

The Highs and Lows of Recreational Marijuana

The Oregon faculty is at the forefront of this new green industry

by Keaton Miller

The United States recently reached a milestone: the median voter now supports legalizing marijuana consumption in some form. Eight states containing 21 percent of the US population, including Oregon, Washington, and California, have or soon will have operating markets for recreational marijuana. Despite this support, very little is known about the behaviors and choices of individuals and firms in the marijuana industry thanks to federal prohibition.

W. E. Miner Professor **Benjamin Hansen**, Assistant Professor **Keaton Miller**, and Assistant Professor **Caroline Weber** are investigating this fledgling industry by taking advantage of the environment within the Pacific Northwest. Washington and Colorado were the first states to legalize marijuana and Oregon followed soon thereafter. Crucially, these states have been able to effectively bypass federal prohibition by tracking every step in the production process, generating a wealth of data for research.

“It’s rare that economists get such a clear look into an industry,” says Miller, a specialist in industrial organization and competition. “And it’s even rarer to be able to track the growth and evolution of the industry from its first days.”

The team’s first project examined the effects of a tax reform in Washington: about a year after the market opened, the state switched from a system that collected 25 percent gross receipts taxes throughout the entire supply chain to a single 37 percent excise tax at retail. The change in both the rate and type of taxes allowed the team to answer

a variety of questions, both about the market and about tax systems more generally.

The elimination of taxes within the supply chain led directly to greater separation between growers and firms that process and distribute marijuana—especially for new firms that entered the market after the reform.

“We’ve known, theoretically, that gross receipts taxes discourage competition within supply chains for a long time,” says Weber, a tax specialist. “But this is the first time that anyone has been able to provide empirical evidence of that effect.”

The change in the retail tax rate allowed the team to study the behaviors of consumers, as well. The results suggest that marijuana consumers are more price sensitive than consumers of other “sin goods,” like alcohol and tobacco. As a consequence, further increases to Washington’s tax rates may not increase state revenue.

Though the marijuana industry has generated significant revenues for states that have chosen to legalize, federal officials and legislators remain concerned about the possibility of “diversion,” the trafficking of marijuana from a jurisdiction in which it is legal to other jurisdictions. The team’s second project took further advantage of the unique opportunity afforded by the Pacific Northwest—Oregon legalizing after Washington—to provide the first evidence concerning the prevalence of this behavior.



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Letter from the Department Head



Bruce McGough

Like the academic mission of the university more broadly, the economics department is governed by the faculty; and, when it comes to ensuring the long-run success of the department, and to elevating its long-run trajectory, no collective action is more important than the hiring of top-quality young faculty.

Our department was fortunate enough last year to be given the opportunity to advertise for three new positions. The hiring of new faculty members is a complex process, with last year's implementation involving a nine-person vetting committee, multiple interview teams, and full faculty and graduate-student participation in all aspects of the search, including assessment and hosting responsibilities. Over a six-month period we received and reviewed more than 850 applications, held more than 80 in-person interviews (in Chicago, in January), and hosted 12 two-day campus visits. It was a long and sometimes exhausting enterprise, but I am thrilled to report that our efforts were entirely successful! It is my great pleasure to announce the hiring of three exceptional new colleagues:

- Woan Foong Wong received her PhD from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2017 and specializes in international trade.
- Mark Colas received his PhD from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2017 and specializes in labor economics.
- Grant McDermott received his PhD from the Norwegian School of Economics in 2015, has just completed postdoctoral studies at the Bren School at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and specializes in environmental economics.

These new colleagues greatly expand our ability to deliver high-quality instruction to our undergraduate students and to guide the work of our graduate students. The original research and the new skills and ideas that these bright, young economists bring with them will serve to grow our communal intellect and creative capacity, and to raise the national and international visibility of our department and university. We are very fortunate indeed to have met with such success.

Our new colleagues join a thriving department. Our undergraduate and graduate programs continue to flourish; we remain, by far, the largest major among the social sciences, and the fourth largest major at the University of Oregon; and our graduate program is larger and of higher quality than it ever has been. It is perhaps due to the success of our programs that, incredibly, our department has been given the opportunity again to advertise for three new positions! While I tremble slightly at the thought embarking on another six-month, uncertain journey—success is, after all, far from guaranteed—I am filled mostly with intense excitement over this unexpected opportunity to help raise the department to a new, higher level of prominence and promise.

