

ESP

ECONOMICS SCHOLARS PROGRAM

for Undergraduate Research

AGENDA

Economics Scholars Program
Conference for Undergraduate Research
March 28, 2008

8:45 a.m. – Welcome

Auditorium East

Sherry L. Kiser

Director of Economic Education
Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas

Melanie Fox Kean

Assistant Professor
Austin College

9:00 to 10:30 a.m. – Session 1

Session 1A: Environmental Economics

Training Room D

The Economics of Ethanol

Nathalie Mahlberg - Southwestern University
Discussant: Nana Ogawa – Texas State University

Factors Influencing the Production of Ethanol in the United States

Ryan McCaffrey – Texas A&M University
Discussant: Geoff Wescott – Austin College

Investigating Potential Legislation Impact on Technology Adoption

Shauna Yow – Texas A&M University
Discussant: Sarah Campion – Austin College

Session 1B: Health and Productivity

Southwestern Room

Smoke and Mirrors: The Apparent Effect of Smoking on Productivity

Keyvan Chandonnet – University of Alberta
Discussant: Brittany Causey – Austin College

What is the Price Elasticity of Waiting Time for Taxis in Yaoundé, Cameroon?

Patrick Gilmartin – Macalester College
Discussant: Sara Luley – Susquehanna University

Ethnicity, Immigration Status, and the Probability of Being Insured

Sung Lee – Baylor University
Discussant: Biren Patel – Austin College

Session 1C: Political Economy

Auditorium East

The Philosophy of the Austrian Theory of the Trade Cycle

Sebastian Quick – University of Texas at Dallas
Discussant: Cherie Blaylock – Austin College

The Long Wave and American Politics

Benedict Voit – University of Texas at Dallas
Discussants: Juan Castro, Jr. and Jared Green – Le Tourneau University

Outcomes of the Transition Process in Eastern and Central Europe

Brian Lee – University of Arkansas
Discussant: Andrew Johnson – University of Tulsa

10:30 to 10:45 a.m. – Break

10:45 to 12:15 p.m. – Session 2

Session 2A: Law and Regulation

Southwestern Room

Broadband PCS License Pricing

Rachel Shafer – University of Tulsa
Discussant: Brittany Causey – Austin College

Law, Poverty and Economic Development: A Study of the Texas Colonias

Robert Withers – Texas A&M University
Discussant: Kira Vanderwert – Macalester College

A Paradigm of the U.S.–Navajo Nation Relationship as Suggested by the Navajo Uranium Mining Ban

Zane Schwarzlose – Texas A&M University
Discussants: Im Sol and Hee Kong – LeTourneau
University

Session 2B: Labor Economics

Auditorium East

A Model of Separation Costs, Negative Shocks & Layoffs

Xi Luo – Macalester College
Discussant: Karl Heady – Texas State University

Griliches' Capital-Skill Complementary Hypothesis

Alfonso De La Torre – St. Mary's University
Discussant: Jessica Lewis – Austin College

The Income Effects of Bilingualism and Education within the United States Latino Labor Market

Geoff Wescott – Austin College
Discussant: Alice Shih – Washington & Lee University

12:15 to 1:30 p.m. – Lunch

Auditorium West

Don't Kill All the Lawyers...Yet

Speaker: Thomas F. Siems
Senior Economist and Policy Advisor
Financial Industry Studies
Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas

1:30 to 3:00 p.m. – Session 3

Session 3A: Bargaining and Game Theory

Southwestern Room

Sympathetic Dictators: Does Perceived Unfairness Affect Charitable Giving?

Sara Luley – Susquehanna University
Discussant: Melissa Culbertson – Texas State University

Contracts in a Collective Model of Household Bargaining

Aurelia Chaudhury – Rice University
Discussant: Gavin Pearson – University of Tulsa

Understanding Lending through a Game Theory Perspective

Ambika Sharma – Texas Christian University
Discussant: Monica Ebie – Austin College

Session 3B: Trade

Auditorium East

Spatial Patterns of Foreign Direct Investment

Kaitlyn Orr – Macalester College
Discussant: James Bailey – University of Tulsa

Supporting Freedom through Trade - The Political Economy of the African Growth and Opportunity Act: An Analysis of U.S. Congressional Voting

Kelly Pritchett – Texas A&M University

Exchange Rate Regimes and Trade Deficit in Developing Countries

Shouro Dasgupta – Oklahoma City University
Discussant: Geoff Wescott – Austin College

Session 3C: Finance and Planning

Training Room D

Using Asset Allocation to Meet Retirement Goals

Whitney Green – Southern Methodist University
Discussants: Ryan Peters and Nate Andreshak – Le Tourneau University

Behavior Model to Capture Population

An Le – Le Tourneau University
Discussant: TBA

Admissions Planning and Statistical Modeling: An SMU Application

Steven Gregory – Southern Methodist University
Discussant: Michael Martin – Austin College

3:00 to 3:15 p.m. – Break

3:15 to 4:15 p.m. – Session 4

Session 4A: Development

Southwestern Room

Government Expenditure, Development, and Rural-Urban Migration: A Case Study on India

Anne Laski – Austin College
Discussant: TBA

Socio-Political Empowerment and Economic Development: Evidence from Cross-Sectional Country Regressions

Brett Staron – Michigan State University
Discussant: Redwanul Hoque – Austin College

Session 4B: Crime

Auditorium East

The Impact of Punitive vs. Rehabilitative Systems on Recidivism Rates of Juvenile Delinquents

Alice Shih – Washington & Lee University
Discussant: Rachel Shafer – University of Tulsa

Spatial Patterns of Crime in Cape Town: An Economic Analysis of Crime Rates with Respect to Low Income Neighborhood Proximity

Kira Vanderwert – Macalester College
Discussant: Kate Murphy – Austin College

Session 4C: Ethics

Training Room D

Religious Background as a Predictor of Ethics

Esther Castro and Greg Poelman – Le Tourneau University
Discussant: Cherie Blaylock – Austin College

The Possible Causes of Corruption

Amanda Dillon – Texas A&M Corpus Christi
Discussants: Kalyne Amstutz, Matt Ramsey, and Jared Poe – Le Tourneau University

4:15 p.m. – Adjourn

Auditorium East