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Economics at OU: Be in Demand

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Welcome and Department Update

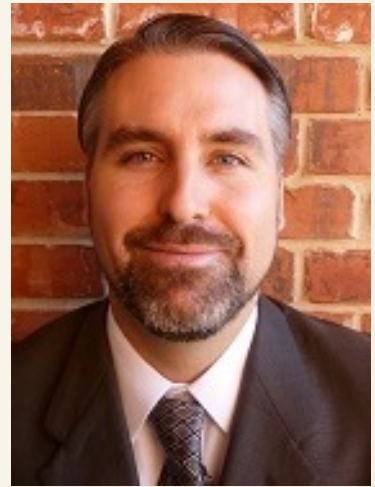
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Report From the Chair

Greg Burge, Department of Economics

Welcome to the latest installation of the OU Department of Economics Newsletter! I hope you are enjoying fall and finding ways to embrace life's simple joys with each new day. Even as we are thankful that vaccines are a great protection from severe Covid outcomes, please keep those who are still most vulnerable – particularly those in parts of the world where many still await the vaccine – in your hearts, minds and prayers.

For OU Econ, it's been a busy and productive 2021! Our US News & World Report ranking is higher than ever. We also hired three new faculty – all without a single on-campus interview! Last year was all about Zoom meetings and the impact of the pandemic on budgets. Regarding the latter, please give generously if you are able; this will help continue to make OU's excellence accessible to all students.



In terms of faculty achievement – WOW! Prof. Firat Demir is one of OU's newest Presidential Professors! Congrats! He joins Prof. Georgia Kosmopoulou and Prof. Le Wang in this prestigious honor. Prof. Qihong Liu, Prof. Joan Hamory, Prof. Jon McFadden and Prof. Kevin Kuruc are all recent recipients of major research grants! And we continue to crush the publishing game! Faculty hitting top outlets recently include Prof. Myongjin Kim (*Management Science*), Prof. Tyler Ransom (*Journal of Labor Economics*), Prof. Hewei Shen (*Review of Economic Dynamics*), Prof. Kevin Kuruc (*Nature - Food*) and Prof. Chunbei Wang (*Journal of Public Economics*).

Our staff – who happen to be the most dedicated and fun/helpful team a department could ever hope for – just won a BIG-TIME Award! Our very own Ms. Tami Kinsey is a 2020 winner of the OU University Superior Staff Award! As the staff are a support team – with Ms. Corey Quiett and Ms. Kelli Broome playing integral roles – this is a true team victory!

Regarding turnover, as we feel the sting of losing Prof. Gary Hoover, Prof. Jaeho Kim, & Prof. Saleh Tabrizy, all good friends and top economists, we welcome Prof. Mu-Jeung Yang, Prof. Samantha Johnson and Prof. Brent Norwood!

Prof. Yang is an accomplished scholar in the areas of firm management and econometrics. His training from the University of Chicago and UC Berkeley, along with experience teaching at the University of Washington and University of Utah, position him to positively impact our graduate and undergraduate students immediately. Publications in *Journal of International Economics*, *Management Science*, and other top outlets are just the beginning for this impactful scholar!

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Speaking of impact – we reach thousands of OU Sooners each year! This happens mostly through Principles of Macro & Micro courses, as well as Elements of Statistics. Getting fantastic instructors in these large classes - like new hires Prof. Samantha Johnson and Prof. Brent Norwood – is a big deal! Both are recent Ph.D. grads – from Washington State University and University of Oklahoma, respectively – with loads of teaching experience.

Prof. Johnson focuses on agricultural and environmental economics, while Prof. Norwood specializes in education policy and housing economics. Brent leaves behind a position at Oklahoma State University to return to his grad Alma Mater, while OU Econ becomes the first (and hopefully long-term) home for Samantha. I get excited when I think about the directions these scholars are taking with their respective research agendas and the way they will positively impact thousands of OU students over the coming years.

One thing missing from this write-up celebrating OU Economics is YOU! We want to celebrate your accomplishments – so LET US KNOW what's up with you!

The “T-shirt challenge” is also still running strong! Contact the economics department to get a shirt and take it with you as you travel! All we ask is that you snap a photo or two off in those exciting locations and send them back to us!