I'll end this year's letter the same way I ended the previous year's, as the words ring even more true now. Our department's ability to hire and retain top faculty and to offer our students a valuable and rewarding degree is made possible in no small part through the support of alumni, former colleagues, and many other friends of the department. We encourage any and all of you to visit the department so that we might thank you in person. In the meantime, you are invited to read this newsletter, which provides highlights of the exciting activities recently undertaken by our students, faculty, and staff.

SAIL Update

The Summer Academy to Inspire Learning (SAIL) had an amazing 12th summer. The program served 350 high school students in 15 summer camps representing numerous departments and programs across the University of Oregon campus. Through innovative and creative learning sessions, our volunteer faculty continues to inspire our youth to pursue higher education. We are proud to have 83 SAIL students starting in various colleges this fall as freshmen and have a total of 72 on the UO campus to date.

sail.uoregon.edu

We are excited to announce the launch of our SAIL Ambassador Mentoring program, with 12 work study college students assisting SAIL students in the middle and high schools in our community. Many departments have asked to continue doing outreach with our SAIL students throughout the academic year through internship, job shadowing, and college essay editing possibilities. PathwayOregon and the Office of Admissions have strengthened their partnerships with SAIL, increasing our UO retention and student success rates. SAIL is growing at a rapid 30 percent annually and always looking for innovative partnerships to sustain the good work we do. Please connect with us to learn more.

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The team focused on stores in Washington located close to the Oregon border. On average, the day after Oregon stores opened for recreational use, Washington's border retailers experienced a permanent 41 percent decrease in sales—a decrease not seen anywhere else in the state. Through a series of analyses, the team ruled out other explanations for the decrease and concluded that Oregonians were traveling to Washington to purchase considerable amounts of the substance before local recreational stores opened.

According to Hansen, who studies risky behaviors and crime, these results speak directly to the public perception of different crimes. "People are perfectly willing to drive across state lines, committing a federal felony, rather than purchase marijuana from local black market dealers—which in Oregon isn't a criminal offense at all," says Hansen.

The team estimates that roughly 8 percent of marijuana sold legally in Washington is trafficked outside the state today, totaling over 200 kilograms per month. While that may sound like a lot, it's important to understand the scale of black market operations, according to Miller. "State and federal law enforcement operations regularly seize thousands of kilograms from illegal grow operations around the country," says Miller. "One bust can capture more illegal marijuana than consumers traffic in a year."

Further projects are in the pipeline. The team is currently exploring the interaction between the marijuana, alcohol, and tobacco markets more broadly. Kendall Houghton, a graduate student, is working with the team to analyze the impact of price promotions on local competition between retailers. Houghton's work focuses on "National Weed Day," an annual event on April 20 comparable to Black Friday in other retail industries.

"[On these days], stores inundate consumers with discounts, all at the same time," says Houghton. "And while we have some ideas from theory about how consumers should respond, we haven't been able to measure these responses empirically until now."

Houghton, an Oregon native, learned about the industry after taking courses from Miller and Weber. "They gave me an



Cannabis City in Seattle, the city's first retail marijuana store, opened three days after it became legal to sell pot to adults in the state. As predicted, the craving for legal pot in the area was high. According to the *Washington Post*, within three days of opening, the store's supplies—at least 10 pounds—was sold out. The store had to temporarily close.

opportunity, and encouragement, to transition from being a student to an independent, self-directed researcher," says Houghton.

Miller is excited to apply the results to other industries. "Many researchers have studied the impact of discounts at a single store or on a single product," he says. "This is the first time we've been able to see a whole market make choices about discounts simultaneously and track the response."

The team's work is already getting notice from state regulators and industry participants. "As the industry grows and more states legalize, the need for accurate information about consumption behaviors becomes more and more important," says Miller. "Legislators and regulators can't make good policy without it."

"It's high time for a change in federal classification," says Hansen. "If nothing else, our results show what a drag partial prohibition is on our economy."

UO economics professors (left to right)
**Benjamin Hansen, Keaton Miller, and
Caroline Weber**



Undergraduate News

New Record Number of Economics Graduates Invited to Join Phi Beta Kappa

During the 2015–16 academic year we had a record 11 economics seniors elected to Phi Beta Kappa, which is the oldest and most prestigious honorary society in the nation. In addition to a strict GPA requirement, Phi Beta Kappa membership requires a sufficient breadth of classes in the liberal arts.



