

ALUMNI NEWS

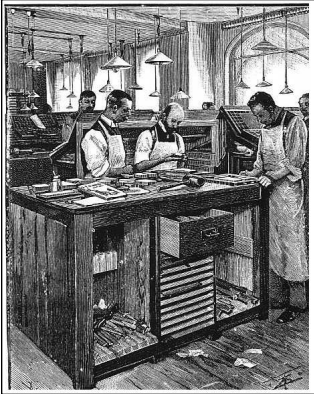
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

INDIANA UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA ☞ INDIANA, PA 15705-1087

Issue 54, Fall 2013

AN ECONOMIST'S MUSINGS ON CONSTITUTIONS AND THE ENVIRONMENT

BY DR. CHRISTOPHER R. JEFFORDS



Editor's Note: Dr. Chris Jeffords joined the Department of Economics in August 2013. The results of this paper will be presented at the upcoming 2014 Allied Social Science Association's Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, PA.

When I was a graduate student I spent an arguably inordinate amount of time reading through the constitutions of 198 countries. The purpose was twofold. First, I was looking for provisions offering some amount of protection of the natural environment framed within a human rights context. For example, I wanted to know which countries provided citizens with a constitutional human right to a clean environment. I was surprised when I found 125 countries included such provisions and to varying degrees of legal strength based on the language of each provision. Second, I wanted to somehow use the data to answer the following empirical question: What are the effects of constitutional environmental human rights (EHR) provisions on environmental (human rights) outcomes? Although the data collection and legal strength coding aspects are (thankfully) complete, Lense Minkler (University of Connecticut) and I are still hashing out the framework for the empirical analysis.¹ That said, this article serves to briefly introduce the data collection and coding process, and the nature of the ongoing empirical analysis. I will also discuss some future research related to state-level constitutional EHR as you may find it interesting to learn that the constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania also includes such a provision, despite the nonexistence of such a provision in the constitution of the United States.

Environmental human what!?

Without going too deep into the human rights literature, EHR are defined as entitlements to clean air, water, and soil for present and future generations (Hiskes, 2012). These rights typically impose some form of duty or obligation of conduct on governments to respect, protect, and fulfill the underlying rights. For example, General Comment 15 ("The Right to Water") of the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, outlines various aspects of the human right to water

In this issue:

| | |
|---|----|
| Constitutions and the Environment: C. R. Jeffords | 1 |
| The Robert J. Stonebraker Scholarship: N. Karatjas | 4 |
| "The Marginals": D. B. Yerger | 5 |
| Student Spotlights: Erica Sittig & Riley Smith | 8 |
| A Whole New World: A. Craig | 10 |
| Faculty Notes | 11 |
| Alumni Notes | 14 |
| CHSS Building Reception | 17 |
| Student Notes | 18 |

Editor: Nicholas Karatjas

¹The full results of the data collection and coding process are outlined in Chapter 13 of "The State of Economic and Social Human Rights: A Global Overview," Lense Minkler ed., Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2013.

(continued on page 2)

AN ECONOMIST'S MUSINGS ON CONSTITUTIONS AND THE ENVIRONMENT (CONT.)

(continued from page 1)

(HR2H2O) including availability, quality, and accessibility concerns. Because water is a physiological requirement for human life, the HR2H2O is often defined in terms of a minimum quantity and quality requirement (Gleick, 1998; Jeffords and Shah, 2013), where the quantity includes water for drinking, sanitation services, bathing, and food preparation.² The minimum quality of water is often defined in terms of at least drinking quality, but it is easy to consider a lesser quality of water for sanitation services, for example. There is considerably less research and discussion of the EHR to clean air and soil, likely for a handful of reasons relating to the nature of the underlying “goods” and “bads.” In other words, perhaps it is easier to consider the steps necessary to provide individuals with a physical quantity of water of a certain quality, but the corresponding steps for clean air and soil are slightly more mysterious. Whatever the reasons, there is much research to be done.

Reading, translating and coding national constitutional provisions: That's one way to spend a year!

With the help of the Constitution Finder database maintained by the T.C. Williams School of Law at the University of Richmond, I read through the constitutions of 198 countries (as of 2010) looking for passages that included various keywords such as “enviro,” “natur,” water, air, clean, pure, etc. Once a keyword was found, I copied the entire section to a new file and moved on to the next instance, and so on, provision by provision, constitution by constitution, and country by country. For 23 countries, I either had to translate the full constitution or a section of the constitution to English. When I was finished, I had passages from the constitutions of 142 separate countries, which I eventually whittled down to 125. I did this because the way in which the environment was referenced had little to nothing to do with the physical or natural environment, but rather some general “environment.” Another issue was that 19 of the constitutions included *negating statements*, which are clauses that immediately precede or follow an EHR provision and mitigate or negate the scope of the legal interpretation of the EHR provision itself.³

Down to 125 constitutional provisions, I conducted a secondary analysis to create an index of the legal strength of each provision. Since I am not a lawyer and am in no way qualified to formally interpret the legal ramifications of constitutional provisions, I relied on a novel keyword analysis. By looking for seven separate keyword categories endemic to the literature that defines and outlines EHR, I created a simple linear index by country that merely notes if some language is present (with a “1”) or if it is absent (with a “0”). Once I examined the instance of the keyword, noting if it fit within the framework of definitions of EHR, I summed across the categories to



Dr. Christopher Jeffords and his son, Ward.

