Greetings from the Economics Department!

Greetings from the Economics Department, and welcome to the fall quarter, 2012! I am Peter Rupert, Chairman of the Department of Economics. This newsletter will highlight some of the department’s changes, as well as describe our faculty’s exciting new research and community’s recent accomplishments.

Once again, due to the enormous generosity of Walter and Thelma Mead, we have a new endowed Chair opportunity, the Alec P. Alexander Chair in Economics. The Chair is named for Professor Alec Alexander, who was Chair of the UCSB Economics Department from 1965-1970. Professor Alexander went on to serve as Dean of the College of Letters and Science (1971-1973), Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs (1973-1978), and Acting Chancellor (1977). Of course, endowed chairs make it possible to recruit prominent, established economists to raise the level of the intellectual environment, not to mention the status of UCSB, as we continue to climb higher in the rankings. This fall we will be recruiting for the Walter Mead Chair, as well as a new faculty member of any rank.

This fall Emanuel Vespa joins our faculty as a new Assistant Professor. Emanuel received his Ph.D. from New York University and mainly works in experimental economics and economic theory.

There have also been major changes in the department staff. In the undergraduate advising office Dina Amodeo has moved to Palomar College in San Diego to work as the Counseling Services Supervisor. William Hughes left for UC Berkeley to serve as the undergraduate adviser for the Environmental Economics and Policy major. Those are wonderful career opportunities for them and, though sorely missed, we wish them continued success.

Information on our new staff members can be found later in the newsletter.

Our faculty continues to have major impacts not only in the Economics profession but in policy circles as well. Shelly Lundberg received an honorary Ph.D. from the University of Bergen. She also gave the Presidential Address at the Society of Labor Economists, titled “The College Type.” She also gave a keynote lecture at the German Socioeconomic Panel Users Conference in Berlin.

Gary Charness delivered a plenary talk at the AWI workshop on “Behavioral Economics and Life-span Changes in Decision making” in Heidelberg, Germany.

I was named an Associate Editor at the European Economic Review. I have also started some blog/data sites with Tom Cooley at NYU that are designed to quickly and accurately gauge the economic environment. Econsnapshot looks at data for the United States and Europeansnapshot puts the European economies in perspective. They have generated some interest, having been referenced in the New York Times.

Peter Rupert
Email: chair@econ.ucsb.edu
In Honor and Memory of Philip Babcock
1959-2012

A note from Chancellor Henry Yang:

It is with great sadness that the Department of Economics must report the passing of our dear colleague, Philip Babcock. Professor Babcock inspired and touched us all with his courage in the face of illness, and with his unwavering dedication to our campus and most of all to our students. Even when most of his voice disappeared following surgery and radiation, he continued to teach with microphones. This past spring, he participated in our regional reception for admitted students in San Jose, spending hours with prospective students and parents to tell them about what a special community we share at UC Santa Barbara.

Dr. Babcock joined our faculty in 2006, after obtaining his Ph.D. in Economics from UC San Diego in 2005 and spending a year as an assistant professor of economics at UC Riverside. His area of expertise included labor economics, time use, human capital, social dynamics, and networks. His recent scholarly publications have been cited and debated in the New York Times, the Washington Post, CNN - Anderson Cooper 360, the Economist, the Boston Globe, Mother Jones, Voice of America - China, Der Spiegel, the Times of India, and other media outlets. Professor Babcock’s interests and talents were wide-ranging; in addition to his important contributions as an economist, he also founded an engineering software company; worked as a freelance writer of film and episodic television; and in 2011 published a novel, Eyes of God, which was hailed as “both a tale of suspense that chronicles the fall of a dictatorship, and an exploration of suffering, loss, love, and raw human resilience.”

Our hearts go out to Philip’s wife, Kathy, and their daughter, Breanna, and to the rest of his family and many friends. Philip was an admired faculty colleague and a devoted teacher and mentor for our students. He will be deeply missed by all the members of our UCSB family.

News and Events

Field Experiments Conference

In March of this year, the economics department in conjunction with the UCLA economics department held a conference on field experiments, an emerging methodology in economics. A field experiment involves studying an intervention in the real world. The conference touched on topics such as energy consumption, the receipt of federal benefits, health behaviors, juvenile delinquency, financial decision making, saving in developing countries, and measuring happiness. Speakers included Hunt Allcott (NYU), James Choi (Yale), Day Manoli (UCLA), Heather Royer (UCSB), Jon Guryan (Northwestern), Adriana Lleras-Muney (UCLA), Tom Chang (USC), Dan Silverman (Michigan), Dan Benjamin (Cornell), and Iwan Barankay (Penn).

