

School of Economics



www.econ.gatech.edu volume 16 spring 2015

message from the chair

dr. david laband

Exciting and important change is coming to the School - change that will particularly strengthen our undergraduate degree programs. Under the leadership of the School's Advisory Board, we have established a scholarship endowment in honor of Dr. William A. Schaffer, who last year celebrated his 50th year of teaching economics at Georgia Tech. Bill is one of only two professors in GT history with this record of teaching longevity. As it happens, our own Dr. Carl Biven taught here for 44 years. Thus, unless I am much mistaken, the School of Economics has the distinction of having two of the longest-serving faculty in GT history. Bill has suggested that it would be appropriate to establish a scholarship endowment in memory of Carl. To do so requires a minimum commitment of \$25,000. If we have five or more alumni who are willing to pledge \$5,000 or more over three to five years to help establish a Carl Biven scholarship fund, we can make this a reality and simultaneously honor Carl while also creating a scholarship legacy that benefits new Economics majors each year.

In addition, I am very pleased to announce the establishment earlier this year of the Edward S. ('81) and Mary F. Byrns scholarship endowment. Until last year, the School of Economics offered no scholarship support to students, so this overarching initiative to develop a substantial base of ongoing scholarship support will enhance the attractiveness and profile of our degree programs going forward. On behalf of the future generations of students who will benefit from these scholarships and the education they receive, I deeply appreciate your support of this initiative. Once an endowment has been established, anyone interested may contribute to it. If you are interested in contributing to any of these scholarship endowments, please contact me.

Finally, this spring and summer I intend to visit several cities throughout the country to host dinners with interested alumni. If you would like to help organize such an event, I would appreciate your assistance, especially since you know the great eating spots in your cities better than I do! Please let me know and we will coordinate dates and other arrangements. I look forward to meeting those of you I have not yet had a chance to meet and re-connecting with those of you I have had the pleasure of meeting previously.

In closing - how 'bout them Orange-Bowl-winning Jackets!!!!!!!

- David Laband

faculty updates

publications, presentations, and more

Publications

TIBOR BESEDES

"Export Growth and Credit Constraints," with BYUNG-CHEOL KIM and Volodymyr Lugovskyy. *European Economic Review* 70: 350-370, 2014.

"Reducing Choice Overload without Reducing Choices," with Cary Deck, Sudipta Sarangi, and Michael Shor. *Review of Economics and Statistics*. Forthcoming.

VIVEK GHOSAL

"Uncertainty and Employment Dynamics of Small and Large Businesses," with Yang Ye. *Small Business Economics* 44: 529-558, 2015.

"Incubators and Accelerators." *Entrepreneurship, Technology, and Innovation*. Forthcoming.

BYUNG-CHEOL KIM

"Project Selection in NIH: A Natural Experiment from ARRA," with Hyunwoo Park and Jeongsik Lee. *Research Policy* 44: 1145-1159, 2015.

"Net Neutrality, Business Models, and Internet Interconnection," with Jay Pil Choi and Doh-Shin Jeon. *American Economic Journal: Microeconomics*. Forthcoming.

LEVENT KUTLU

"Competition and Price Dispersion in the Airline Markets," with Durba Chakrabarty. *Applied Economics* 46: 1-15, 2014.

"Price Discrimination in Quantity Setting Oligopoly," with R. Kumar. *Manchester School*. Forthcoming.

"Limited Memory Consumers and Price Dispersion," *Review of Industrial Organization*. Forthcoming.

HAIZHENG LI

"Access to College and Heterogeneous Returns to Education in China," with Xiaojun Wang, Belton Fleisher, and Shi Li. *Economics of Education Review* 42: 78-92, 2014.

"The Earnings Effect of Health and Health-Related Activities: A Panel Data Approach," with Yuxi Xiao and Belton Fleisher. *Applied Economics*. Forthcoming.

MATTHEW OLIVER

"Pipeline Congestion and Basis Differentials," with Charles Mason and David Finnoff. *Journal of Regulatory Economics* 46(3): 261-291, 2014.

OLGA SHEMYAKINA

"Exploring the Impact of Conflict Exposure during Formative Years on Labour Market Outcomes in Tajikistan," *Journal of Development Studies* 51: 1-25, 2015.

Conference Presentations and Organization

TIBOR BESEDES

"Trade Agreements and the Fragility of Trade Relationships: Theory and Evidence," Empirical Investigations in Trade and Investment Conference, Indonesia.

SHATAKSHEE DHONGDE

"Distributional Change, Pro-Poor Growth and Convergence: An Application to Non-Income Dimensions," with Jacque Silber, International Conference on Research in Income and Wealth, Germany.

"Multi-dimensional Poverty Index: An Application to the U.S.," with Robert Haveman, Economics of Global Poverty Conference, Wenham.

VIVEK GHOSAL

"Competition and Innovation in Automobile Markets," Düsseldorf Institute for Competition Economics and Centre for European Economic Research, Germany.

"Decentralized Environmental Regulation and Manufacturing Productivity," Conference on the Economics of Low-Carbon Markets, Brazil.