²As an aside, this quantity typically excludes the amount of water necessary to provide individuals with the food they need to eat on a daily basis and for making clothes (thanks to Dr. Karatjas for pointing this out!), among other possible exclusions.

³The original book chapter summarizing the data collection process and results also describes the presence of constitutional EHR by level of economic development, OECD membership status, continent, and age of the constitution itself. The data are also compared to a similar dataset created by the Toronto Initiative for Economic and Social Rights (TIESR). I also provide an overview of the conceptual and legal foundations of EHR. One important caveat for future empirical research is that the age of a constitution is not necessarily the same age as the constitutional EHR provision.

(continued on page 3)

AN ECONOMIST’S MUSINGS ON CONSTITUTIONS AND THE ENVIRONMENT (CONT.)

(continued from page 2)

create the index. Perhaps this process is best explained by a simple example. The following table shows a brief description of each of the seven categories and a non-exhaustive list of keywords used to indicate the presence of some definitional language.

Table 1: Description of the Seven Keyword Categories

| Category | Brief Description | General Keywords (Non-Exhaustive List) |
|----------|---|--|
| 1 | Strong language associated with state/government responsibility | Duty, obligation, protection, etc. |
| 2 | Weak language associated with state/government responsibility | Shall ensure, take measures, fundamental objective, etc. |
| 3 | Right of citizen's to be informed about the status of the environment | Informed, information, etc. |
| 4 | Citizen's right to a clean or health environment | Clean, pure, healthy, right, etc. |
| 5 | Concern for future generations and/or sustainable development | Future, generations, sustainable, etc. |
| 6 | Citizen's and "everyone's" responsibility to protect the environment | Citizen, duty, everyone, etc. |
| 7 | Explicitly human right to water | Water, right, clean, pure, etc. |

To illustrate the presence of these seven keyword categories, consider Article 15 of the constitution of Mali (1992): “Every person has the right to a healthy environment. The protection and defense of the environment and the promotion of the quality of life is a duty of everyone and of the state.” The underlined sections denote the presence of categories 4, 6 and 1, respectively. The following table illustrates the numerical outcome of this process and the calculation of the index of legal strength for five countries out of 125.

Table 2: Forming the Index of Legal Strength

| Country | Presence of Negating Statement | Presence of Categories | | | | | | | | Index6 | Index7 |
|---------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--------|--------|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | | | |
| Albania | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | |
| Greece | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | |
| India | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 2 | |
| Kenya | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | |
| Mali | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 3 | |

The last two columns labeled “Index6” and “Index7” are the respective sums of categories 1–6 and 1–7, where the larger the number, the stronger (in a legal sense) the constitutional provision. This counting distinction is important because the HR2H2O is an environmental human right, and 10 countries (including Kenya) explicitly delineate this right in their constitutions. If, however, general EHR encompass the HR2H2O, then 10 is an underestimate of the number of countries that have granted its citizens some form of a constitutional HR2H2O. The maximum observed value across either index is a 5 and the minimum is a 1. The average index value for each index type is 2.25 and 2.34, respectively.

(continued on page 6)

GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR

BY DR. NICHOLAS KARATJAS

Greetings!

I hope this newsletter finds you well. It is a busy time for all of us as we prepare for the upcoming holidays. I am going to abbreviate my comments so that we can include the note below from the Office of Annual Giving. According to *The Project on Student Debt*, in Pennsylvania, the average student debt (for 2011) for public and private 4-Year Institutions was almost \$30,000. The proportion of students graduating with debt was 70%. So I was thrilled to see this effort being undertaken by Dr. Karl McDermott. Scholarships, such as this one, help our students and help the department by enabling us to recruit students. I hope that you are able to contribute and make the Robert J. Stonebraker Scholarship for Economics a reality. Thanks for your consideration and have a great holiday and New Year!

Nick Karatjas

ROBERT J. STONEBRAKER SCHOLARSHIP FOR ECONOMICS

Many of you may remember Dr. Robert J. Stonebraker, a valued and respected member of the IUP Department of Economics. His career as a professor at IUP spanned thirty years, from 1971 until his retirement in 2001. In encouraging future economists, he often recognized potential in students that they themselves didn't see. He took a personal interest in the success of the students he taught. He truly cared about them.

In honor of Dr. Stonebraker, Dr. Karl McDermott ('76) is asking fellow economics alumni to join him in remembering the role that Professor Stonebraker played in their academic and professional achievements by making a gift to the Robert J. Stonebraker Scholarship for Economics. By supporting this scholarship, your gift will provide a lasting tribute to the impact that Dr. Stonebraker made as a professor and mentor to you. Your gift will ensure his legacy extends to future generations of IUP students. Make your gift of support online through www.iup.edu/stonebraker or by completing and returning the form below. If you have any questions regarding the scholarship, please call the Office of Annual Giving at 724-357-5555 or e-mail iup-giving@iup.edu.

