as adverse selection, which occurs when buyers in a market are unable to distinguish between high- and low-quality products. This lack of information can drive down prices enough that high-quality products, which in this case would be real rhino horns, would cease to be supplied by sellers,” said Chen.

To create buyer uncertainty regarding product quality in the horn market, the synthetic product and the real McCoy should be difficult for the average buyer to tell apart. To have products of differing quality levels in the market, the synthetic horns



Professor Fred Chen

Continued over

The Economics of Synthetic Rhino Horns (continued)

should be engineered to be substantially inferior in some aspect so that buyers would place a significantly lower value on the fake horns compared to the real ones.

However, it is not in the business interest of profit-seeking producers to sell synthetic horns that consumers would find undesirable.

“If the goal is conservation, simply having biotech companies that want to make money produce synthetic horns probably isn’t going to solve the poaching problem since they would rather keep demand and price of horns high to increase their bottom line. And that, of course, would be bad for the rhinos.”

Chen’s research suggests that to drive out wild horn suppliers, governments and conservation groups need to create policies or incentives that are more likely to ensure protection for rhinos. These might include:

- Subsidizing companies that produce synthetic horns to incentivize them to increase production and thereby drive down horn prices.
- Promoting competition on the production side of synthetic horns. Competition on the production side will put downward pressure on prices by raising the market supply.
- Making it easier or less costly for nonprofit organizations to invest in or acquire the technology for producing synthetic horns. Without a profit incentive, these organizations could make a high enough quantity of bio-identical synthetic horns to drive down horn prices sufficiently to cause wild horn suppliers to exit the market. Nonprofits could also produce inferior synthetic horns that are difficult to distinguish from real horns to create uncertainty in the market and drive out wild horn suppliers through adverse selection.

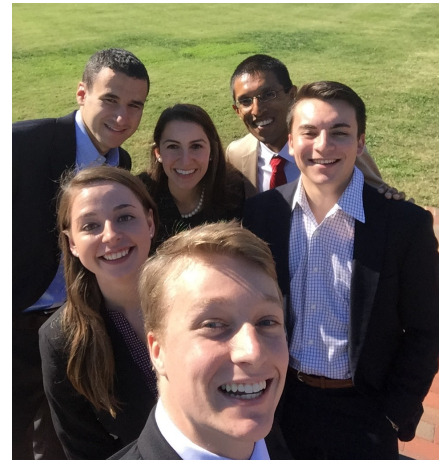
“The main lesson provided by these results is that the market structure of the synthetic horn sector and the type of synthetic horns that are produced matter greatly in determining how much – and what kind of – effect the availability of synthetic horns would have on wild horn supply,” Chen said.

Federal Reserve Challenge Team 2016

By Alec Jessar ('19)

Last October, the Fed Challenge Team, headed by Professor Sandeep Mazumder and made up of students Lilly Gaeto, Lisa Schaffer, Jeff Zwick, Hunter Hale, and Alec Jessar, competed in the 2016 Federal Reserve Challenge, traveling to Elon University to present our recommendations for short-term and longer-term monetary policy in the U.S. The group made the case that the Fed should maintain the Federal Funds rate at its current level (0.25%-0.50%) to allow for continued growth given headwinds in the global economy, stubbornly low inflation at home, concerns about the labor market, and struggling nonresidential investment. The team also recommended that the Fed pursue a 4% inflation target in order to lower real interest rates to equal the natural equilibrium interest rate (which would produce an output gap of zero).

Although the team did not make it to the second round, we felt that we gave our best presentation yet and handled the question and answer period very well (in this section of the competition, the judges can throw any question out there, about the presentation or about a random topic related to monetary policy). Everyone enjoyed the opportunity to meet the esteemed judges and appreciate Elon's beautiful campus, and we even got our own prep room before the presentation. Though we were disappointed when we learned, after a



Continued over



<http://go.wfu.edu/fedchallenge>

Federal Reserve Challenge Team 2016 (continued)

nice team lunch down the street from the campus, that we would not be advancing, we are honored to have competed against the other schools and students and taken part in this academic and also very personal experience. The team would like to thank Professor Mazumder, who has been there for us every week and day of the year since last December and who has been an incredible mentor, helping us prepare and providing so much moral support. We would also like to thank Professor Brooke Davis of the Theater Department for helping us rehearse our presentation and become better public speakers. Lastly, we want to thank Professors Mark Curtis, Robert Whaples, and Todd McFall for acting as judges in our mock presentations and giving us thought-provoking questions and feedback. We are all so excited to see how far Wake Forest makes it in the competition next year!



