

Issue 67, Spring 2020

GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR

By Dr. David B. Yerger



In this issue:

Greetings from the Chair:
David B. Yerger 1

Recollections on Dr. Ar-
thur Martel: Carl Hisiro 2

Student Spotlight: Danielle
Hobbins 3

Scholarships: How You
Can Help 4

Faculty Notes 5

Alumni Notes 7

Student Notes 7

Editor:

Dr. David B. Yerger

Greetings Alumni,

February 2020 was a rough month for the department. Multiple faculty lost loved ones and almost everyone else in the department was ill at one point, a month not to repeat. Striving for optimism I ended our in-person March 4th department meeting, our last time together, by confidently stating “March will be better than February,” yet again providing more evidence on the uncertainty inherent in economists’ predictions. As I write this greeting in mid-April, one of the few things I’m certain about is the rise in my uncertainty about the outcomes for my family, IUP, and the economy over the next several months and years. As is frequently said in my household these days regarding a variety of topics: “The 95% confidence bound just keeps getting wider.” (Yes, the nerd factor is high in my home.)

I sincerely hope this newsletter finds you and your family doing as well as one can reasonably expect given the circumstances. In a community as large as our department newsletter, however, some of you are, or will be, facing stressful challenges: job loss, substantive personal health concerns, and/or mitigating health risks for older family members and others at high risk. As you grapple with these challenges, please remember that one rarely needs to completely “go it alone” when solving a problem so reach out to family, friends, and community support resources. This would be a great time to check in with some of your IUP classmates and see how they’re doing.



Dr. David Yerger

The past five weeks have been hectic and stressful for faculty and students as everything moved online, but for our department the transition has went relatively smoothly. Faculty more knowledgeable with various online platforms and techniques have shared their wisdom with colleagues, IUP’s IT staff has been awesome both in their patience and their expertise, and overall the students are adapting and getting on with the business of learning. The faculty and staff miss seeing each other and the students, but the virus really doesn’t care about our preferences. So, we all try to minimize the complaining, focus on getting done what needs to get done, and look forward to when we’re all on campus together again.

Remember this day/week/month/rest of year is not forever. At some point it will be true that “this month will be better than last month.” My March 4, 2020, prediction was not wrong, just premature. 😊 In the meantime, stay safe, help where you can, accept help when you need it, and stay healthy.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. David B. Yerger

RECOLLECTIONS ON DR. ARTHUR H. MARTEL BY CARL HISIRO ('76)

Editor's Note: In December I received an email from Economics alumnus Carl Hisiro ('76). Part of his email message read "I really was saddened to read about Dr. Martel's passing. Dr. Martel's influence on me while at IUP was immense. I have written a tribute to him that I would like you to consider publishing in the next newsletter. I wanted to convey in my message what Dr. Martel meant to me and to current students about what an education at IUP can mean for them." A most sincere thank you, Carl, for your thoughtful tribute to Dr. Martel. I am sure there are many newsletter readers who agree with you as well.

I recently read with great sadness of the passing away of Dr. Arthur H. Martel on November 15, 2019. When I look back at my time at IUP from 1972-1976, I can say without question that Dr. Martel had the most impact and influence on me as a student and on my ultimate career path.

I was an Economics major from day one when I started at IUP in September 1972, but I didn't know for sure what I wanted to do with my degree after I graduated. It was in my junior year when I took a course titled "Government and Business" that was taught by Dr. Martel that changed everything for me. While I didn't know for sure what would be covered in the course, I figured I would like the class because I had a heavy interest in government as I was already double majoring in political science, and what economics major doesn't have an interest in business, right?

As it turned out, the class was all about the federal antitrust laws, particularly learning about the Sherman and Clayton Acts that protect our free enterprise system from anticompetitive conspiracies and monopolization that can adversely affect price and/or output. I loved it. In fact, I loved the class so much I decided to take the LSAT that next summer and apply to law school to become an antitrust lawyer.

I also loved the way Dr. Martel taught the course, which was very similar to how a law school class would be taught on the subject. After that class, I tried to take as many classes as I could that were taught by Dr. Martel in the Economics Department. In fact, I had the pleasure of taking him four more times before I graduated, including classes in labor law, labor economics, and an independent study my last semester where I studied and wrote a paper on the trilogy of U.S. Supreme Court cases involving United States Steel in the first half of the 20th Century.