Yes, I would like to support the Robert J. Stonebraker Scholarship for Economics in honor of Dr. Robert J. Stonebraker

Name(s): _____ IUP ID (if known): @ _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Phone Number: _____
Email: _____ circle one: Home Cell

Please accept my support to the Robert J. Stonebraker Scholarship for Economics with my gift or pledge to the Foundation for IUP of \$ _____, to be paid by:

Check, made payable to the **FOUNDATION FOR IUP**

A pledge, payable in 1 2 3 4 consecutive month installments

Please mail this form along with payment, if applicable to: Foundation for IUP, Sutton Hall, Room G1, 1011 South Drive, Indiana, PA 15705-1046. Or, to pay by credit card visit www.iup.edu/stonebraker.

I prefer not to have my name included in IUP's online donor listing (please initial).

The Foundation for IUP is a 501(c)(3) organization; gifts to The Foundation are tax deductible as per IRS regulations. The official registration and financial information of the Foundation for Indiana University of Pennsylvania may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. For calls which originate outside of Pennsylvania, the telephone number is 717-783-1720.

Registration does not imply endorsement.

0449 /NCSPF/SUBS/HONR/AO14

“THE MARGINALS”

BY DR. DAVID B. YERGER

On Sunday, October 20, 2013, rapidly aging economics faculty Drs. Todd Potts and David Yerger convinced newly hired and youthful faculty Drs. Chris Jeffords, Alexi Thompson, and Brandon Vick to join them (along with University of Pittsburgh finance professor Dr. Andy Koch) to run the Tussey mOUntaiNBACK 50-miler as a relay.

The race started and ended at the Tussey Mountain ski resort just outside State College. Most of the race was on dirt roads throughout Rothrock State Forest with 21.7 miles of climbing for over a mile (5,485 feet) of elevation gain. Surprising the rest of the sedentary faculty, the team (known as *The Marginals*) managed to get neither lost nor hurt during the race and finished with a time of 7:01:56 for an 8:26 per mile pace. Dr. Yerger’s initial claims of a “Top 10” finish for *The Marginals* turns out to have compared their time against the male solo runners. He claims a simple coding error led to the mistake. *The Marginals* did manage to finish 12th of 16 squads in the male 5–8 members team divisions, and 43rd out of 109 teams across all team divisions. In the team’s defense, many of the relay squads were comprised of actual distance runners, not simply males with poor judgment. ☺

More seriously, it was a fun time in a truly beautiful part of Pennsylvania on a gorgeous fall day. *The Marginals* would encourage you to put together your own team for next year.



The Marginals: Chris Jeffords, Brandon Vick, David Yerger, Andy Koch, Alexi Thompson, and Todd Potts.

AN ECONOMIST'S MUSINGS ON CONSTITUTIONS AND THE ENVIRONMENT (CONT.)

(continued from page 3)

What, if any, are the effects of constitutional EHR provisions on environmental outcomes?

Although the empirical framework is very much a work in process, the basic idea is to determine two pieces of information: first, what are the reason(s) why a country included a constitutional EHR provision in its constitution; and second, once included, how does the provision impact environmental outcomes (if it does at all)? Clearly these are broad questions that face many analytical and empirical hurdles. For example, Lanse and I need to account for the fact that many constitutions, such as that of the United States, do not include EHR provisions yet take steps to protect the environment through statutory law and policy. Another problem is that it may be the case that countries that are more likely to take steps to protect the environment are also those that are more likely to include EHR provisions in their constitutions. Perhaps one of the biggest problems we face is defining the environmental outcome variables: Do we use carbon dioxide emissions or percent of the population with access to water? Yet another problem, and by no means the last, is how do factors such as colonial history, existing rule of law, and availability of physical and financial resources fit into this broad framework? Once we do figure out how to deal with these problems from an empirical standpoint, the question still remains as to what time period of data to use because the provisions are fixed in time while environmental outcomes change on a regular basis. There is much left to be done!

Concluding remarks

If nothing else, I hope you come away from this article surprised by the number of countries that have included EHR provisions in their respective constitutions. And if these provisions have legal teeth, then we might see the proliferation of policy, laws, and litigation making use of said provisions, especially if environmental issues (including climate change) lead to diminished health or reduced access to clean water and air, to name but a few.

Now, if you permit me another potential surprise, note that Section 27 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (added in 1971) states the following:

The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic and esthetic values of the environment. Pennsylvania's public natural resources are the common property of all the people, including generations yet to come. As trustee of these resources, the Commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all the people.

With the possibility of water quantity and quality issues affecting the people of the Commonwealth, perhaps from hydraulic fracturing, what is to be made of this provision in a legal sense? According to the current interpretation offered by Duquesne University Law School through Bruce Ledewitz, there is scope for private parties to sue the government for alleged violations without implementing legislation, but the governor cannot sue a private party for an alleged violation. Ledewitz also notes that Section 27 "has not had important effects in litigation," and as he and Mudd (2011) point out, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania currently uses a three-part test to determine if Section 27 has been violated: (1) have all statutory protections for the environment been followed?; (2) has a reasonable effort been made to reduce environmental harm to a minimum?; and (3) does the environmental harm clearly outweigh the benefits of the action? In other words, although Section 27 can be used to address violations of a person's HR2H2O, it has not been used this way and perhaps it never will be.

