Dear Alums,

This is my first letter as Chair of the Department; in fact, as Interim Chair, but I’m happy to report that I’ve agreed to continue in the position for a full 3-year term, so you’ll be hearing from me in this newsletter next year as well!

First, I’d like to thank Anne Winkler and Michael Allison for their six years as co-Chairs of the Department. They steered us through many important events, including COVID and the pivot to online teaching, as well as the hiring of our first Assistant Professor in over fifteen years (Eiji Goto)!

Building on their success, a few new initiatives were developed this year. Due to the generous donations of alums such as yourselves, we were able to initiate a monthly Brunch in the ERC program, that we hope will drive enrollment and new majors, not to mention good will among our current students. On the first Wednesday of every month during the regular academic year we now host bagels and cream cheese and/or donuts and drinks in the Sharon G. Levin Economics Resource Center. The brunches are always advertised widely and all students were encouraged to attend (both majors and nonmajors alike) so that everyone can interact with faculty and each other and see first-hand how welcoming the ERC is. Feedback from this initial year has been quite positive, and we plan to continue the program in the years ahead.

We also initiated an Adjunct Appreciation Program that included new teaching initiatives. In addition, while raises for adjuncts are wholly outside of the department’s control, we were able to get approval for small monetary-based appreciation gifts at the end of the academic year for all five of our valued adjuncts: Ian Aebel, Robert Coulter, Tracie Edwards, Joseph Hough, and Stephen Scheid. In September of this year Tracie received the 2021 NTT Faculty of the Year Award in person from the Chancellor!

A few other things of note: the Department crafted and finalized a set of by-laws this year, and also went through a comprehensive five-year review process. The final external report from the 5-year review was very positive, including such comments as, “The department is very entrepreneurial and interdisciplinary…” and “The department’s focus is in keeping with, and in some instances ahead, of national trends…” and perhaps best of all, “Their students identify strongly as members of the department, as evidence by their alumni giving, participation in alumni events, and their engagement with the department which continues long after they graduate.” This was particularly true this year, with record numbers of attendees at our Alumni Party in April, after a two year COVID-induced hiatus.

Finally, a couple of shout outs: to Marcela Manjarrez as the 2021 A&S Commencement Speaker, and to Majana Reis for receiving the 2021 Department Alumni Award. Majana was one of my very first students, from when I was first hired way back in 2004 (!), and it has been an enormous pleasure watching her career advance over the years, and seeing the amazing person (and alum!) she has become. Congratulations again Majana, and thank you for all that you do for the Department.

I want to close by urging everyone to stay in touch, and never hesitate to reach out to myself, or anyone else in the Department. I think I speak for all my colleagues when I say that we truly enjoy hearing from each and every one of you!

Sincerely,

Lea-Rachel Kosnik
Chair, Department of Economics
UMSL

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Mark your calendars: The Fall 2022 picnic is scheduled for Sunday, September 18th, noon—3 p.m. at Irv Zeid Park!

The annual Fall Picnic, sponsored by NABE, was back! Thank you to NABE faculty adviser Brian Speicher and grillmaster, Don Kridel!
A&S Commencement Speaker for December 2021, Marcela Manjarrez

Marcela Manjarrez (Hawn), BS 1998, provided the Commencement Address for the College of Arts & Sciences ceremony at the December 2022 graduation! For seven years, Marcela worked at Centene, rising to the position of executive vice president and chief communications office at Centene Corporation. Marcela also served as a mentor to BS econ graduate Natalie Orf, who graduated at the same commencement exercise. Natalie is the first recipient of the Manjarrez Hawn and Centene Charitable Foundation scholarship! Natalie juggled econ classes and raising a two- (now four-) year old!

Natalie is a true UMSL Econ success story: She is now employed full-time as a Finance Analyst at Centene. Read more about Natalie’s journey in UMSL Daily.

Tracie Edwards — Honored at the 2021 State of The University Address

UMSL faculty and staff members honored with Chancellor’s Awards

Congratulations, Tracie!

Tracie is pictured, 4th from left. Click here: Read more in UMSL Daily.
UMSL Econ Happenings

In 2021-22, In-person events returned: The pizza open house to recruit new students plus WIE and NABE activities. New!!!! A monthly brunch at the ERC for recruiting, retention (and to enhance productivity!). Thank you to our generous alumni donors!

Congratulations to Majana Reis!