Jeff Zwick ('17), Lisa Schaffer ('17), Lilly Gaeto ('18), Hunter Hale ('18), and Alex Jessar ('19).

Election 2016: Debating the Issues

By Todd McFall



L-R: Professor Robert Whaples, Jared Bernstein, James Pethokoukis, and Professor Todd McFall

Last October saw Wake Forest University host a three-day series of forums featuring national and regional experts offering different perspectives on key election issues. The event was co-sponsored by the Departments of American Ethnic Studies, Education, Economics, Communication, Latin American and Latino Studies, Politics and International Affairs, and Sociology in conjunction with the Pro Humanitate Institute and Wake Forward. Moderated panels ending with a question and answer session were held twice each day.

Professor Robert Whaples and Professor Todd McFall invited James Pethokoukis of the American Enterprise Institute (AEI) and Jared Bernstein of the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities to debate issues related to the US economy. The participants answered questions about tax policy, innovation, income inequality, trade, and, infamously, what election favorite Hillary Clinton might do once she occupied the Oval Office. The event was heavily attended, and, following the debate, some students were able to sit down with the participants over dinner at Fratellis's Restaurant. Click [here](#) to learn more about James Pethokoukis and [here](#) to learn more about Jared Bernstein.

Dining Dilemmas—Too Young for Healthcare Insurance? The American Healthcare Act vs The Affordable Care Act

By Christina Dalton



You are an engaged and concerned legislator (Congratulations!). Bad news, though: your state is facing decreased funding for Medicare. What benefits will you cut in order to maintain coverage for the same number of people? Or, who will lose eligibility in order to keep the same benefit coverage?

On April 12, about 90 students came together to grapple with questions such as these and listen to discussion led by Professor Christina Dalton, Department of Economics, and Dr. Richard Lord, MD, Wake Forest Baptist Health's Vice President of Population Health. The event was part of the Dining Dilemmas program, where students, many who are interested in health professions, come for a meal and discussion on the technical and ethical difficulties present in providing health care in the United States. Professor Dalton shared the economics forces helping and hindering well-functioning health insurance markets, what happens when insurers can no longer price according to pre-existing conditions (as was legislated by the ACA), and the challenges present in insurance markets when the most unhealthy patients are the most likely to sign up for care. There was some fun cheering and feigned turmoil in the name of learning as Professor Dalton recreated adverse selection and an insurance market "death spiral" by assigning increasing illness levels to the 9 tables and then let the students decide which tables would end up with insurance.

Dr. Lord discussed the dichotomy of physicians' interests in improving patient health and

Continued over

Dining Dilemmas (continued)

“do no harm” versus business interest in profit growth and how sharing information between the two groups has potential for improving both aspects. After the initial introduction of these topics, Professor Dalton and Dr. Lord circulated among the students as they discussed 9 different scenarios of challenges and tradeoffs in providing health insurance.

Students emerged with a better understanding of the problems in insurance markets and the advantages and disadvantages of the most common solutions of current political discussions. Dr. Lord and Professor Dalton left them with the charge that they continue to develop a clear understanding of these issues to enable them to lead from within the system, either as policy makers or practitioners.



Dr. Richard Lord, Economics major Jack Laughlin, Professor Christina Dalton, Professor Pat Lord, Lecturer in Biology, Director of Health Professions Program and organizer of the Dining Dilemmas Series, together with other student attendees.