I did attend law school, going to Duquesne University School of Law in Pittsburgh immediately after graduation. I took antitrust law at Duquesne taught by a professor who had a distinguished career in antitrust enforcement at the U.S. Department of Justice. I received an "A" in that class, and relied heavily on my notes from Dr. Martel's Government and Business class to supplement my law school notes. I interned with the Reed Smith law firm, the largest firm in the state after my second year, and did some antitrust work for the firm. I also did all of my Duquesne Law Review writings on antitrust issues.

I graduated first in my law school class in 1979 and always attributed my success to the education I received at IUP, especially the classes I took with Dr. Martel. I stayed very close with Dr. Martel, and he attended my wedding in May 1979 in Indiana, PA, days after taking my last law school final.

By the next year, I accepted a position as deputy attorney general with the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General's Antitrust Section, where I had the privilege of working on some of the biggest antitrust cases affecting Pennsylvania and its citizens over the next two decades. The last four years I was the section's chief during which we recovered over \$90 million for the state and its citizens and had a major impact on hospital mergers in the state. I finished my career with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission where I handled many competition and merger cases.

During my time at IUP, I was very active within the Economics Department, becoming president of the Economics Club my junior and senior years, and establishing a chapter of Omicron Delta Epsilon, the International Economics Honors Society, at IUP in 1975 and becoming its first president on campus. After graduating law school, Dr. Martel invited me on several occasions to speak at his Pre-Law conferences at IUP to help students interested in attending law school, and the Department itself invited me to speak at its graduation ceremonies. I have always enjoyed my time at IUP and can thank Dr. Martel especially for providing me with the guidance and direction I needed to have a successful legal career.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: DANIELLE HOBBS

Recipient of the Karl A. McDermott Scholarship for Economics

Editor's Note: Dr. Karl McDermott ('76) received a BA in Economics from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, an MA in Economics from the University of Wyoming, and a PhD in Economics from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Dr. McDermott is the Ameren Distinguished Professor of Business and Government at the University of Illinois at Springfield. In addition to this appointment, he is also a special consultant with NERA Economic Consulting. Dr. McDermott established the Karl A. McDermott Scholarship for Economics. Since 2011, this scholarship has been awarded annually to a student enrolled full-time at IUP. Criteria for the scholarship include: the student must have a declared major in Economics; preference for female students to overcome the underrepresentation of women in economics and related professions; and the student has demonstrated overall academic achievement and the promise for future success.

Danielle Hobbins, a junior from Gibsonia, PA, was the recipient of the Karl A. McDermott Scholarship for Economics for 2019. Danielle has a double major in Energy Management and Economics.

When asked why she chose IUP, Danielle says, "The first time I visited the IUP campus as a senior in high school, I could immediately picture myself spending the next 4 years of my education here. I saw many pros to the smaller class sizes at IUP, such as increased discussion within the classroom and the ability to foster relationships with professors and students within my department. Additionally, IUP offers a high-quality education at a reasonable price point."

Danielle says she added Economics as a second major while taking her first economics course, Principles of Macroeconomics, with Dr. Jozefowicz. "I enjoyed going to every class and looked forward to learning something new during each lesson. As I learned more about the department and the opportunities available with an Economics degree, I decided that adding an Economics major was the right decision for me."



Danielle Hobbins with Dr. Karl McDermott

Danielle says the Department of Economics and IUP have impacted her life in many ways. "Within the Department of Economics, I am constantly being offered opportunities from the faculty. For example, I have met Dr. Michael Mann, the distinguished professor of Atmospheric Science at Pennsylvania State University, through the department. I have also had the opportunity to meet with alumni who are employed at various places, such as The Office of the Comptroller of the Currency. Additionally, the faculty has supported my academic endeavors by writing recommendations that assisted in my receiving the Discover Norway Educational Grant. On the IUP campus, there is always an opportunity to take part in such things as community service, professional networking events, and workshops. Attending available events on campus helped shape me into a more well-rounded individual."