ERIK JOHNSON

"Measuring the Productivity Inefficiency in Renewable Electricity Generation," World Congress of Environmental and Resource Economists, Turkey.

"Pollution and Health Impacts of Electricity Congestion," Midwest Economics Association, St. Louis.

BYUNG-CHEOL KIM

"Asymmetric Neutrality Regulation and Innovation at the Edges: Fixed vs. Mobile Networks," with Jay Pil Choi and Doh-Shin Jeon, Annual American Economic Association Meeting, Boston.

PATRICK MCCARTHY

Served as Local Organizer and Program Vice President for the Transportation Research Forum.

JUAN MORENO-CRUZ

"Hydraulic Fracturing Practices Explored Through County Demographics in Texas," Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Conference, Albuquerque.

"New World Crops and African Slavery," Canadian Economic Meetings, Vancouver.

USHA NAIR-REICHERT

Co-organized the 8th Southeastern International/Development Economics Workshop held at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta.

MATTHEW OLIVER

"Optimal Capacity and Two-Part Tariffs for a Natural Gas Pipeline under Alternative Regulatory Constraints," International Association for Energy Economics Conference, New York City.

"Economies of Scale and Scope in Expansion of the U.S. Natural Gas Pipeline Network" and "Option Values and Willingness to Contract Expanded Natural Gas Pipeline Capacity," Southern Economic Association Meeting, Atlanta.

OLGA SHEMYAKINA

"Political Violence, Land Reform, and Child Health: Results from Zimbabwe," Center for the Study of African Economies Conference, United Kingdom

Recognition/Awards

SHATAKSHEE DHONGDE

Appointed as a Research Affiliate with the Institute of Research and Poverty at the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

Recognized as Teacher of the Year by the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts and the Student Advisory Board.

BYUNG-CHEOL KIM

Awarded the 2015 Korea-American Economic Association (KAEA) Young Scholar Award.

HAIZHENG LI

Received a five-year grant worth \$292,434 for work on "Human Capital Measurement in China - Macro and Micro Perspectives."

USHA NAIR-REICHERT

Served as chair of the Ford Foundation Fellowship Program's Social Sciences Panel in Irvine, California.

OLGA SHEMYAKINA

Invited to become an IZA Research Fellow at the Institute for the Study of Labor.

Invited Talks

TIBOR BESEDES

The Effects of Airspace Closures on Trade in the Aftermath of Eyjafjallajökull," Paris Trade Seminar.

contact the SOE office

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attention alumni! news and announcements

The School of Economics seeks alumni to come back to Georgia Tech to share their career experience in a new course, Economics@Work. This course is designed to inform economics majors of different careers available to them with a BS in Economics. This fall the class will meet from 2:05 – 2:55 PM on Wednesdays. If you are interested in spending an afternoon on campus and sharing your experiences with the class, please contact Dr. David Laband.

As our spring alumni event, the School of Economics is organizing a tour of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta at 9:30 AM on Friday, May 29th, to be followed by lunch at a local restaurant. If you are interested in joining the group, please RSVP to Jade Hill as soon as possible, as spaces are limited.

Looking ahead, our fall alumni reception will be held on Friday, October 23rd at the Georgian Terrace on Peachtree Street. This coincides with Georgia Tech Homecoming Weekend. Please make plans to come 'Home' and join us for an evening of re-connecting with SOE faculty and making new connections with current and former SOE students. Just because you 'got out' doesn't mean you stay away!

Finally, we are currently in the process of updating our alumni database. If you have recently moved or changed careers, we want to hear from you! Please send your updated information to Jade Hill so that we can keep you "in the know" about the School of Economics!

recognition luncheon

school of economics awards

On April 8th, several students were honored at the School of Economics 2015 Recognition Luncheon. Award winners were chosen for their excellence in academics, as well as their service to the School of Economics and the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts. Award winners include:

