Dr. Patrick McCarthy
the man behind the school

The past decade has been a momentous and tumultuous one, with the face of technology changing rapidly, and its effects rippling through the modern world. As these advancements and changes progressed, Georgia Tech has played a crucial role in their development, utilization and innovation. But the growth of the past decade has not been limited to the world outside of Tech, and the Institute itself has undergone an undeniable expansion and transformation. At the center of the School of Economics, who has paralleled this impressive growth, stands a prominent figure: Dr. Patrick McCarthy. Both at home and abroad, Dr. McCarthy is sought for his insight and guidance, and his impact on the School of Economics transformed a promising program into a prospering one. He leaves behind him, in his return to research and work abroad, a school now central to these developments, centralized within Ivan Allen College and the campus.

As the newly appointed Chair of the School of Economics took to the stage in 2000, he brought with him a specialization in development. His research brought courses at the Masters' level spanning from transport economics, regulation, and industry studies, to applied econometrics, and discrete choice economics. With his vision, the school witnessed a growth in faculty, in size, and a physical relocation to the center of campus (from the previous Habersham location.) For Dr. McCarthy, the chance to develop here was an interesting and unique challenge.

“His insight and foresight built a momentum”

In reviewing his work with the school, however, one true source for enjoyment stems from the support of his staff and students. The support of both Deans and the staff at the school, he says, remain most important. The time commitment has limited his involvement with guidance working with the students, though, he says, it has truly been a highlight.
Dr. Patrick McCarthy
the future in review

"The best part? The people I’ve worked with."

abroad

During this time, those seeking his insights were not limited geographically, and his valued insights were pursued globally. China became a theatre for much of his work, traveling there on several occasions for both presentations and as a Special Term Professor. He has featured his research, work and teachings in both Hunan University (Changsha, China) and at the Chinese University of Finance and Economics. Both his travels and work progressed through the Asian theatre and Singapore, towards Europe in Germany and Greece, and through California as well. The culmination of his work now brings him to Western Europe for a unique project.

current

Part of a three-team project, Dr. McCarthy is now applying his background and experience to several former Soviet-Union countries. In a combined effort to establish and solidify the infrastructure and growth of these transit societies, the three specialized teams represent an educated and experienced range, each focused on a separate aspect of their development: a Spanish team focused on urban aspects, a Portuguese team evaluating the energy needs, and Dr. McCarthy’s, centered on the transportation. As their research and works unfolds, the hope is for expansion throughout the area, stretching from his current work in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan onwards. With hopes of branching out to the surrounding transit countries, the growth and development project has major implications beyond their borders, and may suggest an economic ripple-effect. The project is not without its major challenges though; the immense task of developing this infrastructure compounds with each factor when forecasting over twenty years forward - a challenge Dr. McCarthy welcomes.

looking ahead

As Dr. McCarthy expands his impact globally, returning to research and teaching, he leaves with him a momentum in his wake. The inaugural class of 2010 marked the debut of the newly established PhD program in the School of Economics. Growing and promising, he hopes to see a steady size of 16-20 students participating in the program in years to come. Looking back, he has made a lasting impression on the School of Economics, expanding and building a solid foundation on Freshman Hill. Turning forwards, he remains hopeful and confident with the alumni, staff, students and direction of the school. As the new challenge of expanding this foundation and securing resources rises, he welcomes a new perspective and approach. His insight, foresight, and experience brought the School of Economics an undeniable momentum, his persona leaves a lasting impression.
Faculty Updates
Publications & Presentations

Conference Presentations

SHATAKSHEE DHONGDE
Conference on “South Asia in Transition” organized by the Oxford University, November 25 and 26, 2011 “Segregation of the Poor in India”
Southern Economic Association’s annual meeting in Washington D.C., November 19-21, 2011 “Segregation of the Poor in India”

OLGA SHEMYAKINA

ERIK JOHNSON

HAIZHENG LI
Chinese Economists Society Annual Conference, paper presented “Human Capital in China” (with Yunling Liang, Barbara M. Fraumeni, Xiaojun Wang), Beijing, China, June 19-20
International Academy of Business and Economics summer conference, paper presented “The Labor Market Effect of Schooling and Health Human Capital - A Panel Data Approach” (with Yuxi Xiao), Barcelona, Spain, June 3-5, 2011

Invited Talks

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Publications

TIBOR BESEDES

JOHNSON KAKEU

RUTH UWAIFO OYELERE
“Are returns to Education on the Decline in Venezuela and does Mission Sucre have a Role to Play?” Education Economic Review forthcoming, joint with Naibobe González.


SHATAKSHEE DHONGDE
“A Non-Parametric Measure of Poverty Elasticity” with Dustin Chambers forthcoming Review of Income and Wealth

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Recognitions

HAIZHENG LI
received additional funding of $144,860 to be added to the existing grant “Human Capital Measurement for China”, the project will be extended for another three years appointed as Chair of Expert Advisory Committee for Large Data Projects, National Natural Science Foundation of China, 2011 - 2016 invited to EU research project, “Life-long Learning, Innovation, Growth, and Human Capital Track in Europe” (LLLight), will serve as coordinator in the project consortium.
The Economics Club
a unique perspective & impact

Designed to promote the relevance of economics in daily life, the Econ Club at Georgia Tech is open to any major, and anyone who with an interest in economics. Their meetings have all featured a distinguished guest speaker that highlights these links, providing unique insights and experiences from relevant fields. Their latest featured speaker was the Vice President of Transportation for Home Depot.

As the club expands, several new projects are being developed. Their 5K fundraiser, set for the Saturday the 5th of November, will serve as their initial starting point for spring projects.

The spring will feature several projects, including a unique workshop and non-profit collaboration. The workshop will focus on applying these economic connections to careers: designed for members and speakers, the all-day event will provide an in-depth look into the fields and what it means to be an economist.

Their work with a nonprofit called Creative will create an environment for creative growth among learning-impaired individuals, providing them with the materials and workshop which will allow them to create and sell their own artwork.

For more info on the club and its happenings, visit:

econclub.gatech.edu

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