(continued on page 7)

AN ECONOMIST'S MUSINGS ON CONSTITUTIONS AND THE ENVIRONMENT (CONT.)

(continued from page 6)

And the constitution of Pennsylvania isn't the only one that contains an EHR provision, for example, as Illinois, Montana and Hawaii also have their own EHR provisions. Going forward, it is important to consider what effects these provisions – whether at the national or sub-national scale – have on environmental outcomes and business location decisions. At the state level, federal preemption is also an important consideration.

References

Gleick, P. (1998) "The Human Right to Water," *Water Policy*, 1–5, pp. 487–503.

Hiskes, R. (2012) "Environmental Human Rights," in T. Cushman (ed.), *Handbook of Human Rights*, Abingdon: Routledge.

Jeffords, C. (2013) "Constitutional Environmental Human Rights: A Descriptive Analysis of 142 National Constitutions," in L. Minkler (ed.), *The State of Economic and Social Human Rights: A Global Overview*. Cambridge University Press.

Jeffords, C. and Shah, F. (2013) "On the Natural and Economic Difficulties to Fulfilling the Human Right to Water in a Neoclassical Economics Framework," *Review of Social Economy* (71)1, pp. 65–92.

Ledewitz, B. "Summary of Pennsylvania (PA) Constitutional Law," accessed online on 9/19/13 via Duquesne University Law School.

Mudd, M. (2011) "A 'Constant and Difficult Task': Making Local Land Use Decisions in States with a Constitutional Right to a Healthful Environment," *Ecological Law Quarterly*, 38, pp. 1–62.



FALL 2013 STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: ERICA SITTIG

Editor's Note: Erica Sittig was the recipient of the Karl A. McDermott Scholarship for 2013. Dr. McDermott established this scholarship with a preference for female students to overcome the underrepresentation of women in economics and related professions.

What is your hometown? Baden, PA.

Do you have a double major/minor? Right now I am officially double majoring with Economics as a primary major and Finance as a secondary major. I love learning about economics but I want to go into financial consulting as a career. Double majoring with Economics and Finance would give me the best of both worlds.

Why did you choose IUP? I did not really "choose" IUP. It really chose me. My first few options didn't work out the way I thought they would but I couldn't be happier with where I ended up. At IUP, you get so much more than you bargained for!

Why did you choose to major in economics? My high school only offered one economics class and I was only able to take it my senior year. Taking the high school course allowed me to better understand what the study of economics entailed. I've always been interested in understanding production trends, unemployment rates, and the financial development of our country.



Erica Sittig

What are some of your college highlights/accomplishments/achievements/honors/extracurricular activities? I am currently in the pledging process for Phi Gamma Nu, a business honors fraternity in Eberly. I am also the Vice President of the Economics Club along with the Economics Peer Educator for the Developmental Studies Department. I made Dean's List for both semesters of my freshman year. In addition, I am the recipient of the Karl McDermott Scholarship for Economics, the Carolyn Wilkie Fund Award, and also the Mary Flegal Harte Scholarship.

How has your experience in the Department of Economics, specifically, and your experience at IUP, generally, impacted your life? Although I am only a sophomore at IUP, I feel that I have already gained so much not only as a student but as an aspiring business professional. Becoming active in my major has really allowed me to grow closer to my professors and it has opened many doors for me. Because of my experiences at IUP so far, I feel more confident in myself and ready to take on whatever comes my way.

What advice do you have for incoming freshmen/new economics majors? First, join a club or an organization! In order to be successful in anything you do, you must get involved and put yourself out there. At IUP, there are opportunities around every corner. It's your responsibility to seek them out and find yourself. Second, ask for help and advice. If you don't know what to join or which classes to take, ask someone! There are people all around you willing to help you – from your peers, to your professors, and your adviser. Your professors are the wisest people on campus. They know the ropes far better than your friends ever will. Lastly, don't be afraid. Don't be afraid to take on a new responsibility or challenge. Growing as an individual comes not only from expanding your knowledge but from overcoming new challenges and hardships. Last year, I was terrified to become the economics tutor since I was only a freshman while training for the position. To be honest, I actually dreaded it all summer. Once this semester started, though, I had no other choice but to roll with it, so I did without one regret!

FALL 2013 STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: RILEY SMITH

Editor's Note: Riley Smith was the recipient of the Donald A. Walker Economics Scholarship for 2013. This scholarship is directed to students with outstanding academic potential.

What is your hometown? I am from Jamestown, in the southwest corner of New York State. Some may recognize Jamestown as the home of Lucille Ball, the former furniture capital of the world, or for its close proximity to historic Chautauqua Institution.

Do you have a double major/minor? Aside from my major in Economics, I have a minor in International Studies. This minor (through the Political Science Department) features courses such as International Relations, European Politics, American Foreign Policy and International Development Strategies.

Why did you choose IUP? I began applying to colleges my senior year of high school without any idea as to what I wanted to major in. IUP offered a wide variety of programs and a quality education at a good price. When I came to visit the campus for the first time in early November of 2010, I knew it was where I wanted to be.

