

UMSL

UMSL Department of Economics Newsletter Summer 2021

Dear Alums,

This is my last Chair letter. I am pleased to announce that **Lea Kosnik** will serve as Interim Chair starting fall 2021! Let me start by congratulating Lea!

Fresh ideas and a new way of doing things as Chair are welcome. As incoming Chair, Lea joins a distinguished group including **Susan Feigenbaum**, (the late) **Sharon Levin**, **Bob Sorensen**, **Dave Rose**, and **Don Kridel**.

I would also like to express my deep gratitude to **Mike Allison**, who shared the Chair job as Assistant Chair over the past six years. COVID, especially, has been a challenging time and working side-by-side with Mike (well, actually across a Zoom screen and by phone), has made all the difference.

I will continue on with my role of "All Things Alumni." I truly enjoy making and maintaining connections with all of you. I especially look forward to planning our April 2022 alumni party. Stay tuned (and fingers crossed).

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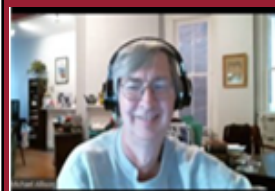
In fall 2020, **Mike Allison** picked up yet another administrative task (which he did while also continuing to fulfill all his duties as Asst. Chair): Faculty Fellow for Data and Assessment in the Office of the Provost. He will continue in this role for another year. For the Department, Mike will also continue to serve as Director of Undergraduate Studies and Director of the BS Actuarial Science program.

I very much like reporting good news. Our own UMSL Econ alum and 20-year instructor **Tracie Edwards** (MA 2001) is the recipient of the 2021 Chancellor's Award for Excellence to a Part-Time Faculty Member! Congratulations Tracie!

I also want to give a special shout out to the other part-time faculty who have worked tirelessly during COVID and helped students get through the semesters: **Joe Hough** (MA 2013), **Steve Scheid**, **Bob Coulter**, **Joe Naumann** (teaching geography) and **Ian Aebel** (teaching geography).

Even during COVID, our recent grads have been successful finding jobs and our alums have been changing firms for new opportunities and getting promoted. This news was especially welcome in the dark days of fall 2020 and early winter 2021. If you are looking to hire or seeking to change jobs, let me or **Lea Kosnik** know!

Michael Allison,
Outgoing Assistant Chair



Anne E. Winkler,
Outgoing Chair



For those who are wondering about the curriculum of today, R is now being 100% taught in Econ 4100/Intro to Econometrics following advice from our alumni. We want our curriculum to stay relevant. Please reach out and share ideas!

Mike Allison and I have participated in some recent university-wide curriculum initiatives. One is a BS in Data Science & Analysis, with Econ as an emphasis area. This degree program just officially launched for fall 2021. You can read more about it in the newsletter.

Hope to see you at our upcoming events!

Best,
Anne

Anne E. Winkler



*Flashback to
Picnic 2015!*

Women in Economics at UMSL and at the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

Women in Economics at UMSL

The UMSL student organization -- Women in Economics (WIE) -- continued hosting Happy Hours throughout the 2020-2021 school year, just on Zoom! Alum **Marcela Hawn** (BS 1998), Senior Vice President and Chief Communications Officer at Centene Corporation, zoomed in and shared her career path and advice in fall 2020. Members also participated in the virtual Women in Economics Symposium hosted by the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis.

New board members welcomed this year include **Senita Chambly** and **Imogen Bennett**, and a big thank you to **Natalie Orf** and **Ashlee Sprock** for making sure we still had fun, imaginative happy hour events, even through this crazy year!!

The Department owes a big thank you to the faculty founder and long-time advisor to WIE, **Lea Kosnik**. **Anne Winkler** will take over in fall 2021.

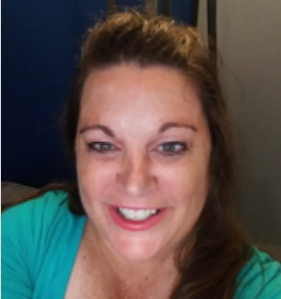
Women in Economics at the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

The Federal Bank of St. Louis again held a Women in Economics Symposium in 2021, this one virtual. Key panelists included UMSL Professor of Economics, **Marie Mora**. Click here to read more about the event as covered by UMSL Daily.

Other session panelists included **Lesli Ott** (MA 2001 – see more on Lesli’s new venture elsewhere in the Newsletter) and **Yvetta Fortova** (BS 2004), FRED Team Manager at the St. Louis Fed, as well as Professors **Lea Kosnik** and **Anne Winkler** and Professor Emerita **Susan Feigenbaum**. It is our own **Mary Suiter** (BS 1985) who started the WIE Symposium and WIE Podcast at the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. (For links to podcasts featuring UMSL Econ faculty, alums, and students, see 2020 UMSL Econ Newsletter.)