Majana Reis (BS/MA 2005) received the Alumni Award for Outstanding Support of the Department. Majana is an enthusiastic supporter. She attends the picnics and the alumni parties, met with the WIE group and shared insights and participated in two Alumni Panel panels over the years. In addition, she has supported our students through her generous giving to the UMSL Econ Alumni Scholarship. Majana — UMSL Econ is so grateful for all of your efforts!
Alumni Panel 2022!

30+ current students attended. Thank you to Don Kridel, Brian Speicher, and Mike Allison for making it possible for students to attend the noon event when they had overlapping class times!

A tremendously informative panel!

Kennadi Haythorne, BS 2020, Investment Advisor Service Associate, Correct Capital Wealth Management

David Becker, BS 2012, Lead Product Owner at World Wide Technology

Brandon, Giesegh, BS/MA 2015, Manager, Supply Chain Analytics at SCM Connections

Women in Economics

WIE had a busy year. In fall, Bayley Quain (BS 2018), Supply Chain Developer at Royal Canin, discussed her position and challenges for women in economics. WIE also organized a brunch at Half & Half in Clayton. In Feb. WIE (virtually) attended the Women in Economics Symposium sponsored by the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. In May, the group held an outdoor lunch in Anne Winkler’s backyard, which included some WIE alums! Fall president was Natalie Orf. Spring president was Ashlee Sprock. Other Board Members: Imogen Bennett, Senita Chambly, and Rachel Wilbanks.

Thank you to our alum speaker Bayley Quain!

WIE lunch attendees included Natalie Orf (BS 2021), Senita Chambly, faculty adviser Anne Winkler, Chair Lea Kosnik, Ashlee Sprock, Rachel Wilbanks, Paige Steimel (BS 2019), Rob Hall, Garret Macko, Joel Fecke, Geraline Germain and baby Sadie!
**Alumni Success 2022**

**Alumni — Join UMSL Economics Alumni LinkedIn!**

**Benjamin Blackwell** (MA 2016) is now Lead Project Manager at Mastercard.

**Dawn Berry** is (BS 2007) is Storefront Branch Sales Manager at American Family Insurance.

**Ken Brockland** (BS/MA 2005) is Senior Director, Supply Chain at Walmart in Bentonville, AR.

**Stephanie Buckley** (MA 2015) is Senior Financial Analyst at ARCO Business Services.

**Meagan Burwell** (BS/MA 2019) is Risk & Underwriting Manager at Express Scripts.

**Erisa Bushati Bala** (BS 2017) was promoted to Promotions Senior Manager at Express Scripts.

**Antonio Clair** (BS 2014) is in a new role as BI Analyst - Data Modeler with Bankers Healthcare Group. It is a financial firm who specializes in lending to healthcare professionals. The position is fully remote!

**Christopher Cunningham** (BS/MA 2017) is now Associate Consultant at Daugherty Business Solutions.

**Tyler Czarnecki** (BS 2014) is Vice President at AURORA CARES, LLC TARA CARES.

**Eugene Edmiston** (BS 1991, MA 1993) is now Principal Pricing Strategy Manager at Solera, Inc.

**Jordan Franks** (BS 2014) and his wife Alex started Jack’s Salsa! [Read more here](#). Their sauce was featured in [St. Louis Magazine](#).

**Geetanjali Gamel** (BS/MA 2006) was promoted to Head HR Global Commercial Strategy Organization and Janssen Business Development at Johnson & Johnson. She was honored by J&J as a trailblazer and featured as a woman making a difference in the world of work! Congratulations Geetanjali!

**Brandon Gray** (BS 2016) was named a 2022 Rising Star Real Estate Agent!

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

**Elliott Gianaris** (BS 2021) is now a Wealth Management Support Associate at Busey Bank.

**Santina Grzac** (MA 2016) is a Data Analyst at Edge by Ascend in Seattle.

**Rachel Harrington** (BS/MA 2019), who will be starting her 3rd year at Michigan Law School, has a summer position with the Metropolitan Public Defender in Portland. As a Michigan, law student Rachel helped to get the convictions of two brothers in suburban Detroit vacated as part of the Michigan Innocence Clinic. [Click here to read more](#).

