omicron delta epsilon
economics honor society

The Kappa of Georgia Chapter of the Omicron Delta Epsilon (ODE) Honor Society inducted 16 new members at its Spring Induction Ceremony on March 8, 2011. Omicron Delta Epsilon is one of the world’s largest academic honor societies. Currently, Omicron Delta Epsilon has 652 chapters located in the United States, Canada, Australia, the United Kingdom, Mexico, Puerto Rico, South Africa, Egypt, France, and United Arab Emirates. Students are inducted at a luncheon each Fall and Spring semester. This year’s keynote address was given by Economics’ Alumnae, Mrs. Kimberly Colbourne, Financial Advisor, Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC.

The honor society’s main objectives include recognizing and honoring academic achievements in economics and establishing closer ties between students and faculty in economics. The Kappa of Georgia Chapter of ODE currently has 40 active members. To be invited to join ODE, students must have completed at least 60 total credit hours, completed 12 hours of Economics’ coursework, and have an overall GPA of at least 3.0. Members are eligible for the ODE academic award, $150 and engraved cup, presented to the graduating student(s) with the highest GPA. Additionally, all members are given cords to wear at graduation.

The new executive board has set some ambitious goals for the coming year. ODE students will have exciting programs to attend and opportunities to hear from and meet business leaders and pioneers in the marketplace. As a newly chartered organization, members will benefit from additional campus resources and support. We are looking forward to a year of firsts from this distinguished honor society.
**Publications**

**Tibor Besedes**


**Thomas Boston**


**Byung-Cheol Kim**


**Haizheng Li**

“Social Networks and Study Abroad – The Case of Chinese Visiting Students in the US”, China Economic Review, forthcoming, joint with Lan Ding.


**Ruth Uwaifo Oyelere**


**Conference Presentations**

**Haizheng Li**


**Invited Talks**

**Thomas Boston**


**Haizheng Li**


MEDIA COVERAGE

Thomas Boston
Monthly appearance on CNN to discuss the Labor Department’s National Unemployment Figures; CNN appearances to discuss economic events as they occur

Christine Ries


THANK A TEACHER RECIPIENTS 2010-2011
Associate Professor Willie Belton
Professor Thomas Boston
Adjunct Associate Professor Parks Dodd
Visiting Associate Professor Wolf Gick
Instructor Brian Hunt
Visiting Assistant Professor Johnson Kakeu
Assistant Professor Byung-Cheol Kim
Visiting Assistant Professor Levent Kutlu
Professor Haizheng Li
Assistant Professor Volodymyr Lugovskyy
Chair, Professor Patrick McCarthy
Assistant Professor Ruth Uwaifo Oyelere
Assistant Professor Olga Shemyakina
Professor Emilson Silva
Assistant Director of Academic Programs, Dr. Derek Tittle
Communications Coordinator, Ms. Kari White

Ivan Allen Jr. Faculty Legacy Award
This year, the Ivan Allen Jr. Faculty Legacy Award was presented to Professor Haizheng Li in recognition of his research on China and cultivation of an exchange with China.

Professor Kim is an incredible professor! It is not often that one comes across someone that simultaneously embodies the characteristics of Teacher, Scholar and Mentor, all at once. ECON 6106

Ms. White, I wanted to thank you for being so helpful to me. You helped me keep my head in the moment, provided opportunities I wasn’t even aware of, and gave me pertinent advice to help me reach my goals. ECON Student

Professor McCarthy, Thank you for teaching us with patience and understanding. ECON 6121

Professor Tittle, Thank you so much for a great semester! I really enjoyed your lectures; you always made the subject matter interesting and made us appreciate the study of economics! ECON 2105
student awards
spring honor ceremony

Mollie Newton Award for Excellence in Economics

Zack Dunda

Named in honor of the late Mollie Newton, this award is presented to the senior who has contributed to the School of Economics in academics, leadership, and service. The award consists of $400 and a plaque. Dr. Patrick McCarthy, Chair, School of Economics, will present the award.

Omicron Delta Epsilon Outstanding Senior Cup

Stephen Brincks

This award is presented by Omicron Delta Epsilon and the School of Economics to the ODE graduating senior who achieves the best overall academic record. The award consists of $150.00 and engraved silver bowl.