TRACIE EDWARDS (MA 2001) is Recipient of the 2021 Chancellor's Award for Excellence to a Part-Time Faculty Member. Congratulations Tracie!



Tracie Edwards graduated with an MA in Economics from UMSL Econ in 2001 and has worked virtually continuously as a part-time instructor at UMSL since that time. This means that she is a 20-year veteran of the Department of Economics! Tracie has to rank as one of the most devoted and compassionate part-time faculty members on our campus. Her deep concern about student well-being was apparent from the many UMSL Econ teaching faculty zooms held during COVID. Over the 20-year period Tracie has taught 4 distinct courses for the department:

Economics 1000 (Economics in Everyday Life, a Gen Ed course for nonmajors), Economics 1001 (Principles of Microeconomics), Economics 1002 (Principles of Macroeconomics), and Econ 3100 (Economic Statistics). Student comments on her teaching evaluations point to her energy, her passion, and her willingness to hold additional study sessions (both in-person and online). Descriptors include "awesome" and "best professor." Tracie also serves as a member of the Center for Teaching and Learning's Part-Time Teaching Circle Advisory Board.

With the pivot to online, Tracie outfitted her basement as a teaching studio, complete with a white board and camera to continue to teach her courses. And, Tracie was kind enough to share her knowledge of Gradescope with the rest of the faculty.

Tracie will officially receive the award on Tuesday, September 14th, 3 p.m. at the Chancellor's State of the University Address, which will be held in the Touhill.

When not teaching economics, Tracie is involved in community theatre (acting, directing, stage managing, and costuming musicals and plays) in St. Louis. She also is the administrator at Providence Fine Arts Center, a performing arts school where she teaches percussion and theatre to kids aged 3-18.

Congrats again Tracie!

Campus COVID signage (so you know what it has been like to be physically on campus)



THE ERC in the Time of COVID



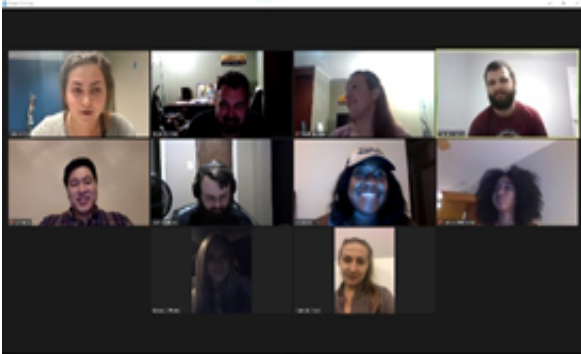
The ERC located in 452 SSB closed in March 2020 along with the rest of the campus. Thanks to the quick work of **Mike Allison** and **Brian Speicher**, we quickly pivoted to the fully online ZOOM ERC (see Summer 2020 UMSL Econ Newsletter for details). In Fall 2020, we continued the ERC and reopened the 452 SSB ERC, now with masking and social distancing rules (see photo).

When COVID numbers rose in later fall 2020, UMSL went back to fully online. Our alert to students: "(FULLY) BACK TO THE ZOOM ERC. GET TUTORING, STUDY WITH OTHERS, HANG OUT at the ZOOM ERC starting MONDAY, NOV. 30th. Finish your semester STRONG! We strongly encourage you to (continue to) make use of the ERC. Stay safe."

In Jan 2021, we returned to having both 452 SSB and the ZOOM ERC operational. More advanced students returned to 452 SSB, while principles students were the main users of the Zoom version. Faculty taught in a range of modes over academic year 20-21: asynchronous online, synchronous online, and blended (online of some type plus in person).

For fall 2021, we will continue to offer a mix, also to include fully in-person courses. We will be masked, at least for the start of the semester. With faculty teaching both online and in person, both 452 SSB and the ZOOM ERC will continued to be staffed.

Overseeing the ERC during all of this has been ERC Manager, **Brian Speicher**. Brian deserves huge thanks for his efforts.



The student organization -- **National Association for Business Economics (NABE)** -- had a fairly quiet year during COVID. However, in fall 2020, **Hannah Drury** (BS 2020), now Operational Excellence Analyst at AmerenUE, and **Darian Moody** (BS/MA 2020), Data Analyst II at Centene, chatted about their jobs after graduation with the group via Zoom (see photo of screenshot). Also, for a bit of fun, some students played Among Us via Zoom. Thank you to faculty adviser **Brian Speicher**.