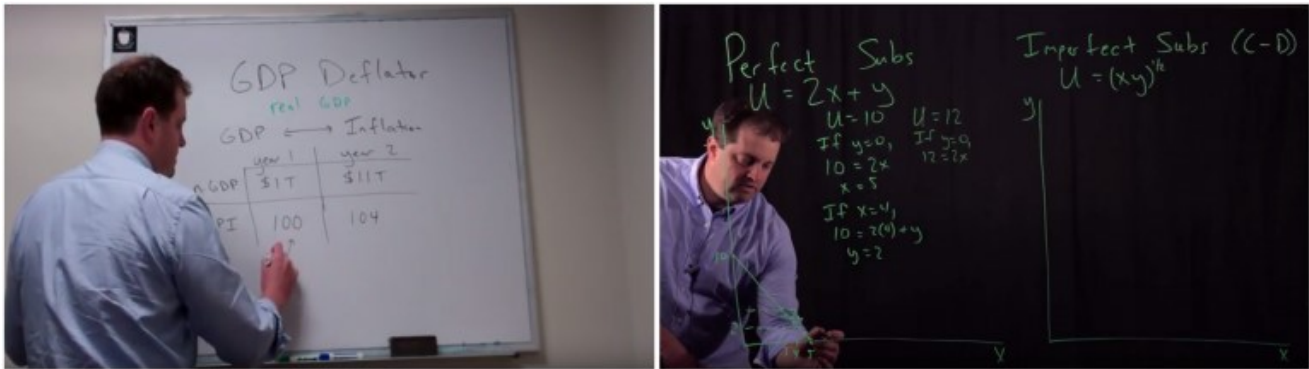


Professor Christina Dalton presenting

Innovation in the Classroom: The Lightboard

Professor Todd McFall has been using Lightboard technology in his teaching. The Lightboard is a low technology solution to help facilitate the recording of instructional videos. Instruction is recorded in the manner in which students are already accustomed, using a dry erase marker on a whiteboard-sized surface. A camera records the writing on the pane of tempered glass surrounded by small LED lights. The video is then mirror-flipped using computer software and the handwriting appears correct to those watching the video. The Lightboard is ideal for those who wish to record videos for homework help or for flipped classroom lessons.

Professor McFall and our Instructional Technology Specialist, Sarah McCorkle, have written a paper on the technique called “Using Videos to complement Classroom Activities: The Merits of Brevity, Chunking, and a Clear Presentation”. Professor McFall presented their findings at the Eastern Economic Association Meetings in New York City last February.



Alumni Connections

By Amanda Griffith

Our majors are always interested in hearing about the ways in which our alumni use the skills learned in their economics classes here at Wake in their careers. In April, Shannon Bothwell ('98) spoke with a group of our majors about her experiences in business and law and how her Wake Forest economics degree has played a role in her work. Shannon attended Yale Law School after leaving Wake and has been working in South Florida in varied positions, including real estate law. Shannon has also served many years on the Alumni Council and is currently a member of the College Board of Visitors. We thank Shannon for creating this valuable opportunity for our current majors. If any other alumni are in town and interested in sitting down with our majors to discuss how economics has served them well in their time after Wake Forest, please contact Professor Amanda Griffith (griffial@wfu.edu). We would love to have you!

Professors in the Media



Professor Amanda Griffith was quoted in “Schooling Google? WFU among universities creating a culture to support women, minorities in STEM”, a WFU News article you can read in full [here](#).



Professor Tommy Leung was invited to provide a methodology for the analysis and contribute to a FactWire News Agency report titled “Open Information Database Suggests Widespread Signs of Bid-Rigging”. The building maintenance information database compiled by FactWire suggests signs of bid-rigging in the industry in Hong Kong. The full article can be seen [here](#).



Professor Todd McFall has given interviews about NC House Bill 2 to Jeff Tiberii of WUNC on his podcast [here](#), to Sean Bueter on WFDD [here](#), and in the Winston-Salem Journal to Richard Craver [here](#). He was also interviewed by Katie Peralta for the Charlotte Observer on Steph Curry’s relationship with Under Armour in light of President Trump’s comments [here](#) and for an article on Dale Earnhardt, Jr’s retirement [here](#). On ESPN, Professor McFall discussed with Tom Haberstroh [here](#) the difficulty of the rest decision that NBA teams and the league face. In the San Diego Union-Tribune, Professor McFall spoke with Lori Weisberg [here](#) on the financial struggles of the Farmers Insurance Classic, which takes place annually in San

Diego.



Professor Robert Whaples has been interviewed about his new book “Pope Francis and the Caring Society” (see page 25). Click [here](#) for a discussion on Russ Roberts’s EconTalk podcast as part of the Library of Economics and Liberty and [here](#) for a discussion on Kresta in the Afternoon on Ave Maria Radio. He also gave a talk to the John Locke Foundation in Raleigh about the economics of the future [here](#). Professor Whaples also spoke about “U.S. Trade Policy” [here](#) as part of the Great Decisions series on WFDD.

