

DECEMBER 2011

Reinvigorated Undergraduate Mentorship Program Takes Off

The department is thrilled to announce the revival of the undergraduate student mentorship program this fall! Dormant since 2008, the mentorship program resurgence is being driven by Economics Visiting Committee members Walt Zabriskie (BA '71) and Gabe Hanzeli (BA '76).



Walt Zabriskie



Gabe Hanzeli

Each spring, the Economics Undergraduate Board (EUB) conducts a student survey to measure student satisfaction with their undergraduate experience. The group then presents their results at the spring meeting of the Visiting Committee. Last spring's EUB survey found that undergraduate students strongly desire the opportunity to learn about specific jobs, career paths, organizational cultures, and industries with the guidance of a professional mentor—particularly as they face graduation and job searching in the midst of the Great Recession.

In response to the EUB survey, Zabriskie and

Hanzeli researched the popular mentorship program operating at the UW Foster School of Business, and developed a similar model for the Economics department. This year they will oversee a pilot program, involving undergraduates from the EUB and department Honors program. These undergrads, comprised of juniors and seniors, will meet with their mentors a minimum of four hours over the course of the rest of the academic year and will be expected to delineate their interests and expectations for the mentor relationship.

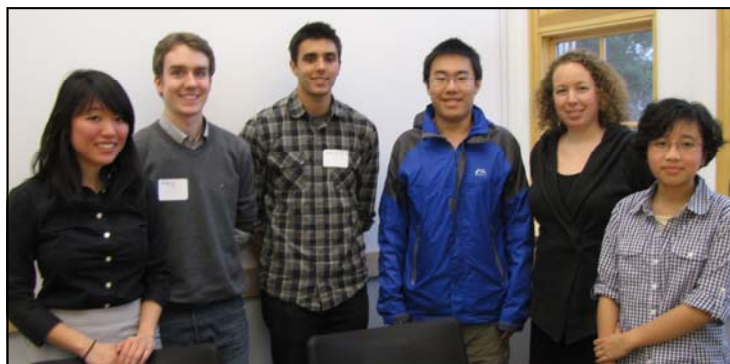
Mentors for this pilot program have been culled primarily from the Visiting Committee, but it is the hope of Zabriskie and Hanzeli that as the program develops, Economics alumni from numerous industries and in any stage of their careers will volunteer for this opportunity. Students have expressed interest in working with professionals from a wide variety of fields, including finance and consulting, law, business, real estate, non-profit, higher education administration, and more.

If you are interested in being a mentor to Economics undergraduates, we would like to hear from you! Email nhunts@uw.edu or check out the department website for more info.

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Undergraduate Mentor Lunch Series



The department was pleased to welcome alumna Bethany Carlson (BS '00, ACMS with emphasis in economics) for a mentor lunch this fall with members of the EUB. From left: Jamie Goh, Jeremy Housekeeper, Steven Sankaran, Owen Nie, Carlson, and Adibah Abdulhadi. Carlson, CFA, is co-founder of Galway Investment Strategy in Charlottesville, Virginia.

AEA ALUMNI RECEPTION

The department is hosting an alumni reception at the January 2012 **American Economic Association (AEA)** meeting in Chicago on **Friday, January 6, 2012 from 6:00—8:00 p.m. at the Swissotel** (323 E. Wacker Drive). Light hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar (with tickets) will be available. All alumni, friends of the department, and meeting attendees are invited, and you do not have to be registered for the conference to attend. We hope to see many of our friends there!



Happy holidays from the faculty, staff, and students at the Department of Economics!

Department Welcomes New Visiting Committee Members

Established in 1989, the Economics Visiting Committee includes business and community leaders who believe that educating our young people about economics is an essential part of creating a prosperous future in the Pacific Northwest. Members maintain a strong interest in current economic research and recognize the UW's vital role in economics education. Welcome, new members:



Julie Parisio Roy, UW Econ BA '97
Investment Manager and Research Analyst, Badgley Phelps
Julie manages portfolios for both institutional and high net-worth private clients. She is also a member of Badgley's research team.



Tony Richardson, UW Econ BA '94
Founder and CTO, Xtreme Consulting Group
Tony directs the strategy of consulting, works to identify new areas of investment, and defines the operations and culture of Xtreme. Tony is a 2009 Puget Sound Business Journal "40 Under 40" honoree and an active member of the Entrepreneur's Organization—Seattle.



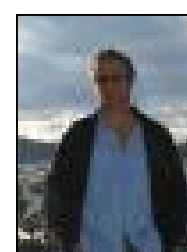
Christina Tapia, UW Econ Ph.D. '09
Christina is an economist for Nickerson & associates, specializing in employment, wage and hour, and labor cases. She is also an adjunct professor of economics in the Albers School of Business at Seattle University, and a lecturer in the Foster School of Business at UW.



Mike Dueker, UW Econ Ph.D. '91
Chief Economist for North America, Russell Investments
In addition to writing for Russell's market outlook publications, Dr. Dueker teaches in UW's department of applied math in the computational finance and risk management program.



Charles Nelson, UW Economics
Professor Emeritus
Charles served on the faculty of the department at the rank of full professor from 1976 until his retirement in 2011. Charles held the Van Voorhis Professorship of Political Economy.



John Stephanus, UW Econ BA '80
President, ARMCO Group
John has been acquiring, building, renovating, and managing multi-family properties for over thirty years, and he grew up in this business. He founded and is the CEO of several related multi-family property management companies.



Study Abroad Fair Garner Considerable Student Interest



Visiting undergraduates participating in the Economics Department International Exchange Program, from left: Meimei Dai and Judith Verweij, both from Tilburg University in The Netherlands, and Numpu Leepipatpiboon, from Thammasat University in Thailand, volunteered at the Study Abroad Fair. Senior Lecturer Michelle Turnovsky and academic advisor Patrick Pineda also participated.