Alumni Success 2021

Alumni—Join UMSL Economics Alumni LinkedIn!

Chanel Alorson (BS 2019) is now SBA Loan Specialist at Stifel Bank & Trust.

Mark Amoroso (BS/MA 2016) is now a Consultant at Daugherty Business Solutions.

Rick Baniak (BS 1986, MA 1997) is Vice President of Fiscal Affairs and Chief Financial Officer at Lindenwood University.

Elise Barry (BS 2012) is now VP of Strategic Accounts at OneSpace. (Thank you Elise for sharing job opportunities!)

David Becker (BS 2015) is Senior Product Owner, World WideTechnologies.



Thomas Briggs (MA 2013), who received his PhD from Colorado State, is employed as an Economist at the Bureau of Economic Analysis National Economic

Accounts Directorate-Data Management and Methods Support Division in Washington, DC.

Charles Biddy (BS/MA 2013) is now Project Manager, Valley Electric Company in Seattle.

Rakim Biggers (BA 2015) is now Owner of Rocky's Restorations, LLC, Kansas City, MO.

Ryan Brooks (BS 2017) is Senior IT Security Administrator at Charter.

Jamie Brown (BS 2007) has taken a position as Vice President of Marketing, Hollywood Casino at Charles Town Races, in the Washington, DC area.

Brian Buckles (MA 2005) is Partner at PharmStreet, LLC in Lake Mary, Florida.

Antonio Clair (BS 2014) relocated to San Francisco where he is Manager, Business Intelligence, with the same firm, EOI.

Michael Cassidy (BS/MA 2014) is now Managing Partner with Triple Crown Construction in NYC.

Chris Cunningham (BS/MA 2017) works as a Senior Programmer with Schnucks Markets.



Lauren Dickens (BS/MA 2008), Dean of Health and Technical Sciences, St. Charles Community College, was featured in UMSL Daily. The article describes her career path. It all started with being in **Susan Feigenbaum's** Econ 1001 and being invited to the pizza recruiting lunch. Susan converted Lauren into an UMSL economics BS student ... and now Dean!

Marcus Deckert (BS 2008) is now Actuarial Manager- R&D at Carfax in Peoria, IL.

Hannah Drury (BS 2020) works as Operational Excellence Analyst at AmerenUE

Ade Fanegan (BS 2005, MA 2020) is now VP - Model Risk Management Analyst, UMB Bank.



Juan Fung (MA 2008), Economist at NIST, and his wife Kaitlin Straker are the proud parents of Paulo, now 1 year old!

Margaret Goodwin (BS 1996) recently started a new position as Executive Director, Human Resources, JPMorgan Chase & Co, in Florida.



Geetanjali Gamel (BS/MA 2006) is now Senior Director, Global Workforce Analytics at J&J in the NYC area.

John Gamel (MA 2006) is Director of Data Insights, MasterCard International, in the NYC area.

Kennadi Haythorne (BS 2020) is now Client Service Associate at Correct Capital Wealth Management.

Rachel Harrington (BS/MA 2019), JD candidate at University of Michigan Law School, worked as a summer legal intern at Pennsylvania Institutional Law Project.

Haleigh Holmes (MA 2020) is now Lead Program Schedule Integrator at Boeing.

Melissa Kuster (MA 2011) is now Transfer Pricing Director at DLA Piper.

Julie Kreis (BS/MA 2011) is now employed as a Business System Analyst at EVERSANA.



Vikram Kumar (MA 2008) has been promoted to Principal at Cornerstone Research in London.

Yang Liu (MA 2008), a Software Engineer at Microsoft, and **Chao Huang** (former UMSL Econ MA student), a Fiscal Specialist II at University of Washington-Bothell, paid a visit to St. Louis in early June with their children, Austin & Avery.

Brandon Laxton (BS 2015) is Client Service Associate at Buckingham Strategic Wealth.

Raheel Langrial (MA 2015) is now Head of Data Science / Staff Manager at Windstream in Chicago.



Trung Ly (BS 2011, MA 2013), Assistant Professor of Economics at University of West Georgia, and his wife Ai-Anh are now the proud parents of two daughters, Athena and Aurora. Congratulations!

Michelle (Tamara) McCarthy (BS 2021) is now Analytics and Data Associate at Wells Fargo.

MORE ALUMNI SUCCESS!



Alexi Makarkin (BS 2001, MA 2002) made a job change and is now Data Science Principal at Evernorth.

Jason Mannello (BS 2002, MA 2004) is now Director - Private Markets at Hermann Companies.

Kirk McLean (BS 2010) is now Associate Actuary at Highmark Health in Lenexa Kansas.