My Experience at the Southern Economic Association Conference in Washington, DC

By Lilly Gaeto ('18)



Attending my first Economics conference was a great learning experience and opportunity for me to see how I could use my Economics degree in the future. I was able to go to the Southern Economics Association conference in downtown Washington D.C. on November 18th through the 21st, 2016 with Professor Jac Heckelman. As a junior Economics major seriously considering graduate school, my participation at the regional conference allowed me to explore various areas of economic research.

The conference began on Saturday morning, and I was excited to attend several of the sessions offered that piqued my interest. I was able to meet some Wake Forest alumni for breakfast before the conference began. One person recently finished his Ph.D. and another is currently attending graduate school. They were both helpful in giving me advice from their undergraduate and graduate experiences.

I planned on attending sessions primarily devoted to macroeconomic issues, but I also branched out and went to sessions in other areas. The first session I went to was actually about the economics of higher education. One interesting paper in the session discussed the effect of changes in the unemployment rate on college enrollment and graduation rates. As a college student, the research seemed especially pertinent. That day I also attended a session that included various topics in macroeconomics. Although the session was highly technical and went much beyond what I have learned in my courses, it was helpful to see how the principles I am learning in my classes apply to high level research.

Saturday evening I attended the Distinguished Guest Lecture. The speaker was a professor at Harvard named Andrei Shleifer, and the event was very well attended. He spoke about his research in the area of educated entrepreneurs. He also touched on some research that graduate students are doing at Harvard in the area of government efficiency. Professor

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My Experience at the Southern Economics Association Conference (continued)

Shleifer had a good balance of data, story-telling, and humor in his talk. Beyond hearing the speaker, I really enjoyed being surrounded by a group of people who were equally engaged and passionate about economics.

Sunday, I went to more sessions and realized that I was becoming more comfortable and felt that I was able to follow most of what was being presented. In the morning, I went to a session that focused specifically on central banks. I am currently working on a research project with a professor about the Federal Reserve, so I found the topic applicable. I could even picture myself some day presenting my research at a similar conference. That afternoon I also went to sessions on behavioral economics and law and economics. Again, it was helpful being exposed to these different areas that were represented at the Southern Economic Association conference.

Monday morning I left D.C. with a notepad full of notes and many experiences to reflect upon. By the end of the weekend, I felt like I had branched out from my core economics foundation and learned about some more obscure areas as well as met people from many different institutions. Now when I research graduate school programs, I feel like I have an idea about what the different research areas are all about. I am also excited to go back to my classes now that I really see how what I am learning everyday will possibly apply to future research and a career in academia. While I am not certain exactly what area I want to research, the ability to go to a major conference such as the Southern Economic Association conference and spend a weekend in a vibrant city like Washington D.C. was definitely helpful in determining that I do want to continue my economics education and attend more conferences in the future.

Congratulations Class of 2017!

There were 113 students graduating with a major in Economics and 19 with a major in Mathematical Economics.

There were also 24 students graduating with a minor in Economics.

Congratulations to this year's winners of the David and Lelia Farr Prize for Excellence in Economics, **Erich Denk**, and for Excellence in Mathematical Economics, **Parker Harris**.



L-R: Parker Harris ('17), Professor Dan Hammond, and Erich Denk ('17)

The highest score in the Economics Department Exit Exam was earned by **Zach Gould** who wins the Deacon Econ Prize.

We would also like to recognize the students who graduated with

Honors in Economics:

Kevin Closs: "Determinants of Post-Education Success: An Examination of School, Human Capital, Social Capital, and Cultural Capital"

Erich Denk: "You say Tomato and I say Tomato: Behavioral Economics, Information Economics, and Inefficiencies in Food Choice"

Matthew Healy: "Is the End of Private Prisons Unwarranted? A Comprehensive Analysis of Prison Violence as a Measure of Efficiency in the American Prison System"

Honors in Mathematical Economics:

Lindsay Graham: "Analysis of the Taylor Rule and Central Bank Dependency in Setting Interest Rates"

Parker Harris: "Recognizing Risk and Evaluating Correctional Policy: A Hazard-Survival Analysis of Sex Offender Recidivism in South Carolina"

Department Graduation Reception 2017



Mathematical Economics Major Jillian Correia awarded Luce Scholarship



Wake Forest senior Jillian L. Correia has been awarded a Luce Scholarship for 2017-2018. She is Wake Forest's first Luce scholar in over 20 years. The scholarship is a nationally competitive fellowship program created by the Henry Luce Foundation in 1974 to enhance the understanding of Asia among potential leaders in American society. Luce Scholars are provided stipends, language training, and individualized professional placement in Asia. Correia is one of 18 Luce Scholarship award winners who were chosen from among 161 candidates nominated by 68 colleges and universities nationwide.