And don't forget that our website (<https://ou.edu/cas/economics/>) is a great source for previous newsletters, and a great way to stay informed about the happenings in the department.

If you're ever in Norman, please stop by for a visit! I'd love to treat you for a coffee/beer/juice and hear how you are doing. Even as we continue to embrace measures to maintain health and fight Covid, the OU campus feels like it's coming back better than ever!

Warm Regards,

Greg Burge
Department Chair & Professor of Economics
University of Oklahoma

Economics in London



Professor Hamory and Professor Burge took 17 OU economics students to London this July for a unique study abroad experience. Beyond taking two great econ classes, students experience first-hand the history and culture of a city that has influenced the field of economics more than any other.

Trips to the British Museum, Tower of London, Parliament and Wimbledon mark just a few of the highlights!

2021 Department News and Notables

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- Ph.D. graduate Sunhyung Lee began a tenure-track position as Assistant Professor of Economics at Montclair State University and was published in *Economic Inquiry* with the paper "[Heterogeneous Price Effects and Increased Price Dispersion from Quantity-based Congestion Management](#)"
- OU economics graduate Donggeun Kim began a position at the Industrial Bank of Korea, Economic Research Institute



Spring 2021 Ph.D. Economics graduates



Professors Samantha Johnson, Brent Norwood and Mu-Jeung Yang joined the OU economics department this academic year

2021 Department News and Notables

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Professor Qihong Liu received an award from the University of Massachusetts for his research project titled "Market Reaction To The Restaurant Calorie Labeling Rule."

From the award notice: The approval of your proposal represents a clear recognition of your scholarly capabilities and is extremely important to the success of your own program as well as advancing the creation and dissemination of new knowledge more broadly.



Professor Tyler Ransom was quoted in an [interview with the Washington Post](#) about reforming college admissions to eliminate preference for children of alumni.

- Professor Qihong Liu, Prof. Daniel Nedelescu and former OU Ph.D. graduate Prof. Ji Gu published the paper "The Impact of Strategic Agents in Two-Sided Markets" in *Journal of Economics*
- Professor Cynthia Rogers is the chair of the OU Research Council

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Research and Development

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OU Economics Faculty Research Interests

Gregory Burge

Urban Economics
Public Economics

Firat Demir

International Finance
Development Economics

Pallab Ghosh

Labor Economics
Econometrics

Joan Hamory

Economic Development

James Hartigan

International Trade
International Finance
Industrial Organization

Alexander Holmes

Human Resources Public
Finance
Local Econ. Development

Samantha Johnson

Agriculture
Industrial Organization
Applied Microeconomics

Benjamin Keen

Monetary Economics
Macroeconomics
Applied Time Series
Econometrics

Myongjin Kim

Industrial Organization
Applied Econometrics

Georgia Kosmopoulou

Microeconomic Theory
Industrial Organization

Kevin Kuruc

Applied Macroeconomics
Environmental Economics

Qihong Liu

Industrial Organization
Applied Micro

Jonathan McFadden

Environmental Economics
Agricultural Economics
Applied Econometrics

Daniel Nedelescu

Industrial Organization
Labor Economics
Behavioral Economics
Experimental Economics

Brent Norwood

Public Policy
Education

Tyler Ransom

Labor Economics
Urban Economics
Economics of
Education

Cynthia Rogers

Urban Economics
Public Economics
Public Policy

Hewei Shen

International Economics
Macroeconomics
International Finance

Chunbei Wang

Labor Economics
Entrepreneurship

Le Wang

Econometrics
Labor & Development
Applied Microeconomics
Chinese Economy

Mu-Jeung Yang

Empirical Analysis

Stay Connected to OU Economics

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Please send us updates to be included in the next newsletter. You can send news, announcements, photos and more by sending an email to cquiett@ou.edu.

You also may participate with OU Economics by mentoring a student, recommending an internship or sharing how you've used your economics degree with our student organization. Please contact Corey Quiett at cquiett@ou.edu or (405) 325-4307.

The power of an economics degree from the University of Oklahoma helps our graduates "Be in Demand."

Support our department's efforts to provide an outstanding foundation for success.

You may use the form below, or click here to [give online](#).

I would like to make a gift of \$_____ to the Department of Economics Endowed Fund (43099)

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP Code: _____

Email: _____

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