

ESP

ECONOMICS SCHOLARS PROGRAM

for Undergraduate Research

AGENDA

**Economics Scholars Program
Conference for Undergraduate Research
March 27, 2009**

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: Human Capital I

Session Chair: Andrew Pattyn – Washington &
Jefferson University

Southwestern Room

Disparities in Health Based on Socioeconomic Status and Race: A Case Study of NYC

Matthew Holzgrafe – Austin College
Discussant: Shannon M. Foster – Southwestern
University

The Effect of Social Networks and Healthcare Interventions on Tobacco Use Outcomes

Eric Franco and Wes Rivers – Southwestern
University
Discussant: Kate Murphy – Austin College

The Decision of South Dakota School Boards to Opt Out of Property Tax Limits

Mandie Rose Weinandt – University of South
Dakota
Discussant: Quinn Larwood – Centenary
College of Louisiana

Session 1B: Industrial and Organizational Behavior

Session Chair: Saheli Nath – University of
Texas at Dallas

Auditorium East

The Effect of Mood on Risk and Trust Preferences: An Experimental Study

Steven Walser and Catherine Eckel – University
of Texas at Dallas
Discussant: Jessica Lewis – Austin College

Behavioral Insights Reveal a Consumer of “Mixed Rationality”

Jordan W. Gustin – University of Mary Hardin-
Baylor
Discussant: Marilu Ortega – University of Texas at
Austin

Is There Country-of-Origin Bias in the Video Game Market?

Keaton White – Macalester College
Discussant: Seph Mard – University of Central
Florida

Session 1C: International and Economic Thought

Session Chair: Rachel Schafer – University of Tulsa

Training Room D

Regression Analysis of the Influence of FDI, Import and Export to the Technological Progress in China

Xuanzi Zhang – State University of New York at Oswego

Discussant: Lisa Cummings – Southwestern University

Truth and a Priori Knowledge in the Context of Geometry

Sebastian Quick – University of Texas at Dallas

Discussant: Kamran Ahmed – Austin College

10:30 to 10:45 a.m. – Break

10:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. – Session 2

Session 2A: Policy and Law

Session Chair: Shannon Foster – Southwestern University

Southwestern Room

Influences of Party Vote Shares in the 2006 U.S. House

James Bailey – University of Tulsa

Discussant: Abubakar Sani – Texas Southern University

The Economic Effects of Corrupt Government Officials

John Andrew Reisenberg – Oklahoma City University

Discussant: Nicholas Piper – Texas Southern University

Effects of Mandatory Traffic Safety Legislation on Motorcycle Fatalities in the United States

Ashley Nguyen – Oklahoma City University

Discussant: Steven Mathis – Austin College

Session 2B: Monetary and Macro I

Session Chair: Andrew Kostic – University of Central Florida

Auditorium East

Complex Networks, Illiquidity and Financial Sector Contagion

Jonathan Graber – University of Texas at Austin

Discussant: Ryan Zielske – University of Central Florida

An Investigation of the Relationship between Unemployment and Real Output from 1948–2008

Michael R. Poirier – Merrimack College

Discussant: Elissa Yeates – University of Texas at Austin

Session 2C: Public I

Session Chair: Wes Rivers – Southwestern University

Training Room D

The Economics of Desalination and a Discussion of Water Policy

Andrew Pattyn – Washington & Jefferson College

Discussant: Alex Jansen – Southwestern University

The Environmental and Employment-Generating Effects of Implementing Sustainable Energy Production in a Developing Economy

Travis Roach – University of North Texas
Discussant: Jimmy Stevenson – University of Central Florida

Surviving the Storm: Examining Characteristics Associated with Hurricane-Related Fatalities in the U.S.

Emily Kennedy – Austin College
Discussant: Chris Kessler – Washington & Jefferson College

12:15 to 1:30 p.m. – Lunch

Auditorium West

What's the Fed Up To?

Kenneth J. Robinson
Research Officer
Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas

1:30 to 3:00 p.m. – Session 3

Session 3A: Human Capital II

Session Chair: Redwanul Hoque – Austin College

Southwestern Room

Striking the Balance: Truman, Reagan and the Role of the President in Organized Labor Disputes

Olivia Meeks – University of Arkansas
Discussant: Sofia Villarreal – University of Texas at Austin

Does Sorting Make a Difference in SAT's Prediction for Course Grades and Cumulative GPA in Macalester College?

Yuen Ting Liu – Macalester College
Discussant: Eric Franco – Southwestern University

The Socio-Economic Predictors of Childhood Obesity

Shannon M. Foster – Southwestern University
Discussant: Matthew S. Holzgrafe – Austin College

Session 3B: Public II

Session Chair: Heather Owen – Baylor University

Auditorium East

Jump Bidding in FCC Auctions

Rachel Shafer – University of Tulsa
Discussant: Ye Yang – State University of New York at Oswego

The Effects of Toll Road Expansion as an Option for Commuters on a City's Urban Landscape

Jack Najarian – University of Houston
Discussant: Andrew Pattyn – Washington & Jefferson College

Density Restrictions as a Local Revenue Source

David Saunders, Brian Gardner and J.P. Goldsberry – Furman University
Discussant: Travis Roach – University of North Texas

Session 3C: Monetary and Macro II

Session Chair: Chris Kessler – Washington & Jefferson University

Training Room D

Monetary Strategies for Development in West Africa

Elissa Yeates – University of Texas at Austin
Discussant: Veronica Schlachter – Baylor University

The Effect of Monetary Policy on Real Commodity Prices

Amanda Thomson – Texas Tech University
Discussant: Emily Stroderd – Baylor University

3:00 to 3:15 p.m. – Break

3:15 to 4:15 p.m. – Session 4

Session 4A: Human Capital III

Session Chair: Travis Roach – University of North Texas

Southwestern Room

Cognitive Ability and Small Business Success

Sara Treadwell – Oklahoma City University
Discussant: Meng Tu – State University of New York at Oswego

Does Unemployment Decrease Cancer Mortality?

Benjamin Torres Galick – Macalester College
Discussant: Wes Rivers, Southwestern University

Session 4B: Sports

Session Chair: Elissa Yeates – University of Texas at Austin

Auditorium East

Performance and Efficiency: What Affects a Collegiate Basketball Player's Offensive Production in the NCAA?

Ali Derakshan – University of Texas at Dallas
Discussant: Xuanzi Zhang – State University of New York at Oswego

Market Disparity and the Lasting Effects in Major League Baseball

Chris Kessler – Washington & Jefferson College
Discussant: Gavin Pearson – University of Tulsa

4:15 p.m. – Adjourn

Auditorium East