Speaking of Correia, Wake Forest Provost, Rogan Kersh said, "Her extraordinary intellectual curiosity, deeply thoughtful approach to all she does, and natural vivacity will make Jillian a superb contributor to her professional assignment in Asia as well as a wonderful 'ambassador' for our U.S. millennial generation."

"As a Luce Scholarship recipient, I anticipate working to address political and economic challenges facing the Asia-Pacific food system," said Correia. "I'm confident this next year will be rewarding in whatever city I find myself."

Correia developed a passion for addressing the health implications of food insecurity while volunteering for a Native American permaculture institute on the Kha'Po Owingeh Pueblo in New Mexico. There, she facilitated The Pueblo Food Experience, a diet-improvement initiative where tribal members eat foods solely indigenous to their region and culture, equipping Pueblo peoples with the resources and inspiration to regain their health.

Her research focuses on political, socioeconomic, and institutional factors that influence food intake and human wellbeing. She presented her work at the 9th Annual International Conference on Sociology in Athens, Greece, and the findings, published in a peer-reviewed journal, serve as inspira-

Continued over

Mathematical Economics Major Jillian Correia awarded Luce Scholarship (continued)

tion for schools and policy makers looking to improve lunch practices through grassroots change. As a Mathematical Economics major at Wake Forest, Jillian's subsequent research looks comparatively at food systems in the UK and Switzerland and analyzes multinational time use survey data from an economic lens to quantify time spent eating as a determinant of Body Mass Index (BMI). Now, Correia offers theoretical and editorial guidance as Associate Editor for *Food Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal* and is thankful her econometric courses at Wake Forest provided a basis to better evaluate empirical studies.

Correia's economic training also allowed her to spend a summer consulting at McKinsey and Company where she was tasked with developing a margin improvement strategy for a foodservice corporation. "There are a lot of moving parts in our multi-faceted food system; it's important for me to understand how industry, the economy, policy, and human behavior all play a role," Correia explained.

The rigorous selection process for the Luce Scholarship culminated in a finalist weekend with dinner, a reception, and seven one-on-one interviews. "Conversations at dinner hovered around politics and current events with occasional avenues to weave in a bit about yourself for the selection committee," said Correia. "I was thankful my coffee chats with professors, class discussions, and religious reading of *The Economist* provided an economic grounding to contribute to the conversation."

For Jillian, the road to becoming a Luce Scholar started well before her application in fall of 2016, and she attributes much of her success to the professors and advisors within the economics department. Aside from the four required recommendation letters (which carry a lot of weight), it was her professors' personal insights, book suggestions, interview prep, and mentorship that provided encouragement and inspiration along the way.

Correia plans to use her economics training during her Luce Scholars year and immerse herself both culturally and professionally in Asian society: "Ultimately, I plan to continue leading efforts in economic development to help alleviate the serious political and economic challenges facing global food security."

Correia, who is from Simsbury, Conn., graduated in May as a Reynolds and a Presidential Scholar with a B.S. in Mathematical Economics and a minor in Studio Art.

Summer 2017 in Vienna, Austria

By Sandeep Mazumder

This past summer, 10 economics students and I studied International Finance at the Flow house in Vienna, Austria. The study of international finance in Vienna was particularly appropriate since we spent a substantial amount of time studying the behavior of exchange rates. This was pertinent to all of us since we had to constantly consider the dollar-euro exchange rate when making buying decisions in Vienna.

The class entailed a substantial amount of discussion regarding the European Union, with a focus on the formation and future of the single European currency. To that end, we had a guest speaker from the Austrian Central Bank who came and delivered his thoughts on Austria's experience in the Economic and Monetary Union. The 10 students also wrote a research paper about the economics of Europe, and most focused on topical issues such as Brexit or the future of the euro. These papers were done extremely well, and it was wonderful to see that being present in Europe really shaped the arguments and perspectives presented in students' research papers.