Santa Barbara Conference on Experimental and Behavioral Economics

The 2012 Santa Barbara Conference on Experimental and Behavioral Economics took place on February 3 and 4. Sixteen papers were presented by prominent researchers in the field from the United States and Europe. The topics that were discussed include promoting cooperation in different environments, behavioral interventions with firms, communication and credibility, deception, crowdsourcing for experiments, and participation in elections. Approximately 25 people from other institutions attended the conference, in addition to graduate students and faculty from the economics department and others. This conference was an opportunity for some of the top researchers in this exciting field to present their most recent ideas and help to cross-fertilize the space of ideas. In addition, it offered our graduate students the chance to meet people in this area and to be exposed to their ideas. The conference was an outstanding success.

New Faces

We are proud to introduce four new staff members to the economics family:

Ashley Antoon is the department’s new Instructional Program Assistant. Ashley graduated from UCSB with a double degree in Psychology and Sociology. She worked at DAWG as an office manager, managing both staff and dogs. She ran the office and also upgraded their newsletter and revamped their website.

Hayley Campbell recently joined the department as the new Assistant to the Chair & Academic Personnel Specialist. Hayley graduated from Georgetown with a degree in Culture and Politics. She worked at Georgetown’s Berkley Center for Religion, Peace & World Affairs where among other things she was coordinator of a Ford Foundation grant and the Millennial Values Symposium.

Kimberly Hampton is the new Undergraduate Advisor. Kimberly graduated from UCSB with a degree in Political Science. She has previously worked for the Santa Barbara Business College in Career Services and also at Heald College in the Department of Academics as a Student Services Advisor. She is very passionate about working with students and is very excited to be back at UCSB.

Julie Rayden joined the department as its new Undergraduate Advising Manager. She has been with UCSB for 32 years and was formerly the MSO and Undergraduate Program Coordinator here in Economics in the 1980s and 1990s. Julie has worked in academic, administrative, and service units at UCSB, and brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to her position. We welcome her back to the department!

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Established by Leonard and Gretchan Broom

Directed by UCSB economist Peter Kuhn, the Broom Demography Center was established in October 2011 with generous funding from Leonard and Gretchan Broom. Leonard Broom was a distinguished professor of sociology in a career spanning seven decades, with appointments at UCLA, UT Austin, the Australian National University and most recently at UCSB.

The Broom Center studies a wide range of aspects of human populations, organized into seven themes: The Family Demography theme, directed by Prof. Shelly Lundberg (Economics) studies the roles of families and households in acquiring and allocating resources within and across generations. Prof. Michael Gurven (Anthropology) integrates biology with classical demography in the Center’s Biodemography research program, which studies birth and death processes affecting individuals, cohorts and populations. Prof. David Lopez-Carr (Geography) directs the study of Population-Environment Interactions: how do expanding and economically developing human populations interact with the environment? Prof. Maria Charles (Sociology) and collaborators study changing gender roles in human populations, ranging from changing interactions within families to international trends in female labor force participation.

The Broom Center’s Health and Education research theme, directed by Prof. Kelly Bedard (Economics) studies the influence of factors ranging from prenatal influences, to peer groups, to formal schooling, to medical technology and access, on children’s and adults’ health and education. The Work theme, directed by labor economist Peter Kuhn (Economics) studies the interaction of demographic factors and the workplace, including the effects of demographic trends on labor markets and the demographic composition of workplaces. Finally, Prof. Stuart Sweeney (Geography) directs the study of Spatial Demography and Migration, which addresses the determinants and consequences of population flows across national and state borders.

Programs and resources provided by the Center include an interdisciplinary seminar series; a Social Demography Computer Lab in North Hall with state-of-the-art hardware and software; and a Biodemography Lab with the capability to analyze urine, blood and salivary biomarkers of stress, immune function, nutritional status, infection, and reproductive hormones. Each year, the Center awards Graduate Student Travel (GST) Grants for Demographic Methods Training. These grants support UCSB graduate student attendance at summer training programs in demographic methods in areas that are relevant to the student’s dissertation research. The Center also operates a series of Theme-Oriented Workshops. First in this series was a workshop on Gender and Family in the New Millennium, on March 2, 2012. For more info, please visit the Broom Center’s website at:

http://www.broomcenter.ucsb.edu/
Register for email announcements of Center events at:
http://www.broomcenter.ucsb.edu/seminars