Our department's students then immediately broke that record in the very next academic year. Of our seniors in 2016–17, 14 were elected to Phi Beta Kappa: **Kaitlin Alhart, Joel Bazzle, Kristen Beamer, John Bird, Tanaina Chuanchaiyakul, Matthew Dodier, Michael Enseki-Frank, Eric Eridon, Jennifer Leung, Kayla Looney, Michael McIntosh, Tia Monahan, Caryn Peters, and Kierra Rowan.**

Three Econ Majors Selected for the Oregon Six

Each year, six outstanding graduating students from across the entire campus are designated the Phi Beta Kappa Oregon Six. Their exceptional academic records combine extraordinary breadth and excellence in upper-division liberal arts courses with very high GPAs. For the graduating class of 2017 three of the students selected for the Oregon Six completed economics majors: **Kaitlin Alhart, Michael Enseki-Frank, and Michael McIntosh.** It's exciting to have just one of our students receive this honor in any given year, so this was an exceptionally thrilling moment for our department. For context, among the 2017 Oregon Six two of the six students finished political science majors, and no other major was represented more than once among this distinguished group.

This recognition gives the impression that either our department is providing significant value to our students through our teaching and through the research opportunities we provide them or that we are attracting some of the most talented students on campus—or perhaps some combination of both. More data are needed before making any causal inferences just yet.

Awards and Recognition



Kathryn Sternberger (above, speaking at a university ground-breaking event in September) was honored at our June commencement as the Most Inspiring Economics Graduate, a distinction earned through nomination by the faculty, graduate students, and staff of the department.

Patrick McClellan was voted “Most Valuable Player” by the members of the UO Economics Club, recognizing him for his academic rigor, encouragement of peers, and active service to the club through research, presentations, peer advising, event planning, and executive leadership.

Torin Brown, Tia Monahan, and Kyle Oliverio were each recognized at commencement for writing the best individual honors paper for their respective theses: “Beyond Collapse: The Continuation Effect of Group Identities,” “Competition Between Microfinance Institutions and the Formal Banking Sector,” and “Evaluating NAFTA: The Employment Effects of Trade Shocks from Mexico in the United States.”

EC 418 and 419 are courses that help groups of students to develop honors projects, which typically analyze regional economic issues with data from nearby governments, firms, or other organizations. Last year Bill Harbaugh directed the course sequence with assistance from Ben Hansen and Tim Duy. At commencement **Kyle Shavere** and **Zhi Chao Yeoh** were recognized for their paper “The Effect of Taking Courses Outside of the University of Oregon on Performance in Subsequent Courses” and **Kenneth Ancell** and **Emily Wu** for “Teaching, Learning, and Achievement: Are Course Evaluations Valid Measures of Instructional Quality at the University of Oregon?” Kenneth and Emily presented their findings at the University Senate during the spring term, and their extension of the work over the summer will continue to inform the response of the senate on this key issue.

PhD Job Market Candidates

To learn more about this year's group of candidates, visit economics.uoregon.edu.



Nate Adams is an applied micro-econometrician with interests in labor, experimental, and behavioral economics. For the job market, he will be presenting

research on the impact of public policy on individual beliefs and polarization. His other current research includes examining risk-taking in tournaments and experimentally exploring the consequences of dishonest behavior. He is married and kept busy by his one-year old son.



Jean Falconer is a PhD candidate in economics. Originally from Alaska, she completed her undergraduate studies at Middlebury College in Vermont, spent a

misguided stint in New York City, and then returned to the West Coast. She studies government policy and has a particular interest in the conduct and effects of fiscal policy (automatic and discretionary) at different levels of government. Outside of economics she enjoys hiking, floating the river, and reading celebrity gossip.



Erin Cottle Hunt is a PhD candidate working in the areas of macro, public, and behavioral economics. Her job market paper explores the welfare cost of social

security policy uncertainty in an overlapping generations model with adaptive learning.

Her research interests include retirement planning and public pensions in models with boundedly rational agents. She attended Utah State University, completing bachelor's and master's degrees in political science. Outside of work, Erin enjoys living in the Whitaker neighborhood and running along the river with her golden retriever.



Nigel McClung is a PhD candidate in economics at the University of Oregon. He received a BA in economics and history at Gonzaga University in 2012, and entered the

PhD program in economics in 2013. His fields of interest include macroeconomics, monetary economics, and adaptive learning, with a specific focus on regime-switching and monetary-fiscal policy interactions. His personal interests include fishing, climbing, and hiking.



Rosie Mueller is a PhD candidate in economics. She received her BS from North Central College in Illinois and spent several years working in financial services before

moving to Oregon for her graduate work in 2013. Her research focus is environmental and health economics, with a job market paper on measuring health effects of pollution exposure in Appalachian coal mining communities. Her broader research interests also include topics in energy and adaptation to climate change.