Why did you choose to major in economics? In the fall of my freshman year, I decided that I wanted to become more immersed in campus life. Looking through the different clubs and organizations IUP had to offer, I came across the Economics Club. I hadn't yet considered Economics as a major, but I figured getting involved in the organization would be beneficial no matter what academic path I decided to take. My involvement early on influenced me to take Principles of Macroeconomics with Dr. James Jozefowicz the next spring. I loved the course material, and along with some convincing from Dr. J, I declared as an Economics major towards the end of the semester. I felt as though Economics would be not only a major that offered great career potential, but would also allow me to spend my time in college studying a subject that I loved. Both the classes I have taken since then and the professors that have supported me thus far have only reinforced my decision.



Riley Smith

What are some of your college highlights/accomplishments/achievements/honors/extracurricular activities? Throughout college I have been a member of the Economics Club, serving as the Treasurer for the 2012–2013 school year and President for the current year. I am also a devoted member of Golden Key International Honour Society (formerly Mortar Board), and am currently serving as the Treasurer. I am also a member of Sigma Alpha Lambda Service and Honors Organization and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. I was honored to receive the Donald A. Walker Department of Economics Scholarship in the spring of 2013. In addition, I have been on the IUP Dean's List since fall of my freshman year.

How has your experience in the Department of Economics, specifically, and your experience at IUP, generally, impacted your life? The Economics Department here at IUP has certainly had an impact on my life. As many people experience, entering college as someone who had little to no idea about what I wanted to do for the rest of my life caused a feeling of apprehension. As time went on, and I became a student in the Economics Department, this feeling of uncertainty soon dissipated. Studying economics at IUP has felt like a home away from home in the past few years. As opposed to many of my elective classes, attending economics lectures is one of the things I look forward to everyday. The professors in the department have all been friendly, approachable and helpful. Dr. James Jozefowicz, specifically, has been a huge help in my hunt for an internship for the summer of 2014, giving me advice on anything from résumé improvements to places to find opportunities. The knowledge I have gained through my economics coursework has allowed me to more fully understand what is happening in the world today. In the grand scheme of things, I believe the Economics Department has given me the knowledge and skills to succeed in my life after IUP.

(continued on page 16)

A WHOLE NEW WORLD

BY ASHLEIGH CRAIG

Editor's Note: Ashleigh Craig completed her internship with Goldman, Sachs & Co. during Summer 2013. We appreciate Ashleigh's willingness to share her experience with us.

Being born, raised, and attending college in small towns in Western Pennsylvania has not exposed me to much diversity in my life. Although I had visited Salt Lake City, Utah, a few times before, I never quite experienced the culture shock that occurred when I decided to spend 10 weeks of my summer there, after accepting an internship with Goldman, Sachs & Co. My cousin, an employee of Goldman Sachs, had encouraged me to apply for an internship online. A month later, I was contacted to fly out for a STEM recruitment and interview day. Two weeks later, I found myself accepting an internship offer with the Operations Division. On my first day of orientation, I quickly realized that as a Caucasian female, I was in the minority group for the first time in my life; everyone was from a different race, school, academic program, and location. There was so much diversity to absorb. Nevertheless, everyone in the office was very friendly, helpful and team oriented; the people were my favorite thing about Goldman Sachs. Most of the employees are intelligent "Type A" people who work hard and are dedicated to what they do.



Ashleigh Craig

This internship was truly a rewarding and eye opening experience. I was given daily tasks and projects to work on; I was not getting coffee or making copies. I was treated as an actual employee. I worked for 10 hours each day, which was more than the 40 hour weeks I was used to in previous summer jobs. My daily tasks included performing reconciliations on trade transactions for various accounts. I worked on projects that involved improving their operational procedures.

At the end of my internship, I was required to make a presentation for my managers and team on the project I had completed over the summer. After presenting several projects in class and at conferences, I was not the least bit concerned or nervous about this presentation; I initially was confident in my presentation skills. However, that quickly changed. My entire PowerPoint presentation was thoroughly critiqued; the entire presentation was reworded and reorganized. I am usually comfortable enough giving presentations that I only practice once, if at all. I practiced more for this presentation than any other presentation in my life. Although I feel I gave decent presentations before, I really learned how to give an excellent presentation. Every single word written on the PowerPoint and spoken truly mattered. I also learned how to become prepared for difficult questions that could be asked by audience members and how to answer them appropriately. Additionally, I presented several times via video conference or screen sharing, which were new experiences for me.

This summer was full of new eye-opening experiences that really exposed me to the world beyond Pennsylvania. I experienced what it is like to work with a diverse group of professionals. In addition to my coworkers in Salt Lake City, I also worked with people in Bangalore, New York, and London, which was a great experience. This internship really gave me a feel for what my life could be like after graduation in May. My summer internship was an invaluable experience that I am so grateful for having and would recommend to anyone.

FACULTY NOTES

Dr. David B. Yerger wrote an invited article "The Economic Costs of 9/11 on the U.S." for the Fall 2011 issue of *Phi Kappa Phi Forum*. The magazine is published by Phi Kappa Phi, the oldest all disciplines honor society in the country. He learned recently that this issue was recognized for a 2012 APEX Award for Publication Excellence, an award granted to only 100 out of 3,400 entries.