Broom Center’s First Multidisciplinary Research Conference

As the economic lives of men and women have converged, families have become both highly diverse and socioeconomically stratified in the United States and other countries. Studies of the driving forces behind changing gender roles and the transformation of families are at the research frontiers of sociology, economics, and other social sciences. “Gender and Family in the New Millennium”, a day-long research workshop presented by the new Leonard and Gretchan Broom Center for Demography, brought together nearly 80 researchers from several disciplines on the UCSB campus on Friday, March 2, 2012. Nine leading sociologists and economists from across the country presented and discussed their recent research with faculty and graduate students from UCSB and nearby institutions.

One theme that emerged over a long, full day of discussion is the diversity in the challenges facing American families: Heather Antecol examined career and family choices among elite liberal arts graduates while Kathryn Edin documented the struggles of fathers in the inner city. Brian Powell presented survey results on how Americans’ definitions of family characterize same-sex relations. Francine Blau traced the transmission of work and family patterns across immigrant generations. Another notable feature of the work presented was the breadth of research methods used. Three papers (by economists Peter Kuhn and Lise Vesterlund and sociologist Shelley Correll) employed new experimental methods to study gendered behavior and perceptions, while other studies used econometric methods on large data sets (Marianne Bertrand on the gender gap in child behavior) or in-depth interviews (Kathleen Gerson’s conference kick-off on the new dilemmas of work and care facing young men and women).

The conference was co-organized by Broom Center Area Directors Maria Charles (Sociology, Sex and Gender) and Shelly Lundberg (Economics, Family Demography). This will be the first in a series of Broom Center multidisciplinary research conferences exploring the boundaries of social science research on human populations.
Rachel Moore studied under Peter Rupert in the areas of Macroeconomics and Financial Economics. She has accepted a position with the U.S. Congress’ Joint Committee for Taxation.

Christopher Guo studied under Christopher Costello in the fields of Environmental and Energy Economic and Applied Microeconomics. This coming September he will be starting a position with the RAND Corporation.

Ernest Boffy-Ramirez studied under Peter Kuhn in the area of Labor Economics. He has accepted the position as a visiting Assistant Professor of Economics at the University of Colorado- Denver. An exciting part of Ernie’s position is that he’ll be teaching in Beijing for 3 months per year over the next couple of years.

Each year the Department of Economics is able to recruit a wonderful group of new doctoral students, this year was no exception. Financial support for the 2012-2013 academic year in the form of Fellowships and special awards were awarded to the following:

**ANDRON FELLOWSHIPS**
In 1978, Mortimer Andron, UCSB Professor Emeritus of Economics, made a key gift that has, over the years, allowed the department to provide fellowship support for over 100 doctoral students. This year the following students are recipients of a Mortimer Andron fellowship:

- Irving Fernandez (UC Riverside)
- Benjamin Griffy (University of Oregon)
- Austin Jones (Santa Clara University)

In addition the following students were awarded department fellowships and Graduate Division central fellowships:

**DEPARTMENTAL FELLOWSHIPS**
Christine Braun (UC Los Angeles)
Drew Behnke (UC Berkeley)
Conor Carney (Tufts University)
Monica Carney (Harvard University)
Jacqueline Dodd (University of Oregon)
Benjamin Griffy (University of Oregon)
Austin Jones (Santa Clara University)

**GRADUATE DIVISION CENTRAL FELLOWSHIPS**
Dean’s Fellowship
Austin Jones

Regent’s Special Fellowship
Alex Wood-Doughty

The departmental Teaching Assistant Award is given every year to outstanding graduate students who show great dedication, knowledge, and excellence in the performance of their duties. For this last year six awards were given. The Teaching Assistant of the Year (2011-2012) was a tie between two outstanding doctoral students, Gregory Leo and Adam Wright. Teaching Assistant of the Quarter was awarded to Ruth Morales (Fall 2011), Christopher Goodwin (Fall 2011), Valentin Shmidov (Winter 2012), and Hrishikesh Singhania (Winter 2012).