Brian Moellering (BS 1997) has taken a new position as Director of Operations at Carters Inc. in Atlanta.

Ryan Moore (BS/MA 2005) is now Analytics Director at AbbVie in the Chicago area.



A NEW VENTURE!

Lesli Ott (MA 2001) has launched Menter, where she is Founder and CEO. Menter is a company using technology to empower and advance women

through cross and intra-generational female mentorship and support.

Prior to founding Menter, Lesli held a number of positions. She was Head of Health Economics and Outcomes at Cityblock Health, served as Vice President of Episode Analytics for Remedy Partners, and spent over six years as Lead Statistician at the Yale Center for Outcomes Research and Evaluation. Before heading to the East Coast, Lesli worked as a Senior Economic Analyst at the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis.

Lesli also recently participated as a panelist (in two sessions) at the Women in Economics Symposium sponsored by the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis.

Victor Potopov (BS 1998, MA 1999) is Vice President of Engineering at conversationHEALTH in Mississauga, Ontario.

Adam Richardson (BS/MA 2011) now holds the position of Director of Information Technology at Centene.

Christopher Rose (MA 2018) is now Software Developer at Equifax.

Irina Shalinskaya (BS 2020) is Account Specialist at Aon.

Justin Sanders (BS 2017) started a new position as Product Manager II at InComm.

Sarah Speicher (BS 2020) graduated this past December and swiftly took a position as Operations Analyst at Visionary Wealth Advisors.

Derek Steiner (BS/MA 2016) is Analytics Consultant, UNCOMN.



Gaurav Tiwari (MA 2006) is Vice President, Three Lines of Defense Transformation, Transformation Office at State Street Bank. Gaurav was selected

to be State Street Bank's representative at the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce's 2021 Future Leaders (BFL) Program. Presented in partnership with Harvard Business School, participants from this program graduate with the skills, experience, and connections they need to lead Boston into the future.

Andrew Tipping (MA 2019) is back on the UMSL campus as Research Data Analyst II at Missouri Institute of Mental Health. Welcome back Andrew!

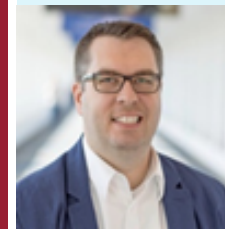
Lance Trudell (BS 2006) is now Director of Procurement Analytics at Post Holdings.

Christal Wanjun Zhu (MA 2014) is Business Manager - People Analytics at Capital One in McLean Virginia.

Craig Young (BS 2013) is now Senior Program Manager, Data Warehouse, at MongoDB in Denver.

Joe Hough (MA 2013) and his wife are the proud parents of daughter Ayla Grace! Congratulations!

Zach Whitford (BS/MA 2021) landed a position as an Economist with the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) in DC.



A NEW VENTURE!

Jesse Wolfersberger (MA 2009) is CEO and Co-Founder at Vrity. Vrity's mission is to show brands the

financial impact of their values, so they have the evidence to take more and bigger values-based actions.

Jesse is the former Chief Data Officer for Maritz Motivation, and prior to that he worked for GroupM Next.

Jesse received UMSL Econ's Alumni Award in 2014 for all of his efforts in helping connect students and alums with job opportunities.

Lin Zhao (MA 2008) is an Assistant Professor of Finance at Elon University.

SHARE YOUR News!

Send an email to Chair, **Lea Kosnik**, at kosnikl@umsl.edu or to Alumni Coordinator, **Anne Winkler**, at awinkler@umsl.edu, or to any faculty member.

UMSL Daily

FEATURES ACADEMICS STUDENTS FACULTY STAFF ALUMNI EV

UMSL launches new bachelor's degree program in data science and analysis

AUG/16/2021 | POSTED BY STEVE VALENTIK

Students can begin enrolling in a new Bachelor of Science in Data Science in Analysis program, an interdisciplinary degree program with emphasis areas in biology, computer science, economics, mathematics, social science and applied data analytics. (Photo by August Johnson)

Econ is an Emphasis area in new UMSL BS Data Science & Analysis degree

Link to **UMSL Daily** story about degree

Our Second Zoom Graduation Celebration--Dec. 2020!

UMSL ECONOMICS FALL 2020 GRADUATES!