Danielle is an IUP Provost Scholar and the recipient of a Discover Norway 2020 educational grant. Currently, she is the President of the Management Association, Vice President of the College of Business Student Advisory Council (COBSAC), and a member of Phi Gamma Nu, which is an organization that promotes the study of business.

Danielle notes that "Attending college is a huge privilege, and I am grateful that the hard work I have put towards making my time at IUP meaningful has been acknowledged. Receiving the Karl A. McDermott Scholarship has encouraged me to maintain my work ethic, as well as lessened the financial burden and the stress associated with the costs of college." As for plans for the future, Danielle is thinking about attending graduate school.

Thank You
to our Donors

SCHOLARSHIPS: HOW YOU CAN HELP

As current economics students juggle financing their college education with other responsibilities, they often look towards scholarships to help fill the gap. Through the support of generous alumni, faculty and staff members, emeriti professors, and friends, six scholarships are currently (or eventually will be) available to current economics students:

- 5351 - Economics Department Scholarship
- 0648 - Drs. Jozefowicz Department of Economics Scholarship
- 5375 - Nicholas Karatjas Scholarship for Economics
- 0505 - Karl A. McDermott Scholarship for Economics
- 0449 - Robert J. Stonebraker Scholarship for Economics
- 0359 - Donald A. Walker Department of Economics Scholarship

To increase the impact of these economics scholarships, your support is critical. You can support future economics students by designating your gift to any of these scholarship funds. Go to the IUP secure on-line giving form at www.iup.edu/giveagift to make your gift now. Be sure to select the "specific area at IUP" option and indicate your fund designation (see account numbers above) in the "other" area on the form.

For more information about how you can support one of these economics scholarships or to discuss the process of establishing your own scholarship, please contact: Anthony Cancro, Director of Development, at 724-357-2380 or acancro@iup.edu.

Additionally, inaugural members of the recently established Leadership Society Council, Drs. Jim and Stephanie Jozefowicz, are available to assist you with any questions you might have about how to become a Leadership Society member and a supporter of the Economics Department.

**I would like to support scholarships for IUP students
in the Economics Department by making a gift to the Foundation for IUP.**

Name(s): _____ IUP ID (if known):_@_____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Phone Number: _____

Email: _____ circle one: Home Cell

Please accept my support to the following scholarship for Economics (circle your fund preference):

- 5351 – Economics Department Scholarship
- 0648 – Drs. Jozefowicz Department of Economics Scholarship
- 5375 – Nicholas Karatjas Scholarship for Economics
- 0505 – Karl A. McDermott Scholarship for Economics
- 0449 – Robert J. Stonebraker Scholarship for Economics
- 0359 – Donald A. Walker Department of Economics Scholarship



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

To make a one-time or recurring gift online, visit www.iup.edu/giveagift.

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.

FACULTY NOTES

A recent paper by **Dr. Christopher R. Jeffords** and Joshua Gellers (University of North Florida) explores the emergence of environmental rights in the Asia Pacific region. Published in *Asia Pacific Journal of Environmental Law*, “Environmental Rights in the Asia Pacific Region: Taking Stock and Assessing Impacts” extends the contributions Drs. Jeffords and Gellers made to the United Nations report titled “Accelerating Progress: An Empowered, Inclusive and Equal Asia and the Pacific.”

In his role as the executive secretary of the Association for Social Economics (a member organization of the ASSA), **Dr. Christopher R. Jeffords** helped organize and coordinate various activities at January’s ASSA 2020 annual meeting in San Diego, CA. In addition, Dr. Jeffords served as the panel chair for the “Topics in Social Economics” session and he presented “The Growing Trends of Human Rights Research in EconLit-Indexed Journals from 1972–2018.” The Association for Social Economics sponsored 11 different sessions where approximately 45 different papers were presented.

Dr. Yaya Sissoko presented a paper titled, “Inside the Classroom: Learning from the 2008 Financial Crisis and the Subprime Meltdown” (co-authored with Dr. Brian Sloboda), at the Allied Social Sciences Association (ASSA) Conference for the Poster Session of the Committee on Economic Education (CEE) in San Diego, CA, on January 3-5, 2020. In addition, Dr. Sissoko attended two other events at the ASSA Annual Meeting. As a board member, Dr. Sissoko attended the Annual Board Meeting of the African Finance and Economic Association (AFEA) held on Saturday, January 4. As a member of the American Economic Association (AEA), Dr. Sissoko attended the AEA Continuing Education Workshop on Climate Change Economics on January 5-7.