**Stay in touch with the ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT!**
Like us on FACEBOOK: UCSB’s Department of Economics
Join our alumni group on LINKEDIN: UC Santa Barbara Economics Alumni

Professors Harmon, Anderson, Rupert, Bohn, Sonstelie, Kuhn and Kolstad at the 2012 graduation celebration.
ANNUAL UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS CEREMONY
The department recognized the following undergraduate students at an awards ceremony on June 15, 2012

Kevin Patrick Moran  Jenkins-Stark Scholarship
Memorial Scholarship  Michael Loginov
Stefan Fan  John O. Lewis Memorial Award
Dean Ramstad Scholarship  Nicole Kab
Max Greenberg  David Corlett Memorial Award
Sean S. Weld  Jeffrey Sloan
Memorial Scholarship  Craig M. Bumatay Scholarship
John Snyder  Lisa Gray
Lance P. Abbott Award  Faculty Achievement Award
Joseph Trujillo  Stephen Jack Middlebrook

DISTINCTION IN THE MAJOR
This award is for students who have completed a two-quarter independent research sequence within the Economics department.

Alexander Abbott  Megan Jennett
Alexandr Borkin  Nicole Kab
Christopher Condron  Christopher Lyon
Alexandra Degolia  Christopher McKinnon
Kyle Fretwell  Stephen Jack Middlebrook
John Harris  Leslie Wright

OUTSTANDING SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS
Economics
Alexandra Degolia  John Harris
Rebecca Mnayarj  Chloe Mini
Joseph Trujillo  Alexei Mlodinow

Business Economics
Peer Awards
Lina Bhula  Jennifer Charca
Kristi Hang  Nicole Kab
Nicole Kab  Kelsey Kunkel
Sally Lu  Jacqueline Ow
Shayna Platt  Nadia Saad
Nicole Kab  Ashley Somerfield

Business Economics and Accounting
Adam Ingber  Peer Awards
Jonathan Minoofar  Lina Bhula
Kelly Stitch  Jennifer Charca

Economics and Accounting
Danny Ducerf  Peer Awards
Christopher Lyon  Kristi Hang
Kelly Stitch  Nicole Kab
Steven Casey Sullivan Jr.  Kelsey Kunkel

Economics/Math
Alexander Knittel  Sally Lu

Business Economics and Accounting
Adam Ingber  Jacqueline Ow
Jonathan Minoofar  Shayna Platt
Kelly Stitch  Nadia Saad

NEW Strategic Business Certificate Program
A Cooperative program between UCSB Extension and the Department of Economics

The Strategic Business Certificate Program (SBP) was launched in spring of 2012 and was designed to provide participants with a solid foundation in important business strategy areas including accounting, business formation and law, finance, and the foundations of strategy. The program, while offering a breadth of coursework requirements for a well-rounded curriculum, allows students to specialize in either Business and Accounting or Business Strategy. The two-track structure gives students with a specific interest in accounting the opportunity to focus heavily in that area, while at the same time allowing students with broader business interests to gain more expertise in the fields of finance, marketing and human resource management. This program focuses on skills and knowledge that can be directly applied in the business arena. The certificate will also demonstrate to prospective or current employers evidence of recent professional-level training in this field. In some cases, coursework may also be applied toward continuing education requirements in fields such as accounting, law, and finance.

We hope that these courses not only interest our Economics students, but also attract students from other disciplines and community members looking to enhance their knowledge and/or gain professional development units. We are always looking for guest speakers and would love to have alumni involved in this new venture. If you have an area of expertise and would like to speak to students, please look over our list of courses (via the UCSB Extension website) and contact Joan Giovannone (joan@econ.ucsb.edu).

Professor Kelly Bedard poses with students who have earned distinction in the major at the undergraduate award ceremony. (Undergrad Award Winners)

Accounting lecturer Lisa Maass congratulates accounting junior Nicole Kab and her family at the 31st Annual Accounting Awards Banquets (accounting)
31st Annual Accounting Awards Banquet

The Accounting Program faculty held its 31st Annual Accounting Awards Banquet to recognize juniors and seniors who have achieved academic excellence and made outstanding personal contributions to the Accounting Program in the Department of Economics at UCSB. The generosities of the accounting firms that recruit the students provide the entire support for the monetary awards given to the award recipients. Approximately 300 current students, family members, university guests, alumni, and the firm professionals attend this event each year. UCSB has been designated as a key school or premier school by all of the Big 4 accounting firms. This designation provides for more recruiting funds to be directed to recruiting UCSB accounting graduates. This allows our graduates who take employment with the Big 4 the opportunity to start their employment in any of the major offices throughout the United States. The accounting program graduates approximately 350 students each year. This year, the following thirty-one students were recognized at the banquet for their outstanding achievements.