Tristan Nighswander is a PhD candidate in economics at the University of Oregon. His research focuses on the general equilibrium implications of

behavioral biases on wealth inequality and human capital accumulation. He received his undergraduate degree in economics and mathematics from Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 2011 and completed his MA in economics at Boston College in 2013. After driving across the country to spend the summer of 2013 in the San Juan Islands, Tristan drove south to begin his PhD at the University of Oregon



Amani Rashid is a PhD candidate in economics at the University of Oregon. She received her BA in economics from the University of California, Davis. She studies applied

microeconometrics, labor, and health, and focuses on policies related to the child welfare system. On the job market, she will be presenting work in which she explores the effect of legal counsel for foster children on adoption outcomes. Her personal interests include running, cooking, and vying for the attention of her cats.

Faculty Notes



Bruce Blonigen was named dean for faculty and operations in the College of Arts and Sciences in January after serving as interim dean of the Lundquist College

of Business in fall term of 2016. He also continues his research on multinational firms and trade policy with recent talks at Stanford, Grinnell, Baruch College (NYC), and Shanghai University of Finance and Economics.



Newly promoted associate professor **Alfredo Burlando** is now involved in a number of financial inclusion evaluations in sub-Saharan Africa. His project on banking savings

groups has been expanded and extended thanks to a \$180,000 grant from the Strømme Foundation. He was invited to join the Center for Effective Global Action research network.



Trudy Ann Cameron has joined the Board of Directors of the Western Economic Association International as an academic director. She also organizes sessions at the

WEAI annual conference on behalf of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists, with a special emphasis on new talent. The Mikesell Lab has been updated and reconfigured to accommodate five senior PhD students. With new faculty hire Grant McDermott, and several expressions of interest from more-junior PhD students,

environmental and resource economics at UO continues to flourish. Mikesell researchers are currently studying the public health effects of surface coal mining, water treatment success in India, the social value of environmental amenities around campgrounds on federal lands, the effects of California's carbon cap-and-trade program on the spatial distribution of copollutants (and thus environmental justice), and the potential distortionary effects of housing bubbles on hedonic estimates of the value of environmental quality.



Shankha Chakraborty specializes in inequality, development, and demography. He has been studying how people's aspirations shape their tolerance

for inequality and culture-based explanations of long-term economic development. During the past year, Chakraborty presented his research in Washington DC, New Delhi, and Taipei. He serves as an associate editor at *Macroeconomic Dynamics* and is the associate head of the Department of Economics.



Anca Cristea continues her research in international trade, focusing on topics examining the multinational organization of production and

the role of transportation in cross-border transactions. In ongoing projects, Cristea evaluates the benefits and costs of liberalizing international aviation markets. With her colleague Bruce Blonigen, she also examines the market entry modes of firms that engage in foreign direct investments. A cofounder of the West Coast

Trade Conference, Cristea remains actively engaged in this event. In addition, she has accepted an offer to serve as a member of the scientific board of the Midwest International Economics Meetings Group. During the previous academic year, Cristea was invited for a research visit at the Center for Economic Studies (CES) in Germany. She also presented her research at various venues including the Ludwig-Maximilian University of Munich as well as the Pacific Northwest Regional Economic Conference (PNREC).



Tim Duy remains busy with multiple assignments: teaching, codirector of undergraduate studies, and director of the Oregon Economic Forum. He publishes

regular updates on the Oregon economy as well as regional breakouts for the major metro areas. He is frequently quoted in the media for his views on the economy and is currently writing weekly columns for Bloomberg. He is excited for this year's Oregon Economic Forum, which will feature a keynote address by Lawrence Mishel on the coming robot revolution and what it means for workers.



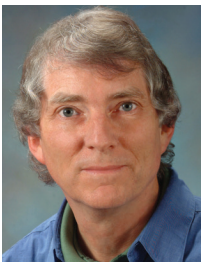
Chris Ellis continued to work on public economics and political economy. He published the paper "Dynamic Commercial Lobbying" in *Economic Inquiry*.

He attended and presented a paper at the Central European Workshop in Economic Theory. He is currently working on topics including the economics of lobbying, policymaker competence, and the economic transmission of culture.



David Evans' current research focuses on optimal fiscal-monetary policy and computational methods to approximate equilibria of dynamic stochastic general

equilibrium models with large numbers of heterogeneous agents. Other work explores the optimal maturity structure of government debt and the endogenous transmission of monetary policy through risk. This year he has published work in the *Quarterly Journal of Economics* and the *Journal of Monetary Economics* and presented at the Becker Friedman Institute's conference on government debt management and the Society for Economic Dynamics. He is expecting his first child in March.