**Stefaniya Ivanova** (BS 2019), Business Analyst with Cushman Wakefield, has relocated to New Jersey.

**Kevin Heard** (1998) was promoted to Solutions Architect (Informatics) at BJC HealthCare.

**Colin Kohl** (BS 2019) is Trade & Shopper Strategy Manager at Anheuser-Busch.

**Jake Krutzsch** (BS/MA 2021) is a Data Scientist at Post Holdings.

**Vikram Kumar** (MA 2008), Principal at Cornerstone Research, was quoted in the Legal Diary following the UK Supreme Court ruled on Lloyd v. Google. Vikram [Read more here](#).


**Jeremy Loscheider** (MA 2007) is now Director of Data Science at National Medical Billing Services in Chesterfield.

**Alex Lovell** (BS 2019) is a Data Analyst at Centene.

**Trung Ly** (MA 2011) is now an Assistant Teaching Professor at the Poole College of Management at NC State.

**Terrence Madlinger** (BS 2013) started a new position as Senior Managed Insights Architect at World Wide Technology in San Antonio, Texas.

**Patrice Mareschall** (BA 1987), was promoted to the rank of full Professor in the Department of Public Policy & Administration at Rutgers University Camden. Congratulations Patrice! She has a 2021 co-authored publication, “Against All Odds: Achieving Collective Action Among Home Care Workers in Oregon,” in Labor History.

**Fred Mwangi** (BS 2020) is Corporate Treasury Analyst at Goldman Sachs, Dallas-Ft. Worth.

**Quentin McGuffey** (BS 2013) is now Research Manager, Data and Analytics at Cushman & Wakefield.

**Phillip Prichard** (BS 2010) is now Product Owner at Centene Corporation.

**Matt Rose** (MA 2012) is Director of S&OP and Demand Planning - Better Choice Company.

**Ashley (Boyd) Robinson** (BS 2012) is now Senior Supply Chain Analyst at Bunge.

**Laura Rose** (BS 2009; MA 2012) participated in a February panel at the Women in Economics Symposium sponsored by the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis,

**Timothy Side** (BS 2016) started a new position as Research Analyst at Moneta Group.

(continued on next page)
MORE ALUMNI SUCCESS!

Bridget Steinhart (BS 1983) has retired from Aon, where she developed strategic and tactical retirement solutions for corporate benefits plans, and execute risk management approaches for DC / 401(k) plans.

Sean Truesdale (BS 2021) is a Personal Banker at Wells Fargo in Corpus Christi.

Josh Ulrich (BS/MA 2005) is now Principal Quantitative Analyst at SimpleRose.

Jamie Vergano (BS/MA 2019) is a Data Analyst at Webster University.

Steven Wecke (BS 2014) is Senior Services Business Analyst at Pulse8.

Sad news — Alum Steve Most

Steve Most (BS 2012) passed away on February 24th, 2022, survived by his spouse Emily. Emily’s brother is Michael Cassidy (BS/MA 2014) and sister-in-law is My Nguyen (BS 2011). The UMSL Department of Economics offers our deepest condolences to Emily, Mike, My, and the rest of the family. So many remember seeing Steve at the ERC and at alumni events. He had a warm personality that put you right at ease.

From the 2015 Alumni Party: L-R Greg Nelson (BS/MA 2014), Steve Most (BS 2012) & his wife Elaine, Maggie Evans (BS/MA 2014), and Marisa Klein (BS 2012, MA 2016)

Sad News — Alum Nora Jijane

We are also sorry to report that Nora Jijane (MA 2015) passed away in August 2021 in Paris. The UMSL economics faculty and alums fondly remember Nora. Our deepest condolences go out to her family and friends.

NABE Happenings

The student group NABE returned to in-person activities in 2021-2022! These included the picnic, a pancake breakfast, trivia night, frisbee and board games, a resume brown bag and more. Special thanks to faculty adviser, Brian Speicher.


10 current students and alums attended the October 17th NABE event that featured frisbee and board games plus burgers and hot dogs. (In picture): Josh, Nik Culp, Garrett Macko, Zach Whitford, Rob Hall, Eddie Abilez. (not in picture): Natalie Orf, Hannah Drury, Ugo Obiale, Jake Krutzsch.
Our Graduates

Summer 2021

Undergraduate Degrees

Payton Harris
Michelle Tamara McCarthy
Onaedo Onejeme
Sean Joseph Truesdale

Fall 2021

Undergraduate Degrees

Josue Jimenez Stores
Mitchell R. Hernandez
Jacob Althauser Krutzsch*
Natalie E. Orf

Certificate in Applied Econometrics and Data Analysis

Nikolos Harper Culp
Mitchell R. Hernandez

Graduate Degrees

Jacob Althauser Krutzsch*

Spring 2022

Undergraduate Degrees

Juan Ignacio Albin
Garret Richard Macko
Bryan Jeremy Pierce
Dillon J. Pierce
Nicole Jean Thompson

Certificate in Applied Econometrics and Data Analysis

Bryan Jeremy Pierce

Graduate Degrees

Nikolos Harper Culp
Bryan Jeremy Pierce

* Received Departmental Honors

Ade Fanegan (BS 2005, MA 2020), Vice President Model Risk Management Analytics at UMB Bank, attended in-person commencement in December 2021 and shared an elbow-bump with Chancellor Sobolik while graduating!