Dr. Christopher R. Jeffords' paper titled "Constitutional Environmental Human Rights: A Descriptive Analysis of 142 National Constitutions," was published in *The State of Economic and Social Human Rights: A Global Overview*, Lanse Minkler (ed.), Cambridge University Press, January 2013.

Dr. Christopher R. Jeffords' paper titled "Implementation of the Human Right to Social Security Around the World: A Preliminary Analysis of National Social Protection Laws," co-authored with Lyle Scruggs (University of Connecticut) and Christian Zimmermann (St. Louis Federal Reserve Bank), was published in *The State of Economic and Social Human Rights: A Global Overview*, Lanse Minkler (ed.), Cambridge University Press, January 2013.

Dr. Christopher R. Jeffords presented "Traditional vs. Real-Time Student Evaluations: An Exploration of Truth, Usefulness, and the Incentive Structure for Student Participation," with James Boudreau (University of Texas-Pan American), at the 24th Annual Teaching Economics Conference held at Robert Morris University on February 16, 2013.

Dr. David B. Yerger presented the research paper "Impact of U.S. Financial Shocks upon the Canadian Economy," work done jointly with **Dr. Todd B. Potts**, at the Spring 2013 International Academy of Business and Economics Conference in Orlando, FL.

Dr. Brandon C. Vick presented "Job Mobility Differences and the Gender Earnings Gap in Brazil" at the 39th Annual Eastern Economic Association Conference, held in New York, NY, on May 9, 2013.

Dr. Brandon C. Vick presented "Measuring Links between Labor Monopsony and the Gender Pay Gap in Brazil" at the Pennsylvania Economic Association Annual Conference, held in Scranton, PA, on May 31, 2013.

Dr. Christopher R. Jeffords presented "Hydraulic Fracturing and the Human Right to Water" at the 2013 NAREA Annual Meeting held at Ithaca College in June 2013.

Dr. Stephanie M. Jozefowicz was elected Secretary of the Pennsylvania Economic Association at the Annual Conference held at the University of Scranton in June 2013.

Dr. Yaya Sissoko presented a research paper entitled "The Determinants of Economic Growth in ECOWAS Countries," co-authored with Dr. Brian Sloboda, at the Pennsylvania Economic Association (PEA) Annual Conference held in Scranton, PA, May 30 - June 1, 2013. Dr. Sissoko was also a discussant at the conference and chaired a session on Economic Development I.

Faculty

Dr. Christopher R. Jeffords
Christopher.Jeffords@iup.edu
 Dr. James J. Jozefowicz
James.Jozefowicz@iup.edu
 Dr. Stephanie M. Jozefowicz
Stephanie.Jozefowicz@iup.edu
 Dr. Nicholas Karatjas
Nicholas.Karatjas@iup.edu
 Dr. Todd B. Potts
Todd.Potts@iup.edu
 Dr. Willard W. Radell
Willard.Radell@iup.edu
 Dr. Yaya Sissoko
Yaya.Sissoko@iup.edu
 Dr. Alexi S. Thompson
Alexi.Thompson@iup.edu
 Dr. Brandon C. Vick
Brandon.Vick@iup.edu
 Dr. David B. Yerger
David.Yerger@iup.edu

Faculty Emeriti

Dr. Arthur H. Martel
amartel@auxmail.iup.edu
 Dr. Robert J. Stonebraker
stonebrakerr@winthrop.edu
 Dr. Donald A. Walker
dawalker@iup.edu

FACULTY NOTES (CONTINUED)

(continued from page 11)

Dr. Willard W. Radell presented “Moneysuckers on the Halls of Ivy: Some Unintended Policy Drivers of Increased Costs in Higher Education,” at the 2013 AAUP (American Association of University Professors) Conference on the State of Higher Education, in Washington, DC, in June 2013.

Dr. Yaya Sissoko presented a research paper entitled “A Panel Discussion and Case Study Analysis of Aid Effectiveness in Sub-Saharan Africa,” co-authored with Dr. Niloufer Sohrabji, at the 76th International Atlantic Economic Society (IAES) Annual Conference held in Philadelphia, PA, October 10–13, 2013. Dr. Sissoko was also a discussant at the conference.



Dr. Yaya Sissoko, Dr. Christopher Jeffords, Dr. Brandon Vick, and Dr. James Jozefowicz attended the PEA Conference held at the University of Scranton in June.

Dr. Yaya Sissoko, along with **Dr. Stephanie M.**

Jozefowicz, and **Dr. James J. Jozefowicz**, attended the annual fall meeting of the Pennsylvania Economic Association (PEA) board of directors held at the Penn Stater in State College, PA, on October 19, 2013. Dr. Stephanie Jozefowicz serves as PEA secretary, and Dr. James Jozefowicz and Dr. Yaya Sissoko are Ex Officio PEA board members.