George Evans gave invited talks or presentations this last year to conferences or workshops at the University of Amsterdam; Universita Cattolica, Milan; University of

California, Santa Barbara; and the Society for Economic Dynamics annual conference in Edinburgh. He has a paper with UO economics colleague Bruce McGough on interest rate pegs and monetary policy that is forthcoming in the *Journal of Money, Credit, and Banking*. He and McGough are in the second year of a three-year National Foundation Grant for research on expectation coordination and agent-level learning.



Benjamin Hansen spent the fall and winter of last year in New York City on sabbatical. He visited the New York City Crime Lab as a visiting research scholar and helped

with the research and evaluation of several studies. He also discovered the joys of living with three kids and an 80-pound dog in a 600-square-foot apartment. After suffering through eight months of subways, Central Park, and AmazonFresh delivery, he returned to Eugene in April 2017. He is currently working on projects studying the taxation of recreational marijuana, interstate drug trafficking, the effects of city lighting on crime, and how food stamps generosity affects food choices.



Bill Harbaugh just published a paper with several UO psychologists in the journal *Psychoneuroendocrinology*. He swears he is not making that name up. The

experiment involved giving testosterone to UO undergrads and seeing how the affect on stressful situations was moderated by cortisol and social status. Bill was reelected to serve again next year as UO Senate president and is still enjoying working with UO president Michael Schill and new provost Jayanth Banavar on improving UO's governance, undergraduate education, and increasing opportunities for faculty research. His main task this year is to repeal and replace UO's current student evaluations of faculty, which reward grade inflation, discriminate against women, and are negatively correlated with student learning.



Van Kolpin's research examines both strategic and cooperative behavior in contexts of asymmetric information, discontinuous preferences,

heterogeneous populations, and adaptive regulatory policy. His current research projects examine issues such as cost/

resource sharing with and without endogenous priority including health care environments, the endogenous formation of personal beliefs/social conventions such as trust, prejudice, and superstition, and the impact of shrinking state and federal support on the pricing and marketing behaviors that emerge within higher education markets.



Michael Kuhn is expanding his work on using mandatory waiting periods to help consumers make more patient choices, and beginning a new thread of research on information

processing. He recently received a \$200,000 grant to study the impact of waiting periods on the effectiveness of healthy-food subsidies for low-income households. His experimental work on information processing seeks to understand how people misperceive the causes of what they observe, and how that affects their perception of themselves and others. Additionally, his work on how the decision environment has an impact on intertemporal choice was published in the *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*.



Bruce McGough continues to serve as department head and is thrilled with the past year's successful hiring season. His research remains focused on the general equilibrium implications of

boundedly rational decision-making. This year he published papers in *Economic Inquiry* and *Journal of Money, Credit and Banking*, and gave talks in Amsterdam, New York, and Los Angeles. His student, Brian Dombeck, accepted a tenure-track professorship at Lewis & Clark College.

Faculty Notes, continued



Keaton Miller studies industrial organization and long-term relationships between firms and consumers. He recently completed a study on the difference

between for-profit and non-profit hospitals with Professor Wes Wilson and, along with Professors Ben Hansen and Caroline Weber, he has been studying the burgeoning legal cannabis industry in the Pacific Northwest.



Jeremy Piger's recent research focuses on measuring and forecasting the business cycle. In the past year his research using machine learning techniques to forecast recessions

was published in the *International Journal of Forecasting*. He served as an associate editor for two professional journals, and traveled to present his work at several conferences, including the 2017 American Economic Association meetings in Chicago. Inside the department, he continues to serve as the director of graduate studies.



Mark Thoma continued his research, teaching, and service activities for the university; he blogs daily at *Economist's View*; writes articles for CBS News; has a

biweekly column at the *Fiscal Times*; and he wrote op-eds and articles for several other publications.



Mike Urbancic has taught 7,110 (6,167 unique) students in 46 courses during his first five years at the UO. He is codirector of undergraduate studies for the department, and

serves on the University Senate, the Undergraduate Council, the UO Committee on Courses, and—starting this year—the Committee for Academic Infrastructure. Urbancic also represents non-tenure-track instructional faculty as an officer in our faculty union and sits on the board of directors of The Duck Store.