Drs. Alexi S. Thompson’s and **Yaya Sissoko’s** paper titled, “The Price of Cocaine and the Colombian Peso: An Empirical Investigation,” was published in the *Global Economy Journal*, Vol. 19, No. 03, 2019.

Dr. Yaya Sissoko was invited as a panelist at the “Bamako Forum: Africa on the Horizon 2040: Between Memories and Future” in Bamako, Mali, on February 20-22, 2020. A unique event of its kind in Africa, the Bamako Forum is a high-level space for reflection on the future of the continent. Focused on the challenges of African development, it is a place and a time of exchanging ideas and dialogue where business leaders, politicians, public decision-makers, academics, researchers, and experts meet students, representatives of civil society, and the media from the African continent and from other continents. The forum aims to promote the mixing of knowledge and the sharing of knowledge and best practices in a participatory approach in search of solutions to demographic, technological, and climate challenges and to the consolidation of peace, security, and inclusive development and sustainability in Africa. The 2020 edition provides about 2,000 direct participants.

Congratulations to **Dr. Willard W. Radell** who was awarded the distinguished Professor Emeritus recognition for his outstanding contributions to the Department of Economics. Dr. Radell retired in August 2019 after 38 years of service to IUP.

In March, **Dr. Willard W. Radell** was the featured reviewer of The New Century Club/Friends of the Library’s Book Breakfast held at St. Andrew’s Village in Indiana, PA. Dr. Radell discussed the book “The Economists’ Hour: False Prophets, Free Markets and the Fracture of Society” written by Binyamin Appelbaum, a *New York Times* editorial writer.

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FACULTY NOTES (CONT.)

(continued from page 5)

The paper “Quebec’s Fracking Restrictions: Squandered Opportunity or Prudent Conservation?,” by **Drs. David B. Yerger** and **Todd B. Potts** has been accepted for publication and is forthcoming in the *American Review of Canadian Studies*.

Drs. Amber Stephenson (Clarkson University), Alex Heckert (IUP Sociology), and **David B. Yerger’s** paper “Examining College Student Retention: A Closer Look at Low Self-Control” has been accepted for publication and is forthcoming in the *International Journal of Educational Management*.

Dr. Brandon C. Vick published “Measuring Multi-Dimensional Deprivation Among U.S. Veterans” in the journal *Social Indicators Research* (<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11205-020-02299-7>). In the paper, Dr. Vick used the *2012-2017 Current Population Survey Veterans Supplement* to estimate a deprivation index. He differentiated veterans by branch and combat service and measured outcomes related to disability, family income, educational attainment, and long-term unemployment. In a given year, an estimated 7% of veterans (about 60,000-70,000 veterans in terms of the population) experience two or more deprivations simultaneously. Younger veterans, Army, and those living in rural areas have higher odds of being multidimensionally deprived.

Drs. Stephanie M. and **James J. Jozefowicz** participated in the virtual meeting of the Pennsylvania Economic Association (PEA) Officers on Friday, March 27, 2020. Dr. Stephanie Jozefowicz serves as PEA secretary and Dr. James Jozefowicz is an ex-officio member of the PEA Board of Directors.

Drs. Stephanie M. and **James J. Jozefowicz** participated in the virtual meeting of the IUP Leadership Society Advancement Council on Tuesday, April 21, 2020.

Congratulations to **Dr. Brandon C. Vick** who was selected as the 2019-20 recipient of the *Garvin-Kort Faculty Award for Research in Economics*. Generous donations from alumnus **Dr. John Kort ('74)** and the late **Dr. Alexander Garvin**, economics faculty 1969-1998, provide support and recognition for faculty research. Dr. Vick’s paper “Measuring Multi-Dimensional Deprivation Among U.S. Veterans” has been accepted for publication in *Social Indicators Research*, a highly ranked journal in the social sciences. Once we all are again on campus, Dr. Vick will give a seminar to students and faculty highlighting this research.