Dr. Alexi S. Thompson had four manuscripts accepted for publication during the fall semester. His manuscript “An Almost Ideal Supply System Estimate of U.S. Energy Substitution” was published in *Energy Economics*. Three manuscripts, “Environmental Kuznets Curve for Water Pollution: The Case of Border Countries”; “Opa! Did EU Entry Contribute to the Greek Crisis?” with Koichi Yamaura; and “Making Every Dollar Count: Local Government Expenditures and Welfare” with Pedro Garay and Yacob Zereyesus were accepted for publication in *Modern Economics*. A published manuscript “Terrorism and Tourism in Developed Versus Developing Countries” will be included in the book *Terrorism, Tourism, and the Economy*. Dr. Thompson is also included in a grant proposal with Dr. Martha Troxell and Dr. Robert Boldin titled “Economic Impact of Pennsylvania Designated Heritage Sights.”

Dr. Christopher R. Jeffords’ paper titled “Preference-Directed Regulation When Ethical Environmental Policy Choices Are Formed With Limited Information,” was published in *Empirical Economics*, 2013.

Dr. Christopher R. Jeffords’ paper titled “On the Natural and Economic Difficulties to Fulfilling the Human Right to Water Within a Neoclassical Economics Framework,” was published in the *Review of Social Economy*, 2013 71(1), pp. 65–92.

Dr. Christopher R. Jeffords is scheduled to present “Do Constitutions Matter? The Effects of Constitutional Environmental Human Rights Provisions on Environmental Outcomes,” an ASE selected paper with Lanse Minkler (University of Connecticut), at the 2014 ASSA Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, PA, on January 5, 2014.

(continued on page 13)

FACULTY NOTES (CONTINUED)

(continued from page 12)

Editor's Note: IUP has started its reaccreditation review. As part of the process, IUP will conduct a self-study. The self-study is an assessment made by the IUP community of the progress made since our last Middle States Accreditation. We have five economics faculty members who are serving on Middle States Subcommittees. They are:

Dr. Christopher R. Jeffords is serving on the Middle States Reaccreditation Subcommittee 3: Leadership, Governance, and Administration.

Dr. Nicholas Karatjas is serving on the Middle States Reaccreditation Subcommittee 4: Student Admissions, Retention, and Support Services.

Dr. Todd B. Potts is serving on the Middle States Reaccreditation Subcommittee 7: Institutional Assessment and Student Learning Assessment.

Dr. Yaya Sissoko is serving on the Middle States Reaccreditation Subcommittee 6: General Education and Related Educational Opportunities.

Dr. David B. Yerger is serving on the Middle States Reaccreditation Subcommittee 2: Planning, Resources, and Institutional Renewal.

THOSE OLD PHOTOGRAPHS



Department of Economics faculty and staff attend Jim and Stephanie Jozefowicz's wedding in July 2001.
Front row: Dr. Arthur Martel, Dr. Yaw Asamoah, Dr. Stephanie Jozefowicz, Maryanne Lupinetti, Debbie Bacco.
Back Row: Dr. Willard Radell, Mr. John Cross, Dr. Jim Jozefowicz, Dr. Robert Stonebraker.

CHSS BUILDING RECEPTION

*Editor's Note: **Stephanie (Lidonnice) McHugh ('94)** was a guest at the unveiling of the new College of Humanities & Social Sciences Building reception held at the Rivers Club in Pittsburgh, PA, on October 17, 2013. As an undergraduate at IUP, I was her economics advisor. I asked Stephanie if she could provide me with a brief synopsis of what she has been doing since she left IUP and she graciously agreed.*

I graduated in 1994 with degrees in Economics and Government & Public Service with the intent of going on to law school. What cured me? I dated an attorney in my last semester as an undergraduate and – no hard feelings – he's a wonderful man to whom I'm grateful for a most important life-changing lesson: I'd much rather spend my days as a “counselor” to kids than to criminals!

After it was clear a career in law was not to be, I went through a vocational crisis, not knowing what to do, when a good friend gave me a Marianne Williamson quote: “When nothing is sure, *everything* is possible.” At the same time, I started to get emails about openings in IUP Admissions (because I was so active on campus as an undergraduate, staff noticed and thought of me when the positions opened – it pays to be involved!). It took about a nanosecond to realize that a career in the law was a means to my real life purpose: helping people. Through college admissions, I realized I could still achieve that same goal by helping students.



Left to right: Stephanie McHugh ('94), Dr. Nicholas Karatjas, and Political Science major David Bivens ('12).

A short trip across the desk from college admissions counseling to M.Ed. in school counseling and I get to wear fantastic suits and heels, advocate for kids, and they still call me “counselor”.... School law is very much a part of what I do, but I have the distinct honor of standing with kids as they perch on the cusp of their future – I love my job!

Two years at Mt. Lebanon High School, ten at Upper St. Clair High School, and now in a relatively new role: I'm in my third year at Baldwin-Whitehall School District as K-12 Supervisor of Guidance Services and I'm still helping people, advocating for kids and educators, and making arguments! I've earned principal's papers, a second M.Ed. in administration, and am now pursuing my doctorate at Duquesne in Educational Leadership.

The only thing surpassing all of this professional growth is personal happiness: I met my wonderful husband, David, and we married 11 years ago. He got his start in IT through Pitt, but is now administrative/management and serves as consultant for numerous businesses in the Pittsburgh region. We have two lovely children: Jack is about to be 6 and just started Kindergarten the same week his mom started her doctoral studies. Madeline is 4 and just as sweet, smart, and sassy as she could be. With a mom who's a career counselor, we dream about the future a lot. So far (this week), we've got a future race car driver in Jack and Maddie wants to be a ladybug helper. We are indeed blessed.