Anne van den Nouweland specializes in economic theory, with a focus on farsighted stability, equilibrium in public goods economies, and axiomatic

approaches to coalitional problems. She serves on the editorial board of the *Journal of Public Economic Theory* and the program committees of the Public Economic Theory Conference and the Central European Program in Economic Theory. She regularly participates in the Coalition Theory Network Workshop and presented her work at the Decentralization Conference.



Glen Waddell continues his research in the intersections of labor, health, public, and education. This year, Waddell has three students on the market:

Nate Adams (labor, experimental), Amani Rashid (labor, public), and Simeon Minard (microeconometrics, labor, health). In last year's market, he placed Erica Birk as an associate with Analysis Group. He continues to teach the economics and econometrics

components of the Executive MBA program, has joined the faculty of the Clark Honors College again, and serves as a coeditor of *Economics of Education Review* and *Economic Inquiry*.



Caroline Weber's ongoing research examines how much taxation distorts individual or firm behavior. She presented her research this past year at the National

Tax Association Annual Conference on Taxation, the US Census Bureau, and the Institute for Fiscal Studies. Weber's work was published in the *Journal of Urban Economics*. She recently had her second child. Now she has a 2-year-old boy and a baby girl.



Wesley W. Wilson was asked to continue for another five years as editor for *Economic Inquiry*, and he accepted. He also coedited *Airline Efficiency* (Emerald Press, 2016) and

the *Handbook of International Trade and Transportation* (Edward Elgar, at press). He also traveled to Chile, the ASSA meetings, and to Paris (a keynote) to present papers.



Jiabin Wu's research focuses on evolutionary game theory and behavioral/experimental economics. He will teach behavioral economics, game

theory for undergraduates and core microeconomics for PhD students this academic year.

New Hires



Woan Foong Wong is an international trade economist who just received her graduate degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Her research focuses on

trade costs, specifically factors that impede and facilitate trade flow. These include transport costs, trade agreements, and resource misallocation. A Malaysian native, Wong attended high school in India and subsequently completed degrees in economics and music composition at Oberlin College and Conservatory of Music. Prior to graduate school, she worked at the Peterson Institute for International Economics which cemented her interest in trade policy. In the fall term, she is excited to teach both the undergraduate and graduate international trade courses. Wong writes film music and is very glad that the grand piano she is taking care of has mostly made it to Eugene from Madison in one piece.



Grant McDermott is newly arrived at UO from UC Santa Barbara (via Europe via South Africa). He specializes in environmental and natural resource economics, and much

of his present research uses satellite and other “big” data products to address global-scale questions. He recently presented on these topics as an invited speaker at this year’s summer conference of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (AERE), and is excited to introduce UO economics students to the same new ideas and techniques. He has several papers under review at the moment and will try to get a few more in the queue while he has a teaching break this fall. Apart from exploring the Oregon Cascades and coastline with his family, Grant enjoys reasonably priced wine, complying with visa regulations, and talking in the third person.



Mark Colas originally hails from San Francisco, and is excited to be returning to the West Coast and joining the faculty at the University of Oregon. Mark received his BA

from UC Davis and his PhD in economics from the University of Wisconsin. Before starting graduate school, Mark spent two and half years living in mainland China, where he studied Mandarin Chinese and conducted research on internal migration in China. Mark is a labor and urban economist whose research interests include migration, sector and occupation choice, and the determinants of inequality.

Promotions and Appointments

Burlando Promoted to Associate Professor

Alfredo Burlando, a member of the UO economics faculty since 2010, has been promoted to Associate Professor of Economics with indefinite tenure, effective September 2017.

Hansen Appointed to W.E. Miner Chair

Benjamin Hansen, a member of the UO economics faculty since 2010, has been appointed to the W.E. Miner Chair of Economics, effective September 2017.

Alumni News

From Oregon to the Census Bureau

Ron Jarmin, PhD '92, has been appointed the acting director of the US Census Bureau, where he will oversee the upcoming 2020 US census. An employee of the Census Bureau since 1992, Jarmin more recently has served as associate director for economic programs, where he led the team responsible for the 2017 Economic Census, which helps provides key measures of economic performance such as the gross domestic product.

Jarmin has also been elected as a fellow of the American Statistical Association. This honor is limited to no more than one third of one percent of the membership of the ASA and goes to nominees who have made outstanding contributions to statistical science.

Support the Economics Department

Visit economics.uoregon.edu and click on “Alumni and Friends” to find links to the mail-in and secure online donation forms

Honor Roll—Pledges and Donations

Pledges to the Department of Economics by alumni and others continue to be crucial for supporting students and faculty members in their teaching and research activities. We continue to be honored and humbled by the generous contributions our program receives.