More generally, we as a class really benefited from being in a major European city while key events were taking place around the region. For instance, we arrived shortly after the French presidential election and were here for the British general election. We also got to witness the European reaction to the United States' decision to withdraw from the Paris climate agreement. We read and discussed many articles about these current events, which really added to the level of enthusiasm in the classroom. The other key highlight of our class was a guided tour of the Austrian Central Bank's money museum, where we learned about the evolution of Austria's currency from their very first rudimentary form of money all the way until today's euro notes and coins. We all even got to try our hand picking up a solid bar of gold that was on display at the money museum, which was a new experience for all of us!

Outside of the classroom, we were able to share life in the Flow house really nicely. We went on several dinners together, and, on one occasion, the students even prepared and cooked

Continued over

Summer 2017 in Vienna, Austria (continued)

schnitzel themselves for all of us (under the direction of house manager Guenter Haika), which was a great deal of fun. Students also were able to travel all over Europe during our time here, to places such as Budapest, Salzburg, Munich, Auschwitz, Paris, and Prague. In addition, almost all students took in operas, classical music concerts, and ballets that are offered daily in Vienna. We also thoroughly enjoyed the many palaces, galleries, museums, and parks that are available in the city. Vienna is truly a remarkable place, and I encourage all of you to visit it, either at the Flow house or if not, as a tourist one day.



Back row: Brent Mitchell ('18), Emma Hughes ('19), Jiayi Baolin ('18), Phillipp Wendler ('19), Joseph Ford ('18).
Front row: Camille Bibb ('18), Vinh-Hop Ngo ('18), Jimmy Berents ('18), Tavonte Starnes ('19), Gregory Campbell ('18).



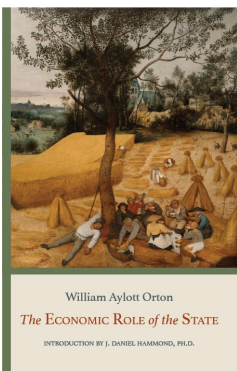


Faculty
Publications
ΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΟΝΙΚΑ
ΕΡΓΑΣΙΑ

Where available, clicking on the paper titles below will link directly to the article itself.

- **“Arts and Craftiness: An Economic Analysis of Art Heists” (Chen, F. and Regan, R.*), *Journal of Cultural Economics*, 2017, 41, 283-307.**
* Rebecca Regan (WFU class of 2015)
- **“The Economics of Synthetic Rhino Horns” (Chen, F.), *Ecological Economics*, 2017, 141, 180-189.**
- **“EU Enlargement and the New Goods Margin in Austrian Trade” (Dalton, J. T.), *Open Economies Review*, 2017, 28 (1), 61-78.**
- **“Strategic Decision-Making in Hollywood Release Gaps” (Dalton, J. T. and Leung, T. C.), *Journal of International Economics*, 2017, 105, 10-21.**
- **“The Effect of Institutional Expenditures on Employment Outcomes and Earnings” (Griffith, A. L. and Rask, K. N.), *Economic Inquiry*, 2016, 54, 1931-1945.**
- **“A Note on Neutrality and Majority Rule with an Application to State Votes at the Constitutional Convention of 1787” (Heckelman, J.), *Public Choice*, 2016, 167, 245-255.**
- **“Tullock on the Organization of Scientific Inquiry” (Heckelman, J.), *Constitutional Political Economy*, 2017, 28, 1-17.**
- **“iPad Purchasing Parity: Farewell to the Big Mac Index” (Mazumder, S.), *Economics Bulletin*, 2016, 36(4), 2128-2136.**
- **“Output Gains from Accelerating Core Inflation” (Mazumder, S.), *Journal of Macroeconomics*, 2017, 51, 63-74.**
- **“Hey, College Sports. Compromise on Compensation and You can Have a Legal Monopoly” (McFall, T.), *Marquette Sports Law Review*, 2016, 26, 459.**
- **“Loss Aversion on the Links: Penalized Pro Golfers Fall Prey to Decision Bias” (McFall, T.), *International Journal of Applied Behavioral Economics*, 2016, 5(4), 24-40.**

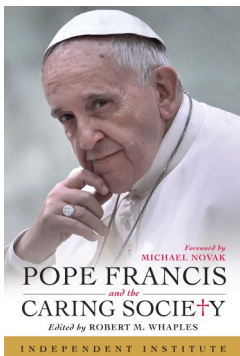
- "The Misuse of Egalitarianism in Society" (Otteson, J.), *The Independent Review*, 2017, 22(1), 37–47.
- "The Impact of HIV Testing on Subjective Mortality and Investments in Children: Experimental Evidence from Malawi" (Eriksson, K. and Sovero, V.), *Economics Letters*, 2016, 149, 90-93.