Bachelor of Arts in Economics

Joseph Cavaluzzi, with Minor in Criminology and Criminal Justice

Bachelor of Science in Economics

Tyler Britt, with Minor in Business Administration

Nik Culp, with Departmental Honors

Hannah Drury, with Minor in Spanish, Departmental Honors, Latin Honors - Cum Laude

Kennadi Haythorne, with Minors in Business Administration, Finance, and Management

Travis Hesskamp, with Minor in Business Administration

Tamara McCarthy, with Minors in Business Administration and Political Science

Fredmartin Mwangi, with Minors in Civil Engineering and Mathematics

Alex Pedigo, with Minor in Political Science

Sarah Speicher, with Minor in Psychology

Bachelor of Science and Master of Arts in Economics

Dakota Edwards, with Minors in Mathematics and Computer Science, Certificate in Applied Econometrics and Data Analysis

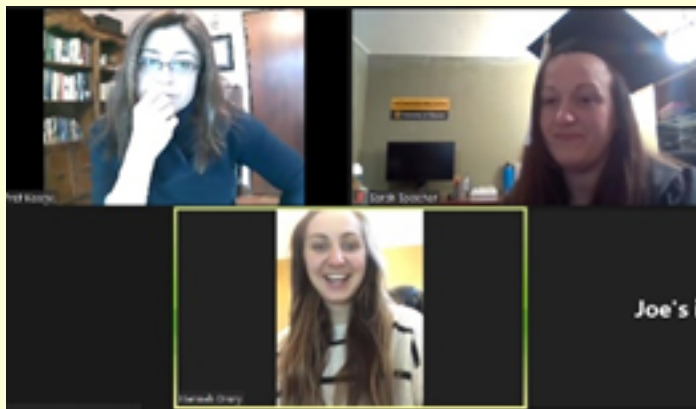
Master of Arts in Economics

Haleigh Holmes

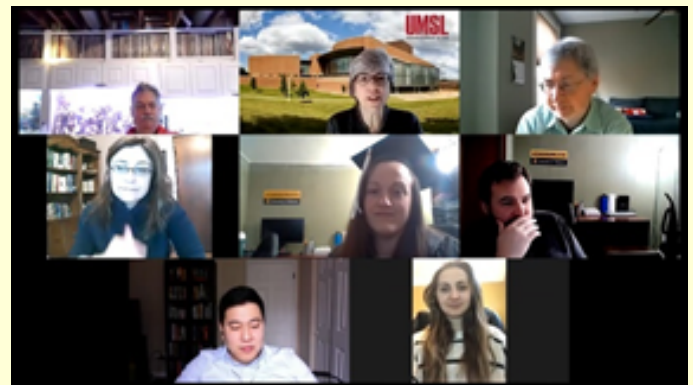
The UMSL Econ faculty are proud of our graduates! Congratulations!



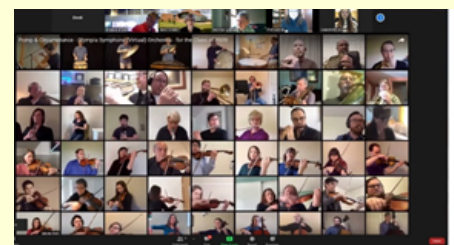
Zoom event!



Lea Kosnik, grads Hannah Drury and Sarah Speicher



The Zoom orchestra that serenaded our grads!



Our Third Zoom Graduation Celebration -- May 2021 !

UMSL ECONOMICS SPRING 2021 GRADUATES!

Bachelor of Arts in Economics

Anthony Dykstra, with B.A. in History
Latin Honors - Cum Laude

Julian Meyerstrom

Bachelor of Science in Economics

Sindi Ceta, with Minor in Business Administration
Departmental Honors
Latin Honors - Cum Laude

Elliott Gianaris, with Minor in Communication

Payton Harris, with Minor in General Business

Qumars Jadali, with Minor in Philosophy

Kevin Mitchell, with B.S. in Actuarial Science, B.S. in Mathematics,
Certificate in Applied Econometrics and Data Analysis, Certificate in Data
Science, Minor in Finance, Minor in General Business, Minor in Statistics
Latin Honors - Cum Laude