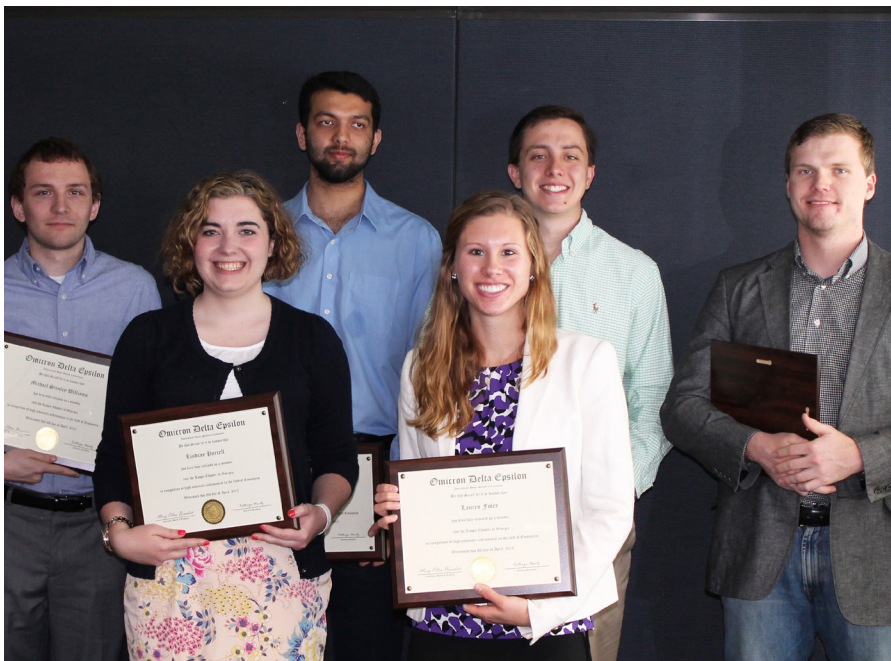
- **Shivang Sullere**, Outstanding Economics Student Award
- **Edward Zhu**, Outstanding Global Economics and Modern Languages Student Award
- **Amanda Figeredo**, Outstanding Economics and International Affairs Student Award
- **Sina Mehdikarimi**, Mollie Newton Award for Excellence in Economics
- **Samuel Norris**, Omicron Delta Epsilon Outstanding Student Award



from left to right: Sina Mehdikarimi, Amanda Figeredo, Shivang Sullere

omicron delta epsilon

honor society induction



from left to right: Michael Stanley Williams, Lindsay Purcell, Shivang Sullere, Lauren Foley, Michael Foster, Daniel Brady

Several students were inducted into Omicron Delta Epsilon, the International Honor Society for Economics. In order to be eligible, students must hold a 3.0 GPA or better in their Economics coursework. Students honored this year include:

- David Barr
- Daniel Brady
- Lauren Foley
- Michael Foster
- Samuel Norris
- Molly Parker
- Ronak Patel
- Perna
- Lindsay Purcell
- Shivang Sullere
- Elizabeth Delaney Schunk
- Michael Stanley Williams

alumni spotlight

rick inman

Richard B. Inman, Jr. is the Managing Principal and Founder of Iron Bridge Capital Partners in Atlanta, Georgia. Iron Bridge Capital Partners is a private equity investment and development firm, specializing in the development and financing of public/private partnerships. Over the past ten years, the firm has focused in the Pacific region and has developed and invested over \$300 million in a 50 megawatt power plant, four schools, and 575 affordable housing units on the islands of Guam and Saipan.

Mr. Inman started his career in 1975 on Wall Street as an investment banker with Citibank and White Weld and Company, later moving to Atlanta. During the 1980s he acquired and sold two food companies for his own account. From 1991 to 2001, Rick guided the growth of a community bank from \$250 million to \$1.2 billion in assets. He served as Chief Executive Officer of the Tucker Federal Bank and as Chairman of the Executive Management Committee and Senior Loan Committee. He founded the bank's Asset and Liability Committee and served on the Asset Classification Committee and Board of Directors. He has a Bachelor of Science in Economics from Georgia Institute of Technology and a Masters in Business Administration from Stanford University.

Rick is active in the community and currently serves as Chairman of the Board of Advisors for the Georgia Tech School of Economics. He was recently honored by the School of Economics and the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts with the Distinguished Alumni Pioneer Award, which recognizes alumni with long-term personal and professional achievements who have brought distinction to themselves, tangible benefit to their communities, and credit to their School, the Ivan Allen College, and Georgia Tech.



Rick Inman received his award from IAC Dean Jacqueline Jones Royster.

staff spotlight

tony gallego



Tony Gallego received his award from IAC Dean Jacqueline Jones Royster at the Ivan Allen College Day luncheon.

The Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts recently presented Tony Gallego, Academic Advisor in the School of Economics, with the 2014 Staff "Buzz" Award for Student Service. This award is presented to one staff member each year to recognize and celebrate extraordinary professional contributions and quality service to students of the Ivan Allen College. Recipients are selected based upon their commitment to improving students' lives on campus, their ability to encourage students to identify and reach their true potential, and their demonstrations of leadership. In addition, he was also recognized this year by Georgia Tech for his ten years of service to the Institute. Congratulations Tony!

student spotlight

dillon roseen



An Economics and International Affairs major, Dillon Roseen spent the 2014-2015 school year serving as the Student Body President to over 15,000

Georgia Tech undergraduates. In this role, he served as the formal student point of contact for news outlets, provided student input to state legislators and the Georgia Board of Regents, and oversaw a \$5.5 million budget. In addition to these responsibilities, Dillon also led SGA as they hosted their first overnight organizational retreat in nearly fifteen years, incorporated a new mission and vision into the Constitution, and added several leadership trainings to support the membership.

He states, "My Economics major has given me a lens through which I can view the world and better understand human behavior. The skills are robust and allow me to tackle complex problems related to things like social welfare, the financial market, trade balance, and even government policy." After graduation in December, Dillon intends to leverage what he has learned as an EIA major at Tech and enter into a joint law/master's degree program. His ultimate goal is to become an advocate for developing communities where he can help equip them with the tools needed to shape their own future.

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