The Economic Role of the State by William Aylott Orton.

Introduction by J. Daniel Hammond

Click [here](#) for more information.



Pope Francis and the Caring Society.

Edited by Robert Whaples

Click [here](#) for more information.





Guest Speakers Invited to Lecture to Students

This year the following guest lecturers came to campus to speak with students:

- ◆ Andreas Freytag, Friedrich-Schiller University and University of Stellenbosch, *“Developing Countries in Global Value Chains”*
- ◆ Jeremy Beer, American Philanthropic, *“Why do We Give? What’s Good and Bad About American Philanthropy”*
The Society of Economics Students organized a small group discussion with Jeremy Beer following his lecture.
- ◆ John Graham, Indiana’s School of Public and Environmental Affairs, *“The Future of Electric Cars in the U.S. and Abroad”*
- ◆ Robert Baade, Lake Forest College, *“The Economic Impact of Commercial Sport: What’s the Score?”*
- ◆ Craig Richardson, Winston-Salem State University, *“Is This North Carolina or Zimbabwe? How Property Rights in North Carolina Deteriorated to the Level of a Third-World Country”*

Guest Speakers for the Department Research Seminar Series and Junior Workshop

- ◆ Sandy Darity (Duke University): *“Stratification Economics: A New Subfield”*
- ◆ Alejandro Zentner (UT Dallas): *“Measuring E-Commerce Concentration Effects When Product Popularity is Channel-Specific”*
- ◆ Elizabeth Chiles (UCLA): *“Shrouded Prices and Firm Reputation: Evidence from the U.S. Hotel Industry”*
- ◆ Thayer Morrill (NC State University): *“Which School Assignments are Legal?”*
- ◆ Caleb Stroup (Davidson College): *“Entry and Competition in Corporate Takeover Markets”*
- ◆ Mark Koyama (George Mason University): *“Autocratic Rule and Social Capital: Evidence from Imperial China”*
- ◆ Matthew Lewis (Clemson University): *“Competition and Quality Choice in Hospital Markets”*
- ◆ Byron Tsang (Virginia Tech): *“What Cycles? Data Detrending in DSGE Models”*

Upcoming Events

For more information on department events, see our website under the “news and events” tab [here](#).

Monday, October 2, 2017, 4 p.m., Kirby 103

Faculty Seminar Series—John Burger (Loyola University)

Wednesday, October 4, 2017, Benson 401

Major/Minor Fair

Wednesday, October 18, 2017, 4 p.m., Kirby 103

Faculty Seminar Series—Noel Johnson (George Mason University)

Thursday, October 26, 2017, 4 p.m., Kirby B02

Public lecture—Stephen Holland (UNCG) - Title TBA

Wednesday, 8 November, 2017, 4 p.m., Kirby 103

Faculty Seminar Series—Cathleen Johnson (University of Arizona)

Monday, 13 November, 2017, 4 p.m., Kirby B02 (subject to change –check website before event)

Public lecture—Richard Salsman (Duke University) - Title TBA



Completed new faculty offices off the Thomas Taylor Atrium.



WFU Department
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majors: "Wake
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Department of Economics
Wake Forest University
PO Box 7505
Winston-Salem
NC 27109

Phone: 336 758 5334

E-mail: hamiltjk@wfu.edu



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Coming Back to Campus?

We would love to know! Perhaps you have an interest in connecting with current students? Or presenting a talk? Let us know, and we can organize something. Email hamiltjk@wfu.edu.

Keep in Touch

Let us know if you change your email address, or if you are reading someone else's copy of this newsletter and would like your own, then please contact us with your email address.

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Economics Department Faculty and Staff 2017-18

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Jagdeep Bhandari (Research Prof.)

Jac C. Heckelman

Justin E. Burkett

Tin Cheuk (Tommy) Leung

Frederick H. Chen

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