Roger Moses, with Minor in Philosophy

Andrew Turnquist, with Minor in Mathematics

Henry Vollmer, with Minor in Mathematics, Minor in Philosophy

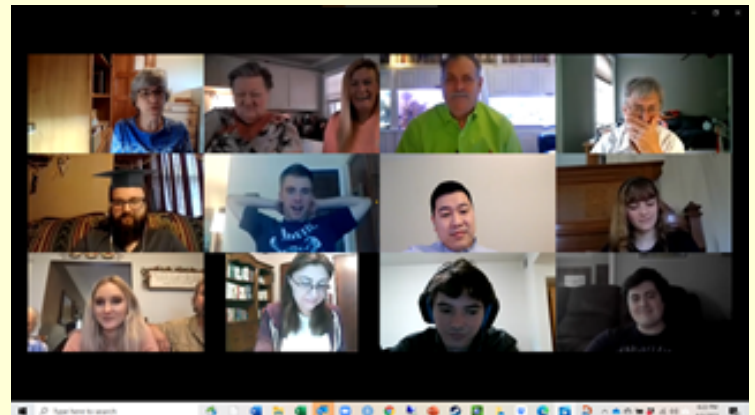
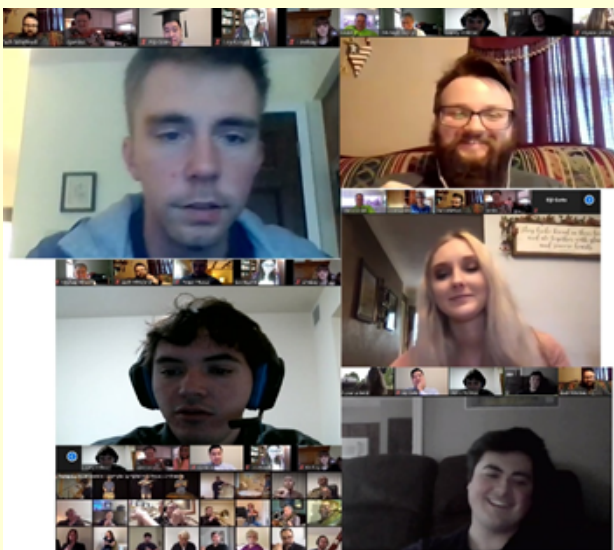
Bachelor of Science and Master of Arts in Economics

Alyssa Leibold, with Minor in Public Policy, Certificate in Applied
Econometrics and Data Analysis
Departmental Honors

Annette Meyer

Zachary Whitford, with Certificate in Applied Econometrics and Data
Analysis

The UMSL Econ faculty are proud of our graduates! Congratulations!



A montage of the May graduates (thanks to **Don Kridel**) who attended the Zoom event! From top left, clockwise: **Roger Moses**, **Zach Whitford**, **Alyssa Leibold**, **Q Jadali** and **Henry Volmer**

Congratulations to all of our graduates!

Faculty News

Susan Feigenbaum, Founders Professor Emeritus, was elected to the national board of the American Technion Society, an organization that supports the educational mission of Israel's top engineering institution. She also served as a panelist for the 2021 Federal Reserve-St. Louis' Women in Economics session entitled "Making A Difference: Using Health Care Economics."

Eiji Goto joined UMSL as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in August 2020 after receiving his PhD from the George Washington University. His research focuses on monetary policy and macroeconomics using time series (often Bayesian) methods. Currently he is working on estimating the industry impacts of unconventional monetary policy in the US, the UK, and Japan and estimating the natural rate of interest for the G7 countries. He published a co-authored paper "Sectoral Okun's law and Cross-Country Cyclical Differences" in *Economic Modelling* in January 2021. Eiji taught Time Series Econometrics and Principles of Macroeconomics this past year and will add International Economics and Intermediate Macro to his teaching portfolio over the coming year. His family recently welcomed their first daughter in April 2021.

Max Gillman published three articles in June 2021: "Macroeconomic Trends among

Visegrad Countries, EU Balkans, and the U.S.", *Central European Business Review*; "Steps in Industrial Development through Human Capital Deepening," *Economic Modelling*; and "Income Tax Evasion: Tax Elasticity, Welfare, and Revenue", *International Tax and Public Finance*; while submitting for journal review "An Explanation of Real US Interest Rates with an Exchange Economy", with UMSL Econ Research Associate **Tamas Csabafi**. Gillman is presenting the latter paper and "Interest Rates with Optimal Inflation Tax Avoidance" at seven online conferences from May to August 2021, including the Australian and European Econometric Society Meetings. Gillman has two other papers under current journal review that are coauthored with former faculty member **Sel Dibooglu**. Tamas Csabafi is also working on several revise and resubmits and a new paper.

Tom Ireland continues to work as a forensic economic expert developing reports and testifying (when necessary) about economic damages in personal injury and wrongful death litigation. He was recently awarded a Career Achievement Award by the American Academy of Economic and Financial Experts. He had papers with co-author Frank Slesnick published in the

Journal of Legal Economics and The Rehabilitation Professional during the past year.