Outstanding Economics Student Award

Rathi Bala

This award is presented to the Economics' major that demonstrates not only outstanding scholarship but also service to the School of Economics. The award consists of $300 and a certificate.

Outstanding Global Economics and Modern Languages Student Award

She-Kay Chow

This award is presented to the Global Economics and Modern Languages’ major that demonstrates not only outstanding scholarship but also service to the School of Economics and the School of Modern Languages. The award consists of $300 and a plaque.

Outstanding Economics and International Affairs Student Award

Alexandra Henke

This award is presented to the Economics and International Affairs’ major that demonstrates not only outstanding scholarship but also service to the School of Economics and the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs. The award consists of $300 and a certificate.
award winners

What does the School of Economics and Georgia Tech mean to these award winners? Where will they go from here? The answers will delight you . . .

My time in the Georgia Tech School of Economics brought me in contact with incredible ideas and people that have developed my analytical capabilities and broadened my perspective. After graduation, I will begin a career with Deloitte as a Human Capital Analyst. I am looking forward to working on some of the most fascinating people challenges that organizations face in a volatile global economy. Over the next ten years, I hope to build a great career with opportunities to continue to be involved with the Georgia Tech community. **Alexandra Henke**

Georgia Tech’s School of Economics has not only taught me about cost functions and forecasting models; it’s taught me to think of the world in an entirely new perspective. Once I graduate, I will be an Operations Analyst with Bank of America. I plan to work with them for a few years at which point I will decide whether to purse a Master’s degree or continue in the workforce. I am also considering pursuing certification as an actuary. **Zack Dunda**

The thing about learning economics at Tech is that even though I feel overwhelmed at times, I ultimately realize that the challenges are what make me grow. After graduation, I plan on going to graduate school, potentially in finance, and I hope to one day own my own bakery. **She-Kay Chow**

The most rewarding part of my experience at Georgia Tech is the close connections that I have forged with professors through research. Georgia Tech provides undergraduates with opportunities to pursue their own ideas through mentorship and financial support. During my time at Georgia Tech, I have had the opportunity to complete a PURA, assist professors with summer research, and present two research projects at the Undergraduate Research Spring Symposium. These experiences have not only been enjoyable but also will be invaluable for my future career as a professor. After graduation, I plan to pursue a PhD in finance either immediately after graduation or after completing a master’s degree in finance. In the next ten years, I would like to study important financial and economic topics by constructing models that include the valuation of financial assets, the origin and evolution of financial crises, and recent findings in behavioral finance. **Stephen Brincks**

If there’s one thing Tech has taught me, it is the importance of relativity. Everything is relative. Income, academics, athletics, no matter what area, there are always people that will fare better than you, and people who will fare worse than you. Tech has taught me to always keep this in mind, and it has allowed me to stay grounded and gain a new perspective in any given situation. My experience in the School of Economics has been wonderful. The academics are top-notch and the people are even better. I’ve built a great network of friends in various industries that I know I can call upon if I ever need a favor. It’s amazing the amount of opportunities a degree in economics from GT can award you. I’ve been accepted to UVA, Duke, and GT for graduate programs ranging from commerce to health systems engineering. Moreover, I’m interviewing for full-time positions at financial, consulting, and law firms. All of these opportunities make it very difficult for me to choose a path right after graduation, but I’m happy I have so many things to choose from thanks to the School of Economics!

I love traveling so I hope that over the next ten years, I can travel to at least one new country a year. I would also like to receive my MBA during this period. Last but not least, I’m your typical girl, so hopefully in 10 years I’ll find “the one” to settle down with and get married. **Rathi Bala**

Congratulations to these award winners who are representative of the quality of students in the School of Economics. We are proud of their accomplishments and are certain that these creative and critical thinkers will apply the skills they have developed to examine a wide range of economic problems.

**Prof. Usha Nair-Reichert**
graduating students by the numbers

This Spring, forty undergraduate and graduate students will graduate from the School of Economics. Here they are by the numbers:

70% Male
30% Female

67% White
23% Asian
5% Black/African American
5% Hispanic/Latino

77% Georgia Resident
5% Domestic, Non-Georgia Resident
18% International

Average GPA 3.21

75% have or are pursuing a job in industry*
25% have been accepted to a PhD program*

*of students who responded