Providing a gift in your will to support the Department of Economics is a powerful way to support our efforts. The UO Office

of Gift Planning is an excellent resource if you are considering providing support for economics in your will. Call 800-289-2354 or visit giftplan.uoregon.edu for more information.

The following is a list of contributions received from September 1, 2016, through August 31, 2017. We apologize for any unintended errors or omissions.

ECONOMICS HONOR ROLL

\$50,000 or more

KeyBank and KeyBank National Association
Ann and David Worthington '73
Walter Girdlestone '43 and Estate of Walter H. Girdlestone

\$10,000 to \$49,999

Schwab Charitable Fund
Douglas Ramsthal '86
Marvin Waring, Jr. '71

\$2,000 to \$9,999

Thomas Iwand PhD '59
Revadee and Aran Thammano PhD '62
Tina Buikat '82
Harold Watts '54
Majid Al Moneef MS '75, PhD '81
Carole and Malcolm MacPhail '66
Port of Portland
The GE Foundation
Pamela and Ernest Ankrim MS '75, PhD '76
Tracy and James Samuel '84
Linda Olson '80, MBA '81 and Richard Costello
NMF Tire Services, Inc.
Timothy Beeman '96
Western Communications, Inc.
Slape Family Revocable Trust

\$1,000 to \$1,999

Kate '69 and David Ludwig '75
Aaron Family Foundation
Joyce and Jack Cox MS '60, PhD '63
Kirk Ward '80
Steven Aaron '84
Rebecca and Lee Freiermuth '76, MBA '78
Shell Oil Company Foundation
Patricia '61, MEd '67 and Warren Tibbles '60, '63

\$500 to \$999

Melody and Kim Ferguson '73
Maureen and William Ferguson '58, '61
Dana and Michael Mahoney '64
Andrew Wood '80
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
Andrew Fowler '05
Richard Price '75
Fredericka Bunting '69
Janice '63 and Kent Hughes '62
Sherrie and Michael Kaiel '66
Ta-Chi Chen '76
Timothy Kersten MA '70, PhD '73
Susan '99, MS '01 and William Ross '98
Ctr For Int'l & Interarea Com
Wells Fargo Foundation
Yoon Trading Company
Yungja and Suk Yoon '72

Barbara '64 and William Hutchison, Jr. '63
Elaine '06 and Sean Van Gordon '01, MS '02

\$250 to \$499

Daniel Blake MA '70, PhD '71
NY Engineering
Hisano and Erven Kincaid Jr. '64
Karla and Christopher Murray '93
Elizabeth '84 and A. Matthew Evans '82
Nilgun and Alex Wolpe
Chong Kim MA '04, PhD '07
Barbara and Howard Teasley MA '68

\$100 to \$249

Stanley Keil MA '70, PhD '73
Aimee Staton '14
Rebecca '85 and Norbert Kugele '83
Nanae and Norio Nakahara MA '74
GuideOne Insurance
Ryan Pollock '05
Hal Katz '09
Sharon and William Juza '50
Cynthia '77 and Thomas Dulcich '76
Ivy and David Fractor MS '81, PhD '82
Elsje and James Lofgren '65

Su Kim
Julie Lung Sorenson '77 and David Sorenson '71
Michael Stubblebine '81
Kristine and Gerald Brooks MS '74
Cheryl Chiene '67
Jeffrey Peterson '88
Kevin Riley '92
Ryotaro Orito '84
Krista Panoff '94
Anwarullah Jatoui '63, MS '65
Frank Slawson '64
Dona '68, PhD '75 and Ronald Lehr PhD '76
Sharon and Joseph Borton '93
Richard Maier '15
Nicholas Hollister '14
Eduardo Banda '14
Thomas Miller MBA '92, MS '92
Jane and Marshall Geer III MA '67, PhD '68
Alexis '01 and Scott Mason '01
Charles Exley '16
Charles Novak '68, MBA '70
Anonymous
Michael Ratoza '73, JD '76
Mary '79 and Victor Menacho MA '72, MA '80
Barbara and Jay Kaylor MS '82
Mark Brackebusch '72
Brittni Henry '03
Terrence Scroggin '72
Bonnie Heitsch and Brian Reeder '79