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: _____

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

INTERESTED IN BEING AN ECONOMICS CLUB SPEAKER?

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. Chris Jeffords at Christopher.Jeffords@iup.edu or Dr. Jim Jozefowicz at James.Jozefowicz@iup.edu

ALUMNI NOTES

Greg Simke ('85) writes: "After 35 years in a finance-banking career, with the final 30 in the automotive lending division at BB&T Bank, I have retired as Vice President as of January 4th, 2020! I have returned many times to IUP since graduation to revisit Sigma Chi where I pledged in Fall '82. My time on campus and the degree I received in Economics are cherished! I reside in Laurel, MD, with my wife of 30 years, Sylvia."

On March 2, **Jim Dalecki ('10)** was the featured speaker as part of the Economics Club's Alumni Speaker Series. Jim is the Controller with Aramark on the IUP campus.

On February 17, **Jonathan Browe ('15)** was the featured speaker as part of the Economics Club's Alumni Speaker Series. Jon currently serves as a bank examiner for The Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC). The OCC is an independent bureau of the U.S. Treasury Department, and serves as the primary regulator for national banks, federal savings associations, and federal branches and agencies of foreign banks.

Jeff Arnold ('19) concluded his IUP football career with several notable accolades. He was selected for the Associated Press Division II All-America Second Team and ranked among eight finalists for the Gene Upshaw Division II Lineman of the Year Award. Jeff also was chosen for the Don Hansen Football Gazette All-Super Region 1 First Team and All-America Team. The Conference Commissioners Association also selected him for the All-Super Region 1 First Team. In February, IUP head football coach Paul Tortorella recognized Jeff as the recipient of the 2019 Art Rooney Sr. Leadership Award. Most recently, Jeff was named to the 2010s All-Decade First Team by the IUP Sports Information Office. *Congratulations, Jeff!*

STUDENT NOTES

Students from **Dr. Brandon C. Vick's** Health Economics course partnered with students enrolled in Dr. Abigail Adams' Medical Anthropology and Dr. Amanda Poole's Applied Anthropology courses as part of research for the 19th annual Appalachian Teaching Project Symposium in Washington, DC, in December 2019. Titled the "Opioid and Work Project," the students collaborated with the Armstrong-Indiana Drug and Alcohol Commission to identify the occupations and industries that have the highest prevalence of opioid use by workers in that sector and created data-informed recommendations for various labor stakeholders. The project was a multi-method approach that engaged both qualitative and quantitative data to better understand the landscape of the opioid epidemic in Indiana County and its impact on the local workforce. "I am very proud of the students representing IUP as they continue their important coursework toward building a better future for their communities," said Appalachian Regional Commission Federal Co-Chairman Tim Thomas. "These students are engaged in work that benefits an entire region, and represent an institution that has worked consistently within our region to prepare our next generation of leaders."

Twelve economics majors have been named to the Fall 2019 list of IUP Provost Scholars in recognition of their completion of at least 45 credits at IUP while earning a cumulative grade-point-average of 3.5 or higher. This honor is bestowed only once during a student's course of study at IUP. The Department of Economics congratulates the following students on this special recognition:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| August Bolinger | Christina Clark | Danielle Hobbins |
| Andrew Booth | Jessica Downs | Abigail Redlich |
| Philip Carrozza | Jesalyn Fada | Jonathan Tirpak |
| Matthew Cellucci | Carson Hanna | Matthew Van Etten |



Economics major **Justina Mascaro**, a junior guard for the IUP women's basketball team, was selected to the All-PSAC West first team when the league announced its postseason awards. The IUP women's basketball team won its third straight PSAC-West title and set program records with 26 regular season victories and 21 conference wins. The Crimson Hawks also established a program record 19-game winning streak between November 2019 and February 2020. *Congratulations to Justina and her teammates!*

Indiana University of Pennsylvania

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ALUMNI NEWS

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Department of Economics
Indiana University of Pennsylvania

In This Issue:

- **Greetings from the Chair**
- **Carl Hisiro's Recollections on Dr. Martel**
- **Student Spotlight**
- **Scholarships: How You Can Help**
- **Faculty, Alumni, and Student Notes**