**SENIOR SCHOLASTIC AWARDS**

Chris Condon  
Danny Ducerf  
Laura Guderjahn  
Shannon Hines  
Adam Ingber  
Wenxiao Li  
Tyler Logsdon  
Christopher G. Lyon  
Christopher Corey McKinnon  
Jonathan Minoofar  
Youseff Rhazi

Paul S. Rubin  
Sina Sharif  
Brian J. Shively  
Jeff Sloan  
Lauren Spector  
Kelly Stitch  
Steven Casey Sullivan, Jr.  
Christian B. Williams  
Leslie Wright  
Yun Zhang

**JUNIOR SCHOLASTIC AWARDS**

Nicola Benaderet  
Kevin Driscoll  
Lisa Gray  
Andrew Charles Jury  
Nicole Kab

Veronica Kraft  
Jean-Carlo Marenco  
Alexander Elspas Rusoff  
Jasmine Tong  
Michael Zixing Xie

Robert J. Swenson Award for Outstanding Scholastic Achievement and Service

Chris Condon

Maxwell Pellish Award for Outstanding Service

Courtney Choi  
Faculty Award  
Christian B. Williams

Thank You Alumni!

Once again, our alumni have been a tremendous help to our undergraduate students. Throughout the year alumni have participated in informational interviews, and traveled to campus to speak to a group of current students. The students found all of your experiences extremely valuable and we hope that we can once again ask for your assistance this year. If you are interested in either participating in informational interviews or speaking to a group of students please contact Courtney Visueta at careers@econ.ucsb.edu. We would love to expand our current database and get more alumni involved in this experience.

A special thanks goes to the following alumni who took time out of their schedule to speak to a class of students:

SCOTT DRAPER, Managing Director, Head of Institutional Distribution Nuveen Investments  
MAIGREAD EICHTEN, former CEO, FRS Company  
ALEXANDER ELSPAS RUSOFF  
JASMINE TONG  
MICHAEL ZIXING XIE

Career Connection Fellows Internship Program

The Department of Economics and the Career Connection office are excited to announce our new Fellows Internship Program. This program is designed to bring together UCSB’s brightest and most successful undergraduate students with top internship employers. We invite you to join us in this program. The Department of Economics will work with you to find talented UCSB undergraduates with a strong interest in your firm. The Career Connection Fellows program will be a great way for you to connect with UCSB students that will contribute to your organization for years to come. This program can complement the existing programs within your organization. If your company offers an internship program, we encourage you to consider becoming a Career Connection Fellows employer. For more information about the employer requirements please email Courtney Visueta (careers@econ.ucsb.edu).
You Can Be a Part of Futures Filled with Hope and Promise!

Donations to the Economics Department Support These Activities:

**GRADUATE STUDENT SUPPORT**
Including entry-level scholarships designed to attract the most promising students to our campus, and support for continuing students writing dissertations.

**PROMOTING EXCELLENCE IN UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION**
By funding awards to top-performing undergraduate students, and creating innovative and challenging undergraduate courses.

**SUPPORTING VISITING SCHOLARS**
Donations support the visits of top-flight speakers and teachers from around the world to UCSB, enriching the intellectual lives of both students and faculty.

**RESEARCH SUPPORT**
Donations to the department provide crucial seed money for new research projects that can eventually yield major institutional grants and benefits to society.

**INFRASTRUCTURE**
Keeping the department’s instructional space in North Hall up-to-date and attractive is a constant challenge given our huge enrollments and rapid advances in instructional technology. Donor funds play an important role here as well.

For more information on giving opportunities to UCSB Economics, please visit [http://econ.ucsb.edu/about_us/giving.html](http://econ.ucsb.edu/about_us/giving.html).

To make a contribution to the Department of Economics, mail this form and your tax-deductible donation to the address below.

**ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT**
North Hall 2127, Mail Code 9210
University of California
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-9210

**ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT MAKING A DONATION CAN BE DIRECTED TO:**
Hayley Porter (805) 893-3569 or hayley@econ.ucsb.edu
Ann L. Hagan (805) 893-2772 or ann.hagan@ia.ucsb.edu

Name ___________________________________________ Occupation/Position ___________________________________________

Home Address ___________________________________________________________ ____________________________________________

_________________________________________________________ __________________________________________________________

Email ___________________________________________ Business Phone ___________________________________________

Home Phone ___________________________________________ Please make your check payable to UC Regents