Thomas Hackett '69, MS '77,
PhD '78
Karla Haats '82
Douglas Southgate Jr. '74

\$50 to \$99

Mitchell Layden '07
Shawn and Thomas Worstell '75,
MBA '77
Cheryl and Matthew Eccles '86
Adam Mitchell '12
Kristi MS '84 and Douglas
Dalenberg MS '86, PhD '87
Jamie Wachter '13
Evan Younger '96
Cindy Reid and Bahram Adrangi
PhD '82
Erik Bjorvik '92
Mackenzie Robison '14
Eric Dodge MA '94, PhD '95

Alexi Wilson '10
Marilyn and Lyle Janz Jr. '52
Christopher Tooley '12
Michael Millhollen '68
Ezequiel Montes B39
Rachel Lee and Jason Fee '82
Janet and John Saunders '69
Jason Shanks '95
Judith MA '72 and Edward
Dean '71
Vanessa '85 and Carl Rimby '85
Lornie McCormick-Goodhart and
Steven Knudsen '76
Andrea and Robert Anderson '71

Up to \$49

Scott Davis '16
Elizabeth Rosales '15
Jozef Colomy '11
Tammy Leonard

Celia and Richard Wagner '80
Jeanne Kennett MEd '70
Brian Miller '11
Hunter Russell '15
Ian Schneider '15
Yajing Yuan '16
Erik Glass '16
Riana Del Vecchio '13
Amanda Westrick '10 and Ryan
Troughton '11
Lawrence Seyer '83
Christopher Fisher '13
James Nelson '77
PepsiCo Foundation
Charles Rogovoy '15
Jasmin and Mark Tung MA '68
Donald McKinlay '58, MA '67,
PhD '71
Mitra and David Morse '81
James Cahill '08

SAIL HONOR ROLL

\$1,000 or more

William Harbaugh
Noelle Jones '15
June and Thomas Berry '77

\$100 to \$249

Delores C. Blonigen Realty Inc
Delores and Victor Blonigen
Wendy and Michael Russo
Berry Wealth
The Oregon Community
Foundation
Michael Schill

\$50 to \$99

Katya Hokanson and Steven Brown
Sara Hodges
Alanna Peet

About the Staff

From the manager, **Teri Rowe**: The economics department has had a busy and productive year with many changes in staffing. Over the summer we said goodbye to Savannah Dombeck, graduate coordinator and Jaimee Crouse, undergraduate coordinator. I wish them a fond farewell and the best of luck in their new adventures! We had a lot of fun over the past few years and I know they will be met with much success. With the help of Jessica, Savannah, and Jaimee, we spent considerable time over the past year reimagining how to accomplish the administrative work in the department resulting in reorganized staffing. I am excited to welcome four new staff members to our team: Chris Blum, Sharon Kaplan, Mike Peixoto, and Janea Pratt. Read more about each of them below.

Chris Blum is a University of Oregon alumnus and has worked on campus since 2002, most recently as the graduate coordinator in the Department of Sociology. He is excited to join the economics team and begin his new role as the operations coordinator, while trying to figure out what all of the equations on everyone's office whiteboards mean.

Sharon Kaplan joined the department as the graduate coordinator in June. An art educator by training, she has worked on campus since 2006, first as museum educator at the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, and most recently coordinating the Common Reading Program through the Division of Undergraduate Studies. Outside of PLC, you may spot her performing with the Eugene

Symphonic Band, dancing Argentine tango, or leading art workshops for families at the Eugene Public Library.

Jessica O'Connor has been working as the travel and accounts payable coordinator in the economics department for just over 2½ years. She continues to assist faculty and graduate students with travel reimbursements, contracts, hiring paperwork, and the like. When she isn't working, Jessica enjoys spending time with her husband, son, and closest friends.

Mike Peixoto joined the academic support team in August 2017 as the undergraduate coordinator. Having taught history at the Clark Honors College for the past three years, he has a dedication to helping build an excellent undergraduate program at the UO. He holds a PhD in medieval history from NYU, has worked at both large public and small liberal arts universities, and has published on the subject of the Knights Templar and the Crusades. When Mike is not in the office, he enjoys spending time with his two daughters or training with the Oregon Association of Rowers.

Janea Pratt is a native of Eugene and a first generation Duck. She earned her BA in 2017 in Japanese and international studies and joined the economics department as the receptionist the following day. When she's not at work, Janea loves reading historical biographies, watching crime dramas, and enjoying the local food cart scene.



UNIVERSITY OF
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College of Arts and Sciences

Department of Economics

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Economics at the UO ... by the numbers

1,086 Majors

413 Minors

6 Master's students

53 Doctoral students

3,742 Undergrads
enrolled in an economics class
per term in 2016-17

25 Faculty members
(plus **3** more this year)

9 PhDs entering the job market