The UW office of international programs and exchanges recently hosted a study abroad fair for undergraduates in Mary Gates Hall. The fair was an excellent opportunity for academic departments to showcase the many options available to students for study around the world. The Economics department offers five study abroad options and staff were kept busy at the fair answering questions from interested students.

Study abroad opportunities for Econ majors are available through exchange programs with Thammasat University in Thailand; Tilburg University in Tilburg, Netherlands; Free University of Bozen-Bolzano in Bolzano, Italy; Ludwig-Maximilians University in Munich, Germany; and University of the Mediterranean in Aix-Marseilles, France.

Students study economics in these peer institutions for one or two semesters, and pay regular UW tuition while abroad, making airfare and incidentals the only additional cost to the students. The Econ advising staff expects to receive anywhere from 10–20 student applications for study abroad this year.

EUB HOSTS SUCCESSFUL CAREER SEMINAR ON PATHS TO FINANCE AND CONSULTING

One of the primary functions of the Economics Undergraduate Board (EUB) is to organize quarterly seminars that augment the experience of undergraduate economics students. With seminar topics ranging from career paths for econ majors to developing interviewing skills to study abroad and grad school info sessions, the EUB provides an array of free seminar options for students.

This month, the EUB held a career seminar focusing on pathways to careers in finance and consulting. Speaking to a standing-room-only crowd, department alumni shared their experiences and advice for how economics majors can leverage their unique skill set into meaningful and lucrative careers.

Our alumni guests at this event were Robert Lamson, (Ph.D. '68) President of Eades Appliance Technology and Managing Partner of Attivo Consultancy; Kerry Kahl (BA '73), Director of Compliance for UW Information Technology; Robert Cowan (BA '69, MA '71), retired Director of the Department of Executive Services and County Administrator for King County; and Jeff Lewis (BA '89), Vice President and Area Retail Leader at Key Bank Corporation.



Alumni speakers at the EUB career seminar (from left) Kerry Kahl, Bob Cowan, and Bob Lamson talk with students about transferable skill development and career choices for economics majors. Not pictured: Jeff Lewis.

The students attending were thrilled to have panelists with such a breadth of experience and expertise.

The EUB is planning another career seminar during spring quarter and will be recruiting alumni speakers in late winter; during winter quarter, they will collaborate with the Economics Alumni Organization (UWEAO) to organize a seminar focusing on job interviewing skills. Members of the UWEAO, comprised primarily of young to mid-career alumni, will volunteer to serve as mock interviewers. This will be an excellent opportunity to meet and interact with economics majors one-on-one, and more volunteers are needed—if interested, contact the UWEAO at econalumboard@uw.edu.

News & Notes

FACULTY NEWS



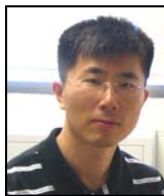
Professor **Kar-yiu Wong** is the Chief Editor of a survey series on economics and business administration. The series is being published by World Scientific Publishing Co. So far, two volumes have been published: the first one by Ngo Van Long of McGill University, and the second one by William Barnett of Kansas University and Marcelle Chauvet of the University of California at Riverside. Kar-yiu has also recently been invited to contribute a chapter on "Trade in the Pacific Rim" to the *Economics of the Pacific Rim Handbook*.

Professor **Eric Zivot** gave a presentation in October to the Economics Visiting Committee titled "Lessons from the Financial Crisis: A Risk Perspective." He has also been named to the editorial board of a new book series from Springer-Verlag entitled "Statistics and Econometrics for Finance."



Professor **Fahad Khalil** recently completed a two week visit to Monash University, Melbourne and Sydney University, where he presented his paper "Contracts offered by Bureaucrats," co-authored with Doyoung Kim and Jacques Lawarree.

Assistant Professor **Seik Kim** presented his work "Economic Assimilation and Wage Mobility of Foreign-Born Workers in the United States" at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York in October 2011.



Assistant Professor **Hendrik Wolff** presented his paper: "Value of Time: Speeding Behavior and Gasoline Prices" at a Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology (CSDE) seminar in October 2011.

Professor **Stephen Turnovsky** presented "The Profound Impact of Phillips Curve: Stabilization Theory and Policy" for the memorial Paul Heyne lecture in November 2011.



DEPARTMENT NEWS

The **Research Center for International Economics (RCIE)** is organizing two one-day conferences, which will be held on campus on March 16 and 17, 2012. The themes of the conferences are "China and the World Economy" and "Global Economy." Kar-yiu Wong, Director of the RCIE, is the main organizer. For more information, please visit: <http://faculty.washington.edu/karyiu/confer/sea12/index.htm>.

The **undergraduate program**, now in its third year of competitive admissions, accepted 68% of applicants for fall quarter 2011. Accepted students had an average cumulative GPA of 3.51 and an average prerequisite GPA of 3.59.

Budget Analyst Lead **Brenda Snell** celebrated 32 years with the University in November 2011.

Fiscal Specialist **Chris Fendrich** was profiled as a top distance runner in the Pacific Northwest in "Northwest Runner" magazine, December 2011.

ALUMNI NEWS

UW Economics alumnus **Yoram Bauman** (PhD '03) is set to release volume two of his popular cartoon introduction to economics series in January 2012.

The influence of late UW Professor Paul Heyne is still being felt in the community: alumni **Jimmy Kelsey** (BA '73, MA '75) and **Jim Hubert** (MA '73), professors of economics at Whatcom Community College and Seattle Central Community College, respectively, continue to use a custom-made textbook for their *Principles of Microeconomics* courses that was based on Prof. Heyne's book, "The Economic Way of Thinking."



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