Ask an expert: Lea-Rachel Kosnik discusses renewed focus on climate action and its connection to economics

PHOTOGRAPH BY STEVE WAGNER



Lea-Rachel Kosnik managed to write, present (at virtual conferences), and publish two COVID-related papers this past year (with a third on the way), despite being one of the "working mother statistics" with a school age kid stuck at home who mercilessly enjoyed photo-bombing Zoom meetings with co-authors. She looks forward to life getting back to semi-normal next year, including being able to dust off and reinvigorate multiple pre-COVID environmental-related research projects. In the UMSL blog called "Ask an Expert," Lea discussed the connection between climate and the economy and the role of government, as well as other actors, in driving the transition to cleaner and more renewable forms of energy.

continued on next page

Faculty News

David Rose is continuing his work on President Mun Choi's Task Force for Intellectual Plurality and Freedom of Expression. He refereed a paper for *Science* on experimental economics. He presented a paper titled "Political Economy, Moral Reasoning, and Global Warming" for the Las Casas Institute, Oxford University. He wrote three Op-Eds that aroused a great deal of discussion: "Free Speech is a Cultural Phenomenon," "Democracy Cannot Succeed Without Individualism and Empathy," and "The Right to Remain Silent." He gave the Russell Kirk Lecture for the Heritage Foundation which was rebroadcast on *CSPAN* numerous of times. He also did a Show-Me Institute podcast on his book *Why Culture Matters Most*. In addition to continuing his work on his book *POWER: The Making of the Modern World*, he is finishing up revisions for papers on the political economy of market failure and on how recent technological advances in conjunction with new management practices are changing firm culture (not for the better).



Who is that masked man with the Cardinal's mask in the photo on the left? **Bob Sorensen!** Bob is the same guy (older photo, boy on the left) with another masked man – the real Lone Ranger! Also, Bob can report that he now has a second grandson (Rory) born April 30th 2021 in San Francisco, CA.

Anne Winkler struggled with online teaching technology (eventually, settling on using a doc camera in Zoom) and battled with CANVAS (the Learning Management System). Anne is extremely happy to report that she will return to full-time in-person teaching in fall 2021! Unfortunately faculty and students will be masking (again). During the year, she participated in professional Zoom panels, one sponsored by East-Gateway on COVID and the economy and one sponsored by YWCA of Boulder, CO on the gender wage gap. She and her co author Fran Blau completed the manuscript for the 9th edition of their text, *The Economics of Women, Men, and Work*. Publication was delayed but it will be available from Oxford University Press this November. Good news on that!

Sad News – Passing of Former Faculty Member Peter Grandstaff

We are sorry to report the passing of former faculty member **Peter Grandstaff**. Peter passed away on December 14, 2020 at the age of 78. Peter was an economics faculty member from 1973 to 1977. He came to the department after receiving his Ph.D. from Duke University where he studied statistics, econometrics, and economic demography. While at UMSL he mainly taught theory courses and econometrics. He was a fellow in the Urban Center (now Public Policy Research Center) and collaborated with a fellow colleague, Robert Markland, to develop an econometric forecasting model for the St. Louis Metropolitan Region. Unique to this model was the inclusion of equations that allowed for estimation of in-migration and out-migration in metropolitan area. As a result, better estimates of labor market activity currently and in the future were possible. Peter was eventually lured away from the department by Southwestern Bell (now AT&T) to become their chief economic analyst. After leaving UMSL, he continued to live in University City and worked at Bell until his retirement.

Student News

UMSL Daily



FEATURES ACADEMICS STUDENTS FACULTY STAFF ALUMN

Mentors, friends shape economics graduate Alyssa Leibold's experience at UMSL

MAY/24/2021 | POSTED BY STEVE WALJENTIK



Alyssa Leibold graduated with bachelor's and master's degrees in economics after completing the BS/MA Dual Degree Program. (Photo by August Jenkinson)

Alyssa Leibold was featured in a May 2021 UMSL Daily. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Economics, a Master of Arts in Economics, a Minor in Public Policy, and an Undergraduate Certificate in

Applied Econometrics and Data Analysis. She also received Departmental Honors. During her time at UMSL, Alyssa worked as an ERC tutor and most recently as an NSF-funded GRA to Professor of Economics, **Marie Mora**. In the latter role, she conducted research on evolving mentoring methods. Alyssa seized an internship opportunity last summer with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) in Washington, DC, which led to a co-authored publication. They used EDGe\$ software to model pandemic resilience plans for universities. (Thank you to alum **Juan Fung** (MA 2008), Economist at NIST, for sharing information on the opportunity, which the Department posted on CANVAS.)

Scholarship in Memory of Herbert D. Werner

Sadly, Associate Professor Emeritus **Herb Werner** passed away last February 2020. (See Summer 2020 UMSL Econ Newsletter for remembrances.) Thanks to the generosity of many donors, the Department is able to offer a scholarship in Herb's memory. The recipient of this scholarship is **Garret Macko**, a BS Econ student.