Spring 2022 grads!

Above: Bryan Pierce
Below: Nicole Thompson, Garret Macko, Sadie Britt, and Juan Albin

**Clinton Greene**, now retired, is going to spend a year or two in a 160 square foot tiny house outside of Corvallis, OR.

**Clinton is 4th from right!**

Clinton’s great grandfather’s homestead is a couple hours away. He hopes to do some writing, but will mostly hike, dance, and meet new people. Ten miles of hiking trails right are outside his door.

**The Time Series Econometrics torch passed from retired faculty member Clinton Greene to new faculty member Eiji Goto!**

**Tom Ireland** continues to consult with attorneys as a forensic economist but is trying to wind down his practice. Tom and his wife Kathy have continued to travel for short trips about once a month. A new favorite is Price, Utah.

**Tom Ireland back in his 4th floor Tower office after a 2-year hiatus, with a visit from Lea Kosnik.**

**Marie Mora**, who joined the UMSL administrative team in 2018 and was a tenured professor in economics, is leaving to serve as Deputy Provost at Metropolitan State University in Denver. Marie received the 2022 biennial Academic Achievement Award from the American Society of Hispanic Economists. Her co-edited book, *Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico: Disaster, Vulnerability & Resiliency* was published by Lexington Books in Fall 2021. During the past year, Marie shared her expertise at various conferences including the St. Louis Fed’s Women in Economics Symposium. Further, she continued her leadership of UMSL’s ADVANCE project, funded through NSF, which focuses on gender and racial equity among faculty in STEM. Marie, we wish you well at your new post and in your ongoing professional endeavors!

**Dave Rose** is on the radio frequently again with Mark Reardon and also Carol Daniels as inflation picks up and listeners are desperate for any insights into FED policy. He gave the keynote address to the Philadelphia Society in Ft. Worth in October. Because of his work on culture he was invited to speak on the dangers of growing sentiments against free markets among conservative intellectuals at NatConII in Orlando, also in October. He was a panelist for the Common Sense Society on the Future of American Education in Palm Beach in January, which was carried live by CSPAN. He gave the keynote on the importance of economics in civic education to the Texas Summit for Classical Education in Austin in February. He presented a paper at the Association for Private Enterprise Education on The New Business Ethics in Las Vegas in April and gave a guest lecture to the school of business at the University of Texas-Austin on the importance of a culture of corporate trust and how to build it, also in April. He has been reappointed to his third term on the US Civil Rights Commission and has been made a Senior Fellow at the Common Sense Society. He has two papers coming out this year and he continues to work on his latest book, **POWER: The Making of The Modern World**. His current work also includes developing curriculum for the infusion of economics into civic education in all fifty states and in several foreign countries.

**CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE!**
Bob Sorensen reports that he still is actively engaged playing tennis and working to improve his guitar skills. He follows economics closely and serves as the chairman of the pension board for the city of Ferguson. He noted that, excepting remote learning, now would be a wonderful, albeit challenging, time to be teaching economics.

Brian Speicher continues enjoy teaching courses - especially Economics of Sports, Gaming and Gambling and Game Theory. His daughter, Anika, has graduated high school and is heading off to the Air Force Academy this summer.

Anne Winkler and co-author Fran Blau published the 9th edition of their Oxford textbook, The Economics of Women, Men, and Work in November 2021. For the first time in nine years, Anne taught Econ 1001 (principles of micro) and she enjoyed it! She participated in a panel at the Women in Economics Symposium at the St. Louis FED on labor force participation during the pandemic and participated in and chaired sessions at a special conference on the Economics of Demography at Wash U. The university service activity closest to her heart and interests was serving on the campus Child Care Task Force. In non-econ news, The University City Summer Band is back in 2022! Anne is President and plays 3rd clarinet.