I still chuckle when the uninformed say to me, “Economics and Government? Oh, so you're one of those people not using her undergraduate degrees.” Anyone familiar with public education knows there are few other institutions more political and concerned with economics than public education these days! I use what I've learned from IUP each and every day and am grateful I got my start in Indiana, PA!

STUDENT NOTES

- The Department of Economics wishes to congratulate the following award recipients. The awards were presented at the May 2013 Department of Economics Commencement Ceremony:

Bright Dismal Scientist Award, which is awarded annually to the graduating major chosen by the faculty on the basis of academic interest, achievement, and service: **Mitchell DeRubis**

Dr. Brewer Award, which is awarded annually to a female graduating major chosen by the faculty on the basis of academic achievement in Economics and professional character: **Angela Rowland**

Dr. Jack D. Julian Memorial Award, which is awarded to the graduating major with the highest grade point average in Economics: **Grey Berrier** and **Brent Stevens**

In addition, the Department of Economics Honors Track Graduates were: **Ashley Alt, Kevin Brodeur, Mitchell DeRubis, Brian Foster-Pegg, Chad Good, Shaye Kurdziel, and Angela Rowland.**

- At the 2013 Pennsylvania Economic Association (PEA) Conference held at the University of Scranton in June, the following students gave presentations:

- **Ashley M. Alt** and **Daniel R. Oberkofler**: “The Effects of Power, Prestige and Performance on Salary in the National Hockey League”
- **Angela M. Rowland**: “What Affects New Zealand Wine Prices? Estimation of the Effects of Sensorial, Reputational, and Quality Factors in the Hedonic Price Model”

Angela Rowland won the Best Undergraduate Student Paper Contest at the 2013 PEA Conference. Angela received a \$200 prize, and her paper will be published in the next issue of the *Pennsylvania Economic Review*. In addition, the paper co-authored by Ashley Alt and Daniel Oberkofler won Second Place in the Best Undergraduate Student Paper Contest.

This is the third consecutive year that IUP economics students have won the PEA Best Undergraduate Student Paper Contest. Christian Minich ('12) and Mitchell DeRubis ('13) won the 2011 PEA Best Undergraduate Student Paper Contest, and Jennifer Johnson ('12) won the 2012 PEA Best Undergraduate Student Paper Contest. In addition, Jennifer Johnson's PEA award-winning paper, “The Effect of Immigration on State Wages,” has been published in the *Pennsylvania Economic Review*. You can read the article online at <http://aux.edinboro.edu/pea/pub/PER/PER-V19-2-Fall2012.pdf>. All of these winning papers were supervised by Dr. James J. Jozefowicz.



Student presenters at the PEA Conference: **Ashley Alt, Angela Rowland, and Daniel Oberkofler.**

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: RILEY SMITH (CONTINUED)

(continued from page 9)

What advice do you have for incoming freshmen/new economics majors? One piece of advice I would have for incoming freshman would be to get involved on campus! For me, the simple decision to join the Economics Club led to a deeper interest in the subject, and ultimately inspired my declaration as an Economics major. My involvement in other organizations, such as Golden Key, has allowed me to give back to the community in meaningful ways, and has also allowed me to make lasting connections to other students who share my same values in academic, service, and leadership areas. For new Economics majors, I would recommend eventually taking Econometrics. While other economics classes offer theories and ideas as to how the economy operates, Econometrics actually gives students an opportunity to quantify and test the theories that interest them the most. Doing original research and coming up with models that bring economic theory to life is something that makes Econometrics such an awesome class to take.



Andrew Coleman (center) was the Economics Club’s Alumni Speaker this semester. Pictured with Andrew are Caleb Moore ('07), also of First Commonwealth Bank, and Dr. James Jozefowicz.

Alumni Information

The Department of Economics aims to maintain a current contact list of all of our alumni. Please let us know what you are doing!

.....

Name: _____

Graduation year, degree earned: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Your news for the newsletter:

INTERESTED IN BEING AN ALUMNI SPEAKER?

So far this semester, the Economics Club has hosted the following alumni speaker:
Andrew Coleman ('12), pictured above.

If you plan to be in the area (or live in the area) and would be interested in speaking to the Economics Club, please contact Dr. Jim Jozefowicz at James.Jozefowicz@iup.edu.

Mail to: Alumni News, Department of Economics,
 213 McElhane Hall, Indiana University of PA,
 Indiana, PA 15705

Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Department of Economics
213 McElhaney Hall
441 North Walk
Indiana, PA 15705-1087

4005285401

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 198
Indiana, PA 15701

ALUMNI NEWS

FALL 2013

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS



INDIANA UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA ✧ INDIANA, PA 15705-1087



IN THIS ISSUE:

- ◆ AN ECONOMIST'S MUSINGS ON CONSTITUTIONS AND THE ENVIRONMENT
- ◆ ANNOUNCING THE ROBERT J. STONEBRAKER SCHOLARSHIP FOR ECONOMICS
- ◆ FALL 2013 STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS
- ◆ FACULTY, ALUMNI, AND STUDENT NOTES
- ◆ AND MORE!