Garret began attending UMSL in spring 2020 after receiving an Associates Degree from St. Louis Community College-Meramec in 2019. Garret reports he was drawn to economics through his interest in philosophy, specifically through Adam Smith and his work *The Theory of Moral Sentiments*. "From there, I saw Economics anew as a massive tool for identifying trends and inspiring positive change. I've thoroughly enjoyed all of my Economics coursework thus far and am incredibly excited for what lies ahead."



Herbert D. Werner Memorial Scholarship Recipient, Garret Macko

Current Student Success

Scholarships for 2021/22

Robert Loring Allen Memorial Scholarship

Malik Badwan

Manjarrez Hawn and Centene Charitable Foundation Scholarship in Economics

Natalie Orf

Ashlee Sprock

Robert Sorensen Economics Scholarship

Imogen Bennett

Economics Alumni Scholarship

Rachel Wilbanks

Mary and David Suiter Scholarship in Economics

Senita Chambly

Sandgnow Tuly Scholarship in Economics

Carter Cameron

Scholarship in Memory of Herbert D. Werner

Garret Macko

Economics Department Awards 2020

Kuznets Award

Jacob Krutzsch (undergraduate)

Tom Potoski (graduate)

Congratulations to Jake & Tom!

UMSL ECON ALUMNI GIVING

Thank you to our many generous and loyal alumni donors.

Department Giving — July 2020 - June 2021

Gifts to the Department

Matthew T. Arnold
Matthew G. Crowley
Robert Dolan
Anne E. Neff
Mark Daffron
Maia J. Elkana
Barbara Flowers
Alexei E. Makarkin
Patrice M. Mareschal
Thomas S. Nesslein
Edward L. Paull
James E. Stephens

Elizabeth M. Clayton Memorial Scholarship

Alexandra J. Clayton

Suiter Scholarship

Mary and David Suiter
Boeing

Sharon G. Levin Economic Scholarship

Giuseppe Anemone
Jason Mannello
Anne E. Winkler

Economics Alumni Scholarship

Shelly E. Estep
Majana Reis

Robert Sorensen Scholarship

William J. Nieman
Daniel E. Nolle

Sangdow Tuly Scholarship

Suchon Tuly

How can you help?

You can give online by clicking on: <http://giving.umsl.edu>. Designate your gift is for us by typing "Economics Department" and/or the name of the specific scholarship in the "Gift Instructions" field after clicking on "Search for Designations," scrolling down and choosing "Other Fund." Or, if you prefer, you can donate by mail. Please make your check payable to the UMSL Department of Economics, c/o Lea Kosnik, 408 SSB, One University Blvd, St Louis, MO 63121. Gifts made to the Economics Department may be tax deductible. In addition to our alumni, we welcome business and corporate gifts. We appreciate gifts in any amount.

For the full set of scholarships offered and details on each, go to our website:
<https://www.umsl.edu/~econ/>

Alumni—especially economics graduates—want to know that their gifts to their alma mater are well spent. The Department of Economics would therefore like you to know that you can give directly to the Department to support its various activities. Among other things, the department uses gifts to fund scholarships, to award prizes for essay competitions, to employ and train students as teaching and research assistants, and to host events to bring together students, faculty, and alumni for networking.

We'd like to thank those of you who have been giving so generously over the years. For those of you who have never considered making a gift to the Department, we hope you will consider doing so in the future. You can donate an unrestricted gift to the Economics Department, give to a specific scholarship fund, or donate in someone's name. With your help we can do even more for our students.

Looking to Hire or Looking for a Job? UMSL Economics is here to help you network.

Contact Alumni Coordinator **Anne Winkler** (awinkler@umsl.edu) and she can try to assist with some labor market matching. We are grateful to the many alums and organizations who have provided internship and job opportunities to students and their fellow alums in the past.

Mark your calendars: **Fall Picnic, Sunday, Sept. 19th, noon – 3 p.m. at Irv Zeid Park in Olivette.** We will again have a drawing for those **red** UMSL ECON cups!

Red cup winners,
2017 Picnic!



Connect with UMSL Economics!

Want to connect with UMSL Economics alumni on LinkedIn? Look for us at **UMSL Economics Alumni** (<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/1874675/>) and request to join!



**UMSL Department of
Economics**



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The plan is to return to Fallon's for the UMSL Econ Alumni Party in April 2022! At the party we want to recognize in person the recipient of our Department's most recent Alumni Award, **Majana Reis** (BS 2004, MA 2006).

A huge *thank you* to staff member, **Keith Siebel**, for helping to produce the newsletter. It takes a team and UMSL Econ is grateful for our support staff that also includes **Kimberly Stanger**, **Monét Demming**, and **Cleola Butler**.

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