Scholarships for 2022/23

- Robert Loring Allen Memorial Scholarship
- Elizabeth Clayton Memorial Scholarship
- Sharon G. Levin Economics Scholarship
- Manjarrez Hawn and Centene Charitable Foundation Scholarship in Economics
- Robert Sorensen Economics Scholarship
- Economics Alumni Scholarship
- Sandgdow Tuly Scholarship in Economics

Economics Department Awards 2020-2021

Kuznets Awards
Undergraduate: Alex Pedigo for “Minimum Wage, A Cross-Sectional Analysis”
Graduate: Jacob Krutzsch for “Short-Run Estimates of the Employment Effect of State Minimum Wage Legislation”

Veblen Awards
Undergraduate: Sam Stockell for “The Economic Crisis in the Weimar Republic”
Graduate: Abby Froidl for “Corporate Culture on Gender-specific Access to and Effects of Flexible Work-Time Arrangements”

Congratulations on writing great papers!
Return of the UMSL Econ Picnic, Sept. 19, 2021!
Irv Zeid Park in Olivette

Max Gillman, Zach Whitford (BS/MA 2021), and Nik Culp, BS (2020)

Natalie Orf (BS 2022) and son Terrance

Ed Herhold (BS 1975) reunites with favorite professor Bob Sorensen. Also pictured, Anne Winkler and Mark Ashley

Brian Speicher, and Rose family graduates: Matt (MA 2012), Laura (BS 2012, MA 2016), and Chris (MA 2018)

Lea Kosnik with Maia Elkana (MA 2020)

Rob Hall, Eddie xx, and Garrett Macko

Emma Hogrebe (BS 2019 and Abby Froidl (BS 2019).

Alex Lovell (BS 2019), Alyssa Leibold (BS/MA 2021) and Darian Moody (BS/MA 2020).

Don Kridel, Mike Allison with new faculty member Eiji Goto and baby Yumi
Alumni Party (at Fallon’s) Returned in Spring 2022!

Jake Krutzsch (BS/MA 2022), Maia Elkana (MA 2020), Darian Moody (BS/MA 2020).

Nick Vidall (BS 2018), Michael Moorhem (BS ), and David Becker (2012).

Don Kridel and Jamie Vergano (BS/MA 2020).

Bob Sorensen, Barb Flowers (BS 1990, MA 1999), Sarapage McCorkle (MA 1971), Lea Kosnik

Josh Ulrich (BS/MA 2005) & Dave Rose

Marisa Klein (BS 2012, MA 2016) and Laura Rose (BS 2009, MA 2012).

Steve Czaicki (BS 2018), Jamie Vergano (BS/MA 2019), Paige Steimel (BS 2019), Joel Fecke and Holden Mayberry (BS/MA 2022).

More Photos from the Alumni Party

Jordan Lucas (MA 2017), Chris Rose (MA 2018), Kyle Kerstling (MA 2018), Nick Vidal (BS 2015)

Brandon Gray (BS 2016), Arvan Chan, Mitchell Herbert (BS/MA 2017), Abby Hostler (BS/MA 2015)

Majana Reis (BS/MA 2015), Hannah Drury (BS 2020), Lea Kosnik

Dawn Berry (BS 2007), Joel Fecke, Senita Chambly, Imogen Bennett.

Darian Moody (BS/MA 2020), Jordan Franks (BS 2014), Anne Winkler

Mitchell Hernandez (BS 2021) and Eiji Goto

Joel Fecke, Jake Krutzsh (BS/MA 2021), Garret Macko, Zach Whitford (BS/MA 2021)

Abby Hostler, Mitchell Herbert, Bill Nieman (BS, MA), Paige Steimel (BS 2019), Michael Allison

Dave Rose, Cathy Majesky, Steve Majesky (BS 1998, MA 2000) and Anne Winkler
Thank you again to our generous donors, especially during these times of

Department Giving — July 2021 - June 2022

Gifts to the Department

Sharon G. Levin
Economics Scholarship

Economics Alumni Scholarship

Elizabeth M. Clayton Memorial Scholarship

Sharon G. Levin ERC Support Fund

Robert Sorensen Scholarship

Mary and David Suiter Scholarship in Economics

Sangdow Tuly Scholarship

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 are 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?

Contact Department Chair Lea Kosnik (kosnikl@umsl.edu) or Anne Winkler, Alumni Coordinator and they 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.

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 Econ following the campus mask policy at the ERC in December 2022.

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